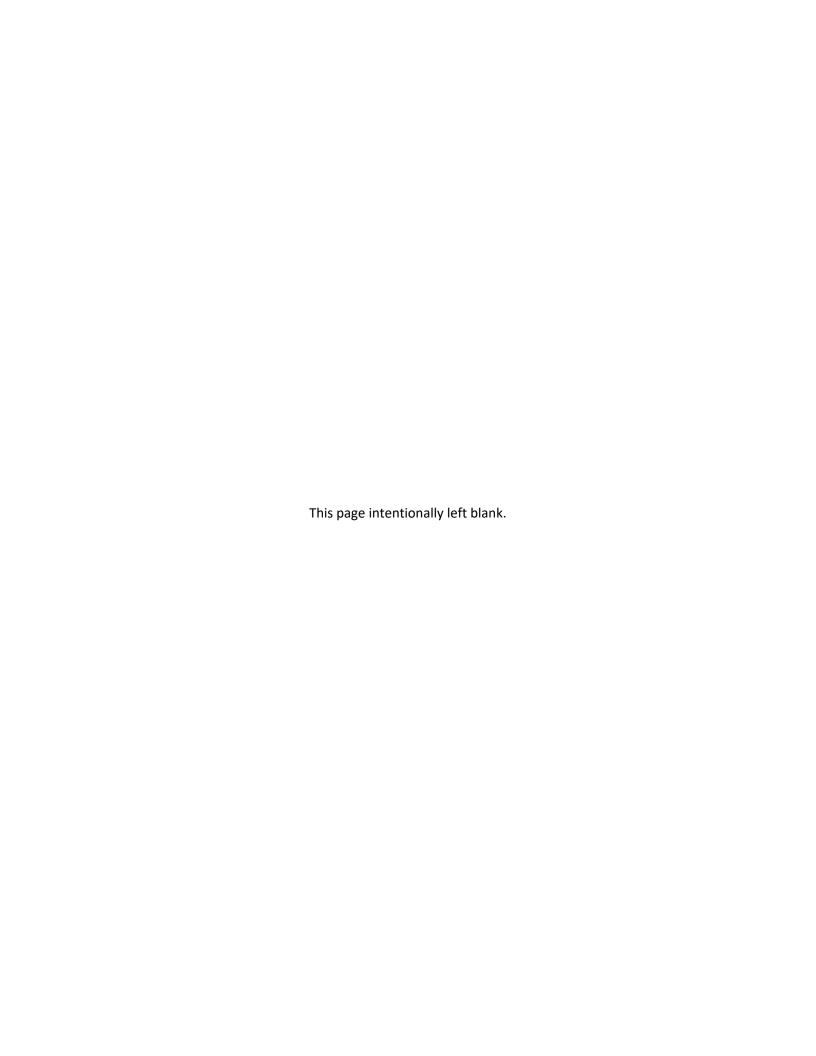


FINAL

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

For Multi-Engine Training System
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas





FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

For

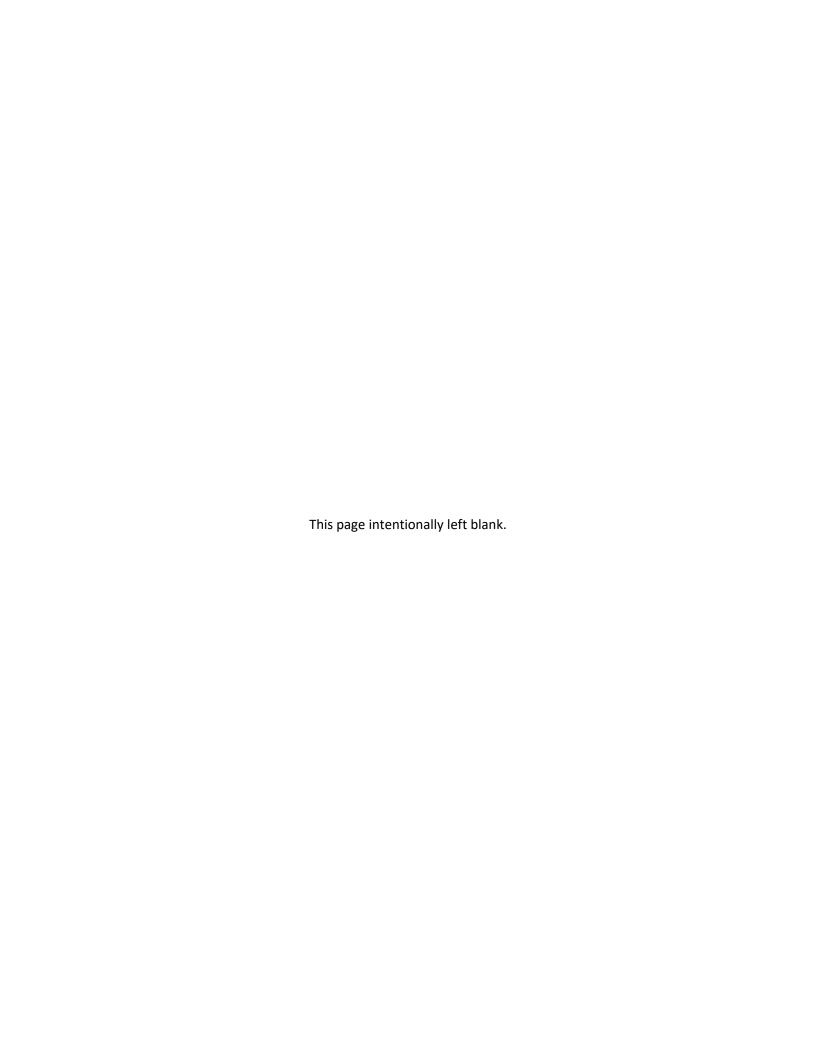
Multi-Engine Training System

At

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

August 2023





Abstract

Designation: Environmental Assessment

Title of Proposed Action: Multi-Engine Training System

Project Location: Naval Air Station Corpus Christi

Lead Agency: Department of the Navy

Cooperating Agency: None

Affected Region: Nueces County, Texas

Action Proponent: U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training

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Date: August 2023

U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training, a Command of the U.S. Navy (hereinafter, jointly referred to as the Navy), has prepared this Environmental Assessment in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations and Navy regulations. In support of the Navy's requirements under Title 10 of the United States Code, the Navy proposes to replace the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft used for multiengine maritime flight training. This training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four, located at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. The 54 T-44C Pegasus aircraft would be replaced with 58 new T-54A aircraft. The Navy selected the Beechcraft King Air 260 to replace the T-44C aircraft. To estimate potential impacts of the aircraft replacement, the Navy used a representative surrogate aircraft, the C-12 Huron, because the modeling software does not include reference noise data for the King Air 260. The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. This Environmental Assessment evaluates the potential environmental impacts associated with the two action alternatives, Alternatives 1 and 2, and the No Action Alternative to the following resource areas: noise, environmental justice, biological resources, cultural resources, and air quality.





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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

ES.1 Proposed Action

U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training, a Command of the U.S. Navy (hereinafter, jointly referred to as the Navy), proposes to replace aircraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training program. This training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four, located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. The Proposed Action includes replacement of 54 T-44C Pegasus aircraft with 58 new T-54A aircraft. The aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi.

The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training locations at Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss; at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration's National Airspace System throughout South Texas. To accommodate the new aircraft, short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi would be required. These activities would include the following short-term projects:

- Installing fire detection and suppression systems for Hangar 42 and reconfiguring the interior to maintenance shops and office space
- Reconfiguring the interior of Hangar 58 to office space and moving the maintenance equipment to Hangar 42
- Removing the T-44 Aircraft Protective Equipment Shelters (APES), restriping, and installing T-54
 APES on Parking Apron 11
- Using a portion of Building 1218 for storage of parts
- Removing the T-44 Ground Based Training System (GBTS) and installing the Multi-Engine Training System GBTS

In the long term, the following options would be considered:

- Option 1: Recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58.
- Option 2: Demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and then install two fabric hangars or construct one new larger hangar.

The new aircraft would be delivered between the years 2024 and 2026, and proposed construction would begin in 2024 and continue through 2027. The Navy selected the Beechcraft King Air 260 to replace the T-44C aircraft. To estimate potential impacts of the aircraft replacement, the Navy used a representative surrogate aircraft, the C-12 Huron, because the modeling software does not include reference noise data for the King Air 260.

ES.2 Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to replace the T-44C aircraft that are over 40 years old and that require upgrades to address existing training capability gaps. The T-44C fleet is nearing the end of its service life and has outdated avionics, limited availability of parts, and increased maintenance cost. The replacement of aircraft would provide advanced instrumentation for communication, navigation, and

tracking aircraft health to facilitate maintenance planning and efficiency. The need for the Proposed Action is to enable continued aviator training in furtherance of the Navy's mandate to train and equip combat-capable naval forces for the peacetime promotion of the national security interests and prosperity of the United States and prompt and sustained combat incident to operations at sea.

ES.3 Alternatives Considered

Alternatives were developed for analysis based upon the following reasonable alternative screening factors: meeting overall training requirements, maintaining uninterrupted aviator production, allowing for continued operation and maintenance of T-44C and new aircraft until conversion is complete, maximizing use of existing airfields that are currently used for the student pilot training program, maintaining safety and separation parameters for student pilot training, and maximizing use of existing infrastructure for aircraft parking and maintenance.

Based on the reasonable alternative screening factors, two action alternatives were identified as meeting the purpose and need for the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative and two action alternatives were analyzed in this Environmental Assessment (EA).

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the T-44C aircraft would not be replaced. The over 40-year-old T-44C aircraft would continue to operate despite capacity and capability gaps. The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose and need for the Proposed Action; however, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the No Action Alternative is carried forward for analysis in this EA. The No Action Alternative will be used to analyze the consequences of not undertaking the Proposed Action and will serve to establish a comparative baseline for analysis of environmental impacts associated with the Proposed Action.

Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)

Alternative 1 includes replacing 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft; increasing operations; and implementing short- and long-term projects for Navy support facilities. The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training locations at Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss; at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration's National Airspace System throughout South Texas. To accommodate the new aircraft, short- and long term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi would be required. Short-term projects would include the following:

- Installing fire detection and suppression systems for Hangar 42 and reconfiguring the interior to maintenance shops and office space
- Reconfiguring the interior of Hangar 58 to office space and moving the maintenance equipment to Hangar 42
- Removing the T-44 APES, restriping, and installing T-54 APES on Parking Apron 11
- Using a portion of Building 1218 for storage of parts
- Removing the T-44 GBTS and installing the Multi-Engine Training System GBTS

In the long term, the following options would be considered:

- Option 1: Recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58.
- Option 2: Demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and then install two fabric hangars or construct one new larger hangar.

Flight operations would increase by approximately 10 percent over the No Action Alternative, but personnel numbers would remain the same as current conditions. Current staffing levels would be able to manage the 10 percent increase in operations, which would be similar to surge conditions that arise due to weather and/or maintenance delays followed by an increase in operations. This alternative reflects the potential level of student pilot training necessary to support forecasted Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard aviation requirements in the foreseeable future.

Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations

Alternative 2 includes the same aircraft replacement and short-term and long-term project options to
provide Navy support facilities as Alternative 1 but with an increase in flight operations of approximately
20 percent over the No Action Alternative. With this increase in flight operations, the Navy estimates
that there would be an increase of 33 additional personnel and their families at NAS Corpus Christi.

Alternative 2 assesses a level of operations based on increases in demand for ready naval forces in
response to national security requirements. This alternative represents the maximum potential level of
student pilot training necessary to support forecasted Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard aviation
requirements in the foreseeable future.

ES.4 Summary of Environmental Resources Evaluated in the EA

NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality regulations, and Navy regulations specify that an EA should address those resource areas potentially subject to impacts. In addition, the level of analysis should be commensurate with the anticipated level of environmental impact.

The following resource areas have been addressed in this EA: noise, environmental justice, biological resources, cultural resources, and air quality. Because potential impacts were considered to be negligible or nonexistent, the following resources were not evaluated in this EA: water resources, geological resources, land use, visual resources, airspace, infrastructure, transportation, public health and safety, hazardous materials and wastes, and socioeconomics.

ES.5 Summary of Potential Environmental Consequences of the Action Alternatives and Major Mitigating Actions

Table ES-1 provides a tabular summary of the potential impacts to the resources associated with each of the alternative actions analyzed. Note that an acronym key is provided at the end of the table.

ES.6 Public Involvement

NEPA and its implementing regulations require federal agencies to involve the public in preparing and implementing their NEPA procedures. The Navy prepared a Draft EA to inform the public of the Proposed Action and to allow the opportunity for public review and comment.

The Navy published a Notice of Availability of the Draft EA for three days in the *Corpus Christi Caller Times* on the dates of June 16, 18, and 19, 2023, and once in the weekly *The Island Moon Newspaper* on June 16, 2023. The notice described the Proposed Action, solicited public comments on the Draft EA, provided dates of the public comment period (June 16, 2023, through July 17, 2023), and announced that a copy of the EA would be available for review on the website:

www.navy.nepa.mil/mets/

Copies of the EA were also provided to 10 local libraries. No public comments were received.

Table ES-1 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations	
Noise	 Operations would not change relative to baseline conditions, and no additional noise impacts would occur. Aircraft noise levels in excess of 65 dBA DNL would continue to affect 50 acres of off-installation land and an estimated 91 residents near NAS Corpus Christi. No off-station land would exceed 65 dBA DNL near NOLF Cabaniss. Aircraft noise levels near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields are variable with some airfields experiencing frequent jet aircraft noise (e.g., Corpus Christi International) and other airfields being used relatively infrequently (e.g., Palacios). 	 The number of off-station land acres exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater at NAS Corpus Christi would increase by one, from 50 to 51, and the estimated number of off-installation residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater would remain at 91. Noise levels would not increase at representative locations near NAS Corpus Christi. Noise levels near NOLF Cabaniss would increase by 0.5 dBA DNL or less and would remain below 65 dBA DNL. Speech interference events per average daytime hour would increase by one or less at the locations studied. Noise levels at all schools studied would remain below 60 dBA Leq(8hr). Aircraft noise levels near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain below 65 dBA DNL at nearby sensitive locations or would not change measurably (i.e., change would be less than 0.1 dBA DNL and rounds to zero) at 	 The number of off-station land acres exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater at NAS Corpus Christi would increase by the same amount as under Alternative 1, but the estimated number of residents exposed would increase by one, from 91 to 92. Noise levels would increase by 0.1 dBA DNL or less near NAS Corpus Christi. Noise levels near NOLF Cabaniss would increase by as much as 0.8 dBA DNL but would remain below 65 dBA DNL. Speech interference events per average daytime hour would increase by one or less at the locations studied. Noise levels at all schools studied would remain below 60 dBA Leq(8hr). Aircraft noise levels near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain below 65 dBA DNL at nearby sensitive locations or would not change measurably at sensitive locations. The Navy has determined that there would be no 	

Table ES-1 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
		representative sensitive locations. The Navy has determined that there would be no environmental health and safety risks that would disproportionately affect children.	environmental health and safety risks that would disproportionately affect children.
Environmental Justice	 The Navy determined that there are minority and low-income populations present within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour at NAS Corpus Christi. There would be no change in existing conditions for minority or low-income populations within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour. A comparison group showed that impacts would be similar for all populations. Therefore, the No Action Alternative would not cause disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations. 	 The Navy determined that there are minority and low-income populations present within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour at NAS Corpus Christi. The total affected population at NAS Corpus Christi within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour would remain the same as under the No Action Alternative (91 people). As a result, impacts to minority and low-income populations would be similar to the No Action Alternative. A comparison group showed that impacts would be similar for all populations. Therefore, Alternative 1 would not cause disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations. 	 The Navy determined that there are minority and low-income populations present within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour at NAS Corpus Christi. The total affected population at NAS Corpus Christi within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour would increase by one compared to the No Action Alternative (from 91 to 92 people). As a result, impacts to minority and low-income populations would be similar to the No Action Alternative. A comparison group showed that impacts would be similar for all populations. Therefore, Alternative 2 would not cause disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects on minority or low-income populations.

Table ES-1 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
Biological Resources	There would be no change in existing aircraft operations or BASH impacts on birds covered by the MBTA. There would be no change in existing aircraft operations or BASH impacts on birds covered by the MBTA.	 There would be a 10 percent increase in aircraft operations at NAS Corpus Christi; NOLF Cabaniss; and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields (from 184,672 to 203,000 annual operations). No changes to existing flight paths, procedures, or habitat would occur. The Navy would continue to manage airfield environments in accordance with its BASH Plan in order to reduce the likelihood of aircraft collisions with federally and state-protected species. Construction projects under Alternative 1 include demolishing or recapitalizing buildings that may contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Building demolition or recapitalization work and tree removal (if any) would, to the extent feasible, take place outside of the breeding season. If this work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist must confirm that no active nest would be impacted by these 	 There would be a 20 percent increase in aircraft operations at NAS Corpus Christi; NOLF Cabaniss; and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields (from 184,672 to 221,500 annual operations). No changes to existing flight paths, procedures, or habitat would occur. The Navy would continue to manage airfield environments in accordance with its BASH Plan in order to reduce the likelihood of aircraft collisions with federally and state-protected species. Construction projects under Alternative 2 include demolishing or recapitalizing buildings that may contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Building demolition or recapitalization work and tree removal (if any) would, to the extent feasible, take place outside of the breeding season. If this work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist must confirm that no active nest would be impacted by these

Table ES-1 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area No Action Alternative		Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations	
		actions. With implementation of these measures, construction activities associated with Alternative 1 would avoid or minimize incidental takes of birds protected under the MBTA (including Birds of Conservation Concern) or their active nests. For T-54A aircraft operations, the Navy has determined that Alternative 1 may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA. Under the MBTA's regulations applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided they do not result in significant adverse effects on their population. Alternative 1 is not expected to result in any adverse impacts to populations of species covered by the MBTA, with current standard operating procedures (BASH Plan). Alternative 1 may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat. For all other	actions. With implementation of these measures, construction activities associated with Alternative 2 would avoid or minimize incidental takes of birds protected under the MBTA (including Birds of Conservation Concern) or their active nests. • For T-54A aircraft operations, the Navy has determined that Alternative 2 may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA. Under the MBTA's regulations applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided they do not result in significant adverse effects on their population. Alternative 2 is not expected to result in any adverse impacts to populations of species covered by the MBTA, with current standard operating procedures (BASH Plan). • Alternative 2 may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat. For all other	

Table ES-1 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations	
		federally listed species identified with potential to occur within the ROI, the Navy has determined that there would be no effect. • The Navy consulted with the USFWS, and the agency concurred with the Navy's findings on August 2, 2023 (Appendix B, Special Status Species Documentation). Recommended measures to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects to the northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane were added to this Final EA.	federally listed species identified with potential to occur within the ROI, the Navy has determined that there would be no effect.	
Cultural Resources	There would be no change to existing conditions.	 No adverse effects would occur to the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District and the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District from building recapitalization or demolition. Adverse effects to the Landplane Hangars Historic District would occur from building recapitalization or demolition. Adverse effects would be resolved through consultation with the SHPO and development of a MOA. 	 No adverse effects would occur to the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District and the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District. Adverse effects to the Landplane Hangars Historic District would occur from building recapitalization or demolition. Adverse effects would be resolved through consultation with the SHPO and development of a MOA. 	

Table ES-1 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
		The Navy consulted with the Texas SHPO, and a MOA was signed on August 21, 2023 (Appendix C, National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation).	
Air Quality	There would be no change to existing conditions.	 No significant impacts to air quality would occur. The six counties where Navy and non-Navy airfield operations would occur are in attainment of the NAAQS and, thus, General Conformity does not apply. Emissions of criteria pollutants and GHGs above the No Action Alternative would occur from the short- and long-term construction projects and the planned 10 percent increase in operations of the T-54A. However, the increases would be minor relative to each county's overall emissions and would not result in significant impacts to air quality. 	 No significant impacts to air quality would occur. The six counties where Navy and non-Navy airfield operations would occur are in attainment of the NAAQS and, thus, General Conformity does not apply. Emissions would be slightly higher than those under Alternative 1, as annual flight operations would increase 20 percent above No Action Alternative levels, and there would be 33 additional personnel and their families commuting to NAS Corpus Christi and the surrounding areas. However, the increases would be minor relative to each county's overall emissions and would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

Key: BASH = Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard; CFR = Code of Federal Regulations; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; EA = Environmental Assessment; GHG = greenhouse gas; L_{eq(8hr)} = eight-hour equivalent sound level; MBTA = Migratory Bird Treaty Act; MOA = Memorandum of Agreement; NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standards; NAS = Naval Air Station; Navy = U.S. Navy; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field; ROI = region of influence; SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

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Final Environmental Assessment

Multi-Engine Training System

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

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Abbreviations and Acronyms

Acronym	Definition	Acronym	Definition
%	Percent	HAP	Hazardous air pollutant
+	Plus	HRL	Valley International Airport
<	Less than	ID	Identification
μg/m³	Microgram per cubic meter	IPaC	Information for Planning and
AGL	Above ground level		Consultation
AICUZ	Air Installations Compatible Use Zones	L _{eq(8hr)}	Eight-hour equivalent sound level
AIMD	Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department	L _{max}	Maximum A-weighted sound level
ALI	Alice International Airport	LT	Lieutenant
APE	Area of Potential Effects	MBTA	Migratory Bird Treaty Act
APES	Aircraft Protective Equipment	METS	Multi-Engine Training System
	Shelters	MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
AQCR	Air Quality Control Region	MOU	Memorandum of
BASH	Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike		Understanding
	Hazard	MSAT	Mobile Source Air Toxic
BG	Block Group	NA	Not applicable
BGEPA	Bald and Golden Eagle	NAA	No Action Alternative
	Protection Act	NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality
BMP	Best management practice		Standards
BSVE	Base Support Vehicles and	NAS	Naval Air Station
	Equipment	NAVFAC	Naval Facilities Engineering
CAA	Clean Air Act		Systems Command
CEQ	Council on Environmental	Navy	U.S. Navy
	Quality	NC .	Core engine speed
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	NEPA	National Environmental
СО	Carbon monoxide		Policy Act
CO ₂	Carbon dioxide	NGP	NAS Corpus Christi
CO₂e	Carbon dioxide equivalent	NGW	Naval Outlying Landing Field
CRP	Corpus Christi International		Cabaniss
	Airport	NHPA	National Historic
СТ	Census Tract		Preservation Act
dB	Decibels	No.	Number
dBA	A-weighted decibels	NO_2	Nitrogen dioxide
DNL	Day-night average sound	NOLF	Naval Outlying Landing Field
	level	NO_x	Nitrogen oxides
DoD	Department of Defense	NRHP	National Register of Historic
EA	Environmental Assessment		Places
EO	Executive Order	O ₃	Ozone
ESA	Endangered Species Act	PIL	Port Isabel-Cameron County
FAA	Federal Aviation		Airport
	Administration	PKV	Calhoun County Airport
GBTS	Ground Based Training	PM ₁₀	Particulate matter less than
	System	10	or equal to 10 microns in
GHG	Greenhouse gas		diameter

Acronym	Definition	
PM _{2.5}	Particulate matter less than	
	or equal to 2.5 microns in	
	diameter	
pp.	Pages	
ppb	Parts per billion	
ppm	Parts per million	
PSD	Prevention of Significant	
	Deterioration	
PSX	Palacios Municipal Airport	
ROI	Region of influence	
RPM	Revolutions per minute	
SE	Southeast	
SHPO	State Historic Preservation	
	Officer	
SO ₂	Sulfur dioxide	
SOP	Standard Operating	
	Procedure	
sq ft	Square feet	
TBD	To be determined	
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife	
	Department	
tpy	Tons per year	
TRAWING 4	Training Air Wing Four	
U.S.C.	United States Code	
USEPA	U.S. Environmental	
	Protection Agency	
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	
VCT	Victoria Regional Airport	
VOC	Volatile organic compound	
Vol.	Volume	
VT-	Navy Training Aircraft	
	Squadron	
WWTP	Wastewater treatment plant	

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1 Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

1.1 Introduction

U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training, a Command of the U.S. Navy (hereinafter, jointly referred to as the Navy), proposes to replace the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training program. This training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four (TRAWING 4), located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. The 54 T-44C aircraft would be replaced by 58 new T-54A aircraft. The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi.

The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training locations at Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss; at international, regional, and municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration's National Airspace System throughout South Texas. To accommodate the new aircraft, short- and long-term construction projects of Navy support facilities would be required. These activities would include the following short-term projects:

- Installing fire detection and suppression systems and reconfiguring the interior to maintenance shops and office space in Hangar 42
- Reconfiguring the interior of Hangar 58 to office space and moving the maintenance equipment to Hangar 42
- Removing the T-44 Aircraft Protective Equipment Shelters, restriping, and installing T-54 Aircraft
 Protective Equipment Shelters
- Using a portion of Building 1218 for storage of parts
- Removing the T-44 Ground Based Training System (GBTS) and installing the Multi-Engine Training System (METS) GBTS

In the long-term, the following options would be considered:

- Option 1: Recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58.
- Option 2: Demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and then install two fabric hangars or construct one new larger hangar.

T-54A aircraft would be delivered between the years of 2024 and 2026, and proposed construction would begin in 2024 and continue through 2027.

The Navy has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations and Navy regulations.

1.2 Background

The T-44C aircraft is used to teach student military aviators multi-engine flying skills necessary to qualify for multi-engine and tilt-rotor military aviator designations. The T-44C aircraft is 43 years old, has antiquated avionics, is requiring more frequent repairs with limited availability of parts, and has become more expensive to operate and maintain. In 2015, the Navy conducted a capabilities-based assessment of naval aviation undergraduate training to analyze the Navy's capabilities and capacity to meet future undergraduate flight training requirements. The report identified several factors that would prevent the T-44C aircraft from being adequately available for the training of aviators to meet future mission requirements, including the need for more frequent maintenance and the limited availability of parts. In 2015, the Navy estimated the end-of-service date for the T-44C as 2025, based on current and projected usage rates. However, increased student throughput requirements, and the use of the T-44C fleet to compensate for retirement of other aircraft models, resulted in a need to move up the end-of-service date to 2023. Furthermore, operating older aircraft typically increases cost of repair and the length of maintenance time, removing the aircraft from service and decreasing the number of aircraft available for training (Navy, 2021). In December 2019, the Navy prepared a METS Decision Analysis Support study. The METS was determined to be the solution to address identified training and production gaps. It is a complete training system that includes the new aircraft and a GBTS comprised of flight training devices (simulators), part task trainers, and computer-based coursework and instruction, as well as the maintenance infrastructure support necessary for ensuring aircraft availability. The Navy chose to pursue an existing Federal Aviation Administration-certified commercial aircraft to address identified capability and capacity gaps. In 2021, the Navy issued a request for proposals to secure the best commercial aircraft solution. The Navy evaluated proposals received from vendors, including the ability to meet required performance specifications and cost. A contract was awarded in January 2023 for the T-54A, based on the Beechcraft King Air 260. To assess noise impacts, the Navy used a representative surrogate aircraft, the C-12 Huron, because the noise modeling software does not include reference noise level data for the King Air 260. The C-12 was selected because it is very similar to the King Air 260. Both aircraft are powered by two turboprop engines that each generate 850 shaft horsepower.

1.3 Location

1.3.1 NAS Corpus Christi

NAS Corpus Christi is located along the southeast coast of Texas, within the city limits of Corpus Christi in Nueces County. The air station is approximately 140 miles southeast of San Antonio, Texas, and 170 miles north of the U.S.-Mexico border (Figure 1-1). NAS Corpus Christi is approximately 2,340 acres in size. NAS Corpus Christi serves as one of five naval air stations in the Southeast Region that are used by the Navy to provide primary, intermediate, and advanced flight training to naval flight students. It is home to the Chief of Naval Air Training and TRAWING 4.

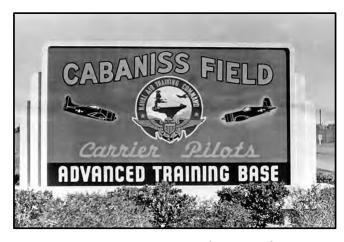
NAS Corpus Christi has supported pilot training and operations at its main airfield, Truax Field, as well as NOLF Cabaniss, since 1941. NAS Corpus Christi and its associated landing fields are aviation facilities with a mission to effectively support the current and future training of Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and international student pilots.

1.3.2 NOLF Cabaniss

NOLF Cabaniss is an outlying landing field managed by NAS Corpus Christi. It is located approximately 8.5 miles southwest of the station and is approximately 953 acres in size. NOLF Cabaniss is the primary NOLF used by T-44C aircraft and currently supports more than 50,000 T-44C aircraft training operations annually.

1.3.3 Other Navy Outlying Landing Fields

The Navy also owns and operates NOLF Waldron and NOLF Goliad (Figure 1-1). NOLF



NOLF Cabaniss Sign (Undated)

Waldron is located in the Flour Bluff area of Corpus Christi on the Encinal Peninsula, approximately 4 miles southwest of the main airfield at NAS Corpus Christi. It is an 851-acre training airfield for touchand-go practice for the T-6B aircraft. NOLF Goliad is in Goliad County, Texas, approximately 100 miles north-northwest of NAS Corpus Christi. The airfield is used by T-6B aircraft for touch-and-go and simulated emergency landings. T-44C aircraft do not train at either of these airfields.

1.3.4 International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

In addition to the Navy-owned airfields, pilot training and operations originating from NAS Corpus Christi use international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields in the region to support current and future student naval aviator training capacity requirements. These airfields provide diverse training experiences and operational flexibility, particularly when weather or other factors impact Navy-owned airfields. Figure 1-2 shows the location of these airfields that are currently used by T-44C aircraft and would continue to see regular flight operations by the new T-54A aircraft.

In addition to these airfields, multi-engine flight training by TRAWING 4 may include transient use of other airfields available for public use within South Texas.

1.4 Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to replace T-44C aircraft that are over 40 years old and require upgrades to address existing training capability gaps. The T-44C fleet is nearing the end of its service life and has outdated avionics, limited availability of parts, and increased maintenance cost. The replacement of aircraft would provide advanced instrumentation for communication, navigation, and tracking aircraft health to facilitate maintenance planning and efficiency. The need for the Proposed Action is to enable continued aviator training in furtherance of the Navy's mandate to train and equip naval forces for the peacetime promotion of the national security interests and prosperity of the United States and for prompt and sustained combat incident to operations at sea.

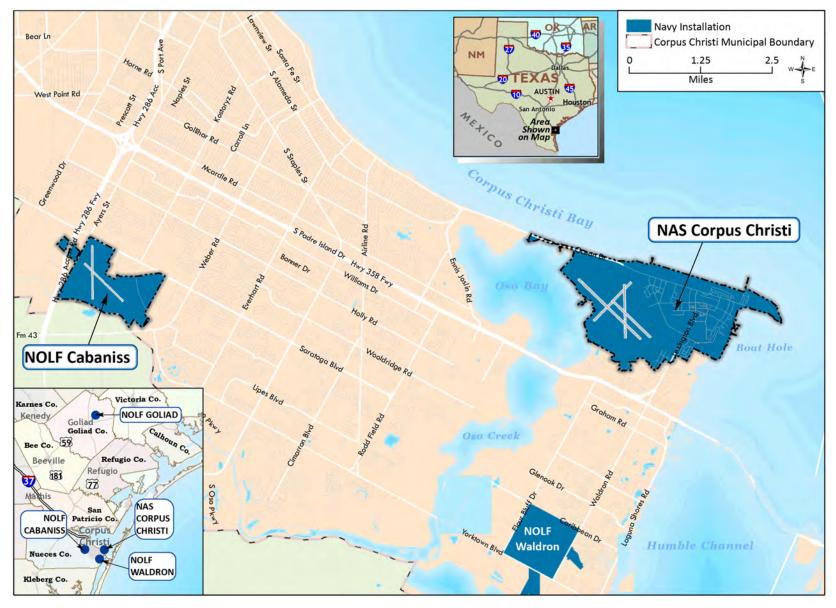


Figure 1-1 NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss Location Map



Figure 1-2 International, Regional, and Municipal Airfields Location Map

1.5 Scope of Environmental Analysis

This EA includes an analysis of potential environmental impacts associated with the action alternatives and the No Action Alternative. The environmental resource areas analyzed in this EA include noise, environmental justice, biological resources, cultural resources, and air quality. The region of influence for each resource analyzed is defined by how the Proposed Action interacts with or impacts the resource. For example, the region of influence for noise would include areas that may be impacted by airborne or construction noise.

1.6 Key Documents

Key documents used in the development of this EA include the following:

 Final EA for Providing OLF Capabilities to Support T-6 Undergraduate Pilot Training, Training Air Wing Four, NAS Corpus Christi, January 2018 (T-6 EA). The Navy 10 U.S.C. section 8062: "The Navy shall be organized, trained, and equipped for the peacetime promotion of the national security interests and prosperity of the United States and for prompt and sustained combat incident to operations at sea. It is responsible for the preparation of naval forces necessary for the duties described in the preceding sentence except as otherwise assigned and, in accordance with integrated joint mobilization plans, for the expansion of the peacetime components of the Navy to meet the needs of war."

10 U.S.C. section 8063: "The Marine Corps shall be organized, trained, and equipped to provide fleet marine forces of combined arms, together with supporting air components, for service with the fleet in the seizure or defense of advanced naval bases and for the conduct of such land operations as may be essential to the prosecution of a naval campaign."

- proposed to provide outlying landing field capacity and support infrastructure for T-6 aircraft primary flight training at TRAWING 4 in South Texas. Under the Preferred Alternative, T-6 primary flight training landings occur at the following four airfields: (1) NOLF Goliad, 85,000 landings; (2) NOLF Waldron, 125,000 landings; (3) Aransas County Airport, 20,000 landings; and (4) McCampbell-Porter Airport, 20,000 landings.
- NAS Corpus Christi Noise Study, 2016. The NAS Corpus Christi Noise Study was completed concurrently with the T-6 EA. The EA found short-term noise impacts associated with construction and long-term noise impacts with increased T-6 aircraft tempo at NOLF Waldron, Aransas County Airport, and McCampbell-Porter Airport. Minimal additional acreage outside the airfield boundaries would be exposed to 65 A-weighted decibel day-night average sound level or greater in comparison to existing conditions. Noise impacts from the Proposed Action and alternatives were determined to be not significant.
- Air Installations Compatible Use Zones Study, 2020. An Air Installations Compatible Use Zones
 Study was prepared for NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Waldron, and NOLF Cabaniss. This study is part of
 the Navy's continuing participation in the local planning process. The report analyzes current
 airspace and aircraft operations at the station and auxiliary airfields, aircraft noise zones, aircraft
 safety, and the compatibility of surrounding land uses with aircraft operations. In addition, the Navy
 provides recommendations for promoting land use compatibility.
- NAS Kingsville and NAS Corpus Christi Combined South Texas NASMOD Airspace and Airfield
 Operations Analysis Study, 2016. The study was performed concurrently with the T-6 EA. The study
 modeled airfield and airspace operations at NAS Kingsville, NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Waldron, NOLF

Cabaniss, NOLF Goliad, Naval Auxiliary Landing Field Orange Grove, and local training airspace. The National Airspace System Modernization (NASMOD) Program model was calibrated to fiscal year 2014 operations to validate current flight profiles and airfield procedures. Except for NOLF Waldron, aircraft experienced minimal congestion. All required training events were able to be completed. The airfields proved capable of supporting proposed T-6 pattern operations. No operating area appeared to hinder squadron training completion rates.

1.7 Relevant Laws and Regulations

The Navy has prepared this EA based upon federal and state laws, statutes, regulations, and policies pertinent to the implementation of the Proposed Action, including the following:

- NEPA (42 United States Code [U.S.C.] section 4321 et seq.)
- CEQ regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations parts 1500–1508)
- Navy regulations for implementing NEPA (32 Code of Federal Regulations part 775)
- Clean Air Act (42 U.S.C. section 7401 et seq.)
- Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. section 1251 et seq.)
- Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. section 1451 et seq.)
- National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. section 300101 et seq.)
- Endangered Species Act (16 U.S.C. section 1531 et seq.)
- Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. section 703 et seq.)
- Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (16 U.S.C. section 668 et seq.)
- Emergency Planning and Community Right-to-Know Act (42 U.S.C. section 11001 et seq.)
- Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (42 U.S.C. section 6901 et seq.)
- Toxic Substances Control Act (15 U.S.C. section 2601 et seq.)
- Executive Order (EO) 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations
- EO 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks
- EO 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments
- EO 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All
- Any additional, relevant statutes or governing directives

A description of the Proposed Action's consistency with these laws, policies, and regulations, as well as the names of regulatory agencies responsible for their implementation, is presented in Chapter 5, Other Considerations Required by NEPA (Table 5-1).

1.8 Public and Agency Participation and Intergovernmental Coordination

The CEQ regulations require that federal agencies involve the public in preparing and implementing NEPA procedures. The Navy prepared the Draft EA to inform the public of the Proposed Action and to allow the opportunity for public review and comment.

The Navy published a Notice of Availability of the Draft EA for three days in the *Corpus Christi Caller Times* on the dates of June 16, 18, and 19, 2023, and once in the weekly *The Island Moon Newspaper* on June 16, 2023. The notice described the Proposed Action, solicited public comments on the Draft EA,

provided dates of the public comment period (June 16, 2023, through July 17, 2023), and announced that a copy of the EA would be available for review on the website:

www.navy.nepa.mil/mets/

The Draft EA was also made available in the following local libraries:

Library	Address	
Nucces County Love Library	901 Leopard Street	
Nueces County Law Library	Corpus Christi, Texas 78401	
Corpus Christi Public Library – Owen R. Hopkins Public	3202 McKinzie Road	
Library	Corpus Christi, Texas 78410	
Mary and Jeff Bell Library	6300 Ocean Drive	
Texas A&M University Library	Corpus Christi, Texas 78412	
Janet E. Harto Dublic Library	2629 Waldron Road	
Janet F. Harte Public Library	Corpus Christi, Texas 78418	
Dr. Clatilda D. Caraia Library	5930 Brockhampton Street	
Dr. Clotilde P. Garcia Library	Corpus Christi, Texas 78414	
Anita & W.T. Neyland Public Library	1230 Carmel Parkway	
Affild & W.T. Neyland Public Library	Corpus Christi, Texas 78411	
Harlingen Public Library	410 76 Drive	
(Cameron County)	Harlingen, Texas 78550	
Victoria Public Library	302 North Main Street	
(Victoria County)	Victoria, Texas 77901	
Palacios Library Inc.	326 Main Street	
(Matagorda County)	Palacios, Texas 77465	
Alicia Salinas Public Library	401 East 3 rd Street	
(Jim Wells County Public Library)	Alice, Texas 78332	

No comments were received during the comment period for the Draft EA. The Noise Study is provided in Appendix A, Noise Methodology and Calculations. The Navy has conferred with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and Texas Parks and Wildlife Department regarding the Proposed Action (Appendix B, Special Status Species Documentation). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurred with the Navy's findings in a letter dated August 2, 2023. The agency recommended measures to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects to the northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane, and these measures were added to this Final EA. The Navy also consulted with the Texas Historical Commission (State Historic Preservation Office) (Appendix C, National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation) and Tribal Historic Preservation Officer regarding this Proposed Action (Appendix D, Tribal Government-to-Government Documentation). A signed Memorandum of Agreement dated August 21, 2023 is provided in Appendix C, National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation. A Coastal Consistency Determination was prepared and submitted to the Texas General Land Office, which manages the Texas Coastal Management Program (Appendix E, Coastal Consistency Determination). The Texas General Land Office concurred on July 28, 2023, that the project will likely not have adverse impacts on coastal natural resource areas in the coastal zone and is consistent with the goals and policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program. However, the agency recommended that siting and construction avoid and minimize impacts to coastal natural resource areas. The Clean Air Act air quality calculations are provided in Appendix F, Air Quality Methodology and Calculations. Newspaper notices are provided in Appendix G, Newspaper Notices.

2 Proposed Action and Alternatives

2.1 Proposed Action

U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training, a Command of the U.S. Navy (hereinafter, jointly referred to as the Navy), proposes to replace aircraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training program. This training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four (TRAWING 4), located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. The Proposed Action includes replacement of 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft. The aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi.

The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training locations at Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss; at international, regional, and municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA's) National Airspace System throughout South Texas. To accommodate the new aircraft, short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi would be required. These activities would include the following short-term projects (Figure 2-1):

- Installing fire detection and suppression systems and reconfiguring the interior to maintenance shops and office space in Hangar 42
- Reconfiguring the interior of Hangar 58 to office space and moving the maintenance equipment to Hangar 42
- Removing the T-44 Aircraft Protective Equipment Shelters (APES), restriping, and installing T-54
 APES
- Using a portion of Building 1218 for storage of parts
- Removing the T-44 Ground Based Training System (GBTS) and installing the Multi-Engine Training System (METS) GBTS

In the long-term, the following options would be considered:

- Option 1: Recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58.
- Option 2: Demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and then install two fabric hangars or construct one new larger hangar.

T-54A aircraft would arrive between the years 2024 and 2026, and proposed construction would begin in 2024 and continue through 2027.

2.1.1 Aircraft Replacement

The Proposed Action includes replacement of 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft, an increase in proposed aircraft training operations, and short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi.

The T-44C Pegasus aircraft is a twin-engine, pressurized, fixed-wing monoplane. The aircraft is currently used for advanced turboprop and intermediate carrier-based turboprop aircraft training. The T-44C is powered by two 550 shaft horsepower PT6A-34B turboprop engines (Navy, ND).

Table 2-1 compares the current T-44C aircraft with the specifications of the new aircraft.

The T-54A aircraft (based on the commercial Beechcraft King Air 260) would provide advanced instrument and asymmetric engine handling training to student naval aviators selected for multiengine fleet communities. The T-54A would have the latest avionics and



T-44C Pegasus



T-54A (King Air 260)

navigational updates, such as virtual reality and augmented reality devices, to ensure pilots can face any real-world challenges. The T-54A is powered by two 850 shaft horsepower PT6A-52 turboprop engines with four composite blades.

Table 2-1 Comparison of Aircraft Specifications

Aircraft Specifications	T-44C	T-54A	
Length	35.5 feet	43.8 feet	
Height	14.25 feet	14.83 feet	
Wingspan	50.25 feet	57.91 feet	
Weight (empty)	6,246 pounds	8,830 pounds	
Weight (maximum takeoff)	9,650 pounds	12,500 pounds	
Ceiling	31,300 feet	35,000 feet	
Range	1,300 nautical miles	1,720 nautical miles	
Maximum Airspeed	245 knots	310 knots	
Crew	3	3	

Sources: (Navy, 2021; Navy, ND; Textron, 2023)

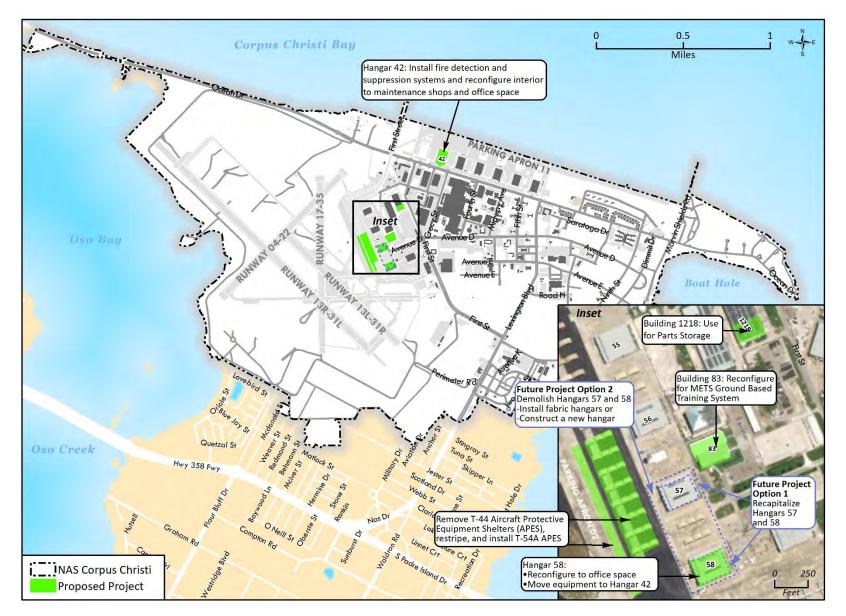


Figure 2-1 Location of Short- and Long-Term Construction Projects at Corpus Christi

2.1.2 Personnel

Under Alternative 1, there would be no increase in personnel levels necessary to support the T-54A aircraft. Current staffing levels would be able to manage the 10 percent increase in operations that would be similar to surge conditions that arise due to weather and/or maintenance delays followed by an increase in operations. Only Alternative 2 would increase the number of personnel.

Table 2-2 shows the proposed change in personnel under the No Action Alternative and Alternatives 1 and 2.

Aircraft and Personnel Numbers	Baseline and No Action Alternative (T-44C)	Alternative 1 (T-54A)	Alternative 2 (T-54A)
Aircraft			
Number of Aircraft	54	58	58
Personnel			
Students	110	110	132
Instructors	55	55	66
Maintenance	175 (Contractor)	175 (Contractor)	175 (Contractor)
Total Personnel	340	340	373

Table 2-2 Comparison of Navy T-44C and T-54A Aircraft and Personnel

2.1.3 Aircraft Training and Operations

The T-44C aircraft is used by TRAWING 4 for pilot flight training. Students practice navigation; visual and instrument flight rules; communications with various airspace controllers; operations in the different classes of FAA-designated airspace; and landing, obtaining services, and launching from a variety of airfields that range from international airports to small municipal fields.

Airfield operations include takeoffs, landings, touch-and-go operations, low approaches, and simulated emergency landings. An approach and departure from an airfield are considered two airfield operations that occur with one landing. A practice approach can end in a full-stop landing, touch-and-go, or low approach (no landing). Landing requirements include the following:

- Full-stop landing is a typical landing, ending with the aircraft stopping and exiting the runway.
- Touch-and-go operations are when the student pilot lands (touches down) and then takes off again without coming to a stop; the "touch-and-go" is considered two operations but a single landing. As many as five or six aircraft may enter the landing pattern at an airfield, sequentially performing touch-and-go operations.
- Low approach is a practice approach without landing followed by a go-around maneuver.
- Simulated emergency landings are performed while in the landing pattern at surrounding airfields.
 During a simulated landing, the student pilot practices landing the aircraft under a simulated emergency condition, under the instruction and direct supervision of a qualified instructor pilot.

Table 2-3 shows the annual number of operations of the T-44C aircraft and projected operations under the alternatives at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss.

Table 2-3	Current and Proj	iected Use o	f Navv Airfields
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Name	FAA Identifier	No Action Alternative T-44C Aircraft Operations	Alternative 1 Projected T-54A Operations	Alternative 2 Projected T-54A Operations
NAS Corpus Christi	NGP	32,760	36,000	39,300
NOLF Cabaniss	NGW	56,012	61,600	67,200
TOTAL		88,772	97,600	106,500

Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Table 2-4 shows the primary international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields and projected number of operations for both the T-44C and T-54A aircraft. Approximately 96,000 T-44C operations are conducted at non-Navy facilities under baseline conditions. Figure 1-2 shows the location of these airfields.

Table 2-4 Current and Projected Use of Non-Navy Airfields

Name	FAA Identifier	No Action Alternative T-44C Aircraft Operations ¹	Alternative 1 Projected T-54A Operations ¹	Alternative 2 Projected T-54A Operations ¹
Alice International Airport	ALI	28,200	31,000	33,800
Calhoun County Airport	PKV	3,600	3,900	4,300
Corpus Christi International Airport	CRP	20,800	22,900	25,000
Palacios Municipal Airport	PSX	5,200	5,700	6,200
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	PIL	11,000	12,000	13,100
Valley International Airport	HRL	14,800	16,300	17,800
Victoria Regional Airport	VCT	4,900	5,400	5,900
Other ²		7,400	8,200	8,900
TOTAL		95,900	105,400	115,000

Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration; METS = Multi-Engine Training System. Notes:

2.1.4 Construction Projects

Figure 2-1 shows the locations, and Table 2-5 provides the dates of proposed short-and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi. More detail of the projects along the flightline are shown in Figure 2-2.

^{1.} Alternative 1 includes a 10 percent increase in operations, while Alternative 2 includes a 20 percent increase in operations.

^{1.} Numbers are rounded to the nearest hundred. Alternative 1 includes a 10 percent increase in operations, while Alternative 2 includes a 20 percent increase in operations.

^{2.} Other refers to several airports located in the region, each with relatively small numbers of METS operations.

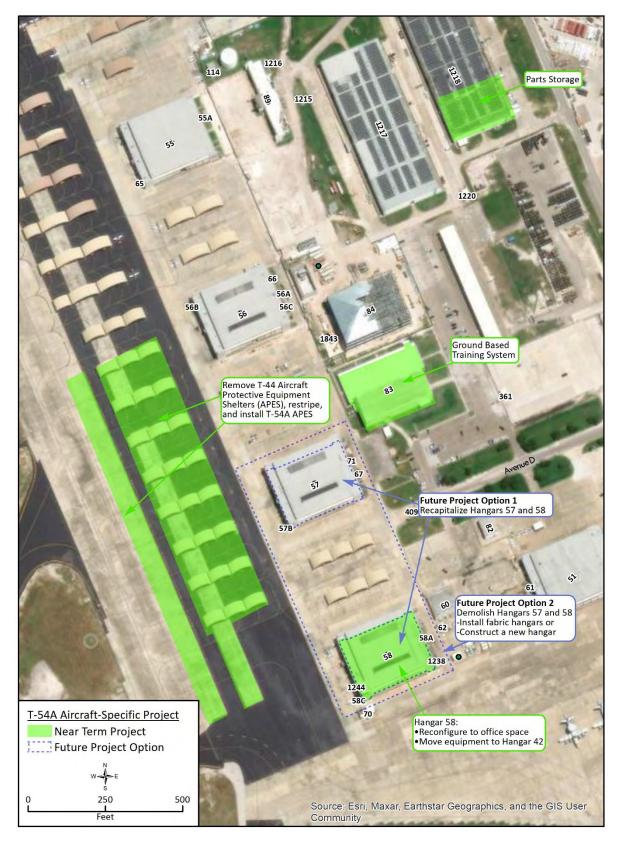


Figure 2-2 Flightline Short- and Long-Term Construction Projects

rubic 2.5 Dutes of Froposed Short and Long Term Construction Frojects			
Proposed Project	Year	Description	
Short-Term Projects			
Hangar 42	2024	• Install fire detection and suppression system and reconfigure interior to maintenance shops and office space.	
Hangar 58	2024	 Reconfigure interior to office space. Move equipment from Hangar 58 to Hangar 42. 	
Aircraft Protective Equipment Shelter (APES)	2024	Remove T-44 APES, restripe, and install T-54 APES.	
Building 1218	2024	Use existing building for storage of parts.	
Building 83	2024	 Remove existing T-44 Ground Based Training System (GBTS) and replace with new METS GBTS. 	
Long-Term Project Options			
Hangars 57 and 58	2027	 Option 1: Recapitalize Hangar 57 and Hangar 58.¹ Option 2: Demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and then install two fabric 	

Table 2-5 Dates of Proposed Short- and Long-Term Construction Projects

Key: APES = Aircraft Protective Equipment Shelter; GBTS = Ground Based Training System; METS = Multi-Engine Training System.

hangars or construct one new larger hangar.

Note:

1. The Navy defines recapitalization as major renovation or reconstruction activities (including facility replacements) needed to keep existing facilities modern and relevant in an environment of changing standards and missions (CNIC, 2023).

The following short-term projects would be implemented:

- Hangar 42. This 87,000-square foot hangar is currently vacant and would be reconfigured to house the maintenance functions currently in Hangar 58. Hangar 42 would require installation of fire detection and suppression systems to comply with the latest published National Fire Protection Association 101, Life Safety Code (safe personnel egress); Unified Facilities Criteria 4-211-01, Aircraft Maintenance Hangars (hazardous locations); and Unified Facilities Criteria 3-00-01, Fire Protection Engineering for Facilities. In addition, the interior space would be converted to accommodate maintenance offices and additional shop support spaces. Broken windows and exterior personnel doors would be replaced. In addition, the parking apron would be re-striped and aircraft tie-downs would be installed. The existing exterior gate at the crossing of Ocean Drive and Taxiway Sierra would be repaired. This serves as a temporary location to accommodate the transitioning new aircraft. A larger hangar would be needed once all the new aircraft arrive.
- Hangar 58. The maintenance equipment in Hangar 58 would be moved to Hangar 42. Hangar 58 would require interior modifications including conversion of maintenance space to shop space. All work would be interior.
- APES. The existing APES for the T-44C would be unbolted and removed and new APES for the T-54A
 would be installed. The existing striping would be removed, and new striping would be added. All
 work would be on the existing parking apron.
- **Building 1218.** The parts storage would be located at the south end of existing Building 1218. No new construction or interior renovation would be required.
- **Building 83.** The T-44 aircraft have GBTS equipment located in Building 83. This equipment would be removed and replaced with METS GBTS. Only internal renovations would be required.

There are two options for long-term projects that could include recapitalizing or demolishing Hangars 57 and 58. Ancillary facilities would be demolished under either option and are shown in Table 2-6.

- Option 1: Recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58. Recapitalizing the hangars would involve stripping the
 hangars down to the concrete foundation and steel frames. The frames would be repaired as
 needed and the exterior envelope including roof, siding, windows, and doors would be rebuilt. All
 new building systems, components, and fixtures would be installed. The overhead space would be
 configured for aircraft maintenance and shops would be provided. This would extend the hangar
 service life for 65 years.
- Option 2: Demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and then Install Two Fabric Hangars or Construct
 One New Larger Hangar. This project includes demolition of Hangars 57 and 58 and either installation of fabric hangars or construction of a new maintenance hangar with a maximum footprint of 94,000 square feet.

The Department of Defense (DoD) Instruction 2000.16, *DoD Antiterrorism Standards*, requires all DoD Components to adopt and adhere to common criteria and minimum construction standards to mitigate antiterrorism vulnerabilities and terrorist threats. Antiterrorism standards would be incorporated into the design of the new facilities, where applicable.



Source: (EMR, Inc., 2021)

Example Fabric Hangar

Table 2-6 Facilities to be Demolished

Facility Number	Name	Year Built	Area (sq ft)
57A	Hazardous/Flammable Storehouse	1941	108
57B	Storage – Hangar 57	1942	108
57C	Anchor Display at Hangar 57	1995	2
58A	Hazardous/Flammable Storehouse	1941	196
58C	Electrical Switching Building at Hangar 58	2013	240
60	Ground Electronics Maintenance Division Shop	1984	6,500
62	General Building at Building 60	1984	432
67	Compressor Building at Hangar 57	1995	144
70	Air Operations Fight Support	1994	588
71	1st LT Office at Hangar 57	1993	480
1238	General Building at Hangar 58	1957	384
1244	Operational Facility at Hangar 58	1953	208
Total			9,390

Key: LT = Lieutenant; sq ft = square feet.

Construction projects would incorporate Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design, commonly referred to as "LEED," and sustainable development concepts to achieve optimum resource efficiency, sustainability, and energy conservation.

2.2 Screening Factors

The National Environmental Policy Act's (NEPA's) implementing regulations provide guidance on the consideration of alternatives to a federally proposed action and require rigorous exploration and objective evaluation of reasonable alternatives. Only those alternatives determined to be reasonable and to meet the purpose and need require detailed analysis.

Potential alternatives that meet the purpose and need were evaluated against the following screening factors:

- Meet overall training requirements. TRAWING 4 has been training the world's premier military pilots for nearly 50 years. During Pre-Flight Indoctrination, student aviators learn the basics of flight, with classes on aerodynamics, weather, air navigation, flight rules, and aircraft engines and systems. Pre-Flight Indoctrination is followed by the Primary phase, the first phase of flight training that all Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard, and international students undergo. Primary students fly the T-6B aircraft. Student aviators complete different Intermediate and Advanced phase syllabi and operate different aircraft platforms based on their specific training pipelines. Students within the Maritime and Advanced Tilt-Rotor pipelines complete Advanced multi-engine training in the T-44C twin-engine aircraft (to be replaced with the T-54A aircraft). Upon graduation from the Advanced phase, students are designated as naval aviators and are assigned to Fleet Replacement Squadrons for training on their specific fleet aircraft type.
- Maintain uninterrupted aviator production. The requirement to maintain T-44C aircraft training while ramping up METS training would cause resourcing challenges with facilities and staffing. The Navy addresses these challenges early in the planning process to prevent disruptions in training and production during the execution phase. The T-44C is currently capable of meeting pilot production requirements but has minimal excess capacity and is nearing its end-of-service life, at which time it will be retired from use. The METS transition and subsequent T-44C retirement need to be planned and executed appropriately to not create a capacity gap.
- Allow for continued operation and maintenance of T-44C and new aircraft until conversion is complete. New aircraft would be transitioned over time. TRAWING 4 needs to be able to operate and maintain both aircraft until the transition is complete.
- Maximize use of existing airfields that are currently used for the student pilot training program.

 The current balance of operations at each airfield has developed over time and through operational experience to properly reflect the capabilities necessary to implement the full training curriculum and production requirements.
- Maintain safety and separation parameters for student pilot training. Although different types of
 aircraft may be based at the same facilities, there are a limited number of aircraft that can operate
 at a time at any NOLF or other international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfield for
 safety reasons.
- Maximize use of existing infrastructure for aircraft parking and maintenance. Use of existing
 infrastructure minimizes the duration of the construction schedule, potential environmental
 impacts, and cost. The Navy's goal is to protect resources present in areas where it trains, while still
 providing the realistic experiences necessary for the readiness and safety of its Sailors.

2.3 Alternatives Carried Forward for Analysis

Based on the reasonable alternative screening factors, two action alternatives were identified as meeting the purpose and need for the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative and two action alternatives were analyzed in this Environmental Assessment (EA).

2.3.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the T-44C aircraft would not be replaced. The over 40-year-old T-44C aircraft would continue to operate despite capacity and capability gaps. The No Action Alternative would not meet the purpose and need for the Proposed Action; however, as required by NEPA, the No Action Alternative is carried forward for analysis in this EA. The No Action Alternative will be used to analyze the consequences of not undertaking the Proposed Action and will serve to establish a comparative baseline of environmental impacts for analysis.

2.3.2 Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)

Alternative 1 includes replacing 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft; an increase in operations; and implementation of short- and long-term projects to provide Navy support facilities. Proposed short- and long-term construction projects are described in Section 2.1.4, *Construction Projects*. Table 2-3 shows the change in operations with an increase of approximately 10 percent over the No Action Alternative, while Table 2-2 shows that the personnel numbers would remain the same as current conditions. Current staffing levels would be able to manage the 10 percent increase in operations, which would be similar to surge conditions that arise due to weather and/or maintenance delays followed by an increase in operations. This alternative reflects the forecasted increase in student pilot training necessary to support Navy, Marine Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard aviation requirements in the foreseeable future.

2.3.3 Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations

Alternative 2 includes the same aircraft replacement and implementation of short- and long-term projects to provide Navy support facilities as Alternative 1 but with an increase in aircraft operations of approximately 20 percent over the No Action Alternative. With this increase in flight operations, the Navy estimates that there would be an increase of 33 additional personnel and their families at NAS Corpus Christi.

Alternative 2 assesses a level of operations based on increases in demand for ready naval forces in response to national security requirements. This alternative reflects the maximum forecasted student pilot training necessary to support Navy, Marine Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard aviation requirements in the foreseeable future.

2.4 Alternatives Considered but not Carried Forward for Detailed Analysis

The following alternatives were considered but not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA, as they did not meet the purpose and need for the project and satisfy the reasonable alternative screening factors presented in Section 2.2, *Screening Factors*.

2.4.1 Relocate the Pilot Training Mission from NAS Corpus Christi to Another Training Station

The Navy considered an alternative that would site the new aircraft and the METS pilot training mission at another station that already has a pilot training mission. These training facilities include NAS Kingsville, Texas; NAS Meridian, Mississippi; and NAS Whiting Field and NAS Pensacola, Florida. Moving METS squadrons to another Naval Air Training Command station would require new construction to build METS capacity. Chief of Naval Air Training locations are specifically designed to support student naval aviator training requirements. For example, these facilities provide necessary classroom space, flight simulators, briefing rooms, aircraft hangars, and maintenance spaces. In addition, the stations at which student pilots train are located near NOLFs that are dedicated for student aviator use. The requirement to maintain T-44C aircraft training while relocating students and facilities to another station would disrupt aviator training and production. Further, such a move would result in creating excess capacity at NAS Corpus Christi and would not be an efficient use of resources.

Conducting METS training at alternative sites besides NAS Corpus Christi would prohibit maximum use of existing airfields that are currently used for the student pilot training system. The current operational balance is based on years of experience in pilot training and serves to support the capabilities necessary for the full training curriculum. The Navy conducts capabilities-based assessments of naval aviation undergraduate training to analyze the Navy's capabilities and capacity to meet future undergraduate flight training requirements. This alternative, therefore, does not constitute a reasonable alternative and is not carried forward in this document for detailed analysis.

2.4.2 Change Percent of Flight Training Operations at Various NOLFs and International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

This alternative considers redistribution of training flight operations between the NOLFs and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields. Consideration would be given to use of less populated airfields to the largest extent operationally feasible. This alternative was considered but dismissed from further consideration because of safety precautions and need for training diversity.

Although different types of aircraft may be based at the same facilities, there are a limited number of aircraft that can operate at a time at any NOLF or other non-Navy airfields for safety reasons. For the multi-engine pipeline, TRAWING 4 has allocated NOLF Cabaniss for T-44C landing practice. An important factor in reserving NOLF Cabaniss for T-44C operations, and the more advanced flight students, is the field's proximity to Corpus Christi International Airport. The FAA-designated airspace in this area, and the elevated level of air traffic, does not support the type and level of simulated emergency landing procedures, solo landing operations, and pattern work that is required for Primary students operating the T-6B aircraft. An additional safeguard for T-44C students operating at NOLF Cabaniss is the presence of a Navy control tower to provide traffic separation safety measures.

The multi-engine training syllabus specifically requires exposure of students to operations in a diversity of airspaces and varying airfield conditions to replicate conditions they will encounter while deployed. Students practice navigation; visual and instrument flight rules; communications with various airspace controllers; operations in the different classes of FAA-designated airspace; and landing, obtaining services, and launching from a variety of airfields that range from international to regional and small municipal airfields. In order to efficiently execute daily flight requirements, instructors need the operational flexibility to fly throughout South Texas to avoid congestion and temporary airspace restrictions due to weather (e.g., rerouting of commercial aircraft) and other events (e.g., SpaceX launches). Restricting or otherwise limiting operations to NOLFs would not properly prepare

multi-engine students for follow-on Fleet Replacement Squadron assignment. As a result, this alternative was eliminated from further consideration.

2.4.2.1 Replace Aircraft with No Increase in Operations

Under this alternative, the 54 T-44C aircraft would be replaced with 58 T-54A aircraft, but operations would not increase. The implementation of short- and long-term projects to provide Navy support facilities as described under Alternatives 1 or 2 would still occur. This alternative would meet current flight training requirements but would not meet the potential level of student pilot training necessary to support forecasted Navy, Marine Corps, and U.S. Coast Guard aviation requirements in the foreseeable future. As a result, this alternative was eliminated from further consideration.

2.4.3 Facility Alternatives

Several facility construction alternatives were evaluated for NAS Corpus Christi considering selection factors. These options are presented in Table 2-7 along with the factor or factors that were not met.

Table 2-7 Facility Construction Options

Facility Options	Description	Reason Dismissed	Screening Factor Not Met
Renovate and reconfigure the existing four hangars.	Renovate and reconfigure National Register of Historic Places-eligible structures instead of demolishing. No recapitalization or demolition would occur.	Each hangar is inadequate in physical condition. The maintenance functions have changed since the hangars were built in 1941.	The hangars are in poor condition and would adversely affect aircraft maintenance schedules.
Demolish hangars and construct one new larger hangar.	Demolish Hangars 55 and 56 and construct a new large hangar to support METS.	This alternative is feasible but is unfunded. Selection of the T-54A aircraft does not need as much maintenance space as previously estimated. This option would result in overbuilt maintenance space.	This construction project would not minimize the duration of the construction schedule, potential environmental impacts, and cost.
Construct two new separate hangars.	Construct two new hangars, one for METS and one for other aircraft. Proposed layout would require one hangar to be larger than the other.	A METS hangar would be constructed to the north of Hangar 58. The new METS Hangar in this location would not allow the 90-foot aircraft movement lanes needed between the hangar, Air Traffic Control, and Hangar 58. The other aircraft hangar would be located north of the METS Hangar; it would be a larger size and have increased depth to accommodate other aircraft. Demolition of Hangars 55 and 56 would be required since the flightline has limited space and environmental and flight safety constraints.	This construction project would not minimize the duration of the construction schedule, potential environmental impacts, and cost. This option is not funded and would not allow for continued operation and maintenance of T-44C and new aircraft until conversion was complete.

Key: METS = Multi-Engine Training System.

2.5 Best Management Practices Included in Proposed Action

This section presents an overview of the best management practices (BMPs) that are incorporated into the Proposed Action in this document. BMPs are existing policies, practices, and measures that the Navy would adopt to reduce the environmental impacts of designated activities, functions, or processes. Although BMPs mitigate potential impacts by avoiding, minimizing, or reducing/eliminating impacts, BMPs are distinguished from potential mitigation measures because BMPs are (1) existing requirements for the Proposed Action; (2) ongoing, regularly occurring practices; or (3) not unique to this Proposed Action. In other words, the BMPs identified in this document are inherently part of the Proposed Action and are not potential mitigation measures proposed as a function of the NEPA environmental review process for the Proposed Action. Table 2-8 includes the list of BMPs that would be incorporated as part of the Proposed Action.

Table 2-8 Best Management Practices

ВМР	Description	Impacts Reduced/Avoided
Air Installations Compatible Use Zones (AICUZ)	AICUZ studies balance the need for military aircraft operations and community concerns over aircraft noise and accident potential.	Protects the public's health, safety, and welfare and prevents encroachment from degrading the operational capability of the installation.
Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) Plan Implementation	BASH Plan implementation minimizes aircraft risks from potentially hazardous wildlife strikes. The program establishes methods to decrease the attractiveness of the airfield and nearby areas to birds and animals and provides guidelines for dispersing birds and animals when they compromise the safety of operations on the airfield.	Reduces impacts to biological resources and airfield safety related to aircraft strikes.
Airfield Operating Procedures	BMP consists of management of procedures for aircraft approach and departure patterns.	Reduces potential for impacts to safety.
Encroachment Partnering	Programs such as Readiness and Environmental Protection Integration and Joint Land Use Studies protect these military missions by helping remove or avoid land use conflicts near installations and addressing regulatory restrictions that inhibit military activities.	Protects the public's health, safety, and welfare and prevents encroachment from degrading the operational capability of the installation.
Community Outreach	BMP opens lines of communication with the surrounding community and stakeholders through noise complaint hotlines, public meetings, and newspaper advertisements.	Prevents encroachment from degrading the operational capability of the installation.
Hazardous	Hangars proposed for recapitalization or demolition are assumed to contain asbestos, lead-based paint, and polychlorinated biphenyls. Removal and abatement would be handled by a licensed contractor.	Ensures proper handling, transport, and disposal of toxic substances.
Materials and Wastes	Personnel and contractors must follow BMPs and standard operating procedures outlined in the NAS Corpus Christi Hazardous Waste Management Plan to include handling, removal, disposal, or storage of hazardous materials and wastes.	Protects health and safety.

Table 2-8 Best Management Practices

ВМР	Description	Impacts Reduced/Avoided
Spill Prevention	Contractors would comply with the NAS Corpus Christi Spill Prevention, Control, and Countermeasure Plan.	Ensures any spills are contained and cleaned up in accordance with regulatory requirements.
Protection of Stormwater Features During Construction	Examples include use of perimeter controls, site stabilization, storm outlet protection, dust control, check dams, mulching, and seeding.	Reduces sediment-laden stormwater runoff during construction.
Fugitive Dust Control	Examples include staging construction/demolition site to minimize exposed areas, watering soil for dust suppression, covering exposed dirt or storage piles, and rinsing vehicles before leaving the construction site.	Controls particulate matter emissions during construction.
Low Impact Development	The term Low Impact Development refers to systems and practices that use or mimic natural processes that result in the infiltration, evapotranspiration, or use of stormwater in order to protect water quality and associated aquatic habitat.	Provides flood protection, cleaner air, and cleaner water. Low Impact Development practices aim to preserve, restore, and create green space using soils, vegetation, and rainwater harvest techniques.

Key: AICUZ = Air Installations Compatible Use Zones; BASH = Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard; BMP = best management practice; NAS = Naval Air Station.

3 Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences

This chapter presents a description of the environmental resources and baseline conditions that could be affected from implementing any of the alternatives and an analysis of the potential direct and indirect effects of each alternative.

All potentially relevant environmental resource areas were initially considered for analysis in this Environmental Assessment (EA). In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ), and Department of the Navy guidelines, the discussion of the affected environment (i.e., existing conditions) focuses only on those resource areas potentially subject to impacts. Additionally, the level of detail used in describing a resource is commensurate with the anticipated level of potential environmental impact.

NEPA requires federal agencies to consider the environmental impacts of major federal actions that significantly affect the quality of the human environment. "Significantly," as used in NEPA, requires considerations of both the potentially affected environment and degree of potential impacts. The potential environmental impact can be thought of in terms of the amount of the likely change. In general, the more sensitive the environment, the less intense a potential impact needs to be in order to be considered significant. Likewise, the less sensitive the environment, the more intense a potential impact would need to be in order to be considered significant. Significance varies with the setting of a proposed action. For instance, in the case of a site-specific action, significance would usually depend on the effects in the locale rather than in the world as a whole. Both short- and long-term effects are relevant. The resource areas that are potentially subject to impacts resulting from the Proposed Action include noise, environmental justice, biological resources, cultural resources, and air quality. The potential impacts to these resource areas are analyzed in detail in this EA.

The potential impacts to the following resource areas are considered to be negligible or nonexistent, so they were not analyzed in detail in this EA:

Water Resources: Proposed projects would be constructed on existing pavement and/or include interior work in buildings. Erosion and sedimentation control best management practices including compliance with applicable stormwater pollution prevention requirements would be used to prevent and/or minimize runoff. As a result, impacts to water resources would be negligible; therefore, water resources were not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Geological Resources: Proposed construction and demolition projects would occur on existing pavement and/or only include interior work in buildings. As a result, ground disturbance would be negligible; therefore, geological resources were not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Land Use: Proposed construction projects would occur on Navy property only. Changes in noise contours would not substantially increase or result in additional incompatible land uses. As a result, land use was not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Visual Resources: Equipment used during the proposed construction projects could create a short-term visual effect; however, the only construction would occur on Navy property. Following completion of construction, these effects would be negligible; therefore, visual resources were not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Airspace: The Proposed Action does not include the creation of any new Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)-designated controlled airspace or the redesignation of any existing airspace. All Multi-Engine

Training System (METS) aircraft operations would continue to take place in airspace currently used by the T-44C aircraft. There would be no changes in flight operations that would conflict with use of the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields and military use of regional airspace. Current airspace management procedures would continue. As a result, airspace was not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Infrastructure: There are approximately 8,300 employees (CNRSE, 2022) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. Under Alternative 2, an additional 33 personnel or an increase of 0.4 percent would result in a negligible increase in utility (e.g., drinking water, wastewater, stormwater, solid waste management, energy, and communications) use or need for additional capacity. Design and construction of proposed projects would comply with applicable stormwater pollution prevention requirements; therefore, infrastructure was not carried forward in this EA.

Transportation: Personnel numbers at NAS Corpus Christi would have a negligible increase, with only a slight increase (0.4 percent) under Alternative 2. Any increase in traffic as a result of the slight increase in personnel under Alternative 2 would not be significant. The proposed construction would require use of heavy equipment and worker commutes that would generate short-term increases in traffic. The local roadway infrastructure would be sufficient to support these activities, and effects would be negligible. Because most of the work would take place on Navy property, road closures or detours would not occur. As a result, transportation was not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Public Health and Safety: Construction would occur on Navy property that would not be accessible to the public and would not pose environmental health and safety risks to the general public. Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) risk is discussed under Biological Resources. Accident potential zones would not change under the Proposal Action; therefore, there would be no change compared to current conditions.

Hazardous Materials and Wastes: Proposed new facilities would be constructed on existing pavement. Demolition and interior renovations could result in generation of hazardous material and wastes but would be handled in accordance with state and federal laws. Asbestos and lead-based paint would be abated prior to demolition or renovation. Construction contracts would specify procedures for the handling and disposal of hazardous materials and wastes by construction contractors. There are no environmental restoration sites near Hangars 57 and 58; the closest is the fuel farm located 750 feet due east of Hangar 58. A per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS) investigation is ongoing. If the plume extends to the construction sites, contract documents would contain provisions for any special worker safety requirements for construction and handling and disposal of wastes. As a result, impacts to hazardous materials and wastes were not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

Socioeconomics: Personnel numbers would not change under Alternative 1 but would have a small increase under Alternative 2 (an increase of 33 personnel or 0.4 percent of the station population); therefore, there would not be a major change to socioeconomics (e.g., employment or population) due to the Proposed Action. Construction projects would provide a beneficial one-time injection of funds to the local economy. As a result, socioeconomics was not carried forward for detailed analysis in this EA.

3.1 Noise

This discussion of noise focuses on potential noise effects on the human environment. Noise in relation to biological resources is discussed in the *Biological Resources* section (Section 3.3, *Biological Resources*).

Sound is a physical phenomenon consisting of minute vibrations that travel through a medium, such as air or water, and are sensed by the human ear. Sound is all around us. The perception and evaluation of sound involves three basic physical characteristics:

- Intensity the acoustic energy, which is expressed in terms of sound pressure, in decibels (dB)
- Frequency the number of cycles per second the air vibrates, in Hertz
- Duration the length of time the sound can be detected

Noise is defined as unwanted or annoying sound that interferes with or disrupts normal human activities. Although continuous and extended exposure to high noise levels (e.g., through occupational exposure) can cause hearing loss, the principal human response to noise is annoyance. The response of different individuals to similar noise events is diverse and is influenced by the type of noise; perceived importance of the noise; its appropriateness in the setting, time of day, and type of activity during which the noise occurs; and the sensitivity of the individual. While aircraft are not the only sources of noise in an urban or suburban environment, they are readily identified by their noise output and are given special attention in this EA.

3.1.1 Basics of Sound and A-Weighted Sound Level

The loudest sounds that can be detected comfortably by the human ear have intensities that are a trillion times higher than those of sounds that can barely be detected. This vast range means that using a linear scale to represent sound intensity is not feasible. The dB is a logarithmic unit used to represent the intensity of a sound, also referred to as the sound level. Table 3-1 provides a comparison of how the human ear perceives changes in loudness on the logarithmic scale.

	Table 3-1 Subjective Responses to Changes in Decibels
Change	Change in Perceived Loudness
3 dB	Barely perceptible
5 dB	Quite noticeable
10 dB	Dramatic – twice or half as loud
20 dB	Striking – fourfold change

Key: dB = decibels.

All sounds have a spectral content, which means the magnitude or level changes with frequency, where frequency is measured in cycles per second or Hertz. To mimic the human ear's non-linear sensitivity and perception of different frequencies of sound, the spectral content is weighted. For example, environmental noise measurements are usually on an "A-weighted" scale that filters out very low and very high frequencies in order to replicate human sensitivity. It is common to add the "A" to the measurement unit in order to identify that the measurement has been made with this filtering process (dBA). In this document, the dB unit refers to A-weighted sound levels. Figure 3-1 (Cowan, 1994) provides a chart of A-weighted sound levels from typical noise sources. Some noise sources (e.g., air conditioner, vacuum cleaner) are continuous sounds that maintain a constant sound level for some period of time. Other sources (e.g., automobile, heavy truck) are the maximum sound produced during an event like a vehicle pass-by. Other sounds (e.g., urban daytime, urban nighttime) are averages taken over extended periods of time. A variety of noise metrics have been developed to describe noise over different time periods, as discussed below.

Noise levels from aircraft operations that exceed background noise levels at an airfield typically occur beneath main approach and departure corridors, in local air traffic patterns around the airfield, and in areas immediately adjacent to parking ramps and aircraft staging areas. As aircraft in flight gain altitude, their noise contributions drop to lower levels, often becoming indistinguishable from the background noise.

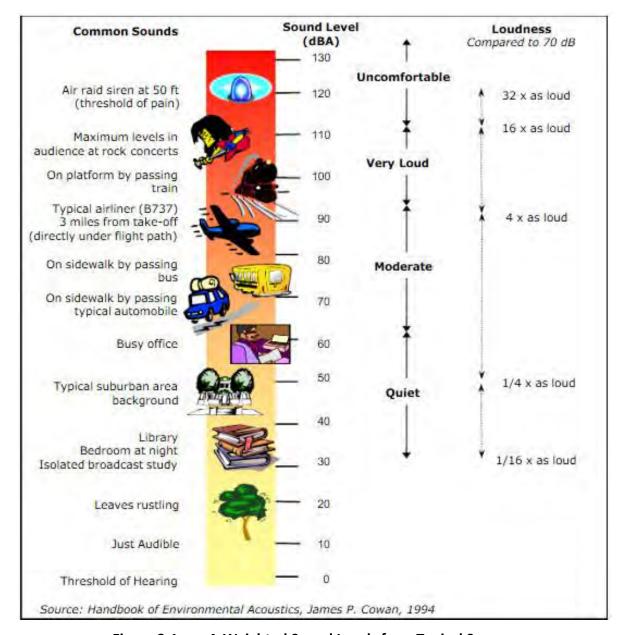


Figure 3-1 A-Weighted Sound Levels from Typical Sources

3.1.2 Noise Metrics

A metric is a system for measuring or quantifying a particular characteristic of a subject. Since noise is a complex physical phenomenon, different noise metrics help to quantify the noise environment. The noise metrics used in this EA are described below. While the day-night average sound level (DNL) is the most commonly used metric for analyzing noise generated at an airfield, supplemental metrics provide

more detailed noise exposure information for the decision process. The Department of Defense (DoD) Noise Working Group product, *Improving Aviation Noise Planning, Analysis and Public Communication with Supplemental Metrics* (DoD Noise Working Group, 2009) was used to determine the appropriate metrics and analysis tools for this EA.

3.1.2.1 Day-Night Average Sound Level

The DNL metric is the energy-averaged sound level measured over a 24-hour period, with a 10 dB penalty assigned to noise events occurring between 10 p.m. and 7 a.m. (acoustic night). DNL values are average quantities, mathematically representing the continuous sound level that would be present if all the variations in sound level that occur over a 24-hour period were averaged to have the same total sound energy. The DNL metric quantifies the total sound energy received and is therefore a cumulative measure, but it does not provide specific information on the number of noise events or the individual sound levels that occur during the 24-hour day. DNL is the standard noise metric used by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, FAA, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA), and DoD. Studies of community annoyance in response to numerous types of environmental noise show that DNL correlates well with impact assessments; there is a consistent relationship between DNL and the level of annoyance. Most people are exposed to sound levels of 50 to 55 DNL or higher on a daily basis.

Research has indicated that about 87 percent of the population is not highly annoyed by outdoor sound levels below 65 dBA DNL (Federal Interagency Committee on Urban Noise, 1980). Therefore, the 65 dBA DNL noise contour is used to help determine compatibility of military aircraft operations with local land use, particularly for land use associated with airfields.

3.1.2.2 Equivalent Sound Level

A cumulative noise metric useful in describing noise is the Equivalent Sound Level (L_{eq}). L_{eq} is the continuous sound level that would be present if all the variations in sound level occurring over a specified time period were smoothed out as to contain the same total sound energy.

3.1.2.3 Maximum Sound Level

The highest A-weighted sound level measured during a single event where the sound level changes value with time (e.g., an aircraft overflight) is called the maximum A-weighted sound level or L_{max}. During an aircraft overflight, the noise level starts at the ambient or background noise level, rises to the maximum level as the aircraft flies closest to the observer, and returns to the background level as the aircraft recedes into the distance. L_{max} defines the maximum sound level occurring for a fraction of a second. For aircraft noise, the "fraction of a second" over which the maximum level is defined is generally 1/8 second (American National Standards Institute, 1988). In this EA, L_{max} was used in the analysis of aircraft comparison and speech interference.

3.1.2.4 Number of Events Above a Threshold Level

The "Number of Events Above a Threshold Level" metric provides the total number of noise events that exceed a selected noise level threshold during a specified period of time (DoD Noise Working Group, 2009). In this EA, the number of events per hour exceeding an L_{max} threshold is selected to analyze speech interference.

3.1.3 Noise Effects

Several categories of noise impacts that could be associated with the Proposed Action are summarized below.

3.1.3.1 Annoyance

As previously noted, the primary effect of aircraft noise on exposed communities is long-term annoyance, defined by USEPA as any negative subjective reaction on the part of an individual or group. The scientific community has adopted the use of long-term annoyance as a primary indicator of community response and there is a consistent direct relationship between DNL and the level of community annoyance (Federal Interagency Committee on Noise, 1992).

3.1.3.2 Speech Interference

Speech interference associated with aircraft noise is a primary cause of annoyance for communities. Speech interference can cause disruption of routine activities, such as enjoyment of radio or television programs, telephone use, or family conversation, giving rise to frustration or irritation. In extreme cases, speech interference may cause fatigue and vocal strain to individuals who try to communicate over the noise. In this EA, speech interference is measured by the number of daily indoor events (from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.) that exceed 50 dB L_{max} at selected locations. This metric also accounts for noise level reduction provided by buildings with windows open or closed.

3.1.3.3 Classroom Criteria

For school-aged children, noise interference with learning can interrupt communication or interfere with concentration. The DoD Noise Working Group recommends using an outdoor eight-hour equivalent sound level (L_{eq(8hr)}) during the school day of 60 dBA as an indicator that background noise levels indoors (i.e., in classrooms) are unacceptably high.

If locations have noise levels that exceed 60 dBA $L_{eq(8hr)}$, the working group then recommends an additional noise metric to supplement the analysis. In this scenario, it is recommended that the number of events per hour with the potential to interfere with speech be calculated (DoD Noise Working Group, 2013). In this EA, it is conservatively assumed that if a noise event exceeds 50 dBA L_{max} , then there is the potential for speech interference (DoD Noise Working Group, 2013).

3.1.4 Noise Modeling

Computer modeling provides a tool to assess potential noise impacts. DNL noise contours are generated by a computer model that draws from a library of actual aircraft noise measurements. Noise contours produced by the model allow a comparison of existing conditions and proposed changes or alternative actions, even when the aircraft studied are not currently operating from the installation. For these reasons, on-site noise monitoring is seldom used at military air installations, especially when the aircraft mix and operational tempo are not uniform.

The noise environment for this EA was modeled using NOISEMAP. NOISEMAP analyzes all the operational data (types of aircraft, number of operations, flight tracks, altitude, speed of aircraft, engine power settings, and engine maintenance run-ups), environmental data (average humidity and temperature), and surface hardness and terrain. The result of the modeling is noise contours (i.e., lines

connecting points of equal value). Noise zones cover an area between two noise contours and are usually shown in 5 dB increments. At locations of interest, NOISEMAP calculates DNL to the nearest tenth of a dB. Changes in DNL that round to zero at the tenth-of-a-decibel level of precision are extremely minor and are described as "no measurable change" in this EA.

In January 2023, the Navy awarded a contract to develop the T-54A METS aircraft based on the Beechcraft King Air 260 (Chapman, 2023). NOISEMAP software does not include reference noise level data for the King Air 260; however, it does include data for the C-12, which is very similar to the proposed new aircraft. The C-12 and King Air 260 are both powered by two turboprop engines that each generate 850 shaft horsepower. Because the C-12 is very similar to the Beechcraft King Air 260, on which METS development would be based, C-12 noise levels are expected to be very similar to noise levels generated by METS aircraft; thus, the C-12 was used as the representative noise surrogate. It is worth noting that the C-12 is also the aircraft in the NOISEMAP database that is most similar to the T-44C and was also used as the surrogate for modeling T-44 noise levels under baseline conditions.

At international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields, a screening-level noise analysis was conducted with the specific goal of demonstrating the level of noise impacts associated with the Proposed Action. Inputs to the analysis are described in Appendix A, *Noise Methodology and Calculations*.

3.1.5 Regulatory Setting

The joint instruction, Chief of Naval Operations Instruction 11010.36C and Marine Corps Order 11010.16, Air Installations Compatible Use Zones Program, provides guidance administering the Air Installations Compatible Use Zones program, which recommends land uses that are compatible with aircraft noise levels. Per Chief of Naval Operations Instruction 11010.36C, NOISEMAP is to be used for developing noise contours and is the best noise modeling science available today for fixed-wing aircraft until the new Advanced Acoustic Model is approved and ready for use. The Advanced Acoustic Model was approved on November 28, 2022 but, to date, is only ready for use with AV-8B, F-22, and F-35A/B fixed-wing aircraft. Therefore, this EA used NOISEMAP.

Navy regulations do not establish specific quantitative noise impact significance thresholds, instead requiring that impacts be assessed in terms of potentially affected environment and degree pursuant to the definition of significance in the CEQ regulations. This analysis uses the primary noise metric (DNL) and supplemental noise metrics to assess noise impacts near Navy installations. As discussed in Section 3.1.4, *Noise Modeling*, a screening analysis was conducted to assess whether significant noise impacts could occur near municipal public-use airfields due to implementation of the action alternatives. Noise impacts would warrant additional analysis if any sensitive location would increase by 1.5 dBA DNL or greater to a noise level at or exceeding 65 dBA DNL. Although this screening criterion aligns with impact criteria established by the FAA, its application to this screening analysis does not imply Navy adoption of FAA criterion for use in other analyses. Rather, the criterion is useful as a point of reference for this screening analysis. Non-exceedance would indicate that impacts would be minimal and not be significant.

3.1.6 Affected Environment

3.1.6.1 Noise

The study area includes areas on and near NAS Corpus Christi, Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields where proposed activities would be audible. NAS Corpus Christi supports over 160,000 aircraft operations per year from aircraft including T-44, T-6, P-3, H-60, and AH-64 as well as a wide variety of transient aircraft types.

Baseline DNL contours are shown in Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3 for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss, respectively. Fifty acres of off-installation land and an estimated 91 residents near NAS Corpus Christi are exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater under baseline conditions. No off-installation lands near NOLF Cabaniss are exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater under baseline conditions. As discussed in Section 3.1.3, *Noise Effects*, people exposed to higher DNL are more likely to become highly annoyed by the noise, and at noise levels greater than 65 dBA DNL, the DoD considers noise to be sufficiently intrusive that some noise-sensitive land uses are considered to be incompatible. Quantitative analysis in this EA focused on areas exposed to levels greater than 65 dBA DNL. However, people outside the 65 dBA DNL contour do experience aircraft noise, and Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3 show DNL contours in 5 dB increments ranging from 55 to 85 dBA DNL in order to reflect the noise environment more fully.

Representative noise-sensitive locations (e.g., neighborhoods, schools, churches, etc.) were chosen for additional detailed noise analysis. The locations selected are not intended to be an all-inclusive list of locations that could be considered noise sensitive, but rather are intended to be representative. Noise levels in nearby areas can be assumed to be similar to noise levels stated for the representative locations. Representative locations are shown in Figure 3-2 and Figure 3-3. As shown in Table 3-2, noise levels are below 65 dBA DNL at all the locations studied except for the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard.

	Table 3-2	DNL at Representa	ative Location	s under Basel	ine Condition
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ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	DNL (dBA) ¹
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	66.3
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	<45
3		Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	48.1
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	<45
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	49.2
3		Camargo Park	49.1
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48.3
5		Church Unlimited	<45
6		Saint John Paul II High School	<45
7		Most Precious Blood Church	48.9

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; ID = identification; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Note:

1. Noise levels below 45 dBA DNL are assumed to be below ambient sound levels and are listed as "<45."

The number of indoor noise events per average daytime hour (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) at representative locations with the potential to interfere with speech under baseline conditions is listed in Table 3-3. Disruptions in communication have a high likelihood of being annoying.

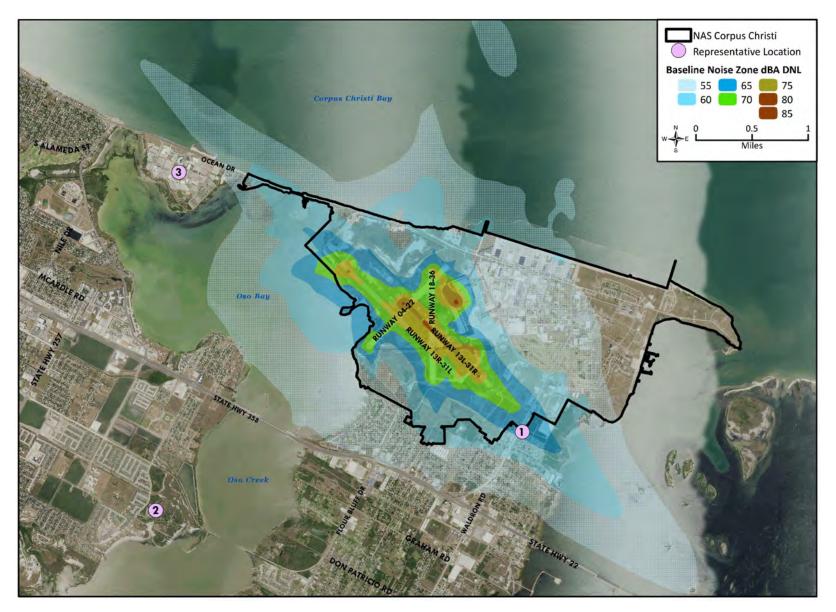


Figure 3-2 Baseline DNL Contours for NAS Corpus Christi

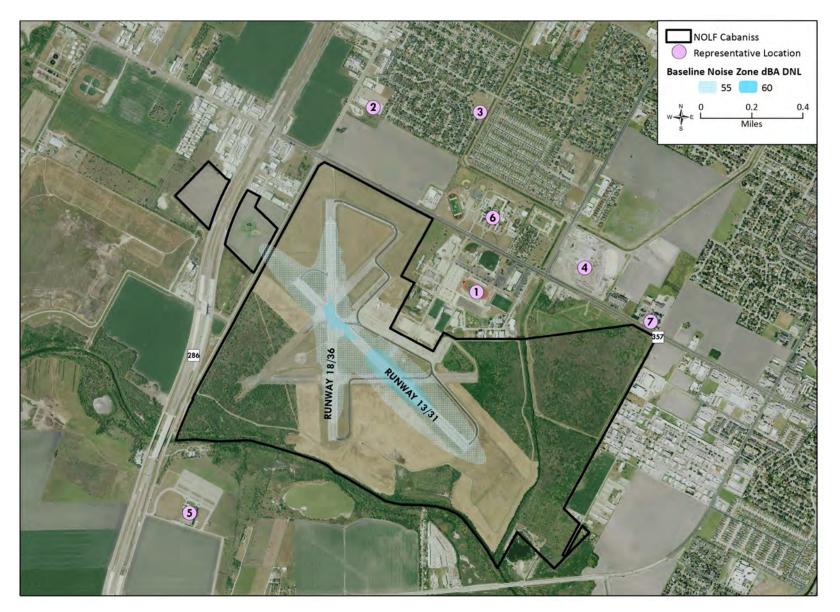


Figure 3-3 Baseline DNL Contours for NOLF Cabaniss

Table 3-3 Speech Interference Events Per Average Daytime Hour under Baseline Conditions

10	Closest	Lacation Description	Baseline			
ID	Installation	Location Description	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor	
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	6	13	18	
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	0	0	1	
3		Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	0	3	10	
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	0	0	5	
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	1	2	5	
3		Camargo Park	0	4	5	
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	0	5	5	
5		Church Unlimited	0	0	5	
6		Saint John Paul II High School	0	0	5	
7		Most Precious Blood Church	0	5	5	

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Note:

Value represents number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}, standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} rounds to zero.

Exterior $L_{eq(8hr)}$ at representative schools would remain below 60 dBA at all the schools studied (Table 3-4). The number of events per average hour during the school day that exceed 50 dBA L_{max} with windows open and closed is listed as supplemental information.

Table 3-4 Potential Classroom Interference under Baseline Conditions

	Classet		Baseline				
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Outdoor L _{eq(8hr)} (dBA) ¹	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Events per Hour, Windows Open ²		
3	NAS Corpus Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	49.2	0	3		
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48	0	5		
6	NOLF CAUAIIISS	Saint John Paul II High School	44.5	0	0		

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; $L_{eq(8hr)}$ = eight-hour equivalent sound level; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. $L_{eq(8hr)}$ is calculated for an eight-hour typical school day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 2. Value represents number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} ; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} rounds to zero.

The seven international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields proposed to be used regularly by T-54A aircraft range from very busy airports, such as Corpus Christi International Airport, to less-busy airports, such as Alice International Airport. Aircraft operating at the airfields include T-44 and T-6 aircraft based at NAS Corpus Christi, military aircraft based at other installations, and a wide variety of civilian aircraft types. The tempo of operations by various aircraft types and noise levels generated by these operations are described in Appendix A, *Noise Methodology and Calculations*. Screening noise analysis noise results generated using NOISEMAP are listed in Table 3-5. Noise levels at these locations

remain below threshold levels that would generally be considered to cause widespread annoyance except at one location. This one location is near Corpus Christi International Airport and exceeds the 65 dBA DNL threshold by 0.4 dBA.

Table 3-5 Baseline Screening Analysis DNL at Representative Locations near International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

Municipal Bublic Use Airmort	Clasest Naira Sansitiva Lasertians	DNL (dBA)
Municipal Public Use Airport	Closest Noise Sensitive Locations	Baseline
Alice International Airport	Residence 1	52.9
Alice International Airport	Residence 2	49.6
Cornus Christi International Airport	esidence 2 esidence 2 esidence 2 esidence 2 esidence 2 esidence 1 esidence 1 ert Isabel AMI Kids (educational) ert Isabel Detention Center esyside Recreational Vehicle Camp¹ elf Course ety of Palacios (represented by elacios Junior High School) esidence 1 erothy O'Connor Pet Adoption Center esidence 1 erifters (bar)	52.6
Corpus Christi International Airport	Residence 2	65.4
Mallan International Aircort	Valley International Military Academy	53.1
Valley International Airport	Residence 1	50.3
Doubleshal Company County Airport	Port Isabel AMI Kids (educational)	48.5
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	Port Isabel Detention Center	50.7
	Bayside Recreational Vehicle Camp ¹	<45
	Golf Course	51.7
Palacios Municipal Airport ¹	City of Palacios (represented by Palacios Junior High School)	56.5
	Residence 1 Port Isabel AMI Kids (educational) Port Isabel Detention Center Bayside Recreational Vehicle Camp¹ Golf Course City of Palacios (represented by Palacios Junior High School) Residence 1	48.4
Vistoria Basianal Aireant	Dorothy O'Connor Pet Adoption Center	64.3
Victoria Regional Airport	Residence 1	52.2
Calbaun County Airmort	Drifters (bar)	50.8
Calhoun County Airport	Residence 1	53.1

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level.

3.1.7 Environmental Consequences

Analysis of potential noise impacts includes estimating likely noise levels from the Proposed Action and determining potential effects to sensitive receptor sites.

3.1.7.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to baseline noise levels. Therefore, no significant impacts to the noise environment would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.1.7.2 Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative)

The study area for Alternative 1 includes areas on and near NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields where proposed activities would be audible.

^{1.} Aircraft noise levels less than 45 dBA DNL can be assumed to be below ambient sound levels.

Short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi would occur

in the flightline area, which is not noise sensitive and is regularly exposed to elevated aircraft noise levels. Construction noise would be localized to the areas immediately surrounding the construction site and would last only for the duration of the construction project. In this context, temporary construction noise would have no off-station impacts.

Under Alternative 1, T-54A aircraft would conduct approximately 10 percent more airfield operations annually than are conducted currently by T-44 aircraft at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields, as described in Table 2-3 and Table 2-4. T-54A aircraft would be expected to follow approximately the same flight paths, runway usage patterns, and altitude profiles as T-44 aircraft. The new aircraft would conduct the same percentage of total operations during the latenight period between 10:00 PM and 7:00 AM (approximately 7 percent) as are conducted by the T-44

Noise Potential Impacts:

No Action Alternative:

 No change in existing conditions with 50 acres off-station land and 91 residents at or greater than 65 dBA DNL at NAS Corpus Christi and no off-station land or residents at NOLF Cabaniss at or greater than 65 dBA DNL.

Alternatives 1 and 2:

- Off-station land at 65 dBA DNL or greater at NAS Corpus Christi would increase by 1 acre, from 50 to 51 acres; estimated residents at or greater than 65 dBA DNL would remain the same as the No Action Alternative under Alternative 1, at 91, but would increase to 92 under Alternative 2.
- Noise levels would remain below 65 dBA DNL near NOLF Cabaniss.
- Noise levels at all schools studied would remain below 60 dBA L_{eq(8hr)}.
- Noise levels at noise-sensitive locations near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain well below 65 dBA DNL or would not change measurably relative to baseline conditions.
- The Navy has determined that there would be no environmental health and safety risks that would disproportionately affect children.

currently. Other aircraft operations, such as based T-6 and transient fighter (e.g., F/A-18C), would continue at NAS Corpus Christi, as described in Appendix A, *Noise Methodology and Calculations*.

Maximum noise levels associated with individual overflights of T-44, T-54A, T-6, and transient F/A-18C aircraft at 1,000 feet above ground level (AGL) are listed in Table 3-6. As noted in Section 3.1.4, *Noise Modeling*, the C-12 aircraft was used as the noise modeling surrogate for both the T-54A and for the T-44C. Individual overflight noise levels for the T-54A and T-44C would be approximately the same. Both the T-54A and T-44C are not as loud as the T-6 and transient aircraft types such as the F/A-18C. At NOLF Cabaniss, only T-44C operations occur on a regular basis.

Alternative 1 DNL contours are shown in Figure 3-4 and Figure 3-5 for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss, respectively. The number of off-station land acres near NAS Corpus Christi exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater would increase from 50 to 51, and the estimated number of residents affected at these levels would remain at 91, as shown for the No Action Alternative. The minor change in noise contour extent reflects individual T-54A overflight noise levels being approximately the same as those generated

by ongoing T-44C operations, as discussed previously. Changes in noise level would also be minimal because T-54A operations would occur in the context of ongoing operations of other aircraft types at NAS Corpus Christi such that the contribution of these aircraft to overall noise levels would be relatively minor. At NOLF Cabaniss, off-station aircraft noise levels would remain below 65 dBA DNL (Table 3-7).

People exposed to a higher DNL are more likely to become highly annoyed by the noise. At noise levels greater than 65 dBA DNL, the DoD considers noise to be sufficiently intrusive that some noise-sensitive land uses are considered to be incompatible. Quantitative analysis in this EA focused on areas exposed to levels greater than 65 dBA DNL. However, people outside the 65 dBA DNL contour do experience aircraft noise, and Figure 3-4 and Figure 3-5 also show 55 dBA and 60 dBA DNL contours in order to reflect the noise environment more fully.

Table 3-6	Individual	Overflight	Maximum	Noise	Levels
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Aircraft	Aircraft Configuration	Engine Power	L _{max} (dBA)
T-44C (C-12 surrogate)		100% RPM	73
T-54A (C-12 Surrogate)	Takeoff (full power)	100% RPM	73
T-6	rakeon (full power)	100% Torque	78
F/A-18C		96.7% NC (Afterburner)	115
T-44C (C-12 surrogate)		86% RPM	73
T-54A (C-12 surrogate)	Cruise (intermediate newer)	86% RPM	73
T-6	Cruise (intermediate power)	54% Torque	75
F/A-18C		96.5% NC	108
T-44C		30% RPM	70
T-54A (C-12 surrogate)	Arrival (low power)	30% RPM	70
T-6	Arrival (low power)	35% Torque	73 75 108 70 70 75
F/A-18C		88.5% NC	104

Source: SELcalc, version 3; standard acoustic conditions (59 degrees Fahrenheit and 70% relative humidity)

Key: % = percent; dBA = A-weighted decibels; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NC = core engine speed; RPM = revolutions per minute.

Table 3-7 Off-Station Acres and Population Exposed to Elevated Noise Levels near NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss under Alternative 1

Location	No Action A 65–69 di		Alterno 65–69 d		Chai	nge
Location	Land Area (acres)¹	Residents ²	Land Area (acres)¹	Residents ²	Land Area (acres) ¹ Residents ²	
NAS Corpus Christi	50	91	51	91	+1	0
NOLF Cabaniss	0	0	0	0	0	0

Key: + = plus; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. Acreage presented does not include areas over water or lands owned by the U.S. Navy.
- 2. The affected populations were estimated based on U.S. Census data at the block group level with adjustments to remove nonresidential areas from calculations (USCB, 2020a).

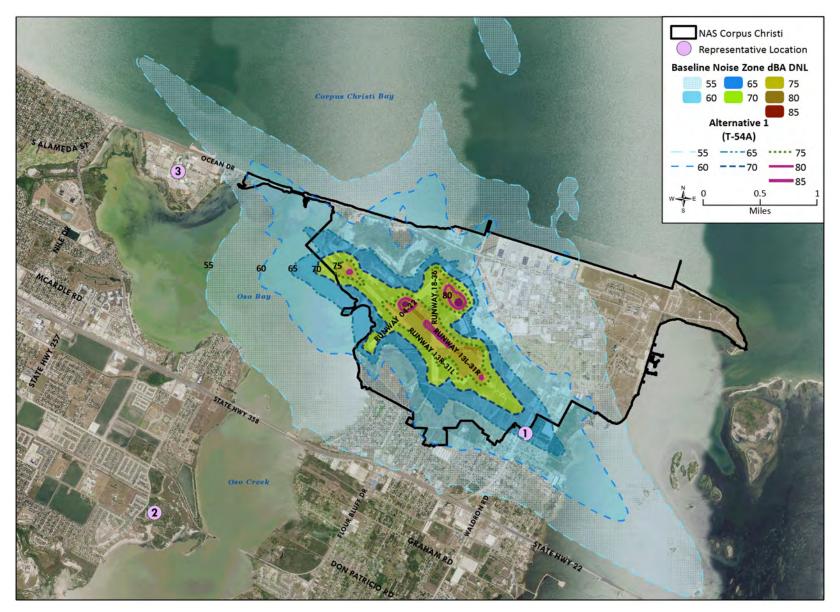


Figure 3-4 Baseline and Alternative 1 DNL Contours for NAS Corpus Christi

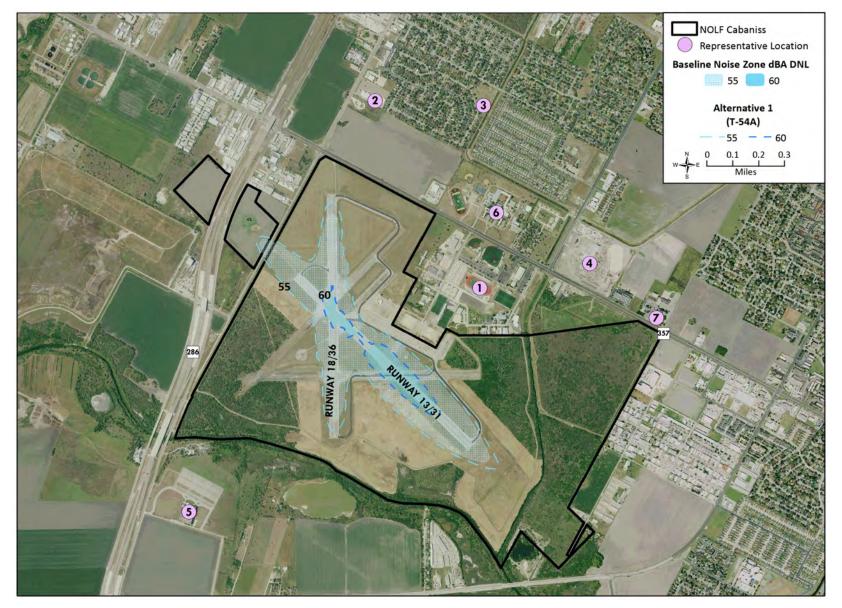


Figure 3-5 Baseline and Alternative 1 DNL Contours for NOLF Cabaniss

Under Alternative 1, there would be no measurable change in noise level (i.e., dBA DNL) at the locations studied near NAS Corpus Christi. Noise levels at locations studied near NOLF Cabaniss would increase by 0.5 dBA DNL or less (Table 3-8). The noise level at the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard would remain just above 65 dBA DNL, while the levels at all other locations would remain below 65 dBA DNL. To put the DNL changes in perspective, a change in an instantaneous sound level of 3 dBA is barely perceptible (Table 3-1). Increases in DNL of 0.5 dBA or less at locations near NOLF Cabaniss would not be expected to be noticeable, and noise levels at all of the locations studied near NOLF Cabaniss would remain well below the 65 dBA DNL, which is compatible with residential land uses.

Table 3-8 DNL at Representative Locations under Alternative 1

	Classet		DI	VL (dBA)	
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description		Alternative 1 ¹	Change
1	NAC Compute Christi	Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	66.3	66.3	0
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	<45	<45	0
3		Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	48.1	48.1	0
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	<45	45.2	0.2
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	49.2	49.6	0.4
3		Camargo Park	49.1	49.5	0.4
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48.3	48.8	0.5
5		Church Unlimited	<45	<45	0
6		Saint John Paul II High School	<45	45.2	0.2
7		Most Precious Blood Church	48.9	49.4	0.5

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; ID = identification; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Note:

1. Noise levels below 45 dBA DNL are assumed to be below ambient sound levels and are listed as "<45."

The number of indoor noise events per average daytime hour (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) at representative locations with the potential to interfere with speech under Alternative 1 are listed in Table 3-9. The number of events would increase by one at the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard if windows are closed but would remain the same if windows are open or if outdoors. The number of potential speech interference events indoors and outdoors at the other two locations near NAS Corpus Christi would remain the same as the No Action Alternative. At all locations studied near NOLF Cabaniss, the number of events would remain the same indoors but would increase by one event per hour outdoors at six locations. Increases in the frequency of disruptions in communication or activities (e.g., watching television) have a high likelihood of being annoying. However, the frequency of such disruptions would remain the same or increase only minimally under Alternative 1.

Exterior L_{eq(8hr)} at representative schools would remain below 60 dBA at all the schools studied (Table 3-10). At both Carroll High School and Saint John Paul High School, L_{eq(8hr)} would increase by 0.4 dBA but would remain well below the 60 dBA impact threshold (see Section 3.1.3.3, *Classroom Criteria*). The number of potential speech interference events per hour was calculated, as prescribed by the DoD Noise Working Group to supplement the analysis and was found to change by less than one at all the locations studied. Classroom noise impacts would be minimal.

Table 3-9 Speech Interference Events Per Average Daytime Hour under Alternative 1

	Classet			Alternative 1		Change Rela	tive to No Actio	n Alternative
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor ¹
1	NAC Commun	Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	7	13	18	1	0	0
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	Cillisti	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	0	3	10	0	0	0
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	0	0	6	0	0	1
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	1	2	6	0	0	1
3		Camargo Park	0	4	6	0	0	1
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	0	5	6	0	0	1
5		Church Unlimited	0	0	5	0	0	0
6]	Saint John Paul II High School	0	0	6	0	0	1
7		Most Precious Blood Church	0	5	6	0	0	1

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field. Note:

Table 3-10 Potential Classroom Interference under Alternative 1

				Alternative 1		Increase Relative to No Action Alternative			
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Outdoor L _{eq(8hr)} (dBA) ¹	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Events per Hour, Windows Open ²	Outdoor L _{eq(8hr)} (dBA) ¹	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Events per Hour, Windows Open ²	
3	NAS Corpus Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	49.2	0	3	0	0	0	
4	NOLF	Carroll High School	48.4	0	5	0.4	0	0	
6	Cabaniss	Saint John Paul II High School	44.9	0	0	0.4	0	0	

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{eq(8hr)} = eight-hour equivalent sound level; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. L_{eq(8hr)} is calculated for an eight-hour typical school day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 2. Value represents number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} rounds to zero.

^{1.} Value represents number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} (or increase in the number of events) rounds to zero.

At international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields, a screening-level analysis was conducted using NOISEMAP. Noise model inputs and specific results of the screening-level analysis are presented in Appendix A, Noise Methodology and Calculations. The analysis did not find any sensitive locations at which noise levels would increase by 1.5 dBA DNL or greater to a noise level at or exceeding 65 dBA DNL (Table 3-11). Therefore, noise impacts at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields under Alternative 1 would not be significant.

Changes to noise levels at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss associated with implementation of Alternative 1 would be minimal compared to the No Action Alternative. Changes to noise levels at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airports were analyzed using a screening analysis, and no locations were identified that warranted further analysis. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant impacts to the noise environment.

3.1.7.3 Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts

The study area for Alternative 2 would be the same as for Alternative 1, including all areas in which noise associated with the action would be audible.

As is the case for Alternative 1, construction noise would be localized within the flightline area. Because construction noise would be temporary and would occur in a non-noise-sensitive area that is regularly exposed to elevated aircraft noise levels under baseline conditions, no off-station noise impacts would be expected.

All aspects of Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1, except for the tempo of T-54A aircraft operations, which would be 20 percent higher than the baseline T-44 operations tempo. As is the case under Alternative 1, T-54A aircraft flight paths, runway usage patterns, and altitude profiles would be approximately the same as are flown by T-44 aircraft currently, and the percentage of operations conducted late at night would not change.

Alternative 2 DNL contours for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss are shown in Figure 3-6 and Figure 3-7, respectively. As shown in Table 3-12, the number of off-station land acres near NAS Corpus Christi exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater would increase by 1 acre compared to the No Action Alternative. The estimated number of residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater under Alternative 2 would increase by one relative to the No Action Alternative.

The minor changes in noise contour extent reflect individual T-54A overflight noise levels being approximately the same as those generated by ongoing T-44 operations. In the context of ongoing aircraft operations at NAS Corpus Christi, the contribution of T-54A aircraft-generated noise to overall noise levels would be relatively small, and the difference in noise levels associated with a slightly higher operations tempo under Alternative 2 compared to Alternative 1 is similarly minimal. People exposed to higher DNL are more likely to become highly annoyed by the noise, and at noise levels greater than 65 dBA DNL, the DoD considers noise to be sufficiently intrusive that some noise-sensitive land uses are considered to be incompatible with the noise.

Noise levels would remain below 65 dBA DNL at all the locations studied except for the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard (Table 3-13). At Texas A&M University—Corpus Christi, the noise level would increase by 0.1 dBA DNL, but the noise levels at the other two locations near NAS Corpus Christi would remain the same. The locations near NOLF Cabaniss would experience increases in noise level of up to 0.8 dBA DNL or less, and all locations would remain well below the 65 dBA DNL land use compatibility guidelines.

Table 3-11 Alternative 1 Screening Analysis DNL at Representative Locations near International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

		I	DNL (dBA)			Summary	
Municipal Public Use Airport	Closest Noise Sensitive Locations	Baseline / No Action Alternative¹	Alternative 1	Change	Equals or Exceeds 65 dBA DNL	Change equals or exceeds 1.5 dBA	Potential Significant Impacts
Alice International Airport	Residence 1	52.9	53	0.1	No	No	No
Alice International Airport	Residence 2	49.6	49.7	0.1	No	No	No
Corpus Christi International	Residence 1	52.6	52.6	0	No	No	No
Airport	Residence 2	65.4	65.4	0	Yes	No	No
Valley International Airport	Valley International Military Academy	53.1	53.1	0	No	No	No
	Residence 1	50.3	50.4	0.1	No	No	No
Port Isabel-Cameron County	Port Isabel AMI Kids (educational)	48.5	48.5	0	No	No	No
Airport	Port Isabel Detention Center	50.7	50.7	0	No	No	No
	Bayside Recreational Vehicle Camp ¹	<45	<45	0	No	No	No
Dalacies Municipal Airport	Golf Course	51.7	51.7	0	No	No	No
Palacios Municipal Airport	City of Palacios (represented by Palacios Junior High School)	56.5	56.5	0	No	No	No
	Residence 1	48.4	48.5	0.1	No	No	No
Victoria Regional Airport	Dorothy O'Connor Pet Adoption Center	64.3	64.3	0	No	No	No
	Residence 1	52.2	52.2	0	No	No	No
Calbour County Airport	Drifters (bar)	50.8	50.8	0	No	No	No
Calhoun County Airport	Residence 1	53.1	53.1	0	No	No	No

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level.

Note

1. Noise levels below 45 dBA DNL are assumed to be below ambient sound levels and are listed as "<45."

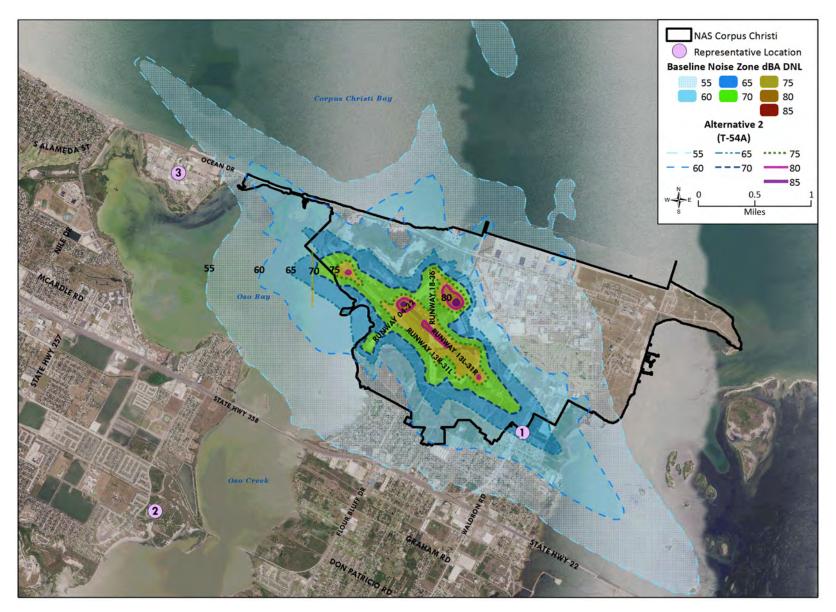


Figure 3-6 Baseline and Alternative 2 DNL Contours for NAS Corpus Christi

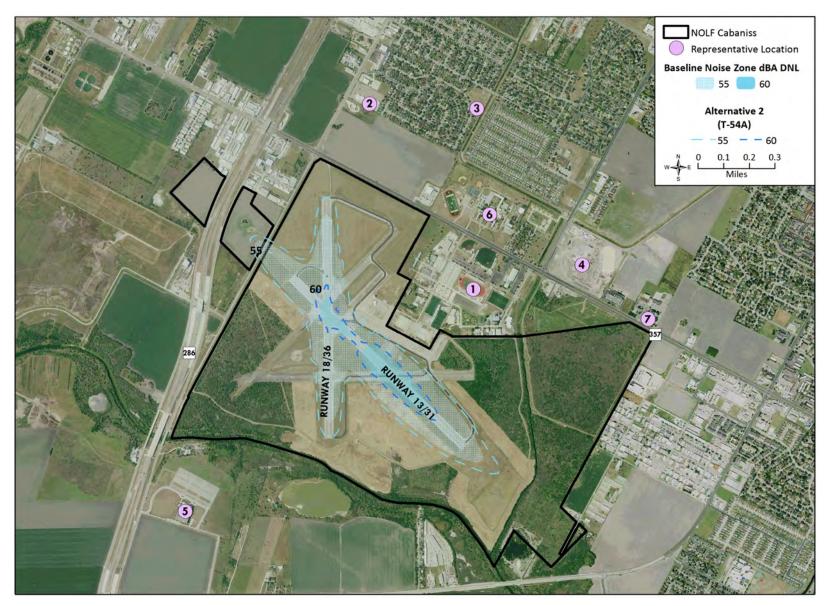


Figure 3-7 Baseline and Alternative 2 DNL Contours for NOLF Cabaniss

Table 3-12 Off-Station Acres and Population Exposed to Elevated Noise Levels near NAS

Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss under Alternative 2

Location	No Action A 65–69 di		Alterno 65–69 d		Chai	nge
Location	Land Area (acres)¹	Residents ²	Land Area (acres)¹	Residents ²	Land Area (acres) ¹ Residents ²	
NAS Corpus Christi	50	91	51	92	+1	+1
NOLF Cabaniss	0	0	0	0	0	0

Key: dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. Acreage presented does not include areas over water or lands owned by the U.S. Navy.
- 2. The affected populations were estimated based on U.S. Census data at the block group level with adjustments to remove nonresidential areas from calculations (USCB, 2020a).

Table 3-13 DNL at Representative Locations under Alternative 2

	Classet		DNL (dBA)			
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	No Action Alternative ¹			
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	66.3	66.3	0	
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	<45	<45	0	
3		Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	48.1	48.2	0.1	
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	<45	45.6	0.6	
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	49.2	50	0.8	
3		Camargo Park	49.1	49.9	0.8	
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48.3	49.1	0.8	
5		Church Unlimited	<45	<45	0	
6		Saint John Paul II High School	<45	45.6	0.6	
7		Most Precious Blood Church	48.9	49.7	0.8	

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; ID = identification; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Note:

1. Noise levels below 45 dBA DNL are assumed to be below ambient sound levels and are listed as "<45".

The number of indoor noise events per average daytime hour (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) at representative locations with the potential to interfere with speech would increase by one or less under Alternative 2 (Table 3-14). The 20 percent increase in T-54A operations relative to baseline T-44C operations under Alternative 2 would result in 8 of the 10 locations studied experiencing one additional potential speech interference event per average hour outdoors (under Alternative 1, events per hour would increase by one at 6 of the locations). If windows are open, the average number of indoor potential speech interference events would increase at 4 of the 10 locations studied under Alternative 2 (no locations would increase under Alternative 1). If windows are closed, the number of potential speech interference events per hour would be the same under Alternative 2 as under Alternative 1. Any increases in the frequency of disruptions in communication have a high likelihood of being annoying. However, increases in the frequency of such events under Alternative 2 would be minor (i.e., one additional event or less per average hour).

Table 3-14 Speech Interference Events Per Average Daytime Hour under Alternative 2

	Classet		Alternative 2			Change Relative to No Action Alternative		
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor ¹
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Blvd	7	14	19	1	1	1
2	NAS Corpus	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	0	3	10	0	0	0
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	0	0	6	0	0	1
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	1	2	6	0	0	1
3		Camargo Park	0	5	6	0	1	1
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	0	6	6	0	1	1
5	1	Church Unlimited	0	0	6	0	0	1
6		Saint John Paul II High School	0	0	6	0	0	1
7		Most Precious Blood Church	0	6	6	0	1	1

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field. Note:

^{1.} Value represents number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} (or increase in the number of events) rounds to zero.

Exterior $L_{eq(8hr)}$ would remain below 60 dBA at all the schools studied under Alternative 2 (Table 3-15) Section 3.1.3.3, *Classroom Criteria*). The number of potential speech interference events per average hour would be the same under Alternative 2 as under Alternative 1 except at Carroll High School with windows open, where the number would increase to one per hour. Although the frequency of classroom speech interference events would increase under Alternative 2 relative to the No Action Alternative, noise levels would remain below the recommended 60 dBA exterior $L_{eq(8hr)}$, and impacts to learning would be expected to be minimal.

Results of a NOISEMAP screening analysis show that noise levels at sensitive locations near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain well below 65 dBA DNL or would not change measurably (Table 3-16). Noise model inputs and specific results of the screening-level analysis are presented in Appendix A, *Noise Methodology and Calculations*. Because the screening analysis found no increases of 1.5 dBA DNL or greater compared to the No Action Alternative, with noise levels of 65 dBA DNL or greater at the closest sensitive locations, noise impacts at the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields under Alternative 2 would not be significant.

Noise impacts associated with implementation of Alternative 2 would be either minimal in the context of other flying operations, as is the case at locations near NAS Corpus Christi, or would remain below screening factors, as is the case at locations near NOLF Cabaniss. Therefore, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant impacts to the noise environment.

Table 3-15 Potential Classroom Interference under Alternative 2

ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Alternative 2			Increase Relative to No Action Alternative			
			Outdoor L _{eq(8hr)} (dBA) ¹	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Events per Hour, Windows Open ²	Outdoor L _{eq(8hr)} (dBA) ¹	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Events per Hour, Windows Open ²	
3	NAS Corpus Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	49.2	0	3	0	0	0	
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48.8	0	6	0.8	0	1	
6		Saint John Paul II High School	45.3	0	0	0.8	0	0	

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{eq(8hr)} = eight-hour equivalent sound level; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. L_{eq(8hr)} is calculated for an eight-hour typical school day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- 2. Value represents number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} rounds to zero.

Table 3-16 Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL at Representative Locations near International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

	Closest Noise Sensitive Locations	DN	Summary				
Municipal Public Use Airport		Baseline / No Action	Alternative 2	Change	Equals or Exceeds 65 dBA DNL	Change equals or exceeds 1.5 dBA	Potential Significant Impacts
Alice International	Residence 1	52.9	53.1	0.2	No	No	No
Airport	Residence 2	49.6	49.8	0.2	No	No	No
Corpus Christi	Residence 1	52.6	52.7	0.1	No	No	No
International Airport	Residence 2	65.4	65.4	0	Yes	No	No
Valley International	Valley International Military Academy	53.1	53.1	0	No	No	No
Airport	Residence 1	50.3	50.4	0.1	No	No	No
Port Isabel-Cameron	Port Isabel AMI Kids (educational)	48.5	48.6	0.1	No	No	No
County Airport	Port Isabel Detention Center	50.7	50.8	0.1	No	No	No

Table 3-16 Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL at Representative Locations near International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

		DN	L (dBA)		Summary			
Municipal Public Use Airport	Closest Noise Sensitive Locations	Baseline / No Action	Alternative 2	Change	Equals or Exceeds 65 dBA DNL	Change equals or exceeds 1.5 dBA	Potential Significant Impacts	
	Bayside Recreational Vehicle Camp ¹	<45	<45	0	No	No	No	
Palacios Municipal	Golf Course	51.7	51.8	0.1	No	No	No	
Airport	City of Palacios (represented by Palacios Junior High School)	56.5	56.5	0	No	No	No	
	Residence 1	48.4	48.5	0.1	No	No	No	
Victoria Regional	Dorothy O'Connor Pet Adoption Center	64.3	64.3	0	No	No	No	
Airport	Residence 1	52.2	52.2	0	No	No	No	
Calhoun County	Drifters (bar)	50.8	50.8	0	No	No	No	
Airport	Residence 1	53.1	53.1	0	No	No	No	

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level.

^{1.} Aircraft noise levels less than 45 dBA DNL can be assumed to be below ambient sound levels.

3.1.8 Protection of Children

This section discusses environmental health and safety risks to children. Environmental health and safety risks to children are defined as those that are attributable to products or substances a child is likely to come into contact with or ingest, such as air, food, water, soil, and products that children use or to which they are exposed. The primary impacts to resource areas resulting from the Proposed Action that affect children would be noise and air quality impacts.

3.1.8.1 Regulatory Setting

In accordance with Executive Order (EO) 13045, *Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks* (April 23, 1997), federal agencies are required to "make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children and shall ensure that [their] policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks."

3.1.8.2 Affected Environment

Table 3-17 and Figure 3-8 present the number of children (under 18 years of age) of the population within the entire census tract and block groups that are partially under the 65 dBA DNL or greater noise zones at NAS Corpus Christi and under Alternatives 1 and 2. Block Group 2 has a lower percent of children (22.9 percent) compared to Nueces County. Block Group 3 has a slightly higher percentage (25.1 percent) of the total population that are children compared to Nueces County (24.6 percent).

Table 3-17 Population by Age for the Census Tract and Block Groups Potentially
Affected by Noise

Location	Total Population		ildren r 18 years)
		Number	Percent
CT 30.04	3,308	867	26.2%
BG 2	913	209	22.9%
BG 3	958	240	25.1%
Nueces County	362,151	88,993	24.6%
State of Texas	28,635,442	7,381,482	25.8%
United States	326,569,308	73,296,738	22.4%

Source: (USCB, 2020b)

Key: % = percent; BG = Block Group; CT = Census Tract.

Note:

1. Blue shading = block group percentage exceeds the percentage for the county.

3.1.8.3 Environmental Consequences

No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change from existing conditions to children. Under existing conditions, there are children present within the noise region of influence (ROI). However, the largest contributors to time-averaged noise levels are other aircraft than the T-44C aircraft. Under the No Action Alternative, the T-44C aircraft would continue to operate and may contribute to the existing noise environment but would not be the largest contributor to time-averaged noise levels.

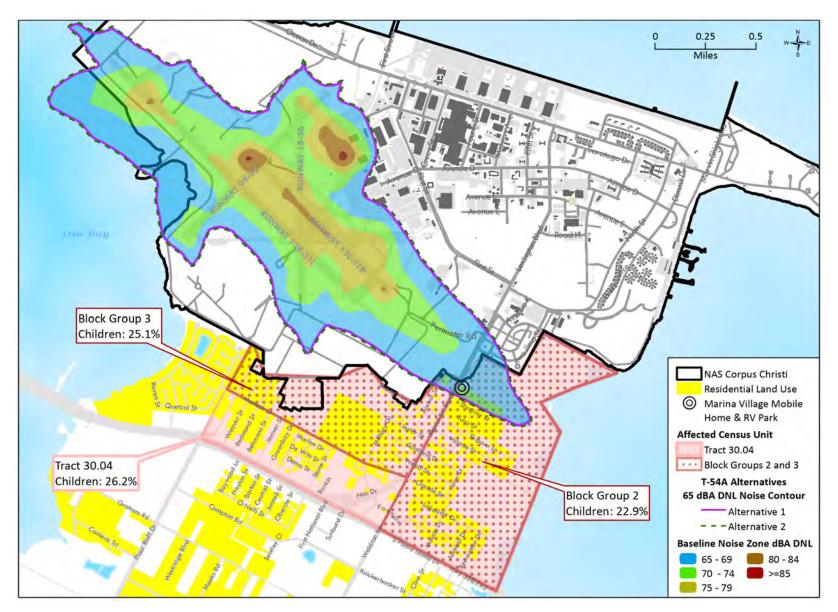


Figure 3-8 Baseline and Alternatives Noise Zones and Population of Children

There are also children located throughout the six counties within the air quality ROI. Each county is in attainment for primary and secondary National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) thresholds, which would not change under the No Action Alternative. As such, the No Action Alternative would not result in disproportionate risks to children from environmental health risks or safety risks.

Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative)

Construction and renovation of Navy support facilities under this alternative would occur entirely at NAS Corpus Christi and, as noted in Section 3.1.7, *Environmental Consequences*, would be localized to areas on the station. Construction would not pose a risk to children since it would be located on a secure naval air station.

Table 3-18 shows the location of children within the greater than 65 dBA noise zones under all alternatives. Implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in any significant noise impacts compared to the No Action Alternative (Section 3.1.7, *Environmental Consequences*). Air emissions would increase as a result of the increase in flight operations but would be minor. As such, Alternative 1 would not result in disproportionate risks to children from environmental health risks or safety risks. In addition, the percentage of children is not meaningfully greater in Block Group 3 (25.2 percent) compared to Nueces County (24.6 percent). Therefore, no disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks would be anticipated under Alternative 1 from noise or air quality.

Table 3-18 Children within the 65 dBA DNL or Greater Noise Zones under All Alternatives

	Within the Affected Area (65 dBA DNL or greater noise zones)					
Area	Total Regulation	Chile (under 1				
	Population	Number ¹	Percent ²			
No Action Alternative and Altern	native 1					
CT 30.04, BG 2	78	18	22.9%			
CT 30.04, BG 3	13	3	25.1%			
TOTAL	91	21	23.2%			
Alternative 2						
CT 30.04, BG 2	79	18	22.9%			
CT 30.04, BG 3	13	3 25.1%				
TOTAL	92	21	23.2%			

Source: (USCB, 2020b)

Key: % = percent; BG = Block Group; CT = Census Tract; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level. Notes:

- 1. Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number, and totals may be subject to rounding errors.
- 2. Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth, and totals may be subject to rounding errors.

Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts

The study area for the protection of children analysis for the replacement of T-44C aircraft with T-54A aircraft with a 20 percent increase in operations under Alternative 2 is defined as the same study area as Alternative 1.

Alternative 2 includes the same aircraft replacement and implementation of short- and long-term projects to provide Navy support facilities as Alternative 1 but with an increase in aircraft operations of approximately 20 percent. Potential noise impacts would result in more frequent occurrences of noise events associated with an increase in operations, but noise levels would remain similar to those described under the No Action Alternative (see Section 3.1.7, *Environmental Consequences*) and would be considered minor. Air emissions would increase as a result of the increase in flight operations but would be minor. In addition, the percentage of children is not meaningfully greater in Block Group 3 (25.2 percent) compared to Nueces County (24.6 percent). Therefore, no disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks would be anticipated under Alternative 2 from noise or air quality.

3.2 Environmental Justice

USEPA defines Environmental Justice as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies (USEPA, 2022a).

3.2.1 Regulatory Setting and Methodology

Consistent with EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations (February 11, 1994), the Navy's policy is to identify and address any disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its actions on minority and low-income populations.

The Navy followed the steps outlined in USEPA's 2016 Report, *Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews* (USEPA, 2016), in order to determine if there would be disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations. These steps are summarized as follows:

- **Define the Affected Environment.** The environment of the area(s) to be affected or created by the alternatives under consideration was described.
- Identify the Presence or Absence of Minority and Low-Income Populations. The presence of
 minority and low-income populations was determined if the percentage residing within the
 selected geographic units of analysis (block groups) was equal to or greater than the percentage
 of individuals residing within the reference community (Nueces County). The low-income
 analysis used the Census Bureau data showing the poverty status of individuals in the past 12
 months. The Census Bureau uses income thresholds that vary by family size and composition to
 determine who is in poverty.
- Perform Impact Analysis. The potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on minority
 populations and low-income populations in the affected environment compared to the
 non-minority populations and non-low-income populations in the affected environment were
 determined that included both human health and environmental impacts from an agency's
 programs, policies, or activities.
- Determine if there would be Disproportionately High and Adverse Effects on Minority and Low-Income Populations. Disproportionately high and adverse effects were determined based on the impacts in one or more resource topics analyzed in the NEPA document. A comparison group different than the reference community was also selected to compare results.
- **Evaluate Mitigation and Monitoring.** If a potential adverse impact was identified, the agency may wish to evaluate practicable mitigating measures.

EO 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All (April 21, 2023), supplements EO 12898 to address environmental justice. EO 14096 establishes a policy to pursue a whole-of-government approach to environmental justice. With respect to environmental reviews under NEPA, EO 14096 directs federal agencies to: (1) analyze direct, indirect, and cumulative effects of federal actions on communities with environmental justice concerns; (2) consider best available science and information on any disparate health effects (including risks) arising from exposure to pollution and other environmental hazards, such as information related to the race, national origin, socioeconomic status, age, disability, and sex of the individuals exposed; and (3) provide opportunities for early and meaningful involvement in the environmental review process by communities with environmental justice concerns potentially affected by a proposed action.

3.2.2 Affected Environment

3.2.2.1 Environmental Justice and Noise

This section identifies concentrations of low-income and minority populations that have the potential to be disproportionately impacted due to their proximity to the construction and operation of the Proposed Action. The affected environment, or ROI, for this environmental justice analysis regarding noise impacts includes the areas where airborne noise is equal to or greater than 65 dBA DNL associated with existing aircraft operations that extend beyond the station; NOLF; or international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfield boundaries and into residential land use areas. DNL contours include aircraft using the air station and transient aircraft. Transient aircraft can include a variety of aircraft types, so surrogate aircraft are used to represent typical visiting aircraft.

As stated in DoD Instruction 4165.57, Air Installations Compatible Use Zones, the DoD considers some land uses to not be compatible at noise levels exceeding 65 dBA DNL. Under the Proposed Action, the 65 dBA DNL or greater noise zones would remain on Navy or airfield property for NOLF Cabaniss or any of the international, regional, and publicly owned airfields. Therefore, these facilities are not discussed further for noise impacts. This section focuses on NAS Corpus Christi (Figure 3-9). Table 3-19 presents the ethnic and poverty characteristics of the population within Block Groups 2 and 3 of Census Tract 30.04 as being partially within the 65 dBA DNL noise contour at NAS Corpus Christi. Demographic information is also presented for Nueces County, the State of Texas, and the United States. The data presented is from the U.S. Census Bureau American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates from 2016 to 2020 (USCB, 2020c; USCB, 2020d). For low-income populations, the U.S. Census statistics were used in this analysis because of their ability to provide poverty estimates down to the block group level, which was not available from other sources and was consistent with the block group–level population data that were used in the noise analysis. Both populations for whom poverty status is determined and Hispanic or Latino populations by race data were collected for the analysis.

The presence of minority and low-income populations under baseline conditions was determined by comparing whether the percentage of minority and low-income individuals residing within the selected geographic units of analysis (block groups) is equal to or greater than the percentage of low-income individuals residing within the reference community (Nueces County). As shown in Table 3-19, Block Group 2 (72.4 percent) has a higher percentage of minority population compared to Nueces County (71.0 percent). Block Group 2 (23.2 percent) and Block Group 3 (40.2 percent) of Census Track 30.04 have a higher percentage of low-income individuals compared to Nueces County (16.2 percent). Therefore, minority and low-income populations are present.

Noise impacts would occur for residents living within the 65 dBA DNL or greater noise zones. An estimate of the number of residents impacted is shown in Table 3-20. Only the 65 dBA DNL noise contour is located off station property. There is a mobile home / recreational vehicle park located within the affected area where noise levels may reach up to 66.3 dBA DNL under existing conditions. Manufactured homes should be built to the Manufactured Home Construction and Safety Standards (HUD, 2022), 24 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 3280, and incorporate features of conventional homes, but acoustical performance varies due to differences in roof construction, air infiltration rates, and noise-reduction standard windows and doors.

The largest contributors to time-averaged noise levels are aircraft other than the T-44C aircraft (i.e., other civilian and military aircraft operating within the noise ROI). Under the baseline conditions, the T-44C aircraft contribute to the existing noise environment but would not constitute the largest contributor to time-averaged noise levels.

Table 3-19 Demographic Data for the Block Groups Affected by the 65 dBA DNL Noise Contour

	Within the Entire Area ¹								
Area	Total	Minor	rity	Low-	Income				
Areu	Population	Number¹	Percent	Population for Whom Poverty is Calculated ²	Number¹	Percent			
BG 2, CT 30.04	913	661	72.4%	913	212	23.2%			
BG 3, CT 30.04	958	576	60.1%	958	385	40.2%			
CT 30.04	3,308	1,943	58.7%	3,272	986	30.1%			
Nueces County	362,151	257,172	71.0%	353,849	57,299	16.2%			
State of Texas	28,635,442	16,784,965	58.6%	28,013,446	3,984,260	14.2%			
United States	326,569,308	130,317,933	39.9%	318,564,128	40,910,326	12.8%			

Sources: (USCB, 2020c; USCB, 2020d)

Key: % = percent; BG = Block Group; CT = Census Tract; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level. Notes:

- 1. The "number" of persons was determined by applying the percentages for each area to the total population for that area.
- 2. "Population for Whom Poverty is Calculated" may differ from the total population shown because it does not take into account institutionalized persons, persons in military group quarters and in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.
- 3. Blue shading = block group percentage exceeds the percentage for the county.

Table 3-20 Environmental Justice Communities within the 65 dBA DNL Noise Contour under Baseline Conditions

	Within the Affected Area	(65 dBA DNL or greater Noise Zones)					
Area	Total	Minority		Low-Income			
	Population	Number ¹	Percent ²	Number ¹	Percent ²		
BG 2, CT 30.04	78	56	72.4%	18	23.2%		
BG 3, CT 30.04	13	8	60.1%	5	40.2%		
TOTAL	91	64	70.3%	23	25.3%		

Key: % = percent; BG = Block Group; CT = Census Tract; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level. Notes:

- 1. Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number, and totals may be subject to rounding errors.
- 2. Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth, and totals may be subject to rounding errors.

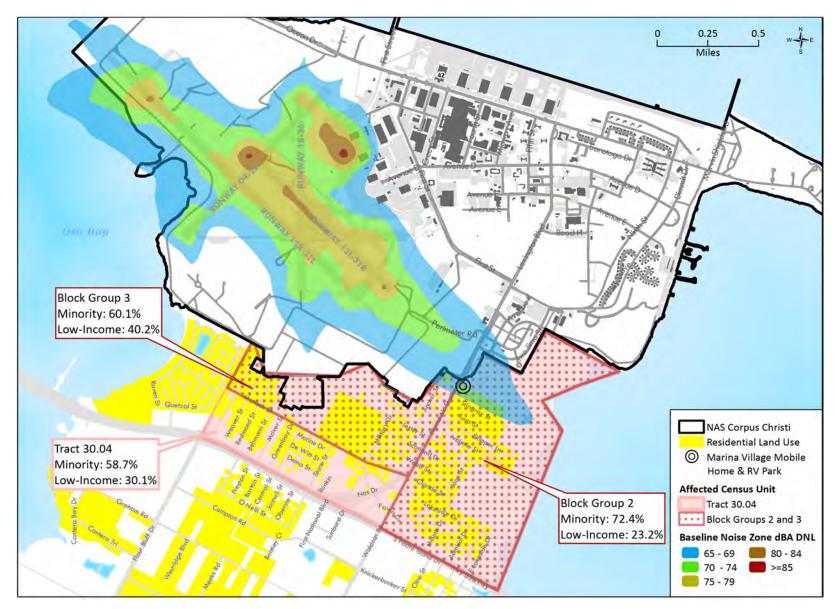


Figure 3-9 Environmental Justice Communities in the ROI at NAS Corpus Christi

To determine if disproportionately high and adverse impacts to minority populations and low-income populations would occur, a comparison group was selected to provide context for the analysis of human health effects, environmental effects, and the hazard exposure to minority and low-income populations as compared to non-environmental justice communities. Since only the 65 dBA DNL noise contour is located off station and it does not impact any non-environmental justice communities, another census tract located within noise zones was selected (Census Tract 27.08) for comparison Figure 3-10. Portions of this comparison group are located within the greater than 55 dBA DNL noise zones; it has mobile home residential land use and medium- and low-density residential land use similar to Census Tract 30.04. Table 3-21 provides the demographic data for the comparison group.

Table 3-21 Demographic Data for the Comparison Group (Census Tract 27.08) and Census Tract 30.04

	Within the Entire Area ¹								
	Minority		ı	.ow-Income					
Area	Total Population	Number¹	Percent	Population for ent Whom Poverty is Number ¹ Calculated ²		Percent			
Comparison Group CT 27.08	4,069	2,040	50.1%	4,024	1,365	33.9%			
CT 30.04	3,308	1,943	58.7%	3,272	986	30.1%			
Nueces County	362,151	257,172	71.0%	353,849	57,299	16.2%			

Source: (USCB, 2020e)

Key: % = percent; CT = Census Tract.

Notes:

- 1. The "number" of persons was determined by applying the percentages for each area to the total population for that area.
- "Population for Whom Poverty is Calculated" may differ from the total population shown because it does not take into account institutionalized persons, persons in military group quarters and in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

USEPA's EJScreen tool was used to determine if there would be the potential for cumulative environmental justice burdens (USEPA, 2023). The tool identifies the extent to which selected areas are currently impacted by various environmental pollutants and contaminants or the extent to which selected areas are at risk of environmental impacts or have demographic populations that could be at greater risk of impacts relative to other areas statewide or nationally. This review compared the 12 EJScreen environmental justice indexes and socioeconomics indicators for Census Tract 30.04 to the characteristics of Texas. An initial filter of the environmental justice indexes identified that traffic proximity ranked in the 85th percentile, which could also contribute to noise impacts. Under current conditions, the number of off-station residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL would not change, and the contribution of T-44C aircraft to overall noise levels would remain relatively minor. Consequently, noise levels would not change under current conditions; therefore, there would not be an amplification of environmental or health effects.

Aircraft noise impacts minority and low-income populations as well as non-environmental justice communities as shown with the comparison group under existing conditions. Therefore, the Navy concludes that under baseline conditions there would not be disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations.

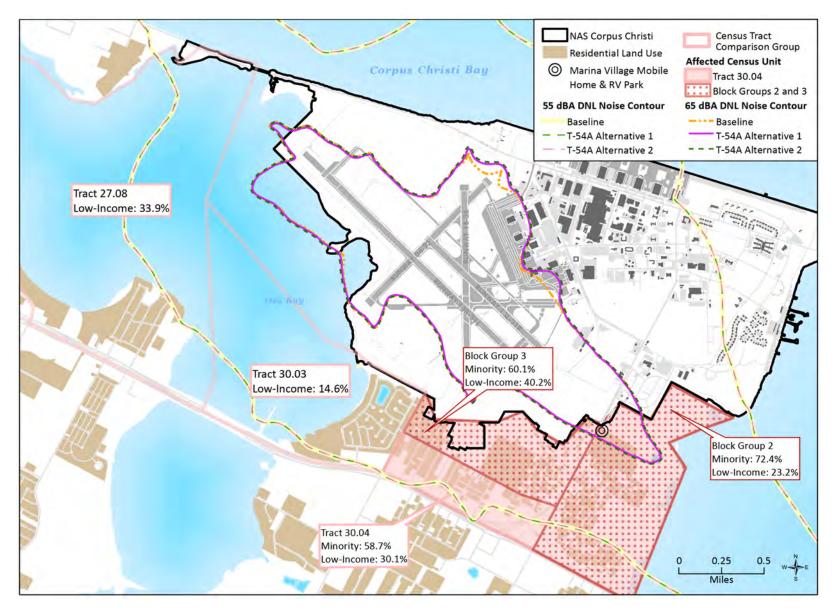


Figure 3-10 Location of Census Tracts and 55 dBA DNL or Greater Noise Zones

3.2.2.2 Environmental Justice – Air Quality

As mentioned in the analysis for noise, only the 65 dBA DNL noise contour at NAS Corpus Christi is located off-station under baseline conditions. As a result, the environmental justice air quality analysis focuses on potential air quality impacts for those block groups (Table 3-19) compared to Nueces County. Minority and low-income populations were determined to be present. To determine whether minority and low-income populations are exposed to disproportionately high and adverse impacts, a comparison group (Census Tract 27.08) was selected to provide context for the analysis of human health effects, environmental effects, and the hazard exposure to minority and low-income populations to non-environmental justice communities. Aircraft emissions impact minority and low-income populations as well as non-environmental justice communities as shown with the comparison group under existing conditions. Therefore, the Navy concluded that under baseline conditions, there would not be disproportionately high and adverse air quality effects on minority and low-income populations.

For NOLF Cabaniss and the other non-Navy airfields, the air quality section used the county as the ROI and analyzed air quality at the county level. The ethnic and poverty characteristics for each county are shown in Table 3-22. Cameron County, Jim Wells County, and Nueces County have a higher percentage of the population identified as minority than the state of Texas (USCB, 2020c). All counties within the air quality ROI, with the exception of Calhoun County, have a higher percentage of the population considered low income than the state (USCB, 2020d). Under baseline conditions all counties are in attainment for USEPA's primary and secondary NAAQS (see Section 3.5, *Air Quality*).

Table 3-22	Environmental Justice	Communities	within the A	Air Quality ROI
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	Within the Entire County ¹								
	Mino		ority	Lo	w-Income	w-Income			
Area	Total Population	Number	Percent	Population for Whom Poverty is Calculated ²	Number	Percent			
Calhoun County	21,470	12,551	58.5%	21,177	2,134	10.1%			
Cameron County	422,135	385,192	91.2%	419,023	111,802	26.7%			
Jim Wells County	40,796	33,539	82.2%	40,287	8,697	21.6%			
Matagorda County	36,791	20,944	56.9%	36,375	6,519	17.9%			
Nueces County	362,151	257,172	71.0%	353,849	57,299	16.2%			
Victoria County	92,044	51,464	55.9%	90,520	14,221	15.7%			
State of Texas	28,635,442	16,784,965	58.6%	28,103,446	3,984,260	14.2%			

Sources: (USCB, 2020c; USCB, 2020d)

Key: % = percent; ROI = region of influence.

Notes:

The emissions from aircraft operations that occur under the mixing height of 3,000 AGL have the potential to affect ground-level air quality (FAA, 2005). However, aircraft and associated mobile ground-support equipment at airports produce similar emissions to on-road (automobile) and off-road

^{1.} Blue shading = county that has a higher percent than the state.

^{2. &}quot;Population for Whom Poverty is Calculated" may differ from the total population shown because it does not take into account institutionalized persons, persons in military group quarters and in college dormitories, and unrelated individuals under 15 years old.

(construction equipment) engines while the aircraft engines are running on the ground and during the minutes when the aircraft departs and takes off to altitude or returns to ground for a landing. Due to the direction of the prevailing winds, the ground-level emissions from aircraft takeoffs and landings would be quickly entrained downwind to the north and west. This would result in potential impacts similar to vehicle emissions along a highway, where concern would be focused on sensitive receptors immediately adjacent (within 0.25 mile) to the emission sources. The nearest sensitive receptors are located approximately 1 mile south of the proposed construction area and 0.5 mile southeast of the southernmost tip of the runway.

USEPA's EJScreen tool was used to determine if there would be the potential for cumulative environmental justice burdens (USEPA, 2023). An initial filter of the environmental justice indexes identified that particulate matter and lead paint ranked in the 80th percentile. Under current conditions, air emissions would not change; therefore, there would not be an amplification of environmental or health effects.

Air emissions would affect minority and low-income populations as well as non-environmental justice communities living close to the runways. Therefore, the Navy concludes that under baseline conditions there would not be disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations.

3.2.3 Environmental Consequences

This analysis focuses on whether there are disproportionately high and adverse impacts to specific off-station population groups from the Proposed Action.

3.2.3.1 No Action Alternative

Environmental Justice and Noise

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to current conditions for minority and low-income populations. Therefore, there would be no disproportionately high and adverse noise impacts to minority and low-income populations with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

Environmental Justice and Air Quality

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to current conditions for minority and low-income populations. Therefore, there would be no disproportionately high and adverse air quality impacts to minority and low-income populations with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.2.3.2 Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative)

Environmental Justice and Noise

The affected area and reference community used to determine the minority population under the affected environment and No Action Alternative is the same under Alternative 1. Alternative 1 would increase T-54A aircraft operations by 10 percent. The noise analysis (Section 3.1.7, Noise, Environmental Consequences) shows that there would be minor changes to noise levels (i.e., dBA DNL) at the locations studied near NAS Corpus Christi. As under the No Action Alternative, the noise levels at the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard would remain just above 65 dBA DNL, while the noise levels at all other

locations would remain below 65 dBA DNL. The number of residents within the greater than 65 dBA DNL or greater noise zones would not change compared to the No Action Alternative and would remain at 91 people (Table 3-23 and Figure 3-11). Table 3-9 shows that speech interference events per average daytime hour would increase by one or less at the locations studied.

Table 3-23 Environmental Justice Communities within the 65 dBA DNL or Greater Noise Zones under All Alternatives

	Within the Affected Area (65 dBA DNL or greater Noise Zones)							
Area	Total	Mine	ority	Low-Ir	псоте			
	Population	Number ¹	Percent ²	Number ¹	Percent ²			
No Action Alternative and Alternative 1								
CT 30.04, BG 2	78	56	72.4%	18	23.2%			
CT 30.04, BG 3	13	8	60.1%	5	40.2%			
TOTAL	91	64	70.3%	23	25.3%			
Alternative 2								
CT 30.04, BG 2	79	57	72.4%	18	23.2%			
CT 30.04, BG 3	13	8	60.1%	5	40.2%			
TOTAL	92	65	70.3%	23	25.3%			

Sources: (USCB, 2020c; USCB, 2020d)

Key: % = percent; BG = Block Group; CT = Census Tract; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level. Notes:

- 1. Numbers are rounded to the nearest whole number, and totals may be subject to rounding errors.
- 2. Percentages are rounded to the nearest tenth, and totals may be subject to rounding errors.

This analysis shows that there are minority and low-income populations present within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones near NAS Corpus Christi. Although T-54A aircraft operations would increase, only minor increases to noise levels would occur. To evaluate if noise impacts would be disproportionately high and adverse to minority and low-income populations, the impacts of the environmental justice populations in the affected environment were evaluated with a comparison group. Environmental justice communities and non-environmental justice communities would experience a minor increase in noise levels. The Navy concluded that, under Alternative 1, there would not be disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations.

USEPA's EJScreen tool was used to determine if there would be the potential for cumulative environmental justice burdens (USEPA, 2023). The tool identified traffic proximity ranked in the 85th percentile, which could also contribute to noise impacts. Although the aircraft and traffic noise could pose cumulative burdens, the number of off-station residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL would stay the same as under the No Action Alternative. In addition, changes in noise levels would also be minimal, because T-54A operations would occur in the context of ongoing operations of other aircraft types at NAS Corpus Christi such that the contribution of these aircraft to overall noise levels would be relatively minor. As a result, Alternative 1 would not likely pose an amplification of environmental or health effects.

With the presence of minority and low-income populations, the Navy was engaged in outreach methods, including posting the Draft EA on the project website; providing hard copies of the Draft EA in 10 libraries, some of which are located near the affected neighborhoods; and placing newspaper ads in local newspapers.

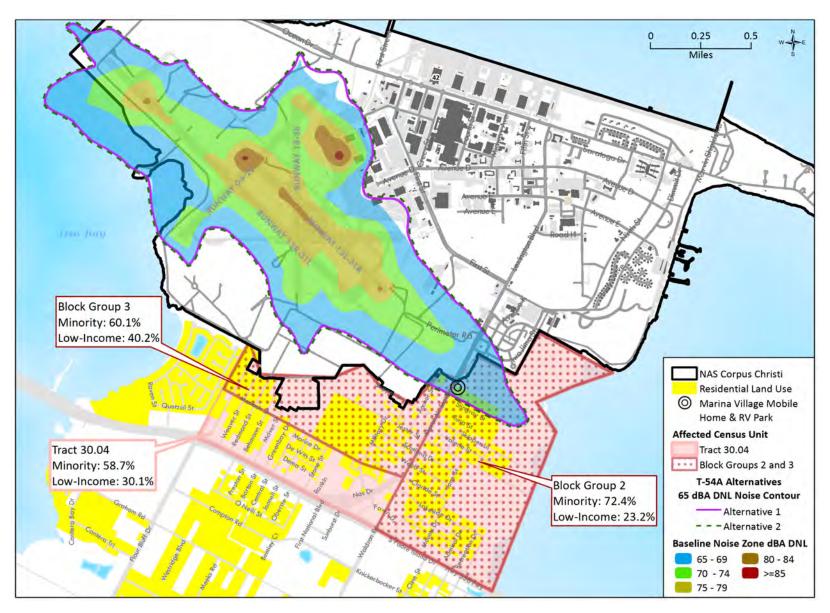


Figure 3-11 Environmental Justice Communities within the 65 dBA DNL or Greater Noise Zones under the Alternatives

Environmental Justice and Air Quality

The location of the block groups in reference to the NAS Corpus Christi temporary construction projects and long-term runway use and wind direction were evaluated to determine if air emissions would be localized in these areas. Construction air emissions would be short term and localized near the station. Due to the direction of the prevailing winds, the ground-level emissions would be anticipated to be quickly entrained downwind to the north and west of where construction would occur and away from the minority and low-income populations. The closest residential areas to the proposed construction project at Hangar 58 include the following:

- Anchor Street located approximately 1 mile south
- Lexington Boulevard located approximately 1 mile to the southeast

Implementation of Alternative 1 would result in an increase in long-term emissions from aircraft operations but would not result in emissions exceeding NAAQS thresholds. As discussed under the affected environment, a comparison group was selected to determine if impacts would be disproportionate.

In addition, the EJScreen tool was used to determine if there would be cumulative burdens (USEPA, 2023). The tool listed particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter (PM_{2.5}) as an environmental index indicator for Census Tract 30.04 that was in the 85th percentile compared to Texas. The net change in PM_{2.5} emissions was projected to be net less than 1 ton per year (tpy) and would not likely result in amplification of environmental or health effects. Modeled aircraft emissions would be similar to the No Action Alternative, as presented in Section 3.5.3, *Air Quality, Environmental Consequences*. As such, there would not be disproportionate environmental or health effects to minority and low-income populations from air quality.

3.2.3.3 Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts

Environmental Justice and Noise

All aspects of Alternative 2 would be similar to that of Alternative 1, except for the tempo of T-54A aircraft operations, which would be 20 percent higher than the baseline T-44C operations tempo. As shown in Section 3.2.2, *Affected Environment*, there are minority and low-income populations present within the 65 dBA noise contour near NAS Corpus Christi. There would be minor changes to noise levels and number of residents within the 65 dBA noise contour under Alternative 2 compared to the No Action Alternative. Under Alternative 2, the estimated number of residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL noise contour would increase by 1 (92 people) compared to the No Action Alternative (91 people). Table 3-14 shows that speech interference events per average daytime hour would increase by one or less at the locations studied.

To evaluate if disproportionately high and adverse impacts to minority populations and low-income populations would occur, the impacts of the environmental justice population in the affected environment were evaluated with a comparison group. All populations would experience a minor increase in noise levels compared to the No Action Alternative. As a result, there would not be disproportionately high and adverse effects on minority and low-income populations.

USEPA's EJScreen tool was used to determine if there would be the potential for cumulative environmental justice burdens (USEPA, 2023). The tool identified traffic proximity ranked in the 85th percentile, which could also contribute to noise impacts. Although the aircraft and traffic noise could pose cumulative burdens, the number of off-station residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL would only slightly increase compared to the No Action Alternative. In addition, changes in noise levels would also be minimal, because T-54A operations would occur in the context of ongoing operations of other aircraft types at NAS Corpus Christi such that the contribution of these aircraft to overall noise levels would be relatively minor. As a result, Alternative 2 would not likely pose an amplification of environmental or health effects.

Environmental Justice and Air Quality

Under Alternative 2, there would be a temporary increase in air emissions within Nueces County during construction at NAS Corpus Christi and during aircraft operations. However, construction would be short term and localized near the station. As mentioned under Alternative 1, proposed construction projects would be located approximately 1 mile from the closest environmental justice populations.

Implementation of Alternative 2 would result in an increase in aircraft emissions based on the number of aircraft operations but would not result in emissions exceeding NAAQS thresholds.

The EJScreen tool was used to determine if there would be the potential for cumulative environmental justice burdens (USEPA, 2023). The tool listed $PM_{2.5}$ as an environmental index indicator for Census Tract 30.04 that was in the 85^{th} percentile compared to Texas. The net change in $PM_{2.5}$ emissions was projected to be 1.56 tpy and would not likely result in amplification of environmental or health effects. Modeled aircraft emissions from the T-54A aircraft show a minor increase over the No Action Alternative as presented in Section 3.5.3, *Air Quality, Environmental Consequences*. As such, there would not be disproportionate environmental or health effects to minority or low-income populations from air quality.

3.3 Biological Resources

Biological resources include living, native, or naturalized plant and animal species and the habitats within which they occur. Plant associations are referred to generally as vegetation, and animal species are referred to generally as wildlife. Habitat can be defined as the resources and conditions present in an area that support a plant or animal.

Within this EA, biological resources analysis focuses on terrestrial wildlife. Threatened, endangered, and other special status species are discussed in their respective categories. The Proposed Action would not disturb or build on any natural or vegetated areas. All ground disturbance and construction would occur on previously developed land. Flight components of the Proposed Action would not affect vegetation. Therefore, terrestrial vegetation was not analyzed in this EA.

3.3.1 Regulatory Setting

3.3.1.1 Federal Regulations

Special status species, for the purposes of this assessment, are those species listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act (ESA) and species afforded federal protection under the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) and the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA).

The purpose of the ESA is to conserve the ecosystems upon which threatened and endangered species depend and to conserve and recover listed species. Section 7 of the ESA requires action proponents to consult with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) or National Marine Fisheries Service to ensure that their actions are not likely to jeopardize the continued existence of federally listed threatened and endangered species or result in the destruction or adverse modification of designated critical habitat. Critical habitat cannot be designated on any areas owned, controlled, or designated for use by the DoD where an Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan has been developed that, as determined by the Department of Interior, provides a benefit to the terrestrial species subject to critical habitat designation.

Bald (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and golden eagles (*Aquila chrysaetos*) are protected by the BGEPA. This act prohibits anyone, without a permit issued by the Secretary of the Interior, from taking bald and golden eagles, including their parts, nests, or eggs. The Act defines "take" as "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb."

Birds, both migratory and most native-resident bird species, are protected under the MBTA, and their conservation by federal agencies is mandated by EO 13186, *Migratory Bird Conservation*. Under the MBTA it is unlawful by any means or in any manner, to pursue, hunt, take, capture, kill, attempt to take, capture, or kill, [or] possess migratory birds or their nests or eggs at any time, unless permitted by regulation. The 2003 National Defense Authorization Act gave the Secretary of the Interior authority to prescribe regulations to exempt the Armed Forces from the incidental taking of birds protected by the MBTA during authorized military readiness activities. "Military readiness activity" is defined in the Authorization Act to include all training and operations of the Armed Forces that relate to combat, and the adequate and realistic testing of military equipment, vehicles, weapons, and sensors for proper operation and suitability for combat use. The final rule authorizing the DoD to take birds protected by the MBTA in such cases includes a requirement that the Armed Forces must confer with the USFWS to develop and implement appropriate conservation measures to minimize or mitigate adverse effects of the proposed action if the action will have a significant negative effect on the sustainability of a population of a bird species protected by the MBTA.

3.3.1.2 State Regulations

Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) regulations prohibit the taking, possession, transportation, or sale of any of the animal species designated by state law as endangered or threatened without the issuance of a permit. Some species listed as threatened or endangered under state law are also listed under federal regulations.

State-listed species are protected under Title 31, Texas Administrative Code, and Chapters 67 and 68 of the TPWD Code. Texas's endangered species laws are preempted by the ESA as applied to the federal government and are not binding upon the Navy. However, through implementation of the NAS Corpus Christi Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (Navy, 2016), the Navy recognizes and takes actions to protect state-listed species on its installations when practicable and compatible with mission readiness. In accordance with the Chief of Naval Operations Manual OPNAV M-5090.1 (Series), Chapter 12, potential effects on state-listed species and their habitats shall be evaluated and mitigations proposed in environmental planning documents as appropriate.

3.3.2 Affected Environment

The following provides a description of the existing conditions for biological resources at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields. The ROI for

biological resources includes NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, Alice International Airport, Calhoun County Airport, Corpus Christi International Airport, Palacios Municipal Airport, Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport, Valley International Airport, Victoria Regional Airport, and the transit flights between them.

3.3.2.1 Terrestrial Wildlife

The term wildlife includes all animal species (e.g., insects and other invertebrates, fish, amphibians, reptiles, birds, and mammals). Analysis of impacts to wildlife focuses on the species and habitat features of greatest importance or interest—in this case, wildlife that inhabits or occurs at the airfields. Because most birds are protected by the MBTA, birds are discussed in Section 3.3.2.2, *Special Status Species and Habitats*. Impacts to wildlife from aircraft noise, construction, recapitalization, and demolition (and associated noise) are also evaluated.

Airfields are utilized as habitat by wildlife for a number of reasons, such as breeding, hiding from predators, resting, and finding water. However, the primary attractant is food (DeVault & Washburn, 2013). Mammalian species that occur or may occur on or around the airfield at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss likely include common commensal and nuisance species such as coyote (*Canis latrans*), eastern cottontail rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), rodents (e.g., Norway rat [*Rattus norvegicus*], roof rat [*R. rattus*], house mouse [*Mus musculus*]), whitetail deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*), javelina (*Tayassu tajucu*), and wild hogs (*Sus scrofa*) (Navy, 2016). Maritime pocket gophers (*Geomys personatus maritimus*) occur in or around the airfield at NAS Corpus Christi. Wildlife at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss would be exposed to the greatest baseline noise conditions. As NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss have been in operation for some time (since 1941), it is assumed that the wildlife at these airfields would have some degree of acclimatization and tolerance to airfield operations.

Terrestrial wildlife at the international, regional, and publicly owned airports is likely limited to similar animals that are found on NAS Corpus Christi, as land use surrounding the airfields consists primarily of agricultural and developed lands, with the exception of Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport, which is bordered to the northeast by the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge. However, all of the airfields are fenced to exclude wildlife, and the vegetation within the airfields is maintained to deter wildlife use.

BASH data obtained for NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, Corpus Christi International Airport, Palacios Municipal Airport, Valley International Airport, and Victoria Regional Airport from August 2020 through July 2022 (24 months) did not record non-bird terrestrial wildlife struck by aircraft.

3.3.2.2 Special Status Species and Habitats

Birds Covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act

As part of the Central Flyway of North America, the Texas coastal region is used by North American birds protected by the MBTA that overwinter in Central and South America. During the spring migration, the Texas coastal forests, grasslands, and marshes are important resting and feeding locations for many bird species. Texas coastal and grassland habitats provide important nesting and feeding areas for more than 330 species of songbirds, waterfowl, raptors, wading birds, and shorebirds. Surveys have identified 103 bird species at NAS Corpus Christi, and approximately 235 more bird species have the potential to occur (Navy, 2016).

NAS Corpus Christi implements a BASH Plan to reduce the potential for collisions and encompasses all actions that may identify, reduce, or eliminate bird and animal hazards to aviation. The BASH Plan also includes habitat alterations near the airfield to make the area less attractive to birds (Navy, 2016).

The most common types of birds struck by Navy aircraft at Navy airfields are gulls and terns (family Laridae); waterfowl (ducks, geese, and swans [family Anatidae]); long-legged wading birds (herons and

egrets [family Ardeidae]); raptors (hawks, kites, and eagles [family Accipitridae]); falcons [family Falconidae]; vultures (family Cathartidae); wild turkey, quail, and pheasants (family Phasianidae); sandpipers and shorebirds (family Scolopacidae); owls (families Strigidae and Tytonidae); goatsuckers, nighthawks, whippoorwills, and nightjars (family Caprimulgidae); woodpeckers (family Picidae); flycatchers (family Tyrannidae); horned larks (family Alaudidae); swallows (family Hirundinidae); swifts (family Apodidae); crows and ravens (family Corvidae); blackbirds, grackles, meadowlarks, and cowbirds (family Icteridae); starlings (family Sturnidae); and house sparrows (family Passeridae) (Navy, 2016). Many of these birds, with a few exceptions, are protected by the MBTA.

BASH data collected at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss from August 2020 through July 2022 (24 months) recorded 294 bird strikes. Of remains that could be identified, "perching birds" made up 57 percent of strikes, followed by gulls and terns (14 percent); hummingbirds (10 percent); doves and pigeons (9 percent); hawks, kites, and eagles (2 percent); a nightjar; a bobwhite quail; and an egret. The T-44C aircraft was attributed to 91 of these incidents. Assuming all strikes occurred during airfield operations (some were recorded as occurring in flight), and using combined annual operations numbers for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss of 218,000, approximately one bird strike occurs for every 1,483 airfield operations (Block, 2022).

The international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would be expected to present similar BASH hazards to wildlife as NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss. Due to their proximity to and location within the Central Flyway, these airfields would be expected to feature similar species to those found at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss. A review of wildlife strike data submitted to the FAA for Corpus Christi International Airport for the same time period shows that 257 birds were struck (used maximum number, since FAA reporting uses a range for the number of birds [e.g., 2 to 10, 11 to 100]). Palacios Municipal Airport recorded 45 birds struck, Valley International Airport reported 45, and Victoria Regional Airport reported 12 for the same time period (FAA, 2022). No data was available for the other airfields used for T-44C aircraft training.

The FAA requires airport sponsors to maintain a safe operating environment, which includes conducting Wildlife Hazard Assessments and preparing Wildlife Hazard Management Plans when there has been a significant wildlife strike. The Wildlife Hazard Management Plan identifies the specific actions the airport takes to mitigate the risk of wildlife strikes on or near the airport.

Birds of Conservation Concern, Bald and Golden Eagles

The USFWS Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) web application also identifies birds of conservation concern because they occur either on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern list or because they warrant special attention in the ROI. The Birds of Conservation Concern list identifies the migratory and nonmigratory bird species (beyond those already designated as federally threatened or endangered) that represent the highest conservation priorities. The list is based on an assessment of several factors including population abundance and trends, threats on breeding and nonbreeding grounds, and size of breeding and nonbreeding ranges. The IPaC identified 47 species within the ROI. Appendix B, Special Status Species Documentation, contains the IPaC report that features the complete list of birds of conservation concern. Of note, one species, painted bunting (Passerina ciris), has been documented as occurring at NOLF Cabaniss (Navy, 2016) but was not included on the IPaC-generated list. This species is a USFWS bird of conservation concern species for the region, is globally secure, and apparently secure at the state level (USFWS, 2021a; NatureServe Explorer, 2022). Of the recorded/reported bird strikes from August 2020 through July 2022, only one was a bird of conservation concern, a single American golden plover (Pluvialis dominica), which was struck in flight on April 2021 by a T-6 aircraft at NAS Corpus Christi (Block, 2022).

Golden eagles are not expected to occur regularly in the ROI and do not nest in the ROI. Golden eagles typically occur in the Texas panhandle and western Texas (Texas A&M, 2022). Bald eagles do occur and do nest in the ROI. No bald eagles or their nests have been recorded at NAS Corpus Christi or NOLF Cabaniss. Bald eagle nests have been identified in the vicinity of Victoria Regional Airport, Palacios Municipal Airport, and Calhoun County Airport, but none are closer than 7 miles from these airfields (iNaturalist, 2022).

Federal Threatened and Endangered Species

The USFWS IPaC web application was used to identify federally threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species that could potentially occur within the ROI (USFWS, 2022a). Table 3-24 lists these federally listed species along with their state status.

Of the 22 federally listed species that have the potential to occur in the ROI, only two avian species, the piping plover (*Charadrius melodus*) and the red knot (*Calidris canutus rufa*), have been observed at NAS Corpus Christi. These species have not been observed at NOLF Cabaniss (no protected species have been recorded at NOLF Cabaniss) (Navy, 2016). No threatened or endangered species were recorded in BASH data for NAS Corpus Christi or NOLF Cabaniss or any of the airports that had FAA data (Block, 2022; FAA, 2022). In their wintering areas, piping plovers and red knots typically prefer coastal marine and estuarine habitats with areas of exposed intertidal sediments.

The piping plover is a federally threatened bird that is known to inhabit sandy beaches in San Patricio and Nueces Counties, Texas. This species is threatened throughout much of its range primarily due to the loss of its preferred nesting sites as a result of human activities. A small number of these birds have been observed regularly along the western side of Oso Bay, adjacent to the eastern boundary of NAS Corpus Christi. In July 2001, the USFWS designated 142 areas as critical habitat for wintering populations of the piping plover (66 FR 36038-36086). Two of these areas are located in Oso Bay adjacent to the station. Piping plover critical habitat is also found elsewhere in the ROI (Figure 3-12).

The federally threatened red knot faces threats from habitat loss and from several pervasive, climate-driven ecosystem changes. Additional threats include hunting, algal blooms, predation, human disturbance, and development (USFWS, 2020). Critical habitat has been proposed for this species in the ROI (86 FR 37410-37668) and will largely overlap with piping plover critical habitat (Figure 3-12); however, it has not been finalized and map data is not yet available.

Four other federally listed avian species have the potential to occur in the ROI, the northern aplomado falcon (*Falco femoralis septentrionalis*), whooping crane (*Grus americana*), eastern black rail (*Laterallus jamaicensis* spp. *Jamaicensis*), and Attwater's greater prairie-chicken (*Tympanuchus cupido attwateri*). The northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane may migrate through or stop over the airfields and are at risk of potential collision impacts with aircraft. The Attwater's greater prairie-chicken was listed in the USFWS IPaC report for Victoria Regional Airport; however, according to other USFWS resources, it occurs in the wild at only three locations: (1) the Attwater Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge (Colorado County, Texas), (2) the Texas City Prairie Preserve (Galveston County, Texas), and (3) a private ranch in Goliad County, Texas (USFWS, 2021b). All of these locations are far removed from the Proposed Action airfields. No federally listed species were recorded in the bird strike data for NAS Corpus Christi or NOLF Cabaniss and the Proposed Action airports that reported data to the FAA from August 2020 through July 2022 (Block, 2022; FAA, 2022). The northern aplomado falcon, eastern black rail, and Attwater's greater prairie-chicken do not have designated critical habitat. The whooping crane has designated critical habitat within the ROI (Figure 3-12).

Table 3-24 Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species that Could Potentially Occur within the ROI

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Listing Status ¹	State Listing Status ²	Critical Habitat Within the ROI? ³	Potential Occurrence (by Airport Code)
Plants					
Black lace cactus	Echinocereus reichenbachii var. albertii	Endangered	Endangered	-	ALI, NGW, NGP, CRP
Slender rushpea	Hoffmannseggia tenella	Endangered	Endangered	-	NGW, NGP, CRP
South Texas ambrosia	Ambrosia cheiranthifolia	Endangered	Endangered	-	ALI, NGW, NGP, CRP, PIL, HRL
Texas ayenia	Ayenia limitaris	Endangered	Endangered	-	PIL, HRL
Invertebrates		-			-
Monarch butterfly	Danaus plexippus	Candidate	-	-	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
False spike clam	Fusconaia mitchelli	Proposed Endangered	-	-	PKV
Guadalupe orb clam	Cyclonaias necki	Proposed Endangered	Threatened	-	VCT, PKV
Birds	•				
Attwater's greater prairie-chicken	Tympanuchus cupido attwateri	Endangered	Endangered	-	vст
Eastern black rail	Laterallus jamaicensis spp. jamaicensis	Threatened	Threatened	-	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Northern aplomado falcon	Falco femoralis septentrionalis	Endangered	Endangered	-	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Piping plover	Charadrius melodus	Threatened	Threatened	Yes	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Red knot	Calidris canutus rufa	Threatened	Threatened	Yes (Proposed)	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Whooping crane	Grus americana	Endangered	Endangered	Yes	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, VCT
Mammals					•
Gulf coast jaguarundi	Herpailurus yagouaroundi cacomitli	Endangered	Endangered	-	PIL, HRL
Ocelot	Leopardus pardalis	Endangered	Endangered	-	ALI, CRP, NGP, NGW, PIL, HRL

Table 3-24 Threatened, Endangered, Proposed, and Candidate Species that Could Potentially Occur within the ROI

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Listing Status ¹	State Listing Status ²	Critical Habitat Within the ROI? ³	Potential Occurrence (by Airport Code)
Tricolored bat	Perimyotis subflavus	Proposed Endangered	-	-	ALI, PKV, PIL, PSX, CRP, NGP, NGW, VCT
West Indian manatee	Trichechus manatus	Endangered	Endangered	None	CRP, NGP, NGW, PKV, PSX, PIL
Reptiles			•	•	
Green sea turtle	Chelonia mydas	Threatened	Threatened	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Hawksbill sea turtle	Eretmochelys imbricata	Endangered	Endangered	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	Lepidochelys kempii	Endangered	Endangered	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Leatherback sea turtle	Dermochelys coriacea	Endangered	Endangered	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Loggerhead sea turtle	Caretta caretta	Threatened	Threatened	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL

Sources: (TPWD, 2022a; USFWS, 2022a)

Key: ALI = Alice International Airport; CRP = Corpus Christi International Airport; HRL = Valley International Airport; NGP = NAS Corpus Christi; NGW = Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss; PIL = Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport; PKV = Calhoun County Airport; PSX = Palacios Municipal Airport; ROI = region of influence; VCT = Victoria Regional Airport.

Blue shading indicates that the species is being carried forward for analysis.

Notes

- 1. Federally listed species are those designated as threatened, endangered, or candidate species by the Endangered Species Act. These species and locations were determined based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning and Conservation tool (USFWS, 2022a).
- 2. State-listed species are those designated as threatened or endangered by the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD). These species statuses and locations were determined based on the TPWD Annotated County Lists of Rare Species (TPWD, 2022a).
- 3. If blank (-), then Critical Habitat has not been designated for the species. If "None," then Critical Habitat has been designated, but it is not located within the ROI.

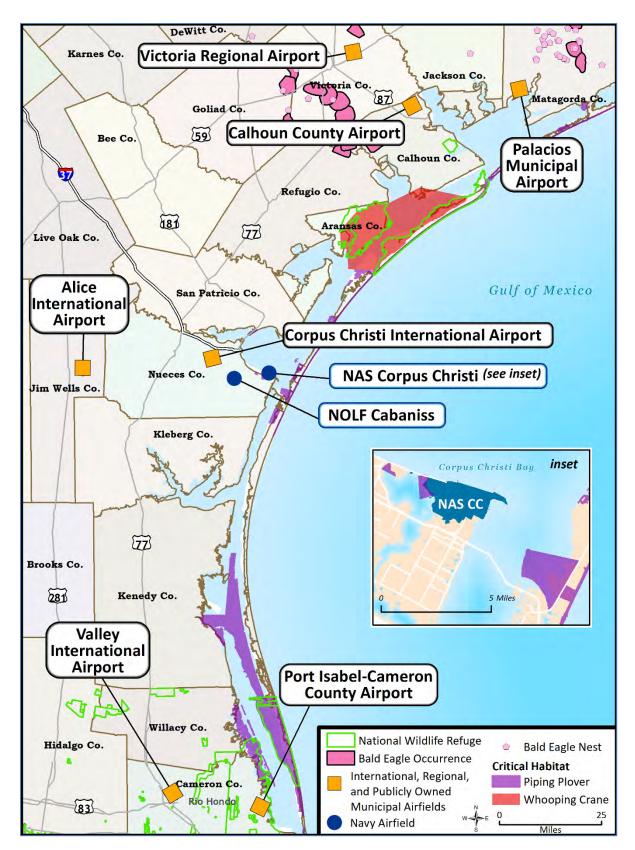


Figure 3-12 Location of Navy, International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields and Bird Critical Habitats in the ROI

Of the non-bird federally listed species, four are plants, two are clams, one is an insect, five are sea turtles, one is a marine mammal, and three are land mammals. The plants, clams, insect, sea turtles, and marine mammal are not present within the Proposed Action airfields. One of the land mammals, the jaguarundi (*Herpailurus yagouaroundi cacomitli*), is extinct in Texas, and the other, the ocelot (*Leopardus pardalis*), is believed to have fewer than 100 individuals in two separate populations in southern Texas—one in Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in Cameron County and the other on private ranchland in Willacy County. Automobile collisions make up 40 percent of ocelot mortalities for the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge population. No records of ocelot aircraft strikes at Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport, which abuts the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, were located.

State-Listed Species

The TPWD Annotated County List of Rare Species was accessed to identify species protected under TPWD Code and Sections 69.01–69.9 (Endangered, Threatened, and Protected Native Plants) of the Texas Administrative Code that could potentially occur within the ROI (TPWD, 2022a). The complete lists of special status species found in the counties where the airfields are located are included in Appendix B, Special Status Species Documentation. Species that have been confirmed to occur at NAS Corpus Christi include the white-tailed hawk (Geranoaetus albicaudatus), reddish egret (Egretta rufescens), and white-faced ibis (Plegadis chihi), which are listed as threatened in the State of Texas.

The painted bunting, listed as threatened, has been recorded at NOLF Cabaniss (Navy, 2016). Two threatened reptile species are also known to occur at NAS Corpus Christi, including the Texas tortoise (*Gopherus berlandieri*) and Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*). None of these species were recorded in the bird strike data from August 2020 through July 2022 (Block, 2022; FAA, 2022). No other data confirming presence of state-listed species for the other airfields was located.

3.3.2.3 Species Not Carried Forward for Impact Analysis

Twenty-two federally listed species have the potential to occur in the Action Area. This EA analyzes potential impacts to six species (the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat). Species not carried forward for impact analysis and the reasons why are described below.

The plants identified in Table 3-24 do not occur within any of the affected environment airfields and would not be affected by overflights of the T-44C or T-54A. Therefore, there would be no effect on the black lace cactus, the slender rushpea, the south Texas ambrosia, and the Texas avenia.

Similarly, the two clam species do not occur within any of the affected environment airfields and would not be affected by overflights of the T-44C or T-54A. Therefore, the affected environment would have no effect on the false spike clam and the Guadalupe orb clam.

Habitat for the Monarch butterfly, which requires a diverse assemblage of nectar resources as well as milkweed for laying eggs and larval sustenance, does not occur on the affected environment airfields and this species is not expected to be affected by T-44C or T-54A flights. Therefore, the affected environment would have no effect on the Monarch butterfly.

Nesting habitat for the five sea turtle species does not exist at any of the affected environment airfields. In addition, the most intense underwater noise from subsonic aircraft is less than the behavioral

response threshold for sea turtles (166 dB RMS re 1 μ Pa)¹ (Laney & Cavanagh, 2000). Note that the modeled subsonic aircraft from Laney & Cavanagh (2000) was an F-18 flying subsonic, which is much louder than a T-54A at any speed. Additionally, the sound frequencies associated with these pressures would possibly be below the in-air and in-water hearing sensitivity ranges for sea turtles (Bartol & Ketten, 2006; Piniak et al., 2016), reducing the likelihood of a behavioral reaction. Finally, the sound profiles of the T-44C or the new aircraft (T-54A) would be virtually the same; therefore, the affected environment would have no effect on the green, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, leatherback, and loggerhead sea turtles.

The Attwater's prairie chicken is found in three locations in Texas: the Attwater's Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge (Colorado County, Texas), the Texas City Prairie Preserve (Galveston County, Texas), and a private ranch in Goliad County, Texas (USFWS, 2021a). All of these locations are far removed from the affected environment airfields. Therefore, there would be no effect on the Attwater's prairie chicken.

West Indian manatees are infrequent visitors to the ROI and are considered extralimital. Individuals occurring are likely vagrants from the Mexico or Florida populations (Schmidly & Bradley, 2023). Overflights of the T-44C or T-54A would not be expected to disturb West Indian manatees, as flights would be conducted at altitudes higher than those shown to elicit responses in this species (over 600 feet AGL) (Rathbun, 1988). Therefore, there would be no effect on the West Indian manatee.

The ocelot is believed to have fewer than 100 individuals in two separate populations in southern Texas—one in Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in Cameron County and the other on private ranchland in Willacy County. In south Texas, ocelots occupy dense thornscrub communities (USFWS, 2016). Primary threats facing ocelots include habitat loss, conversion, fragmentation, and commercial exploitation and hunting (USFWS, 2016). Automobile collisions make up 40 percent of ocelot mortalities within the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge population (Blackburn et al., 2021). The Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport directly abuts the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, one of two locations where populations of the ocelot exist in Texas. Records of aircraft ocelot strikes have not been recorded in the literature, and aircraft noise would not be expected to affect ocelots at the refuge. Aircraft noise has not been named as a stressor or threat for this species. The greatest threat to ocelots at the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge is collisions with automobiles. Therefore, there would be no effect on the ocelot.

The final species not carried forward, the jaguarundi, is extinct in Texas (Schmidly & Bradley, 2023). The last verified sighting of a jaguarundi in Texas occurred in 1986. A survey for jaguarundis from 2003 to 2021 across southern Texas and northern Tamaulipas, Mexico, did not record any jaguarundis in Texas and concluded that jaguarundis were likely extirpated from Texas (Lombardi et al., 2022). Therefore, there would be no effect on the jaguarundi.

3.3.3 Environmental Consequences

The following discussion and analysis focus on impacts from increases in flight operations and the construction of short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus

¹ Underwater sound threshold is measured in decibels using root-mean-square (RMS) pressure as referenced to a pressure of 1 microPascal (μPa) (University of Rhode Island and Inner Space Center, 2021).

Christi. As stated in Section 3.3.2, Affected Environment, the ROI for biological resources includes NAS

Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, Alice International Airport, Calhoun County Airport, Corpus Christi International Airport, Palacios Municipal Airport, Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport, Valley International Airport, Victoria Regional Airport, and the transit flights between them.

3.3.3.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to current conditions for biological resources. Therefore, no significant impacts to biological resources would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.3.3.2 Alternative 1: Replace T44C Aircraft with T-54A
Aircraft with a 10 Percent
Increase in Operations
Potential Impacts
(Preferred Alternative)

The ROI for the analysis of effects to biological resources associated with Alternative 1 includes NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, Alice International Airport, Calhoun County Airport, Corpus Christi International Airport, Palacios Municipal Airport, Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport, Valley International Airport, Victoria Regional Airport, and the transit flights between them.

Terrestrial Wildlife

Construction noise and activity would be localized, short term, and only

Biological Resource Potential Impacts:

No Action Alternative

 No change in existing aircraft operations or BASH impacts on birds covered by the MBTA.

Alternatives 1 and 2

- Construction projects would include demolishing or recapitalizing buildings that may contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Construction, to the extent feasible, would take place outside of the breeding season. If work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist must confirm that no active nest would be impacted by these actions. Therefore, with implementation of these measures, construction activities would avoid or minimize incidental takes of birds protected under the MBTA (including Birds of Conservation Concern) or their active nests.
- Minor increase in aircraft operations. No changes to existing flight paths, procedures, or habitat.
 Operations would be conducted in accordance with BASH Plan to minimize impacts.
- For aircraft operations, takes of birds covered under the MBTA would be incidental from military readiness activities and would not result in significant adverse impacts on their population.
- May affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat. For all other federally listed species identified with potential to occur within the ROI, the Navy has determined that there would be no effect.

during daylight hours. The project area is developed military industrial land subject to high noise and activity levels. Wildlife in or immediately adjacent to the project area are exposed to elevated noise under baseline conditions from aircraft operations, ground vehicle operations (fueling trucks, tractors, fire trucks, airfield vegetation maintenance vehicles [tractors and mowers], light duty vehicles, etc.), and

other activities typical of busy airfields. The temporary addition of localized construction noise and activity would not reduce the suitability of the project area for wildlife at NAS Corpus Christi.

Air operations under Alternative 1 would increase by 10 percent. Terrestrial species at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields proposed for increased operations are already exposed to noise from existing air operations. As indicated in Section 3.1, *Noise*, there would be extremely small changes in noise associated with the proposed increase in airfield operations at any of the locations as compared with baseline conditions and ambient noise levels would not significantly increase. As described in Section 3.1, *Noise*, noise levels would slightly increase (0.4 dBA DNL) over baseline conditions at NOLF Cabaniss, indicating a perhaps imperceptible increase in noise exposure for wildlife. However, noise levels would not exceed ambient levels (e.g., typically around 40 to 55 dBA DNL) except on the airfield itself (both developed areas and vegetated areas where the vegetation is currently managed in accordance with the BASH Plan in order to deter wildlife).

The preceding discussion focused on DNL noise levels; however, the DNL metric is used to reflect a person's cumulative exposure to sound over a 24-hour period and not wildlife. Individual sound events may be more relevant when discussing impacts on wildlife and are discussed here, notably maximum noise events associated with airfield operations (low-level flights). However, because of the similarity between the two aircraft, maximum noise levels associated with individual overflights of the T-54A would be the same at the T-44C. Reactions of wildlife to noise from overflights from the T-54A would be assumed to be the same as reactions to overflights from the T-44C. The T-54A would not be as loud as the T-6B or transient aircraft such as the F/A-18C.

Not all species have been studied for their behavioral or physiological responses to noise. The following presents a literature review on the general effects of flight noise and noise in general from which a general understanding may be attained on the potential effects to exposed species.

For wildlife, an animal's response to unusual sounds (above ambient levels) may include displacement or avoidance of affected areas, increased vigilance, changes in foraging behavior, habitat selection, mate attraction, and parental investment (Frid & Dill, 2002; Shannon et al., 2016), in addition to changes in the animal's sound sensing and response behavior. While difficult to measure in the field, behavioral responses are assumed to be accompanied by some form of physiological response (Frid & Dill, 2002). Noise and other disturbances can also distract wildlife, taking their attention away from other key functions and behaviors, such as predator awareness (Chan & Blumstein, 2011; Francis & Barber, 2013).

Studies addressing reptile responses to noise, especially aircraft noise, are extremely limited. In general, reptiles have narrower hearing ranges than mammals and birds but are highly sensitive to vibrations (Bowles, 1995). Desert tortoises (*Gopherus agassizii*), a close relative of the Texas tortoise, are one of only a few reptiles for which aircraft disturbance effects have been studied (Bowles et al., 1999; Efroymson et al, 2001). Desert tortoises became motionless in response to being startled but habituated to aircraft noises quickly. No significant physiological changes in response to noise were documented.

There are a wide variety of terrestrial mammals in the ROI, ranging from small rodents to large game animals such as white-tailed deer. The hearing capabilities of these species vary, but, generally, larger animals tend to have better hearing at lower frequencies, while smaller animals often have better hearing at high frequencies (Heffner et al., 2001; D'Angelo, 2007). A review by Shannon et al. (2016) of the research documenting the effects of noise on wildlife indicates that the response of terrestrial mammals depends on a number of factors, including the life history characteristics of the species,

characteristics of the noise-generating activities, habitat type, and the species' previous exposure to the noise source. Several other studies indicate a strong tendency for many species to acclimate or habituate to noise disturbances (Black et al., 1984; Ellis et al., 1991; Grubb & King, 1991; Conomy et al., 1998).

Wildlife inhabiting these highly disturbed and human-maintained areas in the ROI would be expected to be habituated to human disturbances to some degree. The nonsignificant increases in noise would not be expected to significantly affect terrestrial wildlife species. Overflights by T-54A aircraft outside of the airfields along flight paths would not be expected to affect any terrestrial wildlife species, as there would be negligible noise and visual stimuli due to the aircraft operating at several thousand feet in altitude and no strike risk. Therefore, there would be no significant impacts to terrestrial wildlife from aircraft operations under Alternative 1.

Birds Covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (Including Birds of Conservation Concern) and Bald and Golden Eagles

Under Alternative 1, proposed construction projects would demolish buildings that may contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Pursuant to EO 13186, the USFWS and DoD entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to promote the conservation of migratory birds. This MOU does not authorize take of birds covered by the MBTA but specifically pertains to evaluating the likelihood of an action to affect migratory birds. This MOU means to protect against the take of birds for installation support functions, including utilities maintenance, construction, and demolition. The executing agent/contractor would coordinate with the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist to ensure that work would avoid impacting birds protected under the MBTA (including Birds of Conservation Concern). Building demolition work and tree removal (if any) would, to the extent feasible, take place outside of the bird breeding season. If this work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist must confirm that no active nest would be impacted by these actions. The qualified biologist would be hired by the project proponent and approved by the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist. The qualified biologist must survey the area within 72 hours of commencing work to determine if active nests are present. If an active nest is found in the project area at any time during project work, work would be halted immediately, and the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist would be contacted. Any removal action must be overseen by the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist. The NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist, in coordination with the qualified biologist, must confirm that there would be no impacts to active nests before construction work could resume. With implementation of these measures, construction activities associated with Alternative 1 would avoid or minimize incidental takes of birds protected under the MBTA (including Birds of Conservation Concern) or their active nests.

The average sound source levels in and around the airfield environment (and away from potential disturbance and strike hazards) may result in masking (the inability of an individual to hear important environmental signals), though it is also possible that some bird species could habituate to repeated aircraft noise and no longer exhibit behavioral responses (National Park Service, 1994; Larkin et al., 1996; Conomy et al., 1998; Plumpton, 2006). Other impacts due to airfield environment noise may include physiological stress and behavioral reactions. Researchers have documented a range of bird behavioral responses to noise, including no response, head turn, alert behavior, startle response, flying or swimming away, diving into the water, increased vocalizations, reduced frequency (kilohertz) of vocalizations, and increased aggression (Burger, 1981; National Park Service, 1994; Larkin et al., 1996; Stalmaster & Kaiser, 1997; Brown et al., 1999; Pytte et al., 2003; Plumpton, 2006; Wolfenden et al., 2019). Songbirds living near airports have altered timing of their songs to avoid overlap with aircraft

noise (Gil et al., 2015). Some behavioral responses may be accompanied by physiological responses, such as increased activation of the neural and endocrine systems, causing changes such as increased blood pressure, available glucose, and blood levels of hormones (Manci et al., 1988; Partecke et al., 2006). It is possible that individuals would return to normal almost immediately after short-term or transient exposure, and the individual's metabolism and energy budget would not be affected in the long term.

Studies have shown that depending on a number of factors, including the bird species and the frequency of and proximity to exposure, birds habituate to noise following frequent exposure and cease to respond behaviorally to the noise (National Park Service, 1994; Bowles, 1995; Larkin et al., 1996; Plumpton, 2006). Whereas chronic exposure to acoustic disturbance may compromise the general health and reproductive success of some birds (Kight et al., 2012), a physiological stress response is not necessarily indicative of negative consequences to individual birds or to populations due to aforementioned factors (National Park Service, 1994; Larkin et al., 1996; Butler et al., 2009).

The majority of studies regarding low-altitude (500 feet AGL or less) subsonic military flights and bird behavior have found minimal to no meaningful response (Black et al., 1984; Ellis et al., 1991; Conomy et al., 1998; Hillman et al., 2015) or a response more related to visual stimuli (Ellis, 1981; Brown, 1990). Fixed-wing aircraft flights outside of the airfield environment are mostly conducted at altitudes greater than 600 feet AGL.

Under Alternative 1, there would be a minor increase in aircraft strike potential for birds and other wildlife corresponding to the increase in the number of operations compared to the No Action Alternative. The potential for interactions between aircraft and birds would be increased proportionally to the increase in aircraft operations (4 percent increase overall for all aircraft, military and civilian, at all airfields). Aircraft collisions with birds are more likely to occur during aircraft takeoffs and landings than when the aircraft is in transit or enroute to another location. FAA data taken from 1990 to 2020 demonstrates that 71 percent of bird and aircraft collisions occurred below 500 feet AGL (Dolbeer et al., 2021). This altitude typically corresponds to phases of flight associated with takeoffs and landings (e.g., takeoff, climb, approach, and landing roll). These phases of flight accounted for 93 percent of reported phases of flight at time of occurrence of bird strikes with civil aircraft from 1990 to 2020 (Dolbeer et al., 2021). Strike risk would not be affected by the change in aircraft, as the T-54A is close in size to the T-44C and would fly in substantially the same way.

There is no evidence of any local or population-level impacts to any bird species, including raptors, due to bird/aircraft collisions or disturbance from flight activities. Bird/aircraft collisions are not an acknowledged population level stressor for any bird species and are not mentioned in the literature regarding sources of direct anthropogenic mortality. Collisions between planes and birds are estimated to account for a small percentage of all bird deaths per year (USFWS, 2022b). Kelly and Allen (2006) concluded that it is likely that mortalities from bird aircraft collisions are not additive (i.e., in excess of what would occur naturally) and, therefore, are not of conservation concern. Population-level anthropogenic sources of mortality commonly cited for birds include cats, buildings, automobiles, powerlines, wind turbines, pesticides, gill nets, oil and gas activities, and marine longlines/trawls (Loss et al., 2015; Kelly & Allan, 2006).

From August 2020 through July 2022, the Proposed Action airfields that recorded BASH data reported between 214 and 327 bird strikes per year total. A wide range of bird species were struck, including

representatives of many of the bird types previously described, though the identity of numerous impacted birds was unknown.

Due to the low number of strikes when compared to the overall operations numbers (341,000 annual operations for the airfields reporting strike data) and the information presented above, additional strikes resulting from the 10 percent increase in flight operations under Alternative 1 would not pose population-level risks for any bird species.

Continued implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss would reduce BASH risk. International, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields also implement measures to mitigate BASH risk by adhering to FAA regulations, including conducting required Wildlife Hazard Assessments and implementing Wildlife Hazard Management Plans. Therefore, there would be no significant impacts to birds coved by the MBTA under Alternative 1.

For T-54 aircraft operations and compliance with the MBTA, the Navy has determined that Alternative 1 may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA. The definition of "take," as defined by the MBTA is "pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect" (see Section 3.3.1.1, Federal Regulations, for more information). Under the MBTA's regulations that are applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS has promulgated a rule that authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided it does not result in significant adverse effects on their population. Alternative 1 is not expected to result in adverse impacts to populations of species covered by the MBTA with current standard operating procedures (SOPs) (e.g., BASH Plan and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans).

The term "take," as defined by the USFWS for BGEPA purposes, means to "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, trap, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb" (see Section 3.3.1.1, Federal Regulations, for more information). Although there is no exemption for military readiness activities from the BGEPA, a prohibited "take" is unlikely due to lack of previous takes of eagles by historical operation of T-44C aircraft, implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi, implementation of local airfield Wildlife Hazard Management Plans, and the absence of eagle nests in the vicinity of Proposed Action airfields. Alternative 1 does not require an eagle take permit (USFWS - Chesapeake Bay Field Office, 2021).

Pursuant to the MBTA, no prohibited take of any MBTA-protected birds would occur under Alternative 1. Pursuant to the BGEPA and implementing guidance, prohibited take of an eagle is unlikely due to the measures taken to avoid impacts to nesting habitat. Consequently, no MBTA or BGEPA permit is required.

Threatened and Endangered Species

As mentioned in Section 3.3.2.2, *Special Status Species and Habitats*, only the piping plover and red knot have been observed at NAS Corpus Christi, and no federally listed species have been observed at NOLF Cabaniss. While critical habitat has been designated within NAS Corpus Christi, piping plovers have not been recorded within the boundaries of the station; however, a small number of these birds have been observed regularly along the western side of Oso Bay, adjacent to the eastern boundary of NAS Corpus Christi. Critical habitat has also been proposed for the red knot, which largely overlaps with the piping plover. These species may occur in the ROI where overflights by T-54A could possibly occur. Listed non-bird species would not be expected to occur at the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields and airports due to the developed nature of the airfields as well as the vegetation management

that is implemented in the non-developed portions of the airfields to specifically deter wildlife and increase flight safety.

Air operations under Alternative 1 would increase by 10 percent. Threatened and endangered terrestrial species in the ROI consisting of NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields proposed for increased operations are already exposed and potentially habituated to aircraft operations. As indicated in Section 3.1.7.2, Noise, Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative), there would be no significant change in noise associated with the proposed increase in airfield operations as compared with baseline conditions and ambient noise levels would not significantly increase.

However, there could be a minor increase in aircraft strike potential for threatened and endangered birds. The potential for interactions between aircraft and birds that migrate through the ROI would be increased proportionally to the increase in aircraft operations (4 percent increase overall for T-54A aircraft, military and civilian, at all airfields). T-54A aircraft operations would increase from 184,672 to 203,000 on an annual basis. Continued implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss would reduce BASH risk, and area airfields also implement measures to mitigate BASH risk as well by adhering to FAA regulations, including conducting the required Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans.

Strikes involving threatened or endangered species have not been recorded while operating the T-44C aircraft; therefore, strikes involving T-54A aircraft would be unlikely because the aircraft would operate in a similar manner (e.g., same training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace). Accordingly, the Navy has determined that Alternative 1 may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat, as these species are at risk, although negligible, of potential aircraft strike during flight. The Navy has entered into informal consultation with the USFWS regarding potential effects to the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat. The USFWS concurred with the Navy's determination on August 2, 2023. Results of this consultation are included in Appendix B, *Special Status Species Documentation*.

Based on review of Alternative 1 by the USFWS, the following measures were agreed upon to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects to the northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane species to the extent practicable:

- Northern aplomado falcon. Low-level aircraft routes (less than 500 feet AGL) should avoid northern
 aplomado falcon nesting platforms and territories on Mustang and Matagorda Islands by at least 1
 mile to reduce potential noise and human disturbance effects. Maintaining a distance of 1,500 feet
 AGL is preferable.
- Whooping crane. Whooping cranes are not expected in the project area. Report sightings of whooping cranes to the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office in Corpus Christi at 361-533-6765.

Impacts to state-listed threatened and endangered terrestrial wildlife species that have the potential to occur within the ROI of Alternative 1 would be similar to those described for terrestrial wildlife. Impacts to state-listed threatened and endangered bird species that are not cross-listed with the federally listed species would be the same as those described for birds in the general *Terrestrial Wildlife* and *Birds*

Covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (Including Birds of Conservation Concern) and Bald and Golden Eagles sections.

Based on the above analysis and measures to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects for terrestrial wildlife and special status species, implementation of Alternative 1 would not result in significant impacts to biological resources.

3.3.3.3 Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts

The ROI for the analysis of effects to biological resources under Alternative 2 is the same study area described under Alternative 1.

Terrestrial Wildlife

Impacts to terrestrial wildlife under Alternative 2 for construction activities would be similar to those described under Alternative 1. Although Alternative 2 would increase aircraft operations over Alternative 1 (20 percent versus 10 percent), impacts to terrestrial wildlife would be minor. Terrestrial species in the ROI are already exposed and potentially habituated to aircraft operations. As indicated in Section 3.1.7.3, *Noise*, *Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts*, there would be no significant change in noise associated with the proposed increase in airfield operations as compared with baseline conditions, and ambient noise levels would not significantly increase. Therefore, there would be no significant impacts to terrestrial wildlife under Alternative 2.

Birds Covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (Including Birds of Conservation Concern) and Bald and Golden Eagles

Construction projects under Alternative 2 would be the same as those considered under Alternative 1. With implementation of the mitigation measures as described under Alternative 1, construction activities associated with Alternative 2 would avoid or minimize incidental takes of birds protected under the MBTA (including Birds of Conservation Concern) or their active nests.

Impacts to birds covered by the MBTA for T-54A aircraft operations would be similar to those described for Alternative 1; however, the potential for interactions between aircraft and birds would be increased proportionally to the increase in aircraft operations (9 percent increase overall for all aircraft, military and civilian, at all airfields). T-54A aircraft operations would increase from 184,672 to 221,500 on an annual basis. Continued implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss, and FAA requirements for the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields (including conducting the required Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans), would reduce BASH risk.

For T-54A aircraft operations and compliance with the MBTA, the Navy has determined that Alternative 2 may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA. The term "take," as defined by the USFWS for MBTA purposes, means to "pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect" (see Section 3.3.1.1, *Federal Regulations*, for more information). Under the MBTA's regulations that are applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS has promulgated a rule that authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided it does not result in significant adverse

effects on their population. Alternative 2 is not expected to result in adverse impacts to populations of species covered by the MBTA with current SOPs (e.g., BASH Plan).

The term "take," as defined by the USFWS for BGEPA purposes, means to "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, trap, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb" (see Section 3.3.1.1, Federal Regulations, for more information). Although there is no exemption for military readiness activities from the BGEPA, a prohibited "take" is unlikely due to lack of previous takes of eagles by historical operation of T-44C aircraft, implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi, implementation of local airfield Wildlife Hazard Management Plans, and the absence of eagle nests in the vicinity of Proposed Action airfields. Alternative 2 does not require an eagle take permit (USFWS - Chesapeake Bay Field Office, 2021).

Pursuant to the MBTA, no prohibited take of any MBTA-protected birds would occur under Alternative 2. Pursuant to the BGEPA and implementing guidance, prohibited take of an eagle is unlikely due to the measures taken to avoid impacts to nesting habitat. No MBTA or BGEPA permit is therefore required.

Threatened and Endangered Species

Impacts to threatened and endangered species would be similar to those described for Alternative 1; however, increase of aircraft strike potential is commensurate with a 20 percent increase of operations over baseline. Because strikes involving threatened or endangered species have not been recorded while operating the T-44C aircraft, strikes involving a T-54A aircraft are unlikely because the aircraft would operate in a similar manner (e.g., same training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace). Accordingly, the Navy has determined that Alternative 2 may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat, as these species are at risk of potential aircraft strike during flight.

There would be no significant impacts on threatened and endangered species, and no formal consultation between the Navy and the USFWS or National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration Fisheries would be required.

Impacts to state-listed threatened and endangered terrestrial wildlife species that have the potential to occur within the ROI of Alternative 2 would be similar to those described for terrestrial wildlife under Alternative 1. Impacts to state-listed threatened and endangered bird species that are not cross-listed with the federally listed species would be the same as those described for birds in the general *Birds Covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagles* section.

Based on the above analysis for terrestrial wildlife and special status species, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant impacts to biological resources.

3.4 Cultural Resources

This discussion of cultural resources includes prehistoric and historic archaeological sites; historic buildings, structures, and districts; and physical entities and human-made or natural features important to a culture, a subculture, or a community for traditional, religious, or other reasons.

3.4.1 Regulatory Setting

Cultural resources are governed by federal laws and EOs, including the Archeological and Historic Preservation Act, American Indian Religious Freedom Act, Archaeological Resources Protection Act, EO 13007, Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA). For the purposes of this analysis, the term "cultural resource" refers to all resources of cultural importance protected by these federal laws and EOs.

Federal agencies' responsibility for protecting historic properties is defined primarily by Sections 106 and 110 of the NHPA. Section 106 requires federal agencies to take into account the effects of their undertakings on historic properties and afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation a reasonable opportunity to comment on such undertakings. Through consultation with interested parties, the federal agency identifies historic properties potentially affected by the undertaking, assesses effects, and seeks ways to avoid, minimize, or mitigate any adverse effects on historic properties. Section 110 of the NHPA requires federal agencies to establish—in conjunction with the Secretary of the Interior—historic preservation programs for the identification, evaluation, and protection of historic properties and to avoid adversely affecting National Historic Landmarks.

3.4.2 Affected Environment

In compliance with the NHPA, the Navy consults with regulators, Indian tribes, and other interested parties to identify historic properties and other cultural resources that may be affected by the Proposed Action. The NHPA defines historic properties as any district, site, building, structure, or object listed in, or eligible for listing in, the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). For the purposes of this analysis, historic properties can be divided into three major categories:

- Archaeological resources (prehistoric and historic) include the place or places where the remnants
 of a past culture survive in a physical context that allows for the interpretation of these material
 remains.
- Architectural resources include standing buildings, structures, landscapes, and other built-environment resources of historic or aesthetic significance.
- Traditional cultural properties include properties associated with cultural practices and beliefs of a living community that are (a) rooted in the community's history and (b) important to maintaining the continuing cultural identity of the community.

The Navy has conducted inventories of cultural resources at NAS Corpus Christi to identify historic properties that are listed or potentially eligible for listing in the NRHP (Navy, 2014).

For the purposes of cultural resources analysis, the ROI is considered equivalent to the Area of Potential Effects (APE), as defined by NHPA Section 106 implementing regulations, 36 CFR section 800.16(d). The APE for cultural resources is the geographic area or areas within which an undertaking (project, activity, program, or practice) may cause changes in the character or use of any historic properties present. The APE is influenced by the scale and nature of the undertaking and may be different for various kinds of effects caused by the undertaking. For this Proposed Action, the Navy determined that the APE includes 213.2 acres and includes the following:

- the area where building demolition, renovation, and construction projects would occur
- a quarter-mile visual buffer around the proposed new hangar where it is estimated the proposed new hangar could be visible

3.4.2.1 Archaeological Resources

In 1994, a cultural resources investigation was conducted on NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and NOLF Waldron. This project covered 582.5 acres of the 4,442 acres (13.11 percent of the combined installations). The remaining 3,859.5 acres within these installations were considered disturbed and were not surveyed (Navy, 2014).

As a result of this survey, two sites with cultural resources were identified on NAS Corpus Christi. Site 41NU274 was recommended for additional work to determine NRHP eligibility. The remaining site (41NU273) was determined not eligible for the NRHP (Navy, 2014). Neither of these sites are located within the APE for the Proposed Action. In 2016 and 2017, the Navy conducted cultural resources investigations of three areas for a proposed geothermal facility, totaling approximately 51 acres. Shovel test probes were systematically placed in each of the areas, and no archaeological resources were identified (Navy, 2018).

3.4.2.2 Architectural Resources

Four historic architectural surveys have documented a total of 239 buildings and structures at NAS Corpus Christi evaluated for eligibility for listing in the NRHP (Navy, 2014). All Cold War buildings have been assessed. Of the facilities surveyed, Building 252 and seven historic districts have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP (Navy, 2014).

Historic properties in the APE include the Landplane Hangars Historic District, the western-most portion of the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District, and Hangar 42 within the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District (Figure 3-13; Table 3-25). The Landplane Hangars Historic District is located on the east side of the NAS Corpus Christi airfield and consists of five aircraft hangars (Hangars 51, 55, 56, 57, and 58) and six Navy support facilities (51A, 56A, 56B, 57A, 57B, and 58A) (Figure 3-13); this historic district is related directly to the station's primary mission as a flight training center and was determined eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A for its contribution to naval aviation training from World War II to 1947. The Warehouse/Industrial Historic District is a concentration of aircraft support facilities located between the landplane and the seaplane hangars (Figure 3-13); this historic district contains infrastructure and repair facilities directly related to the station's prime mission as a naval aviation training center and is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A. Elements of the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District within the APE are illustrated in Figure 3-13.

The Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District is a large L-shaped area that includes most of NAS Corpus Christi's waterfront property; contributing properties include 7 hangars and 17 ramps that supported seaplane operations at NAS Corpus Christi. The Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District is directly related to the station's primary mission as flight training and is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A for its contribution to naval aviation training efforts from World War II to 1947. Table 3-26 lists the NRHP-eligible buildings within each historic district that would be affected by the Proposed Action.

Table 3-25 Historic Properties in the APE at NAS Corpus Christi

Facility	Name	Year Built	NRHP Status	Proposed Action				
Warehou	Warehouse/Industrial Historic District							
19	Public Works	1941	Contributing	None				
20	Public Works, Shop/BSVE	1941	Contributing	None				
27	Flammable Storage	1942	Contributing	None				
164	Transformer Vault	1941	Contributing	None				
Seaplane	e Hangars/Ramps Historic District							
42	Hangar 42, Maintenance Hangar	1941	Contributing	Interior Renovation				
Landplai	ne Hangars Historic District							
51	Hangar 51, Maintenance Hangar/AIMD	1942	Contributing	None				
51A	Flammable Storage	1978	Contributing	None				
55	Hangar 55, VT-35	1941	Contributing	Demolition				
56	Hangar 56, VT-27/VT-28	1941	Contributing	Demolition				
56A	Storage Locker/VT-28	1941	Contributing	Demolition				
56B	Ready Magazine/VT-28	1942	Contributing	Demolition				
57	Hangar 57, VT-31	1941	Contributing	None				
57A	Operations/Hazardous/Flammable Storage VT-28	1941	Contributing	None				
57B	Ready Magazine/VT-28	1942	Contributing	None				
58	Hangar 58, Air Operations Hangar	1941	Contributing	None				
58A	Flammable Storage	1941	Contributing	None				

Key: AIMD = Aircraft Intermediate Maintenance Department; APE = Area of Potential Effects; BSVE = Base Support Vehicles and Equipment; NAS = Naval Air Station; NRHP = National Register of Historic Places; VT- = Navy Training Aircraft Squadron.

Table 3-26 NRHP Status of Buildings within Historic District Boundaries Proposed for Demolition or Renovation

Facility	Name	Year Built	NRHP Status	Historic District	Proposed Action
42	Hangar 42, Maintenance Hangar	1941	Contributing	Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District	Interior Renovation
57	Hangar 57, VT- 31	1941	Contributing	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Long-Term Options: • Recapitalizati on • Demolition
57A	Hazardous/Flam mable Storehouse	1941	Contributing	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
57B	Storage – Hangar 57	1942	Contributing	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition

Table 3-26 NRHP Status of Buildings within Historic District Boundaries Proposed for Demolition or Renovation

Facility	Name	Year Built	NRHP Status	Historic District	Proposed Action
57C	Anchor Display at Hangar 57	1995	Not Eligible	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
58	Hangar 58 Air Operations	1941	Contributing	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Short-Term: Interior renovation Long-Term Options: Recapitalizati on Demolition
58A	Hazardous/Flam mable Storehouse	1941	Contributing	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
58C	Electrical Switching Building at Hangar 58	2013	Not Eligible	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
60	Ground Electronics Maintenance Division Shop	1984	Not Eligible ¹	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
62	General Building at Building 60	1984	Not Eligible ¹	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
67	Compressor Building at Hangar 57	1995	Not Eligible	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
1238	General Building at Hangar 58	1957	Not Eligible	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition
1244	Operational Facility at Hangar 58	1953	Not Eligible	Landplane Hangars Historic District	Demolition

Key: NRHP = National Register of Historic Places; VT- = Navy Training Aircraft Squadron.

^{1.} Facility is not eligible under Criteria Consideration G; it is likely not eligible when 50 years old (Navy, 2014).

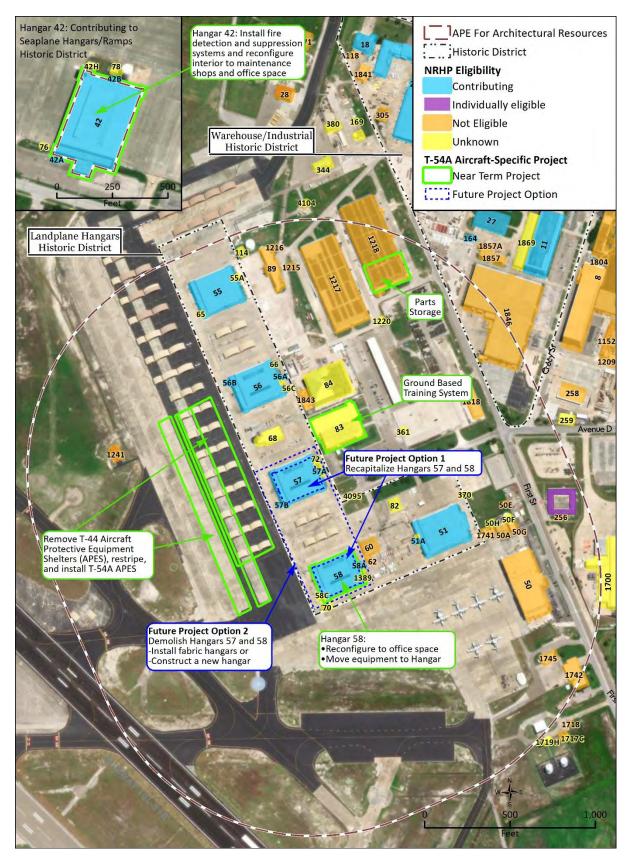


Figure 3-13 Historic Properties in the APE at NAS Corpus Christi

3.4.2.3 Resources of Importance to Tribes

There are no traditional cultural properties or sacred sites identified on NAS Corpus Christi. The Navy sent letters to the Comanche Nation, Delaware Nation, Kickapoo Traditional Tribe of Texas, Kiowa Indian Tribe of Oklahoma, Mescalero Apache Tribe of the Mescalero Reservation, Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, and the United Keetoowah Band of Cherokee Indians in Oklahoma on April 19, 2023, requesting information about any traditional cultural properties (Appendix D, *Tribal Government-to-Government Documentation*). The Delaware Nation indicated that Nueces County is outside of their area of interest. No other tribes submitted comments on the Proposed Action. Should an inadvertent discovery occur during the course of the project that may require consultation, all work will cease, and the project's contracting officer and the Installation Environmental Program Director will be notified in accordance with the NAS Corpus Christi Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan SOP #5, Inadvertent Discoveries, and SOP #8, Management of Historic Properties.

3.4.3 Environmental Consequences

Analysis of potential impacts to cultural resources considers both direct and indirect impacts. Direct impacts may be the result of physically altering, damaging, or destroying all or part of a resource; altering characteristics of the surrounding environment that contribute to the importance of the resource; introducing visual, atmospheric, or audible elements that are out of character for the period the resource represents (thereby altering the setting); or neglecting the resource to the extent that it deteriorates or is destroyed. Indirect effects to historic properties are those caused by the undertaking that are later in time or farther removed in distance but are still reasonably foreseeable.

3.4.3.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no effects to cultural resources. There would be no short- and

long-term construction needed to support the aircraft replacement. Aircraft and operations would remain the same as under baseline conditions.

3.4.3.2 Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative)

Alternative 1 would implement the short- and long-term construction projects described in Section 2.1.4, *Construction Projects*, and listed in Table 2-5 and Table 2-6. The buildings within the boundaries of the historic districts that would be subject to recapitalization or demolition under Alternative 1 are listed in Table 3-26. The buildings proposed for demolition that are not eligible for the NRHP would not result in any adverse effects to the historic districts.

Recapitalization or demolition of buildings contributing to the Landplane Hangars Historic District, including Hangars 57 and 58, and their associated support facilities (57A, 57B, and 58A) would remove

Cultural Resources Potential Impacts:

No Action Alternative

• No change to existing conditions.

Alternatives 1 and 2

- Adverse effects to the Landplane Hangars Historic District from building recapitalization or demolition.
- No adverse effects to the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District and the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District from building recapitalization or demolition.

two of the five contributing hangars in the historic district, which would be an adverse effect to the historic district (see Appendix C, *National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation*). There would be no adverse effect from demolition of Buildings 57C, 58C, 60, 62, 1238, and 1244 that are non-contributing resources to the Landplane Hangars Historic District. Construction of new hangar space to accommodate the METS platform in the space now occupied by Hangars 57 and 58 would introduce a new visual element to the Landplane Hangars Historic District and the western-most portion of the adjacent Warehouse/Industrial Historic District but would not impact the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District, which is decidedly industrial in appearance.

The Navy has consulted with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA, and its implementing regulations of 36 CFR part 800, to develop and execute a Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) to mitigate the adverse effects to the Landplane Hangars Historic District resulting from the loss of the five contributing resources (two hangars and three supporting facilities) (see Appendix C, *National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation*). Stipulations contained in the MOA for Hangars 57 and 58 include that the Navy will conduct the following:

- Notify the SHPO when program funding is received and a final decision is made on demolishing or recapitalizing.
- Coordinate the salvage and removal of select structural elements for potential use in extant World
 War II hangars at NAS Corpus Christi or other installations in the southeastern area of responsibility.
- Locate and curate original as-built drawings.
- Locate and convey historic photographs to the SHPO.
- Undertake digital photographic documentation and subject to review by the SHPO.
- Provide the history in text and photographs on the NAS Corpus Christi public website.
- Erect a commemorative sign(s) in the Landplane Hangars Historic District that depicts the roles of the hangars in the World War II mission.

Renovations to Hangar 42, a contributing resource to the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District, would be confined to the interior only and consist of converting interior space to accommodate maintenance offices and additional shop support spaces currently in Hangar 58 and installing fire detection and suppression systems. The proposed renovations to Hangar 42 would be conducted within the non-contributing interior of the hangar and would have no adverse effect on the characteristics of the hangar that convey its historic value and qualify it as eligible for the NRHP.

There would be no adverse effects to historic properties from the 10 percent increase in flight operations and the associated incremental increase in noise. NRHP eligibility of the historic properties is based, in large part, on their association with an active NAS at which aircraft routinely, and historically, operate(d), resulting in an elevated noise environment. An incremental increase in noise would not affect any of the attributes of the historic properties that contribute to their NRHP eligibility status.

Under NEPA, impacts to the Landplane Hangars Historic District due to implementation of Alternative 1 would be significant; however, impacts would be mitigated by adhering to the stipulations contained within the MOA described above. Therefore, there would be no significant impact to cultural resources with implementation of Alternative 1.

3.4.3.3 Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts

Potential impacts to cultural resources under this alternative would be similar to those described under Alternative 1. Under this alternative, the Navy would implement the same building demolition, renovation, and construction projects as Alternative 1, with the same consequences. The 10 percent increase in operations over Alternative 1 (20 percent total over the No Action Alternative) and the associated incremental increase in noise would also have no adverse effects to historic properties. NRHP eligibility of the historic properties is based, in large part, on their association with an active naval air station at which aircraft routinely, and historically, operate(d), resulting in an elevated noise environment. An incremental increase in noise would not affect any of the attributes of the historic properties that contribute to their NRHP eligibility status.

3.5 Air Quality

This discussion of air quality includes criteria pollutants, standards, sources, permitting, and greenhouse gases (GHGs). Air quality in a given location is defined by the concentration of various pollutants in the atmosphere. A region's air quality is influenced by many factors, including the type and amount of pollutants emitted into the atmosphere, the size and topography of the air basin, and the prevailing meteorological conditions.

Most air pollutants originate from human-made sources, including mobile sources (e.g., cars, trucks, buses) and stationary sources (e.g., factories, refineries, power plants), as well as indoor sources (e.g., some building materials and cleaning solvents). Air pollutants are also released from natural sources such as volcanic eruptions and forest fires.

3.5.1 Regulatory Setting

3.5.1.1 Criteria Pollutants and National Ambient Air Quality Standards

The principal pollutants defining the air quality, called "criteria pollutants," include carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, ozone, suspended particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter, fine PM_{2.5}, and lead. CO, sulfur dioxide, lead, and some particulates are emitted directly into the atmosphere from emissions sources. Ozone, nitrogen dioxide, and some particulates are formed through atmospheric chemical reactions that are influenced by weather, ultraviolet light, and other atmospheric processes.

Under the Clean Air Act (CAA), USEPA has established NAAQS (40 CFR part 50) for these criteria pollutants. NAAQS are classified as primary or secondary. Primary standards protect against adverse health effects; secondary standards protect against welfare effects, such as damage to farm crops and vegetation and damage to buildings. Some pollutants have long-term and short-term standards. Short-term standards are designed to protect against acute, or short-term, health effects, while long-term standards were established to protect against chronic health effects.

If the air quality in a geographic area meets or is cleaner than the national standard, it is called an attainment area (designated "attainment/unclassifiable"). Areas that violate a federal air quality standard are designated as nonattainment areas. Areas that have transitioned from nonattainment to attainment are designated as maintenance areas and are required to adhere to maintenance plans to

ensure continued attainment. In some cases, USEPA is not able to determine an area's status after evaluating the available information and those areas are designated "unclassifiable."

In addition to the NAAQS for criteria pollutants, national standards exist for hazardous air pollutants (HAPs), which are regulated under Section 112(b) of the 1990 CAA Amendments. The *National Emission Standards for Hazardous Air Pollutants* regulate HAP emissions from stationary sources (40 CFR part 61).

3.5.1.2 Mobile Sources

HAPs emitted from mobile sources are called Mobile Source Air Toxics (MSATs). MSATs are compounds emitted from highway vehicles and non-road equipment that are known or suspected to cause cancer or other serious health and environmental effects. In 2001, USEPA issued its first MSAT Rule, which identified 201 compounds as being HAPs that require regulation. A subset of six of the MSAT compounds was identified as having the greatest influence on health and included benzene, butadiene, formaldehyde, acrolein, acetaldehyde, and diesel particulate matter. USEPA issued a second MSAT Rule in February 2007, which generally supported the findings in the first rule and provided additional recommendations of compounds having the greatest impact on health. The rule also identified several engine emission certification standards that must be implemented (40 CFR parts 59, 80, 85, and 86; Federal Register Volume [Vol.] 72, Number (No.) 37, pages (pp.) 8427–8570, 2007). The final Tier 3 Motor Vehicle Emission Standards were published on April 28, 2014 (Federal Register Vol. 79, No. 81, pp. 23414–23886, 2014) and established both tailpipe and evaporative emission standards for on-road vehicles to reduce a variety of pollutants, including the primary MSATs. Unlike the criteria pollutants, there are no NAAQS for benzene and other HAPs. The primary control methodologies for these pollutants for mobile sources involve reducing their content in fuel and altering the engine operating characteristics to reduce the volume of pollutant generated during combustion.

MSATs would be the primary HAPs emitted by mobile sources during construction. The equipment used during construction would likely vary in age and have a range of pollution reduction effectiveness. Construction equipment, however, would be operated intermittently for the duration of construction, and would generate negligible ambient HAPs in a localized area. Additionally, small quantities of HAPs would be generated by aircraft flying below 3,000 feet AGL. For all mobile sources, emissions of air toxics are small compared to emissions of criteria pollutants and would be dispersed across large distances. Therefore, MSAT emissions are not considered further in this analysis.

3.5.1.3 General Conformity

The USEPA General Conformity Rule applies to federal actions occurring in nonattainment or maintenance areas when the total direct and indirect emissions of nonattainment pollutants (or their precursors) exceed specified thresholds. The General Conformity Rule does not apply to this action because all affected counties are in attainment.

3.5.1.4 Stationary Sources

Stationary sources of air pollution, such as boilers, power plants, or refineries emit different air pollutants and are regulated by different permitting processes.

New Source Review (Preconstruction Permit)

New stationary sources to be introduced to NAS Corpus Christi would require permitting under the CAA New Source Review Program. The minor New Source Review program is for pollutants from stationary

sources that do not require Prevention of Significant Deterioration (PSD) or nonattainment New Source Review permits. The purpose of minor New Source Review permits is to prevent the construction of sources that would interfere with attainment or maintenance of a NAAQS limit or violate the control strategy in nonattainment areas. Also, minor New Source Review permits often contain permit conditions to limit a source's emissions to avoid PSD or nonattainment New Source Review. New Source Review requirements are typically rolled into Title V Operating Permits during renewal.

Title V (Operating Permit)

The Title V Operating Permit Program consolidates all CAA requirements applicable to the operation of a source, including requirements from the State Implementation Plan, preconstruction permits, and the air toxics program. It applies to stationary sources of air pollution that exceed the major stationary source emission thresholds, as well as other non-major sources specified in a particular regulation. The program includes a requirement for payment of permit fees to finance the operating permit program whether implemented by USEPA or a state or local regulator. Navy installations subject to Title V permitting shall comply with the requirements of the Title V Operating Permit Program, which are detailed in 40 CFR part 70, and all specific requirements contained in their individual permits.

3.5.1.5 Greenhouse Gases

GHGs are gas emissions that trap heat in the atmosphere. These emissions occur from natural processes and human activities. Scientific evidence indicates a trend of increasing global temperature over the past century due to an increase in GHG emissions from human activities. The climate change associated with this global warming is producing negative economic and social consequences across the globe, such as increased wildfire and droughts or ocean warming and acidification, which impact natural habitats and the communities that depend on these ecosystems for economic livelihoods.

The primary driver of climate change is GHG emissions, which result from the burning of fossil fuels for energy, deforestation, emissions released by landfills, the production of certain industrial products, the application of agricultural fertilizers, and the raising of livestock. These GHGs include carbon dioxide (CO₂), methane, nitrous oxide, hydrofluorocarbons, perfluorocarbons, sulfur hexafluoride, and other fluorinated gases including nitrogen trifluoride and hydrofluorinated ethers (USEPA, 2022b).

Each GHG is assigned a global warming potential, which refers to the ability of a gas or aerosol to trap heat in the atmosphere. The GHGs with larger global warming potentials cause more heat to be retained per unit mass. This additional heat can disrupt the natural balance of global energy inputs, which leads to various changes in long-term atmospheric conditions (i.e., climate), depending on the resulting environmental feedback mechanisms (e.g., changes in snow and ice cover) (Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2013). The global warming potential rating system is standardized to CO₂, which has a value of one. The equivalent CO₂ rate of various GHGs is calculated by multiplying the emissions of each GHG by its global warming potential and adding the results together to produce a single, combined emissions rate representing all GHGs, referred to as the CO₂ equivalent, abbreviated as CO₂e. In the United States, federal agencies and state governments have implemented programs and policies in an attempt to reduce GHG emissions to mitigate the extent of climate change and adapt to the impacts that are likely to occur.

The potential effects of GHG emissions are by nature global and cumulative, and it is impractical to attribute climate change effects to individual projects. Therefore, the impact of GHG emissions

associated with this project is discussed in the context of cumulative impacts in Chapter 4, *Cumulative Effects*.

Federal Policies Related to Climate Change

The regulation of GHG emissions under PSD and Title V permitting programs was initiated by a USEPA rulemaking issued on June 3, 2010, known as the GHG Tailoring Rule (Federal Register Vol. 75, No. 106, pp. 31514–31608, 2010). GHG emissions thresholds for permitting of stationary sources are an increase of 75,000 tpy of CO_2e at existing major sources and facility-wide emissions of 100,000 tpy of CO_2e for a new source or a modification of an existing minor source. The 100,000 tpy of CO_2e threshold defines a major GHG source for both construction (PSD) and operating (Title V) permitting, respectively. These regulations do not apply if GHGs are the only pollutant that the source emits or has the potential to emit above the major source thresholds, or for which there is a significant emissions increase and a significant net emissions increase from a modification.

On January 9, 2023, the CEQ published the interim guidance, National Environmental Policy Act Guidance on Consideration of Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Climate Change (Federal Register Vol. 88, No. 5, pp. 1196–1212, 2023). This interim guidance has been incorporated into this analysis. The guidance explains how agencies should apply NEPA principles and existing best practices to their climate change analyses. Key changes in the interim guidance for agencies preparing NEPA documentation are listed below:

- Leverage early planning processes to integrate GHG emissions and climate change considerations
 into the identification of proposed actions, reasonable alternatives (as well as the no-action
 alternative), and potential mitigation and resilience measures.
- Quantify a proposed action's projected GHG emissions or reductions for the expected lifetime of the
 action, considering available data and GHG quantification tools that are suitable for the proposed
 action.
- Provide additional context for GHG emissions, including through the use of the best available social
 cost of GHG estimates, to translate climate impacts into the more accessible metric of dollars; allow
 decision-makers and the public to make comparisons; help evaluate the significance of an action's
 climate change effects; and better understand the tradeoffs associated with an action and its
 alternatives.
- Discuss methods to appropriately analyze reasonably foreseeable direct, indirect, and cumulative GHG emissions.
- Consider reasonable alternatives and mitigation measures, as well as addressing short- and longterm climate change effects.
- Use the best available information and science when assessing the potential future state of the
 affected environment in NEPA analyses, and provide up-to-date examples of existing sources of
 scientific information.
- Use the information developed during the NEPA review to consider reasonable alternatives that would make the actions and affected communities more resilient to the effects of a changing climate.
- Incorporate environmental justice considerations into their analyses of climate-related effects, consistent with EOs 12898 and 14008.

Department of Defense Policies Related to Climate Change

The DoD and the Navy have established various directives pertaining to climate change. DoD Directive 4715.21, *Climate Change Adaptation and Resilience*, from January 2016, integrates climate change considerations into all aspects of the department. DoD components are charged with assessing and managing risks, and mitigating the effects of climate change on natural and cultural resource management, force structure, basing, and training and testing activities in the field environment. The Department of the Navy Climate Action 2030 (Navy, 2022) describes the Navy goals to meet the requirements of EO 14008, *Tackling the Climate Crisis at Home and Abroad*, and EO 14057, *Catalyzing Clean Energy Industries and Jobs Through Federal Sustainability* (Federal Register Vol. 86, No. 236, pp. 70935–70943, 2021). These goals include 65 percent reductions in scope 1 and 2 GHG emissions by 2030, acquiring 100 percent zero-emission light-duty vehicles by 2027, achieving a 50 percent reduction in GHG emissions from buildings by 2032, diverting at least 50 percent of nonhazardous solid waste from landfills by 2025, instituting nature-based resilience to reduce GHG emissions, and establishing energy resilience to ensure mission accomplishment.

According to 10 United States Code section 101(e)(8), military installation resilience "means the capability of a military installation to avoid, prepare for, minimize the effect of, adapt to, and recover from extreme weather events, or from anticipated or unanticipated changes in environmental conditions, that do, or have the potential to, adversely affect the military installation or essential transportation, logistical, or other necessary resources outside of the military installation that are necessary in order to maintain, improve, or rapidly reestablish installation mission assurance and mission-essential functions."

Additionally, 10 United States Code section 2864 (2020) requires commanders of major military installations to identify, assess, and develop plans to address military installation resilience and environmental risks and threats to assets, infrastructure, and mission.

State and Local Policies Related to Climate Change

The State of Texas has not established statewide goals for GHG emissions, but seven Texas cities have released climate action plans: Plano, Frisco, McKinney, Austin, Houston, San Antonio, and Dallas. However, none of the airfields listed below in Table 3-27 are located in these cities with established climate action plans.

3.5.2 Affected Environment

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality is responsible for implementing and enforcing state and federal air quality regulations in Texas. The ROI for assessing air quality impacts is comprised of the counties where the Navy and non-Navy airfields are located. Table 3-27 presents the counties where the Navy and non-Navy airfields are located and their attainment status. All counties where the Navy and non-Navy airfields are located are in attainment of the NAAQS and therefore a General Conformity evaluation is not required for federal actions in these counties.

Table 3-27 Navy and Non-Navy Airfields Proposed for METS Activity – Area NAAQS Status

Name	County	Intrastate AQCR	County Attainment Status
NAS Corpus Christi	Nueces	Corpus Christi- Victoria ¹	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
NOLF Cabaniss	Nueces	Corpus Christi- Victoria ¹	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Alice International Airport	Jim Wells	Corpus Christi- Victoria ¹	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Calhoun County Airport	Calhoun	Corpus Christi- Victoria ¹	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Corpus Christi International Airport	Nueces	Corpus Christi- Victoria ¹	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Palacios Municipal Airport	Matagorda	Metropolitan Houston-Galveston ²	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	Cameron	Brownsville-Laredo ³	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Valley International Airport	Cameron	Brownsville-Laredo ³	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants
Victoria Regional Airport	Victoria	Corpus Christi- Victoria ¹	Attainment and/or unclassifiable for all criteria pollutants

Key: AQCR = Air Quality Control Region; METS = Multi-Engine Training System; NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standards; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. There are 18 counties in the Corpus Christi-Victoria AQCR, but only Victoria, Nueces, Jim Wells, and Calhoun are associated with the Proposed Action.
- 2. There are 13 counties included in the Metropolitan Houston-Galveston AQCR, but only Matagorda is associated with the Proposed Action.
- 3. There are seven counties included in the Brownsville-Laredo AQCR, but only Cameron is associated with the Proposed Action.

Emissions of GHGs (CO2) for the counties where the Navy and non-Navy fields are located are presented in Table 3-28. Volatile organic compound (VOC) and nitrogen oxides emissions are used to represent ozone generation because they are precursors of ozone.

Table 3-28 Air Emissions Inventory (2017) for Counties with Airfields Proposed for METS

Activity

Location	NO _x (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO ₂ (tpy)
Nueces County	17,068	21,077	45,656	935	14,630	4,268	17,073,260
Jim Wells County	2,241	7,013	7,269	31	5,374	979	391,335
Calhoun County	6,693	12,619	15,762	531	3,452	1,312	5,451,934
Matagorda County	5,089	34,339	89,973	469	11,480	7,165	879,838
Cameron County	7,134	24,503	66,212	429	7,891	3,414	2,127,338
Victoria County	6,196	14,059	20,769	192	7,177	1,991	2,080,096

Source: (USEPA, 2022c)

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO₂ = carbon dioxide; METS = Multi-Engine Training System; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; PM₁₀ = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; PM_{2.5} = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO₂ = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; VOC = volatile organic compound.

Note: CO₂ from fires (prescribed and wildfires) were excluded from county totals.

Table 3-29 presents the most recently published design values based on the most current ambient monitoring levels (2021) for the region and demonstrates that emissions levels are below the most stringent NAAQS. A design value is a statistic that describes the air quality status of a given location relative to the NAAQS. Design values are computed and published annually by USEPA's Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards and reviewed in conjunction with the USEPA Regional Offices (USEPA, 2023a). The nearest stations are located west of NAS Corpus Christi (stations: Corpus Christi Huisache and Corpus Christi State School [Airport Road]), south of Valley International Airport and Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport (station: Brownsville), west of the Valley International Airport (station: Harlingen Teege), and south of the Victoria Regional Airport and west of the Calhoun County and Palacios Municipal Airports (station: Victoria) (USEPA, 2023b).

Table 3-29 Design Values Based on 2021 Ambient Air Quality Montoring Data

Pollutant ¹	Averaging Time	NAAQS	Maximum Design Values (Station)	% of NAAQS
	24-hour	35 μg/m³	23 μg/m³ (Corpus Christi Huisache)	66
PM _{2.5}		35 μg/πι	28 μg/m³ (Brownsville)	80
PIVI _{2.5}	Annual	12	8.2 μg/m³ (Corpus Christi Huisache)	68
	Annual	12 μg/m³	9.7 μg/m³ (Brownsville)	81
			0.062 ppm (Corpus Christi State School [Airport Road])	89
O ₃	8-hour	0.070 ppm	0.061 ppm (Victoria)	87
			0.056 ppm (Harlingen Teege)	80
50	1 hour	7F nnh	5 ppb (Corpus Christi State School [Airport Road])	7
SO ₂	1-hour	75 ppb	9.7 ppb (Brownsville)	13

Source: (USEPA, 2023b)

Key: % = percent; μ g/m³ =microgram per cubic meter; CO = carbon monoxide; EA = Environmental Assessment; NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standards; NO₂ = nitrogen dioxide; O₃ = ozone; PM₁₀ = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; PM_{2.5} = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; ppb = parts per billion; ppm = parts per million; SO₂ = sulfur dioxide.

Note:

1. There are no CO, NO₂, or PM₁₀ monitoring sites near Corpus Christi or the Navy Outlying Landing Fields included in this EA.

Table 3-30 shows criteria pollutant and GHG emissions from flight operations of the T-44C aircraft at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and seven non-Navy airfields under baseline conditions. These operations include engine maintenance operations and estimates for interfacility flight, which would occur at or below 3,000 feet AGL. GHG emissions shown in the table are for the entire flight operation (including above 3,000 feet AGL).

Table 3-30 Baseline Annual Air and GHG Emissions at Navy and Non-Navy Airfields
Proposed for METS Activity

Year	NO _x (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO ₂ (tpy)
NAS Corpus Christi	44.45	319.09	148.38	5.12	1.95	1.78	15,410
NOLF Cabaniss	5.29	37.51	18.99	1.08	0.39	0.35	3,250
ALI - Alice International	6.49	62.51	33.13	1.51	0.69	0.62	4,538
PKV - Calhoun County	1.05	8.20	5.24	0.24	0.12	0.11	734
CRP - Corpus Christi							
International	4.51	65.53	24.25	1.08	0.40	0.36	3,258
PSX - Palacios Municipal	1.57	10.69	7.62	0.36	0.19	0.17	1,089

Table 3-30	Baseline Annual Air and GHG Emissions at Navy and Non-Navy Airfields
	Proposed for METS Activity

Year	NO _x (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO ₂ (tpy)
PIL - Port Isabel	3.10	19.34	14.68	0.71	0.38	0.34	2,138
HRL - Valley International	6.48	45.13	32.86	1.53	0.82	0.74	4,586
VCT - Victoria Regional	1.72	13.24	8.73	0.40	0.21	0.19	1,211
Total	74.66	581.25	293.89	12.05	5.14	4.67	36,215

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO₂ = carbon dioxide; GHG = greenhouse gas; METS = Multi-Engine Training System; NAS = Naval Air Station; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; VOC = volatile organic compound.

Note: Baseline emissions are estimated from operational data collected in 2021 for T-44C flight operations only at all airfields and from intra-facility flights.

The GHG emissions for the counties where the METS activity would occur totaled 28,003,801 tons in 2017, as reported by the USEPA's National Emissions Inventory and shown in (Table 3-28). As shown, the total CO_2 emissions under baseline conditions from T-44C operations (36,215 tpy) is a small component of overall CO_2 emissions for the counties where T-44C aircraft operate (0.13 percent).

3.5.3 Environmental Consequences

Effects on air quality are based on estimated direct and indirect emissions associated with the action alternatives. The ROI for assessing air quality impacts is comprised of the counties where the Navy and non-Navy airfields are located (refer to Table 3-27), all of which are classified by USEPA as unclassified/attainment for all criteria pollutants. Thus, the CAA General Conformity Rule is not applicable. Other federal laws, such as NEPA and its implementing regulations, require the analysis of the significance of air quality impacts. The air quality analysis considers the degree of effects to the local air quality at each of the locations under consideration and evaluates short- and long-term effects, beneficial and adverse effects, effects on public health and safety as they relate to air quality, and effects that would violate federal, state, tribal, or local laws protecting the environment.

This analysis evaluates criteria pollutant emissions based on the most recent design values for the region to assess changes in ambient concentrations for criteria pollutants and their effects on compliance with ambient air quality standards. There are no applicable or relevant thresholds for GHG emissions.

3.5.3.1 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to baseline air quality. Therefore, no significant impacts to air quality or air resources would occur with implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.5.3.2 Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative)

Construction

Under Alternative 1, the Navy would replace the existing 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft, increase operations by 10 percent, and implement short- and long-term projects to provide Navy

support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi. The short-term construction projects would occur beginning in 2024 and long-term construction projects would begin in 2027; emissions are conservatively assumed to be completed within the same year construction activities begin. Emissions calculated for these two years of construction are shown in Table 3-31, and more information is contained in Appendix F, *Air Quality Methodology and Calculations*.

Operations

The renovated facilities, including the recapitalized Hangars 57 and 58 or the newly constructed larger hangar, once operational, would be a source of air emissions, but the equipment would be similar to what is currently in use under existing conditions. These stationary sources would likely include boilers and/or water heaters, emergency generators, and solvent or paint usage. The specific equipment for the hangar would require evaluation to verify exemption and/or inclusion as a permitted stationary source.

The transition of aircraft from the T-44C to the T-54A was evaluated using a surrogate aircraft, the C-12 Huron, which uses two Pratt & Whitney PT6A-60A engines. Emissions factor data is not currently available for the PT6A-52 engines that the T-54A would be equipped with; thus, the PT6A-60A engine was used to estimate emissions for the T-54A. Data on emissions from landings and takeoffs were obtained from the flight profiles

Air Quality Potential Impacts:

No Action Alternative

 The Proposed Action would not be implemented, and the affected environment would remain unchanged; therefore, no significant impacts to air quality would result.

Alternative 1

- No significant impacts to air quality would occur. The six counties where Navy and non-Navy airfield operations would occur are in attainment of the NAAQS and thus General Conformity does not apply.
- Emissions of criteria pollutants and GHGs above the No Action Alternative would occur from the construction projects and the planned 10 percent increase in operations of the T-54A. However, the increases would be minor relative to each county's overall emissions and would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

Alternative 2

 No significant impacts to air quality would occur. Emissions would be slightly higher than those under Alternative 1, as annual flight operations would increase 20 percent above No Action Alternative levels and there would be 33 additional personnel and their families commuting to NAS Corpus Christi and the surrounding areas. However, the increases would be minor relative to each county's overall emissions and would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

developed for the Noise Study for this project and emissions factors from the *U.S. Air Force Air Emissions Guide for Mobile Sources* (Air Force Civil Engineer Center, 2021). Table 3-32 contains the estimated annual steady state for flight operations. Detailed calculations are provided in Appendix F, *Air Quality Methodology and Calculations*.

The net change in emissions from ongoing flight operations under Alternative 1 at each location would be minor relative to their county's overall emissions (refer to Table 3-29) and thus would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

Table 3-31 Construction Air Emissions at NAS Corpus Christi under Alternative 1

Year	NOx (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO₂ (tpy)
Short-Term Construction Projects – 2024	2.25	0.29	1.28	0.00	0.50	0.21	530
Long-Term Construction Projects – 2027	2.26	0.24	2.70	0.00	1.95	0.42	868

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO_2 = carbon dioxide; NAS = Naval Air Station; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; VOC = volatile organic compound.

Table 3-32 Average Annual Flight Operations and Engine Maintenance Air Emissions for Alternative 1 at Navy and Non-Navy Airfields

	NOx	voc	со	SO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	CO ₂
Location	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)
NAS Corpus Christi ¹ –Baseline	44.45	319.09	148.38	5.12	1.95	1.78	15,410
NAS Corpus Christi ¹ – Alternative 1	51.38	351.69	184.61	6.20	2.35	2.14	18,655
Net Change	6.92	32.61	36.24	1.08	0.40	0.36	3,245
NOLF Cabaniss – Baseline	5.29	37.51	18.99	1.08	0.39	0.35	3,250
NOLF Cabaniss – Alternative 1	5.82	41.26	20.89	1.19	0.43	0.39	3,575
Net Change	0.53	3.75	1.90	0.11	0.04	0.04	325
Alice International Airport – Baseline	6.49	62.51	33.13	1.51	0.69	0.62	4,538
Alice International Airport – Alternative 1	7.14	68.76	36.45	1.66	0.75	0.68	4,992
Net Change	0.65	6.25	3.31	0.15	0.07	0.06	454
Calhoun County Airport – Baseline	1.05	8.20	5.24	0.24	0.12	0.11	734
Calhoun County Airport – Alternative 1	1.15	9.02	5.77	0.27	0.14	0.12	807
Net Change	0.10	0.82	0.52	0.02	0.01	0.01	73
Corpus Christi International Airport – Baseline	4.51	65.53	24.25	1.08	0.40	0.36	3,258
Corpus Christi International Airport –							
Alternative 1	4.96	72.09	26.68	1.19	0.44	0.39	3,584
Net Change	0.45	6.55	2.43	0.11	0.04	0.04	326
Palacios Municipal Airport – Baseline	1.57	10.69	7.62	0.36	0.19	0.17	1,089
Palacios Municipal Airport – Alternative 1	1.72	11.76	8.38	0.40	0.21	0.19	1,198
Net Change	0.16	1.07	0.76	0.04	0.02	0.02	109
Port Isabel Airport – Baseline	3.10	19.34	14.68	0.71	0.38	0.34	2,138
Port Isabel Airport – Alternative 1	3.41	21.28	16.15	0.78	0.41	0.37	2,352
Net Change	0.31	1.93	1.47	0.07	0.04	0.03	214

Table 3-32 Average Annual Flight Operations and Engine Maintenance Air Emissions for Alternative 1 at Navy and Non-Navy Airfields

Location		VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO ₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO ₂ (tpy)
Valley International Airport – Baseline	6.48	45.13	32.86	1.53	0.82	0.74	4,586
Valley International Airport – Alternative 1		49.65	36.15	1.68	0.90	0.82	5,045
Net Change	0.65	4.51	3.29	0.15	0.08	0.07	459
Victoria Regional Airport – Baseline	1.72	13.24	8.73	0.40	0.21	0.19	1,211
Victoria Regional Airport – Alternative 1		14.57	9.60	0.44	0.23	0.21	1,332
Net Change	0.17	1.32	0.87	0.04	0.02	0.02	121

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO_2 = carbon dioxide; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; VOC = volatile organic compound. Notes:

- 1. Table includes engine maintenance operations that occur at NAS Corpus Christi.
- 2. Table presents emissions from T-54A flight operations only at all airfields. Emissions for all pollutants were calculated for operations occurring below the mixing height (3,000 feet), with the exception of CO₂ (includes emissions for the entire flight path, even those above 3,000 feet).

Table 3-33 presents the maximum emissions from both construction and aircraft operations occurring simultaneously at NAS Corpus Christi. During construction, ambient air concentrations of pollutants would increase slightly in the areas where construction activities would occur. Additionally, the emissions from aircraft operations that occur under the mixing height of 3,000 AGL have the potential to affect ground-level air quality (FAA, 2005). However, aircraft and associated mobile ground-support equipment at airports produce similar emissions to on-road (automobile) and off-road (construction equipment) engines while the aircraft engines are running on the ground and during the minutes when the aircraft departs and takes off to altitude or returns to ground for a landing. As described in Section 3.2.3.2, Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts (Preferred Alternative), the nearest sensitive receptors are located approximately 1 mile south of the proposed construction area and 0.5 mile southeast of the southernmost tip of the runway. Wind conditions vary throughout the year, and instantaneous wind speed and direction vary more widely than hourly averages. Wind experienced at any given location is highly dependent on local topography and other factors. In Corpus Christi, it is generally windier during the months of October through July, with average wind speeds of 10.8 miles per hour. Wind most often comes from the south between February and August and between October and December; it most often comes from the east between September and October (Weather Spark, 2023). Due the direction of the prevailing winds, the ground-level emissions are anticipated to be quickly entrained downwind to the north and west of where construction would occur. This would result in potential impacts similar to vehicle emissions along a highway, where concern would be focused on sensitive receptors immediately adjacent (within 0.25 mile) to the emission sources.

Relative to the No Action Alternative, selection of T-54A aircraft to replace the T-44C aircraft under Alternative 1, and associated construction projects, would result in an increase in emissions of all criteria pollutants and GHG emissions. Proportionately, the greatest increase would be CO and VOC emissions. The impact of GHG emissions associated with Alternative 1 are discussed in the context of cumulative impacts in Section 4.4.5, *Cumulative Effects Analysis*, *Air Quality*. However, as the ambient criteria

pollutant concentrations in the region are well below the NAAQS (Table 3-29), anticipated air quality changes from construction and flight operations are not expected to interfere with the attainment of NAAQS. Therefore, Alternative 1 is not anticipated to result in a significant deterioration of regional air quality from construction or flight training operations.

Table 3-33 Maximum Construction and Annual Flight Operations Including Engine Maintenance Air Emissions for Alternative 1 at NAS Corpus Christi (2027)

Year	NOx (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO₂ (tpy)
Long-Term Construction Projects - 2027	2.26	0.24	2.70	0.00	1.95	0.42	868
Flight Operations (Net Change)	6.92	32.61	36.24	1.08	0.40	0.36	3,245
Total Emissions	9.19	32.85	38.94	1.08	2.34	0.78	4,113

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO_2 = carbon dioxide; NAS = Naval Air Station; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; VOC = volatile organic compound.

Note: The T-54A aircraft would arrive between the years 2024 and 2026. Proposed construction of short-term projects would begin in 2024 and is conservatively assumed to occur within 1 calendar year; the same assumption would apply to the long-term construction projects that would be constructed in 2027. As shown in Table 3-31, the maximum year of construction emissions would occur in 2027; thus, the maximum year of combined construction and aircraft flight operations emissions are assumed to occur in 2027.

Alternative 1 Impact Conclusion

Under Alternative 1, emissions of criteria pollutants associated with construction and flight training operations would increase relative to the No Action Alternative. The ROI is currently in attainment for all NAAQS. Emissions from construction and emission increases from flight training operations under Alternative 1 would not be considered significant.

3.5.3.3 Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations Potential Impacts

Under Alternative 2, the Navy would replace the existing 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft, increase operations by 20 percent and add 33 personnel to support operations at NAS Corpus Christi, and implement short- and long-term projects to provide Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi.

Construction

Emissions during construction would be the same as Alternative 1 (refer to Table 3-31), and more information is contained in Appendix F, *Air Quality Methodology and Calculations*. Thus, construction emissions from Alternative 2 would not result in significant impacts to air quality in Nueces County.

Operations

Table 3-34 contains the estimated annual steady state emissions associated with the use of the T-54A under Alternative 2 as compared to the No Action Alternative. Detailed calculations are provided in Appendix F, *Air Quality Methodology and Calculations*.

The net change in emissions from ongoing flight operations under Alternative 2 at each location would be minor relative to their county's overall emissions (refer to Table 3-28) and, thus, would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

Table 3-35 presents the maximum emissions from construction and aircraft operations and the additional worker commutes simultaneously occurring at NAS Corpus Christi. Relative to the No Action

Alternative, Alternative 2 would result in an increase in emissions of all criteria pollutants and GHG emissions. Similar to Alternative 1, the greatest increase would be in CO and VOC emissions. Impacts of GHG emissions associated with Alternative 2 are discussed in context of cumulative impacts in Section 4.4.5, Cumulative Effects Analysis, Air Quality. As with Alternative 1, since ambient criteria pollutant concentrations in the region are well below the NAAQS (refer to Table 3-29), anticipated air quality changes from construction activities, worker commutes, and aircraft operations are not expected to interfere with the attainment of NAAQS. Therefore, Alternative 2 is not anticipated to result in a significant deterioration of regional air quality from construction, flight training operations, or emissions from the additional worker commutes.

Table 3-34 Average Annual Flight Operations and Engine Maintenance Air Emissions for Alternative 2 at Navy and Non-Navy Airfields

Location	NOx	voc	со	SO ₂	PM ₁₀	PM _{2.5}	CO ₂		
Editation	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)	(tpy)		
NAS Corpus Christi ¹ – Baseline	44.45	319.09	148.38	5.12	1.95	1.78	15,410		
NAS Corpus Christi ¹ – Alternative 2	56.05	383.66	201.40	6.77	2.56	2.34	20,351		
Net Change	11.59	64.58	53.02	1.64	0.61	0.55	4,941		
NOLF Cabaniss – Baseline	5.29	37.51	18.99	1.08	0.39	0.35	3,250		
NOLF Cabaniss – Alternative 2	6.35	45.01	22.79	1.30	0.47	0.43	3,900		
Net Change	1.06	7.50	3.80	0.22	0.08	0.07	650		
Alice International Airport – Baseline	6.49	62.51	33.13	1.51	0.69	0.62	4,538		
Alice International Airport – Alternative 2	7.79	75.01	39.76	1.81	0.82	0.74	5,446		
Net Change	1.30	12.50	6.63	0.30	0.14	0.12	908		
Calhoun County Airport – Baseline	1.05	8.20	5.24	0.24	0.12	0.11	734		
Calhoun County Airport – Alternative 2	1.26	9.84	6.29	0.29	0.15	0.13	881		
Net Change	0.21	1.64	1.05	0.05	0.02	0.02	147		
Corpus Christi International Airport – Baseline	4.51	65.53	24.25	1.08	0.40	0.36	3,258		
Corpus Christi International Airport –									
Alternative 2	5.42	78.64	29.10	1.30	0.48	0.43	3,910		
Net Change	0.90	13.11	4.85	0.22	0.08	0.07	652		
Palacios Municipal Airport – Baseline	1.57	10.69	7.62	0.36	0.19	0.17	1,089		
Palacios Municipal Airport – Alternative 2	1.88	12.83	9.15	0.44	0.23	0.21	1,307		
Net Change	0.31	2.14	1.52	0.07	0.04	0.03	218		
Port Isabel Airport – Baseline	3.10	19.34	14.68	0.71	0.38	0.34	2,138		
Port Isabel Airport – Alternative 2	3.72	23.21	17.62	0.85	0.45	0.41	2,565		
Net Change	0.62	3.87	2.94	0.14	0.08	0.07	428		
_									
Valley International Airport – Baseline	6.48	45.13	32.86	1.53	0.82	0.74	4,586		
Valley International Airport – Alternative 2	7.78	54.16	39.43	1.83	0.99	0.89	5,504		
Net Change	1.30	9.03	6.57	0.31	0.16	0.15	917		

Table 3-34 Average Annual Flight Operations and Engine Maintenance Air Emissions for Alternative 2 at Navy and Non-Navy Airfields

Location		VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO ₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO₂ (tpy)
Victoria Regional Airport – Baseline		13.24	8.73	0.40	0.21	0.19	1,211
Victoria Regional Airport – Alternative 2	2.06	15.89	10.47	0.48	0.25	0.23	1,454
Net Change	0.34	2.65	1.75	0.08	0.04	0.04	242

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO₂ = carbon dioxide; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; PM_{10} = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; $PM_{2.5}$ = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; $PM_{2.5}$ = volatile organic compound.

Notes:

- 1. Includes engine maintenance operations that occur at NAS Corpus Christi.
- 2. Table presents emissions at all airfields from T-54A flight operations only. Emissions for all pollutants were calculated for operations occurring below the mixing height (3,000 feet), with the exception of CO₂ (includes emissions for the entire flight path, even those above 3,000 feet).

Table 3-35 Maximum Construction and Annual Flight Operations Including Engine Maintenance and Additional Worker Commute Air Emissions for Alternative 2 at NAS Corpus Christi (2027)

Year	NOx (tpy)	VOC (tpy)	CO (tpy)	SO₂ (tpy)	PM ₁₀ (tpy)	PM _{2.5} (tpy)	CO ₂ (tpy)
Long-term Construction Projects - 2027	2.26	0.24	2.70	0.00	1.95	0.42	868
Additional Worker Commutes	0.02	0.01	1.29	0.00	1.30	0.20	108
Flight Operations (Net Change)	11.59	64.58	53.02	1.64	0.61	0.55	4,941
Total Emissions	13.88	64.83	57.02	1.65	3.86	1.17	5,917

Key: CO = carbon monoxide; CO₂ = carbon dioxide; NAS = Naval Air Station; NO_x = nitrogen oxides; PM₁₀ = particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter; PM_{2.5} = particulate matter less than or equal to 2.5 microns in diameter; SO_2 = sulfur dioxide; tpy = tons per year; VOC = volatile organic compound.

Note: The T-54A aircraft would arrive between the years 2024 and 2026. Proposed construction of short-term projects would begin in 2024 is conservatively assumed to occur within one calendar year, and the same assumption would apply to the long-term construction projects that would be constructed in 2027. As shown in Table 3-31, the maximum year of construction emissions would occur in 2027; thus, the maximum year of combined construction and aircraft flight operations emissions are assumed to occur in 2027.

Alternative 2 Impact Conclusion

Under Alternative 2, emissions of criteria pollutants associated with construction, increased flight training operations, and additional worker commutes would increase relative to the No Action Alternative. Emissions for Alternative 2 would be slightly higher than those described for Alternative 1 due to the increased flight operations at Navy and non-Navy airfields and additional personnel at NAS Corpus Christi. The ROI is currently in attainment for all NAAQS, and changes in mobile emissions from construction, worker commutes, and aircraft flight operations would not be considered significant. Overall, implementation of Alternative 2 would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

3.6 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resources and Impact Avoidance and Minimization

A summary of the potential impacts associated with each of the action alternatives and the No Action Alternative and impact avoidance and minimization measures are presented in Table 3-36 and Table 3-37, respectively.

Table 3-36 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
Noise	 Operations would not change relative to baseline conditions, and no additional noise impacts would occur. Aircraft noise levels in excess of 65 dBA DNL would continue to affect 50 acres of off-installation land and an estimated 91 residents near NAS Corpus Christi. No off-station land would exceed 65 dBA DNL near NOLF Cabaniss. Aircraft noise levels near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields are variable with some airfields experiencing frequent jet aircraft noise (e.g., Corpus Christi International) and other airfields being used relatively infrequently (e.g., Palacios). 	 The number of off-station land acres exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater at NAS Corpus Christi would increase by one, from 50 to 51, and the estimated number of off-installation residents exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater would remain at 91. Noise levels would not increase at representative locations near NAS Corpus Christi. Noise levels near NOLF Cabaniss would increase by 0.5 dBA DNL or less and would remain below 65 dBA DNL. Speech interference events per average daytime hour would increase by one or less at the locations studied. Noise levels at all schools studied would remain below 60 dBA L_{eq(8hr)}. Aircraft noise levels near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain below 65 dBA DNL at nearby sensitive locations or would not change measurably (i.e., change would be less than 0.1 dBA DNL and rounds to zero) at representative sensitive locations. The Navy has determined that there would be no environmental health 	 The number of off-station land acres exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater at NAS Corpus Christi would increase by the same amount as under Alternative 1, but the estimated number of residents exposed would increase by one, from 91 to 92. Noise levels would increase by 0.1 dBA DNL or less near NAS Corpus Christi. Noise levels near NOLF Cabaniss would increase by as much as 0.8 dBA DNL but would remain below 65 dBA DNL. Speech interference events per average daytime hour would increase by one or less at the locations studied. Noise levels at all schools studied would remain below 60 dBA Leq(8hr). Aircraft noise levels near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain below 65 dBA DNL at nearby sensitive locations or would not change measurably at sensitive locations. The Navy has determined that there would be no environmental health and safety risks that would disproportionately affect children.

Table 3-36 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
Favire a montal	The New date was in add to take a sur-	and safety risks that would disproportionately affect children.	The Name of the control of the table of the
Environmental Justice	The Navy determined that there are minority and low-income populations present within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones at NAS Corpus Christi. There would be no change in existing conditions for minority or low-income populations within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones.	 The Navy determined that there are minority and low-income populations present within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones at NAS Corpus Christi. For NAS Corpus Christi, the total affected population within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones would remain the same as under the No Action Alternative (91 people). Impacts to minority and low-income populations would be minor, similar to the No Action Alternative, and would not be significant. 	 The Navy determined that there are minority and low-income populations present within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones at NAS Corpus Christi. For NAS Corpus Christi, the total affected population within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones would increase by one compared to the No Action Alternative (from 91 to 92 people). Impacts to minority and low-income populations would be minor and would not be significant.
Biological Resources	There would be no change in existing aircraft operations or BASH impacts on migratory birds.	 There would be a 10 percent increase in aircraft operations at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields (from 184,672 to 203,000 annual operations). No changes to existing flight paths, procedures, or habitat would occur. The Navy would continue to manage airfield environments in accordance with its BASH Plan in order to reduce the likelihood of aircraft collisions with federally and state-protected species. Alternative 1 would demolish buildings that may contain active bird 	There would be a 20 percent increase in aircraft operations at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields (from 184,672 to 221,500 annual operations). No changes to existing flight paths, procedures, or habitat would occur. The Navy would continue to manage airfield environments in accordance with its BASH Plan in order to reduce the likelihood of aircraft collisions with federally and state-protected species. Alternative 2 would demolish buildings that may contain active bird

Table 3-36 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
		nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Building demolition work and tree removal (if any) would, to the extent feasible, take place outside of the breeding season. If this work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist must confirm that no active nest would be impacted by these actions. Alternative 1 would not result in a significant adverse effect on active nests or populations of species covered under the MBTA, including Birds of Conservation Concern. The Navy has determined that Alternative 1 may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA by operation of the T-54A aircraft. Under the MBTA's regulations that are applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS has promulgated a rule that authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided they do not result in significant adverse effects on their population. This alternative is not expected to result in any adverse impacts on any migratory bird species populations	nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Building demolition work and tree removal (if any) would, to the extent feasible, take place outside of the breeding season. If this work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist must confirm that no active nest would be impacted by these actions. Alternative 2 would not result in a significant adverse effect on active nests or populations of species covered under the MBTA, including Birds of Conservation Concern. The Navy has determined that Alternative 2 may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA by operation of the T-54A aircraft. Under the MBTA's regulations that are applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS has promulgated a rule that authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided they do not result in significant adverse effects on their population. This alternative is not expected to result in any adverse impacts on any migratory bird species populations

Table 3-36 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
		with current standard operating procedures (BASH Plan). This alternative may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, and whooping crane. For all other federally listed species identified with potential to occur within the ROI, the Navy has determined that there would be no effect. The Navy consulted with the USFWS, and the agency concurred with the Navy's findings in a letter dated August 2, 2023 (Appendix B, Special Status Species Documentation). Recommended measures to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects to the northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane were added to this Final EA.	with current standard operating procedures (BASH Plan). This alternative may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, and whooping crane. For all other federally listed species identified with potential to occur within the ROI, the Navy has determined that there would be no effect.
Cultural Resources	There would be no change to existing conditions.	 No adverse effects from building renovations or new construction would occur to the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District and the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District. Adverse effects to the Landplane Hangars Historic District would occur from building demolition or recapitalization. 	 No adverse effects from building renovations or new construction would occur to the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District and the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District. Adverse effects to the Landplane Hangars Historic District would occur from building demolition or recapitalization.

Table 3-36 Summary of Potential Impacts to Resource Areas

Resource Area	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 10 Percent Increase in Operations (Preferred Alternative)	Alternative 2: Replace T-44C Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft with a 20 Percent Increase in Operations
		 Adverse effects would be resolved through consultation with the SHPO and development of a MOA. The Navy consulted with the Texas SHPO, and a MOA was signed on August 21, 2023 (Appendix C, National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation). 	Adverse effects would be resolved through consultation with the SHPO and development of a MOA.
Air Quality	There would be no change to existing conditions.	 No significant impacts to air quality would occur. The six counties where Navy and non-Navy airfield operations would occur are in attainment of the NAAQS and, thus, General Conformity does not apply. Emissions of criteria pollutants and GHGs above the No Action Alternative would occur from the construction projects and the planned 10 percent increase in operations of the T-54A. However, the increases would be minor relative to each county's overall emissions and would not result in significant impacts to air quality. 	 No significant impacts to air quality would occur. The six counties where Navy and non-Navy airfield operations would occur are in attainment of the NAAQS and, thus, General Conformity does not apply. Emissions would be slightly higher than those under Alternative 1, as annual flight operations would increase 20 percent above No Action Alternative levels, and there would be 33 additional personnel and their families commuting to NAS Corpus Christi and the surrounding areas. However, the increases would be minor relative to each county's overall emissions and would not result in significant impacts to air quality.

Key: BASH = Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard; CFR = Code of Federal Regulations; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; EA = Environmental Assessment; GHG = greenhouse gas; L_{eq(8hr)} = eight-hour equivalent sound level; MBTA = Migratory Bird Treaty Act; MOA = Memorandum of Agreement; NAAQS = National Ambient Air Quality Standards; NAS = Naval Air Station; Navy = U.S. Navy; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field; ROI = region of influence; SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Table 3-37 Impact Avoidance and Minimization Measures

Measure	Anticipated Benefit / Evaluating Effectiveness	Implementing and Monitoring	Responsibility	Estimated Completion Date
Alternative 1: Replace T-44C	Aircraft with T-54A Aircraft wit	th a 10-Percent Increase in Oper	rations (Preferred Alternative)	
Biological Resources				
Conduct recapitalization or demolition outside of bird breeding season, to the extent feasible.	Prevent impacts to active nests.	Monitor during the construction period.	NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist	Estimated construction to be complete by the end of 2027.
If recapitalization or demolition occurs during bird breeding season, a qualified biologist will conduct a nest survey 72 hours before work begins.	Prevent impacts to any active nests.	Monitor during the construction period.	NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist	Estimated construction to be complete by the end of 2027.
If an active nest is found, work will be halted and the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist will be notified and determine further action (e.g., removal).	Prevent impacts to active nests.	Monitor during the construction period.	NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist	Estimated construction to be complete by the end of 2027.
Cultural Resources	,		<u> </u>	
Comply with stipulations contained in the Memorandum of Agreement.	Resolve adverse effect to the Landplane Hangars Historic District from building recapitalization or demolition.		NAVFAC SE Historic Preservation Officer	Estimated construction to be complete by the end of 2027.

Key: NAS = Naval Air Station; NAVFAC = Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command; SE = Southeast.

4 Cumulative Effects

This section (1) defines cumulative effects; (2) describes past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions relevant to cumulative effects; (3) analyzes the incremental interaction the proposed action may have with other actions; and (4) evaluates cumulative effects potentially resulting from these interactions.

4.1 Definition of Cumulative Effects

The approach taken in the analysis of cumulative effects follows the objectives of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations, and CEQ guidance. Cumulative effects are defined in 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 1508.1 as "effects on the environment that result from the incremental effects of the action when added to the effects of other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions. Cumulative effects can result from individually minor but collectively significant actions taking place over a period of time."

To determine the scope of environmental impact analyses, agencies shall consider cumulative actions, which when viewed with other proposed actions have cumulatively significant effects and should therefore be discussed in the same impact analysis document.

In addition, CEQ and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency have published guidance addressing implementation of cumulative effects analyses—Guidance on the Consideration of Past Actions in Cumulative Effects Analysis (CEQ, 2005) and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's Consideration of Cumulative Impacts in EPA Review of NEPA Documents (1999). CEQ guidance entitled Considering Cumulative Impacts Under NEPA (1997) states that cumulative impact analyses should "...determine the magnitude and significance of the environmental consequences of the proposed action in the context of the cumulative impacts of other past, present, and future actions...identify significant cumulative impacts...[and]...focus on truly meaningful impacts."

Cumulative effects are most likely to arise when a relationship or synergism exists between a proposed action and other actions expected to occur in a similar location or during a similar time period. Actions overlapping with or close to the proposed action would be expected to have more potential for a relationship than those more geographically separated. Similarly, relatively concurrent actions would tend to offer a higher potential for cumulative effects. To identify cumulative effects, the analysis needs to address the following three fundamental questions.

- Does a relationship exist such that affected resource areas of the proposed action might interact with the affected resource areas of past, present, or reasonably foreseeable actions?
- If one or more of the affected resource areas of the proposed action and another action could be expected to interact, would the proposed action affect or be affected by impacts of the other action?
- If such a relationship exists, then does an assessment reveal any potentially significant impacts not identified when the proposed action is considered alone?

4.2 Scope of Cumulative Effects Analysis

The scope of the cumulative effects analysis involves both the geographic extent of the effects and the time frame in which the effects could be expected to occur. For this Environmental Assessment (EA), the

study area delimits the geographic extent of the cumulative effects analysis. In general, the study area will include those areas previously identified in Chapter 3, Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences, for the respective resource areas. The time frame for cumulative effects centers on the timing of the proposed action.

Another factor influencing the scope of cumulative effects analysis involves identifying other actions to consider. Beyond determining that the geographic scope and time frame for the actions interrelate to the proposed action, the analysis employs the measure of "reasonably foreseeable" to include or exclude other actions. For the purposes of this analysis, public documents prepared by federal, state, and local government agencies form the primary sources of information regarding reasonably foreseeable actions. Documents used to identify other actions include notices of intent for Environmental Impact Statements and EAs, management plans, land use plans, and other planning related studies.

4.3 Past, Present, and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions

This section will focus on past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects at and near the Proposed Action locale. In determining which projects to include in the cumulative effects analysis, a preliminary determination was made regarding the past, present, or reasonably foreseeable action. Specifically, using the first fundamental question included in Section 4.1, Definition of Cumulative Effects, it was determined if a relationship exists such that the affected resource areas of the Proposed Action (included in this EA) might interact with the affected resource area of a past, present, or reasonably foreseeable action. If no such potential relationship exists, the project was not carried forward into the cumulative effects analysis. In accordance with CEQ guidance (CEQ, 2005), these actions considered but excluded from further cumulative effects analysis are not catalogued here as the intent is to focus the analysis on the meaningful actions relevant to informed decision-making. Projects included in this cumulative effects analysis are listed in Table 4-1 and briefly described in the following subsections. Figure 4-1 shows the location of the Proposed Action and potential cumulative projects.

Table 4-1 Cumulative Action Evaluation

Action	Level of NEPA Analysis Completed
Past Actions	
Construct Wastewater Treatment Plant	Categorical Exclusion
Construct Tennis and Basketball Courts	Categorical Exclusion
Construct Mary Carroll High School	NA
Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions	
Construct Building 84	Categorical Exclusion
Renovate Hangar 47	Categorical Exclusion
Construct T-6B Facilities	TBD
Construct 300-Unit Apartments	NA
City of Corpus Christi Military Compatibility Area Overlay Districts	NA
Repairs and Resurfacing at NOLF Cabaniss	EA
Future Trend	
Climate Change	NA

Key: EA = Environmental Assessment; NA = not applicable; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field; TBD = to be determined.

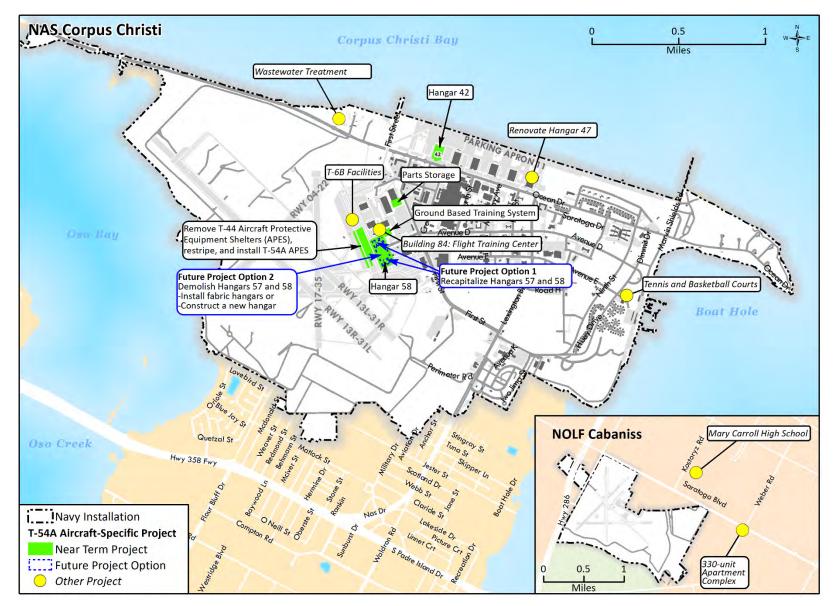


Figure 4-1 Location of Proposed Action and Potential Cumulative Projects

4.3.1 Past Actions

Wastewater Treatment Plant (WWTP). The Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi WWTP opened in 2021 and replaced an outdated facility that had been in service since 1941. The new WWTP replaced two outdated plants and combines domestic and industrial wastewater (Kieschnick, 2021).

Tennis and Basketball Courts. The Navy constructed two new tennis courts and a basketball court adjacent to the NAS Corpus Christi housing office. The previous courts were west of the on-base Fitness Center. The project was completed in November 2021 and is located adjacent to the Housing Office (Kieschnick, 2021).

Mary Carroll High School. The Corpus Christi Independent School District constructed a new high school on the corner of Saratoga Boulevard and Kostoryz Road, located north of Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss. The new school opened for the 2022–23 school year. It is estimated to be 450,000 square feet and can accommodate 2,400 students (Garza, 2022).

4.3.2 Present and Reasonably Foreseeable Actions

Building 84. Building 84 is the three-story Consolidated Squadron Operations, Academic and Flight Training Facility at NAS Corpus Christi. It will be the new Training Air Wing Four (TRAWING 4) Headquarters and is currently under construction and almost complete. It is located next to Building 83 and will be 110,000 square feet.

Hangar 47. NAS Corpus Christi awarded a design build contract in August 2021 for stabilization, repair, and renovation of the hangar currently occupied by the Corpus Christi Army Depot. The scope of the work includes structural stabilization, removal and replacement of the exterior envelope, renovation of the hangar bay for industrial occupancy, renovation of the office lean-to wings, the provision of two elevators, and removal and replacement of the building systems to include heating, ventilation, and air conditioning; power and lighting; and telecommunication systems. The estimated completion date is November 2023 (Brink, 2021).

T-6B Facilities. In the future, T-6B aircraft operated by TRAWING 4 out of NAS Corpus Christi may require upgraded facilities similar to the T-54A aircraft such as a new hangar, overhead space, maintenance control, and a paraloft (parachute maintenance facility). This project would require funding and a separate NEPA review.

300-Unit Apartments. The City of Corpus Christi has approved development of an apartment complex at the intersection of Saratoga Boulevard and Weber Road. The property is zoned for multifamily residential and is located within the accident potential zone of NOLF Cabaniss. The developer plans to build a 300-unit apartment complex (Chandler, 2022).

City of Corpus Christi Military Compatibility Area Overlay Districts. In August 2022, the City of Corpus Christi passed a zoning ordinance to preserve and protect local Navy installations by limiting development in clear zones and accident potential zones. The Military Compatibility Area Overlay Districts protect the lands surrounding NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and NOLF Waldron. The overlay districts regulate land use, density, noise, light, and vertical obstructions to prevent development that is not compatible with the military mission.

Small Repairs and Resurfacing at NOLF Cabaniss. Small projects at NOLF Cabaniss including control tower repair and vegetation clearing and removal along the fence have been awarded. Future projects

could include replacing the fencing, pavement maintenance for the runways and parking apron, installing taxiway lighting, and relocating signage.

Climate Change. Since 2000, Texas has had 19 named storms, including 8 destructive hurricanes, with Hurricane Harvey (Category 4), Hurricane Rita (Category 3), and Hurricane Ike (Category 2) causing the most damage (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2022). The expected rise in sea level estimated from 1 to 4 feet by 2100 will result in an increase in the frequency of nuisance flooding and the potential for greater damage from storm surge (National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, 2022).

4.4 Cumulative Effects Analysis

Where feasible, the cumulative effects were assessed using quantifiable data; however, for many of the resources included for analysis, quantifiable data is not available, and a qualitative analysis was undertaken. In addition, where an analysis of potential environmental effects for future actions has not been completed, assumptions were made regarding cumulative effects related to this EA where possible. The analytical methodology presented in Chapter 3, *Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences*, which was used to determine potential impacts to the various resources analyzed in this document, was also used to determine cumulative effects.

4.4.1 Noise

4.4.1.1 Description of Geographic Study Area

The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training locations at NOLF Cabaniss; at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration National Airspace System throughout South Texas.

4.4.1.2 Relevant Past, Present, and Future Actions

Projects that could interact with Proposed Action noise impacts include demolition, construction, and renovation projects on NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss. These projects include the future construction of T-6B facility upgrades, the ongoing renovation of Hangar 47, and construction of a new training facility (Building 84). Projects on NOLF Cabaniss that are either ongoing or expected to occur soon include several projects for the renovation or repair of existing infrastructure.

Projects that could increase noise sensitivity of areas near NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss would be relevant to cumulative effects. This includes the recent opening of Mary Carroll High School near NOLF Cabaniss and the proposed construction of a 300-unit apartment complex at the intersection of Saratoga Boulevard and Weber Road.

4.4.1.3 Cumulative Effect Analysis

Past, present, and reasonably foreseeable demolition, construction, and renovation projects on NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss are, were, or will be associated with localized and temporary construction noise similar in nature to construction noise levels described for the Proposed Action (see Section 3.1.7, *Noise, Environmental Consequences*). In the context of a busy military installation where aircraft noise is very common, temporary and localized construction noise is not typically of concern even if multiple construction projects were to occur in the same time period and locale.

Continued development of land near NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss increases the number of people that would experience elevated aircraft noise levels. Construction of 300-unit apartments at the intersection of Saratoga Boulevard and Weber Road (near NOLF Cabaniss) would result in additional people being exposed to elevated aircraft noise levels, but noise levels would remain below land use compatibility guidelines (i.e., 65 A-weighted decibels [dBA] day-night average sound level [DNL]) under Alternatives 1 and 2.

The updated zoning ordinance for Military Compatible Area Overlay Districts would pose beneficial cumulative noise effects by reducing the potential for incompatible development with the military mission, such as limiting further residential construction within the greater than 65 dBA DNL noise zones. Implementation of the Proposed Action, combined with the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, would not result in exceedances of impact guidelines and would not result in significant noise effects within the region of influence (ROI).

4.4.2 Environmental Justice

4.4.2.1 Description of Geographic Study Area

The ROI for noise impacts on environmental justice communities includes Block Groups 2 and 3 of Census Tract 30.04 located in Nueces County, Texas. The ROI for air quality impacts on environmental justice communities includes Calhoun County, Cameron County, Jim Wells County, Matagorda County, Nueces County, and Victoria County in the State of Texas.

Past, present, and future economic activities that have and will continue to contribute to population growth in these areas would also result in additional noise and air quality impacts. Relevant past, present, and future actions in the ROI include construction and maintenance activities at NAS Corpus Christi, such as the renovation of Hangar 47, the future construction of T-6B facility upgrades, and construction of the new TRAWING 4 Headquarters (Building 84). Construction, maintenance, and repair activities at NOLF Cabaniss and within the community, including 300-unit apartments, would support economic growth through employment opportunities and income-generating activities. Additional housing availability, economic growth, and opportunities would benefit populations. In addition, the Corpus Christi City Council approval of the Military Compatible Area Overlay Districts in August 2022 is expected to further limit incompatible development within the greater than 65 dBA noise zones and Accident Potential Zones.

4.4.2.2 Cumulative Effect Analysis

The Navy has determined that noise from aircraft operations under the Proposed Action at NAS Corpus Christi under Alterative 1 would affect the same number of residents as under the No Action Alternative. Under Alternative 2, one additional resident would be affected. Noise levels at the one representative location near NAS Corpus Christi (mobile home / recreational vehicle park) have baseline conditions that are currently above the greater than 65 dBA noise zones and would remain the same. Under Alternative 2, one location would experience noise levels of 0.1 dBA greater than under the No Action Alternative. Representative locations near NOLF Cabaniss would experience an increase of up to 0.5 dBA DNL under Alternative 1 and up to 0.8 dBA DNL under Alternative 2. International, regional, or publicly owned airfields would all remain below 65 dBA DNL using the screening criteria. Relevant past, present, and future actions would not occur in this area and would not likely result in additional noise impacts to the representative locations studied near NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, or any of the international,

regional, or publicly owned airfields. Noise levels at noise-sensitive locations near international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would remain well below 65 dBA DNL or would not change measurably relative to baseline conditions. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Action combined with the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects would not result in cumulative effects to environmental justice communities.

4.4.3 Biological Resources

4.4.3.1 Description of Geographic Study Area

The ROI for cumulative biological resources includes NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training locations at NOLF Cabaniss; at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration's National Airspace System throughout South Texas.

4.4.3.2 Relevant Past, Present, and Future Actions

Under the Proposed Action, construction would occur on previously disturbed areas with high human activity. Buildings that would be demolished could contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Other projects that could involve building demolition include the T-6B facility upgrades. The Proposed Action and T-6B facility upgrades would comply with the Memorandum of Understanding with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to protect against the take of birds for installation support functions, including utilities maintenance, construction, and demolition. As a result, cumulative effects could occur but would likely be prevented in compliance with the Memorandum of Understanding. None of the other proposed projects would result in the potential of increased flight operations and would not affect Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard potential. The only potential for cumulative effects would be climate change.

4.4.3.3 Cumulative Effect Analysis

Climate is an important environmental influence on ecosystems. Changing climate affects ecosystems in a variety of ways. For instance, warming may force species to migrate to higher latitudes or higher elevations where temperatures are more conducive to their survival. Similarly, as sea level rises, saltwater intrusion into a freshwater system may force some key species to relocate or die, thus removing predators or prey that are critical in the existing food chain.

Ecosystems can serve as natural buffers from extreme events such as wildfires, flooding, and drought. Climate change and human modification may restrict ecosystems' ability to temper the impacts of extreme conditions and thus may increase vulnerability to damage. Examples include reefs and barrier islands that protect coastal ecosystems from storm surges, wetland ecosystems that absorb floodwaters, and cyclical wildfires that clear excess forest debris and reduce the risk of dangerously large fires.

During tropical storms or hurricanes, terrestrial wildlife species typically leave the area when severe weather occurs and then return when the weather improves.

Ecosystem structure and function, resilience, and natural adaptive capacity and shifts in seasonal timing have been reported in the Sixth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2022a). The biodiversity factsheet indicates that climate change has altered marine, terrestrial, and freshwater ecosystems and caused local species losses, increases in disease, and mortality of plants and animals, resulting in changes to ecosystems. Unique and threatened ecosystems are expected to be

at high risk in the very near term due to tree mortality, coral reef bleaching, and mortality events from heat waves (IPCC, 2022b). Sea level rise is expected to increase the risk of coastal erosion, submergence of coastal land, and the loss of coastal habitat and ecosystems, while worsening potential salinization of groundwater and compromising coastal ecosystems (IPCC, 2022b). As a result, climate change could affect the use of and training at Navy facilities located in coastal areas such as Corpus Christi, including more frequent access limitations due to flooding and adverse weather causing delays in training schedules. The Navy is integrating climate change considerations and tracking climate investments throughout the planning, programming, budget justification, and ranking processes (Navy, 2022). The Navy has updated its Planning Criteria for Navy/Marine Corps Installations (Unified Facilities Criteria 2-000-05N) to address proper planning, space allocation, and basic facility requirements for installation mission assurance and mission-essential functions to improve resiliency. Military construction projects need to address proper planning, space allocation, and basic facility requirements for installation mission assurance and mission-essential functions to improve resiliency. Space planning allocation takes into account energy, climate, sea level change, and continuity of operations for mission critical assets and protection of high-value equipment. As a result of incorporating resiliency planning as part of military construction efforts, no significant cumulative effects to biological resources would occur within the ROI.

4.4.4 Cultural Resources

4.4.4.1 Description of Geographic Study Area

The ROI is equivalent to the Area of Potential Effects and includes 213.2 acres. The area includes the footprint of building demolition, renovation, and construction projects that would occur, as well as a quarter-mile visual buffer around the proposed new hangar where it is estimated the proposed new hangar could be visible.

4.4.4.2 Relevant Past, Present, and Future Actions

Relevant past, present, and future actions would include demolition, renovation, and new construction projects on the flightline that could affect historic properties or historic districts.

4.4.4.3 Cumulative Effect Analysis

Cumulative historic property effects from past, present, and future actions within the ROI and in combination with the Proposed Action could result in cumulative effects on historic properties. There are no past or present projects that could result in cumulative effects on historic properties. The only reasonably foreseeable action that could pose cumulative effects would be the future T-6B facilities upgrades. This project has not been funded, designed, or subject to NEPA compliance to date. If historic properties would potentially be affected, National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation would be undertaken and any adverse effects would be resolved. Rehabilitation and reuse of Hangars 42 and 47 would pose beneficial cumulative effects to historic properties. Therefore, implementation of the Proposed Action, combined with the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, could pose cumulative effects, but any adverse effects would be resolved. Rehabilitation of historic properties would offset some potential cumulative effects, and therefore impacts would not be significant.

4.4.5 Air Quality

4.4.5.1 Description of Geographic Study Area

The ROI comprises the six counties in Texas where the Navy and non-Navy airfields are located (refer to Table 3-27), which are in attainment for all criteria pollutants.

4.4.5.2 Relevant Past, Present, and Future Actions

All the present and reasonably foreseeable future actions have the potential to interact with Alternatives 1 or 2 and affect air quality.

4.4.5.3 Cumulative Effect Analysis

The construction of additional projects on NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss may overlap with the construction projects occurring in 2024 and 2027 under Alternatives 1 or 2. Emissions from these projects would be temporary and would not result in the short- or long-term degradation of regional air quality in Nueces County. One project near NOLF Cabaniss—the residential construction project that is not yet constructed—would add additional tailpipe emissions from people in the community commuting to these locations within Nueces County, which would result in a minor increase in long-term transportation-related emissions. However, based on the project descriptions, the impacts of these projects in conjunction with the implementation of either Alternative 1 or 2 would not likely have a significant impact on air quality in Nueces County.

Greenhouse Gases

When considering effects, both short- and long-term adverse and beneficial effects should be considered withing the scope of reasonable foreseeability (CEQ, 2023). For greenhouse gases (GHGs), the impacts are cumulative and global, and the analysis evaluates emissions considering the baseline or No Action Alternative and both of the Proposed Action Alternatives. The evaluation considers both near-term impacts and those within an estimated life cycle. While the T-44C airframe has been active for over 40 years, the analysis of life-cycle GHG emissions from the replacement aircraft looks at only 25 years, as it is possible that a newer and more sustainable replacement aircraft design would be available for use within 25 years. The training tempo is assumed to be unchanged over the course of the 25-year life span.

Implementation of Alternative 1 or Alternative 2 would contribute directly to emissions of GHGs from the combustion of fossil fuels. For both alternatives, construction would generate approximately 1,398 tons (1,268 metric tons) of carbon dioxide (CO_2). The operation of new facilities may result in a small increase in installation-related GHG emissions, primarily through the consumption of electricity. Construction of new stationary sources requiring fossil fuel, such as boilers or water heaters is unlikely based on the Navy goal of reducing building GHG emissions 50 percent by 2032. Once the transition to the T-54A occurs, routine activities such as flight training operations that generate mobile source emissions would generate a net annual addition of approximately 3,245 tons (2,944 metric tons) of CO_2 each year for Alternative 1. Routine activities under Alternative 2 would generate a somewhat greater annual amount of net emissions of CO_2 each year, at 4,941 tons (4,482 metric tons), from flight operations and the increase of 33 workers commuting regularly to NAS Corpus Christi. Total GHG emissions are presented in Table 4-2 and detailed in Appendix F, *Air Quality Methodology and Calculations*. Both alternatives would generate GHG emissions on an annual basis, and, in combination

with past and future emissions from all other sources, contribute incrementally to the global warming that produces the adverse effects of climate change.

The Navy has established goals to achieve net-zero emissions economy-wide by 2050 (Navy, 2022), including, but not limited to, the following:

- Achieve a 65 percent reduction in GHG direct emissions from controlled sources and indirect emissions from generation or purchase by 2030.
- Achieve 100 percent carbon pollution-free electricity by 2030, at least half of which will be locally supplied clean energy to meet demand.
- Acquire 100 percent zero-emission vehicles by 2035, including 100 percent zero-emission light-duty vehicle acquisitions by 2027.
- Achieve a 50 percent reduction in emissions from buildings by 2032.

As described in Section 3.5, *Air Quality*, while GHG emissions generated from the proposed construction activities and routine operations under Alternatives 1 or 2 alone would not be enough to cause climate change, in combination with past and future emissions from all other sources, they would contribute incrementally to climate change. Therefore, considering overall emission reduction goals and resiliency planning as part of military construction efforts, implementation of Alternatives 1 or 2 combined with the past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects would not result in significant cumulative effects within the ROI.

Table 4-2 Comparison of No Action Alternative, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Lifetime GHG Emissions

Activity	No Action Alternative (tpy)	Alternative 1 CO ₂ (tpy)	Alternative 1 Compared to NAA (tpy)	Alternative 2 CO ₂ (tpy)	Alternative 2 Compared to NAA (tpy)
Construction (2 separate years)	0	1,398	1,398	1,398	1,398
Additional worker commutes (every year)	0	0	0	108	108
Flight operations (every year)	15,410	18,655	3,245	20,351	4,941
Lifetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions	385,251	467,774	82,523	512,872	127,621

Key: CO₂ = carbon dioxide; GHG = greenhouse gas; NAA = No Action Alternative; tpy = tons per year. Note:

4.5 Summary of Cumulative Effects

The Proposed Action would contribute effects to noise, environmental justice, biological resources, cultural resources, and air quality (Table 4-3). When considering other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future projects, there could be an overlap spatially and temporally with the Proposed Action, resulting in potential cumulative effects.

^{1.} CO₂ emissions presented above include emissions for the entire flight path, even those above 3,000 feet.

Table 4-3 Summary of Cumulative Effects

	Resource							
Project	Noise	Environmental Justice	Biological	Cultural	Air			
Wastewater Treatment Plant								
Tennis and Basketball Courts								
Building 84	√				$\sqrt{}$			
Hangar 47	√				$\sqrt{}$			
T-6B Facility Upgrades	$\sqrt{}$			$\sqrt{}$	$\sqrt{}$			
Mary Carroll High School								
Military Compatible Area Overlay District								
300-Unit Apartments	$\sqrt{}$	√						
Climate Change			V					

Note: $\sqrt{}$ is used to identify which resource could pose a cumulative effect from the specified project.

As shown, projects could pose cumulative impacts to noise, environmental justice, biological resources, cultural resources, and air quality. Past construction projects (WWTP, tennis and basketball courts, and the Mary Carroll High School) have already occurred; therefore, these actions would not have additional future effects on environmental resources due to construction. Temporary construction noise and air quality cumulative effects could occur but may be reduced since cumulative projects may not occur during the same time frame. No cumulative projects would increase aircraft operations; therefore, no long-term changes in noise or air quality would occur. Operation of the WWTP and school would continue to pose cumulative effects when considered with the Proposed Action. The updated zoning ordinance for Military Compatible Area Overlay Districts poses beneficial cumulative effects. Avoiding incompatible development within the 65 dBA DNL or greater noise zones would reduce noise impacts to all residents, including minority and low-income, and would preserve the military mission. Any projects that would result in adverse effects on historic properties would be resolved with agreements with the regulatory agencies and consulting parties.

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5 Other Considerations Required by the National Environmental Policy Act

5.1 Consistency with Other Federal, State, and Local Laws, Plans, Policies, and Regulations

In accordance with 40 Code of Federal Regulations section 1502.16(5), analysis of environmental consequences shall include discussion of possible conflicts between the Proposed Action and the objectives of federal, regional, state, tribal, and local land use plans, policies, and controls. Table 5-1 identifies the principal federal and state laws and regulations that are applicable to the Proposed Action, and describes briefly how compliance with these laws and regulations would be accomplished.

Table 5-1 Principal Federal and State Laws Applicable to the Proposed Action

Federal, State, Local, and Regional Land Use Plans, Policies, and Controls	Status of Compliance
NEPA; Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA; Navy	This EA has been prepared in accordance with NEPA, Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA,
procedures for implementing NEPA	and Navy NEPA procedures.
Clean Air Act	The air quality analysis in the EA concludes that no de minimis thresholds would be exceeded. Calculations are included in Appendix F, Air Quality Methodology and Calculations. The Proposed Action is compliant with the Clean Air Act.
Coastal Zone Management Act	The Navy consulted with the Texas Coastal Management Program. A concurrence letter dated July 28, 2023, is included in Appendix E, Coastal Consistency Determination.
National Historic Preservation Act	The Navy consulted with the Texas SHPO. A Memorandum of Agreement was signed on August 21, 2023 (Appendix C, National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation).
Endangered Species Act	The Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat. For all other federally listed species identified with potential to occur within the region of influence, the Navy has determined that there would be no effect. The Navy consulted with the USFWS, and the agency concurred with the Navy's findings in a letter dated August 2, 2023 (Appendix B, Special Status Species Documentation). Recommended measures to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects to the northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane were added to this Final EA.
Migratory Bird Treaty Act	The Proposed Action may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA by operation of the T-54A aircraft. Under the MBTA's regulations applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided it does not result in significant adverse effects on their population. The Proposed Action is not expected to result in any adverse impacts to populations and is compliant with the MBTA.

Table 5-1 Principal Federal and State Laws Applicable to the Proposed Action

Federal, State, Local, and Regional Land Use Plans, Policies, and Controls	Status of Compliance
Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act	Under the Proposed Action, a prohibited "take" is unlikely due to lack of previous takes of eagles by historical operation of T-44C aircraft, implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi, implementation of local airfield Wildlife Hazard Management Plans, and the absence of eagle nests in the vicinity of the Proposed Action airfields. An eagle take permit is not required. The Proposed Action is compliant with the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act.
Emergency Planning and Community Right- to-Know Act	The Proposed Action would not change the emergency planning, response, or organizational procedures. The types of hazardous and toxic chemicals stored, used, and emitted would remain similar to current conditions. All reporting would be updated to reflect any changes. Therefore, the Proposed Action would be compliant with this act.
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act	The Proposed Action would result in the generation of solid and hazardous wastes resulting from construction and maintenance. These wastes would be managed in full compliance with this act.
Toxic Substances Control Act	Any asbestos and lead-based paint in buildings to be renovated or demolished would be abated; therefore, the Proposed Action is compliant with the Toxic Substances Control Act.
EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-income Populations	This EA analyzes impacts to minority and low-income populations. The Proposed Action is compliant with this EO.
EO 13045, Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks	This EA analyzes environmental health and safety risks to children. The Proposed Action is compliant with this EO.
EO 13175, Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments	The Navy consulted with potentially interested tribes. The Proposed Action is compliant with this EO.
EO 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All	The Navy provided opportunities for meaningful engagement of communities with environmental justice concerns who are potentially affected by the Proposed Action. This environmental review was carried out in a manner that analyzed effects on communities with environmental justice concerns and considered best available science and information on any impacts to such communities. The Proposed Action is in compliance with this EO.

Key: BASH = Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard; CFR = Code of Federal Regulations; EA = Environmental Assessment; EO = Executive Order; MBTA = Migratory Bird Treaty Act; NAS = Naval Air Station; Navy = U.S. Navy; NEPA = National Environmental Policy Act; SHPO = State Historic Preservation Officer; USFWS = U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

5.2 Irreversible or Irretrievable Commitments of Resources

Resources that are irreversibly or irretrievably committed to a project are those that are used on a long-term or permanent basis. This includes the use of non-renewable resources such as metal and fuel, and natural or cultural resources. These resources are irretrievable in that they would be used for this project when they could have been used for other purposes. Human labor is also considered an

irretrievable resource. Another impact that falls under this category is the unavoidable destruction of natural resources that could limit the range of potential uses of that particular environment.

Implementation of the Proposed Action would involve human labor and the consumption of fuel, oil, and lubricants for construction vehicles. No loss of natural resources would occur with construction on the previously disturbed flightline. The potential for Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) could increase along with increased air operations. Measures to reduce BASH are ongoing at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi and Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss and the international, regional, and publicly owned airports. As a result, implementing the Proposed Action would not result in significant irreversible or irretrievable commitment of resources.

5.3 Unavoidable Adverse Impacts

This Environmental Assessment has determined that the alternatives considered would not result in any significant impacts. Implementing the alternatives would result in the following unavoidable environmental impacts:

- Minor increase in noise levels in the vicinity of the airfields and airports
- Recapitalization or demolition of buildings that may contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop
- Potential increase in BASH associated with increased operations
- Adverse effect to the Landplane Hangars Historic District from building recapitalization or demolition

5.4 Relationship between Short-Term Use of the Environment and Long-Term Productivity

The National Environmental Policy Act requires an analysis of the relationship between a project's short-term impacts on the environment and the effects that these impacts may have on the maintenance and enhancement of the long-term productivity of the affected environment. Impacts that narrow the range of beneficial uses of the environment are of particular concern. This refers to the possibility that choosing one development site reduces future flexibility in pursuing other options, or that using a parcel of land or other resources often eliminates the possibility of other uses at that site.

In the short term, effects to the human environment with implementation of the Proposed Action would primarily relate to the construction activity itself resulting in temporary noise and air quality impacts. Construction projects are located along the flightline of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. In the long-term, aircraft operations would increase noise levels and air emissions in the vicinity of the Navy airfields or international, regional, and publicly owned airfields. The replacement of aircraft would provide advanced instrumentation for communication, navigation, and tracking aircraft health to facilitate maintenance planning and efficiency. The short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities and increased operations would not significantly impact the long-term natural resource productivity of the area. The Proposed Action would not result in any impacts that would significantly reduce environmental productivity or permanently narrow the range of beneficial uses of the environment.

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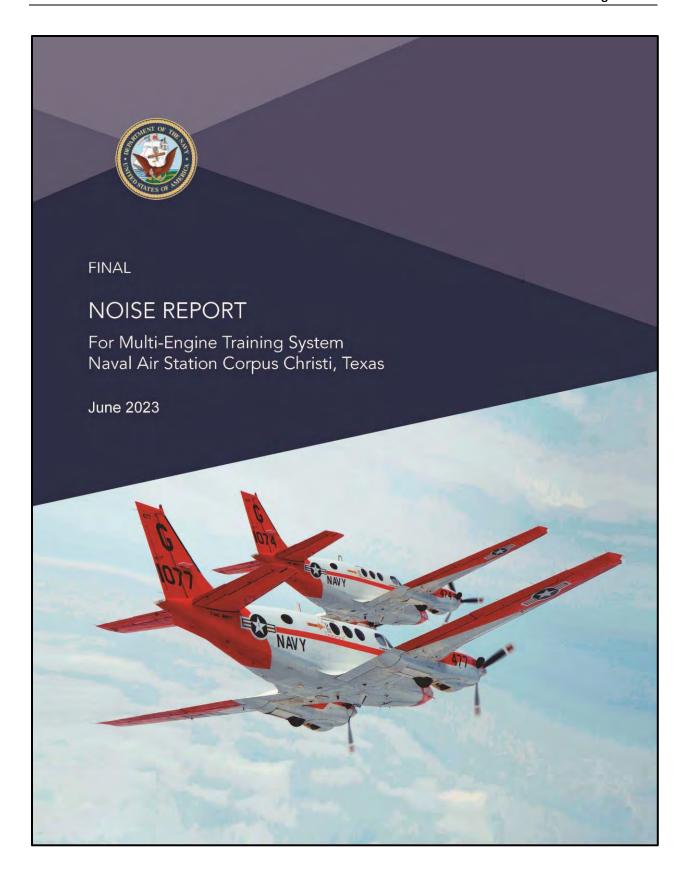
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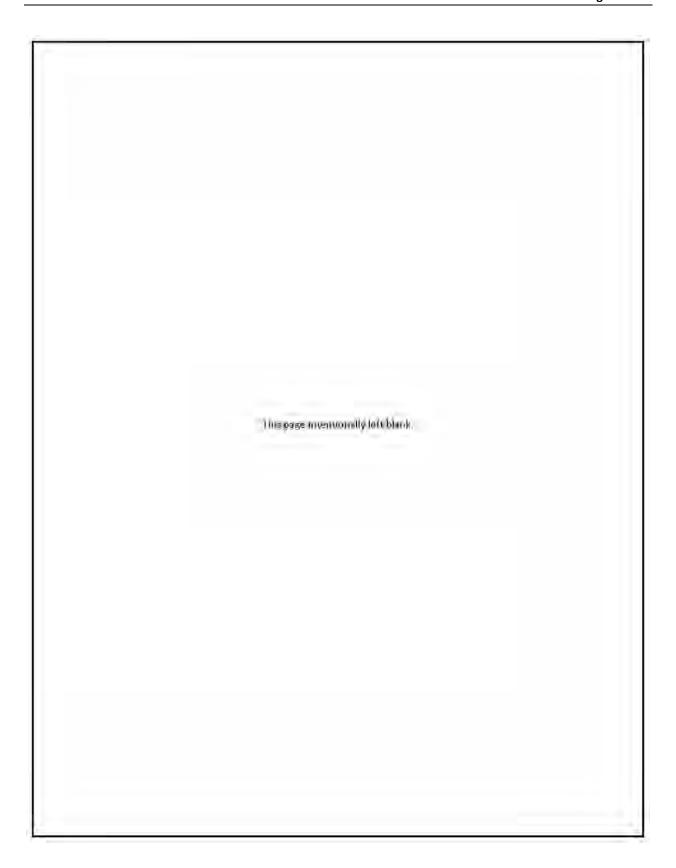
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Appendix A Noise Methodology and Calculations

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FINAL

NOISE STUDY

For

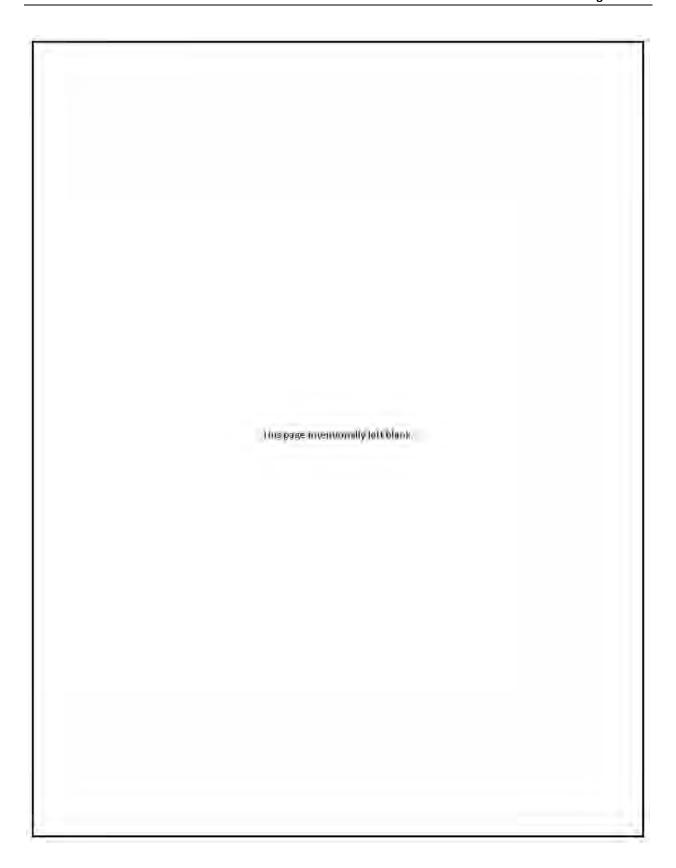
Multi-Engine Training System

At

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

June 2023





Noise Study for METS Final June 2023

Abstract

Designation: Noise Study

Title of Proposed Action: Multi-Engine Training System

Project Location: Naval Air Station Corpus Christi

Lead Agency for the

Environmental Assessment: Department of the Navy

Cooperating Agency: None

Affected Region: Nueces County, Texas, and airfields in the surrounding region

Action Proponent: U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training

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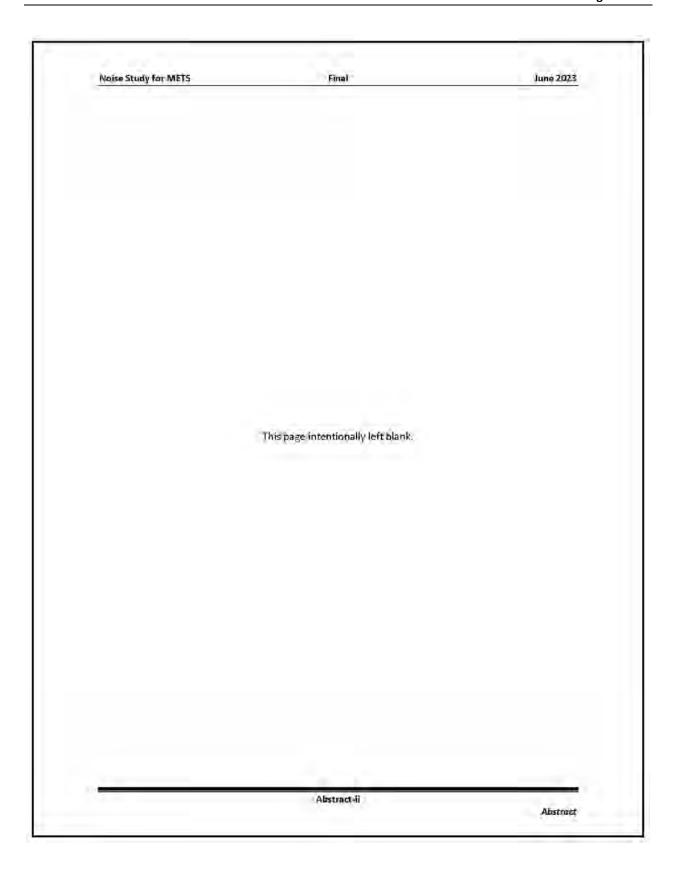
Date: June 2023

This Noise Study documents noise modeling methods, inputs, and results associated with proposed replacement of the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft used for multi-engine maritime flight training at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi. The 54 T-44C Pegasus aircraft would be replaced with 58 new T-54A aircraft. The Navy selected the Beechcraft King Air 260 to replace the T-44C aircraft. To estimate potential impacts of the aircraft replacement, the Navy used a representative surrogate aircraft, the C-12 Huron, because the modeling software does not include reference noise data for the King Air 260. The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. Operational scenarios modeled include a 10 percent increase over current T-44C operations tempo (Alternative 1) and a 20 percent increase over current T-44C operations tempo (Alternative 2). Under Alternative 1 or Alternative 2, the area of off-station land near Naval Air Station Corpus Christi exposed to 65 A-weighted decibels day-night average sound level or greater would increase from 50 to 51 acres. Under Alternative 1, the estimated number of off-installation residents exposed to 65 A-weighted decibels day-night average sound level or greater would remain at 91, but under Alternative 2, the estimated number of residents would increase to 92. At Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss, off-station aircraft noise levels would remain below 65 A-weighted decibels day-night average sound level. A screening-level analysis was conducted for operations of the T-54A aircraft at seven international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields that are used for training. Noise impact significance criteria established by the Federal Aviation Administration in Order 1050.1F are not exceeded at any of the non-Navy airfields.



Abstract-i

Abstract



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June 2023

Final

Description of Proposed Action and Alternatives

Multi-Engine Training System

Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

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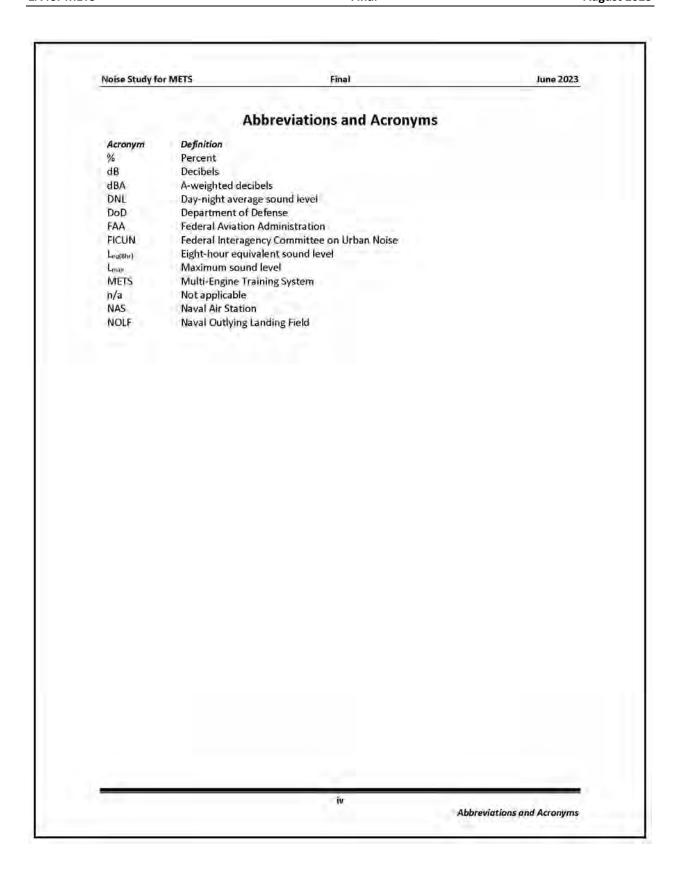
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		iii	



Final

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1 Introduction

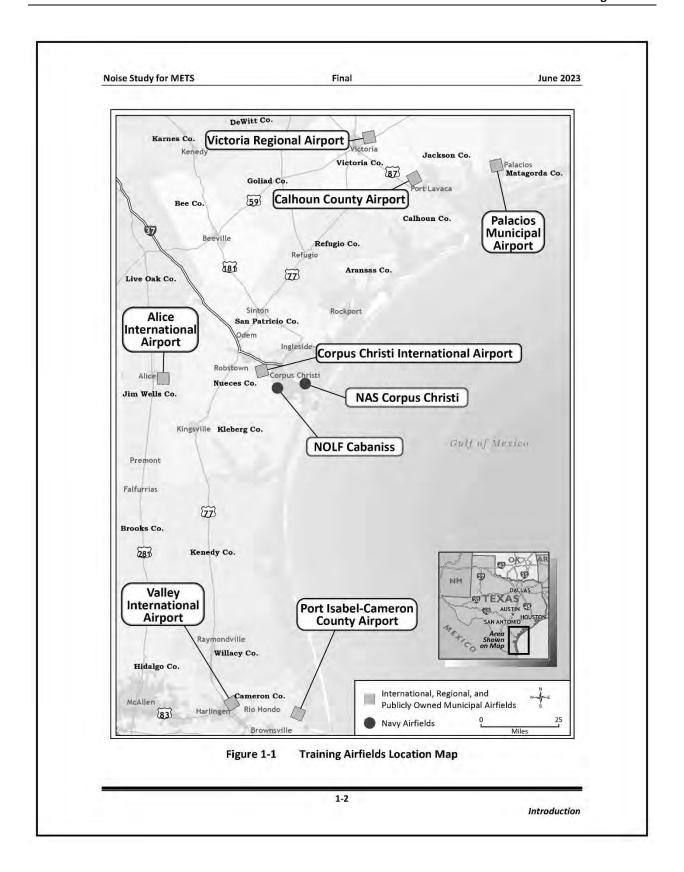
This noise analysis supports the United States Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training (hereinafter, jointly referred as the Navy) preparation of an Environmental Assessment for the replacement of T-44C Pegasus aircraft based at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi with new T-54A aircraft. The T-54A aircraft would be the aircraft component of the multi engine training system (METS). The Proposed Action would replace ongoing T-44C operations with T-54A operations at NAS Corpus Christi, Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss, and several international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields in South Texas. The locations of the affected airfields are shown in Figure 1-1.

This study presents the detailed noise impacts as modeled with NOISEMAP at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss. To assess noise impacts at the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields (Alice International, Corpus Christi International, Valley International, Port Isabel-Cameron County, Palacios, Victoria Regional, and Calhoun County Airports), a screening-level analysis was conducted using NOISEMAP to determine changes in noise levels and whether significance thresholds were met or exceeded.

Table 1-1 shows the current number of T-44C operations (i.e., baseline conditions or No Action Alternative) and the number of T-54A aircraft operations that would occur at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss under action alternatives. At NAS Corpus Christi, T-44C aircraft conduct 20 percent of the approximately 162,000 airfield operations conducted annually. The operations of other aircraft types, which include based T-6, P-3, H-60, and H-64 aircraft as well as a wide range of transient aircraft types, would not change under the action alternatives. The T-44C is the only aircraft type that conducts regular aircraft operations at NOLF Cabaniss.

1-1

Introduction



Final

June 2023

Table 1-1 Current and Projected Use of Navy Training Facilities

Name	FAA Identifier	T-44C Aircraft Operations	Alternative 1 Projected T-54A Operations	Alternative 2 Projected T-54A Operations
NAS Corpus Christi	NGP	32,760	36,000	39,300
NOLF Cabaniss	NGW	56,012	61,600	67,200
TOTAL		88,772	97,600	106,500

Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

As shown in Table 1-2, the percentage of T-54A operations conducted at each of the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields would be the same as the percentage of total T-44C operations being conducted currently. Approximately 95,900 T-44C operations are conducted annually at the non-Navy airfields. Under Alternative 1, the total number of operations conducted would increase by 10 percent to approximately 105,400. The total number of operations conducted under Alternative 2 would increase by 20 percent to approximately 115,000.

Table 1-2 Current and Projected Use of International, Regional, and Publicly Owned
Municipal Airfields

Name	T-44C Aircraft Current Operations		Projected T-54A Operations Alternative 1 ²		Projected T-54A Operations Alternative 2 ²	
	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number
Alice International Airport	29	28,200	29	31,000	29	33,800
Calhoun County Airport	4	3,600	4	3,900	4	4,300
Corpus Christi International Airport	22	20,800	22	22,900	22	25,000
Palacios Municipal Airport	5	5,200	5	5,700	5	6,200
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	11	11,000	11	12,000	11	13,100
Valley International Airport	15	14,800	15	16,300	15	17,800
Victoria Regional Airport	-4	4,900	4	5,400	4	5,900
Other ¹	- 8	7,400	8	8,200	8	8,900
Total	100%	95,900	100%	105,400	100%	115,000

Key: % = percent.

Notes:

- 1. Other refers to several airports located in the region each with relatively small numbers of T-54A operations.
- Numbers are rounded to nearest hundred. Alternative 1 includes a 10 percent increase in operations, while Alternative 2 includes a 20 percent increase in operations.

The Federal Interagency Committee on Urban Noise (FICUN), formed in 1979, published *Guidelines for Considering Noise in Land-Use Planning and Control* (FICUN, 1980). These guidelines complement federal agency criteria by providing for the consideration of noise in all land-use planning and interagency/intergovernmental processes. The FICUN established day-night average sound level (DNL) is the most appropriate descriptor for all noise sources. In 1982, the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) published *Guidelines for Noise Impact Analysis* to provide all types of decision-makers with analytic procedures to uniformly express and quantify noise impacts (USEPA, 1982). The American National Standards Institute (ANSI) endorsed DNL in 1990 as the "acoustical measure to be used in assessing compatibility between various land uses and outdoor noise environment" (ANSI, 2003). In 1992, the Federal Interagency Committee on Noise reaffirmed the use of DNL as the principal aircraft noise descriptor in the document entitled *Federal Agency Review of Selected Airport Noise Analysis*

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Issues (Federal Interagency Committee on Noise, 1992). In general, scientific studies and social surveys have found a high correlation between the percentages of groups of people highly annoyed and the level of average noise exposure measured in DNL (Schultz, 1974; Fidell et al., 1991; Finegold et al., 1994).

Chapter 1, Introduction, of this report provides an overview of the study's objective and goals. Chapter 2, Noise Metrics, Impact, and Modeling, summarizes the noise metrics used to describe the noise environment, the noise effects, and noise modeling methods used in this analysis. Chapter 3, Aircraft Operations, provides a description of the current and projected aircraft operations at each airfield. Chapter 4, Noise Results, provides noise results for the No Action Alternative and action alternatives.

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2 Noise Metrics, Impacts, and Modeling

2.1 Noise Metrics

All sounds have a spectral content, which means the magnitude or level changes with frequency, where frequency is measured in cycles per second or Hertz. To mimic the human ear's nonlinear sensitivity and perception of different frequencies of sound, the spectral content is weighted. For example, environmental noise measurements are usually on an "A-weighted" scale that filters out very low and very high frequencies to replicate human sensitivity. It is common to add the "A" to the measurement unit to identify that the measurement has been made with this filtering process (dBA). In this document, the decibel (dB) unit refers to A-weighted sound levels.

A metric is a system for measuring or quantifying a particular characteristic of a subject. Since noise is a complex physical phenomenon, different noise metrics help to quantify the noise environment. The noise metrics used in this study are described below. While the DNL is the most commonly used metric for analyzing noise generated at an airfield, supplemental metrics provide more detailed noise exposure information for the decision process. The Department of Defense (DoD) Noise Working Group product, Improving Aviation Noise Planning, Analysis and Public Communication with Supplemental Metrics (DoD Noise Working Group, 2009) was used to determine the appropriate metrics and analysis tools for the noise study.

2.1.1 Maximum Sound Level (Lmax)

The highest A-weighted integrated sound level measured during a single noise event in which the sound level changes with time (e.g., an aircraft overflight) is called the maximum A-weighted sound level or maximum sound level. During an aircraft overflight, the noise level starts at the ambient or background sound level, rises to the maximum level as the aircraft flies closest to the observer, and returns to the background level as the aircraft recedes into the distance. L_{max} defines the maximum sound level occurring for a fraction of a second during the event. For aircraft noise, the "fraction of a second" over which the maximum level is defined is generally 1/8th of a second. The maximum sound level is important in judging the interference caused by a noise event with conversation, TV or radio listening, sleep, or other common activities. Although L_{max} provides some measure of the intrusiveness of the event, it does not completely describe the total event, because it does not include the period of time over which the sound is heard.

2.1.2 Day/Night Average Sound Level (DNL)

DNL is a complex metric that sums all noise events in a 24-hour period. An additional 10 dB are applied to nighttime events to account for the added intrusiveness of sounds that occur during normal sleeping hours, both because of the increased sensitivity to noise during those hours and because ambient sound levels during nighttime are typically about 10 dB lower than during daytime hours. DNL is an average quantity mathematically representing the continuous A-weighted sound level that would be present if all the variations in sound level that occur over a 24-hour period were smoothed out so as to contain the same total sound energy. DNL accounts for the maximum noise levels, the duration of the events (operations), the number of events, and the timing of occurrence over a 24-hour period. DNL does not represent the sound level heard at any particular time but quantifies the total sound energy received. While it is normalized as an average, it represents all the sound energy, and is therefore a cumulative measure.

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Although DNL provides a single measure of the overall noise impact, it does not provide specific information on the number of noise events or the individual sound levels that occur during the 24-hour period. For example, a daily average sound level of 65 dB could result from very few noisy events or a large number of relatively quieter events.

2.1.3 Equivalent Sound Level

A cumulative noise metric useful in describing noise is the equivalent sound level. The equivalent sound level is the continuous sound level that would be present if all the variations in sound level occurring over a specified time period were smoothed out as to contain the same total sound energy.

2.1.4 Numbers of Events Above a Threshold Level

The "Number of Events Above a Threshold Level" metric provides the total number of noise events that exceed a selected noise level threshold during a specified period of time (DoD Noise Working Group, 2009). In this study, the numbers of events per hour exceeding an L_{max} threshold are selected to analyze speech interference.

2.2 Noise Effects

Several categories of noise impacts that could be associated with the Proposed Action are summarized below.

2.2.1 Annoyance

As previously noted, the primary effect of aircraft noise on exposed communities is long-term annoyance, defined by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency as any negative subjective reaction on the part of an individual or group. The scientific community has adopted the use of long-term annoyance as a primary indicator of community response and there is a consistent relationship between DNL and the level of community annoyance (Federal Interagency Committee on Noise, 1992).

2.2.2 Speech Interference

Speech interference associated with aircraft noise is a primary cause of annoyance for communities. Speech interference can cause disruption of routine activities, such as enjoyment of radio or television programs, telephone use, or family conversation, giving rise to frustration or irritation. In extreme cases, speech interference may cause fatigue and vocal strain to individuals who try to communicate over the noise. In this analysis, speech interference is measured by the number of daily indoor events (from 7 a.m. to 10 p.m.) that exceed 50 dB L_{max} at selected locations. This metric also accounts for noise level reduction provided by buildings with windows open or closed.

2.2.3 Classroom Criteria and Noise Effects on Children

For school-aged children, noise can interrupt communication or interfere with concentration. The DoD Noise Working Group recommends using an outdoor eight-hour equivalent sound level (Leq(ibr)) during the school day of 60 dBA as an indicator that background noise levels indoors (i.e., in classrooms) are unacceptably high.

If locations have noise levels that exceed 60 dBA $L_{eq(s)in}$, the working group recommends an additional noise metric to supplement the analysis. In this scenario, it is recommended that the number of events

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per hour with the potential to interfere with speech be calculated (DoD Noise Working Group, 2013). In this analysis, it is conservatively assumed that there is the potential for speech interference if a noise event exceeds 50 dBA L_{\max} .

2.3 Noise Modeling

Modeling of aircraft noise exposure for this study was accomplished by using the program NOISEMAP. NOISEMAP allows noise predictions without the actual implementation of the operations and noise monitoring of those actions. Per Chief of Naval Operations Instruction 11010.36C, NOISEMAP is to be used for developing fixed-wing noise contours, and it is the best noise-modeling science available today for fixed-wing aircraft until the new Advanced Acoustic Model is approved and ready for use. The Advanced Acoustic Model was approved on November 28, 2022, but to date is only ready for use with AV-8B, F-22, and F-35A/B fixed wing aircraft. Therefore, this analysis used NOISEMAP. Rotary-wing and tilt-rotor aircraft operations are to be modeled using the Rotorcraft Noise Model, which is functionally equivalent to the Advanced Acoustic Model in calculations of rotorcraft noise. Specifically, this noise analysis used the latest NOISEMAP package of computer programs, which consists of BASEOPS Version 7 (Wasmer & Maunsell, 2006a), OMEGA10, OMEGA11 (Mohlman, 1983), NOISEMAP Version 7.3, Rotorcraft Noise Model, NMPlot (Wasmer & Maunsell, 2006b), and the latest issue of NOISEFILE. NOISEFILE is the DoD noise database originating from noise measurements of controlled flyovers at prescribed power, speed, and drag configurations for many models of aircraft. The data input module BASEOPS was used to enter the runway coordinates, airfield information, flight tracks, and flight profiles along each track by each aircraft, numbers of flight operations conducted during an average annual day, run-up coordinates, run-up profiles, and run-up operations conducted during an average annual day. The elevation and ground impedance were developed from U.S. Geological Survey National Elevation Dataset and National Land Cover Database 2001 files.

This noise study uses the DNL noise metric to evaluate the noise impacts of the No Action Alternative and action alternatives. After the operational parameters are defined, NOISEMAP calculates DNL values on a grid of ground locations on and around the facility. The NMPlot program draws contours of equal DNL for overlay onto land-use maps. For noise studies, as a minimum, DNL contours of 65, 70, and 75 dB are developed. NOISEMAP was also used to calculate the number of events exceeding threshold L_{max} values (as an indication of potential speech interference) and $L_{eq(8h1)}$ values (as an indicator of classroom interference).

NOISEMAP is most accurate for comparing "before-and-after" community noise effects, which would result from the implementation of proposed changes or alternative noise control actions when the calculations are made in a consistent manner. NOISEMAP allows prediction of noise levels for the Proposed Action prior to implementing and noise monitoring of the action. The noise modeling results of these computer programs, along with noise impact guidelines, provide a relative measure of noise effects around air facilities. The operational data for this analysis were obtained through interviews with NAS Corpus Christi instructor pilots and other personnel. The modeled flight tracks and flight profiles at each airfield were reviewed and revised based on follow-on discussions with operators of the T-44C and T-6.

At international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields, a combination of Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) data and inputs from NAS Corpus Christi aircrews were used to conduct a screening-level noise analysis with the specific intent of demonstrating whether or not significant noise

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impacts would occur as a result of the Proposed Action. The Houston Air Route Traffic Control Center generously provided Performance Data Analysis and Reporting System data for each of the municipal airports studied in Calendar Year 2019. The data provided were useful as a source of information on aircraft types and time-of-day of operations but did not include specific locations for aircraft flight tracks. Therefore, a set of nominal flight tracks was used for noise modeling at each airfield. The FAA Air Traffic Activity System was the source for overall flight activity levels. Parameters for NAS Corpus Christibased T-44C and T-6 aircraft were developed through pilot interviews.

In January 2023, the Navy awarded a contract to develop the T-54A aircraft based on the Beechcraft King Air 260 (Chapman, 2023). Although NOISEMAP software does not include reference noise level data for the Beechcraft King Air 260, it does include data for the C-12, which is very similar to the Beechcraft King Air 260. The C-12 and Beechcraft King Air 260 are both powered by two turboprop engines that each generate 850 shaft horsepower. Because the C-12 is very similar to the Beechcraft King Air 260 on which the T-54A development will be based, C-12 noise levels are expected to be very similar to noise levels generated by T-54A aircraft, and the C-12 was used as the noise surrogate. It is worth noting that the C-12 is also the aircraft in the NOISEMAP database that is most similar to the T-44C and was therefore also used as the surrogate for modeling T-44C noise levels.

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3 Aircraft Operations

This section describes the modeled aircraft operations. Each time a single aircraft departs the airfield and later returns, this combined event is referred to as a sortie. All sorties include one departure operation and one arrival operation. Some sorties also include pattern operations. Pattern operations are complete circuits including takeoff, maneuvering to set up for an approach, and then landing. Visual patterns are flown by aircrews using visual reference points. Instrument closed patterns are conducted in accordance with specific guidance provided by Air Traffic Control.

T-54A aircraft operations would follow the same flight paths, runway usage patterns, and pattern altitudes as ongoing T-44C operations. The T-54A aircraft operational scenarios would differ from T-44C in the specific way in which the aircraft is flown (i.e., altitude/engine power setting/airspeed profiles) and in operational tempo (i.e., 10 percent higher under Alternative 1 and 20 percent higher under Alternative 2). Operational parameters are summarized below and described in greater detail in Appendices A through D.

3.1 NAS Corpus Christi

As shown in Table 3-1, NAS Corpus Christi is used for approximately 33,000 T-44C airfield operations annually while other aircraft types make up the remainder of the approximately 162,000 total annual airfield operations. At NAS Corpus Christi, visual patterns typically involve maneuvering to set up for a second approach by flying parallel to the runway at approximately 1 nautical mile horizontally offset distance (also referred to as 'abeam') from the runway. Modeled instrument patterns at NAS Corpus Christi involve maneuvering for a second approach at approximately 5 nautical miles abeam the runway. NAS Corpus Christi flight tracks and altitude/engine power setting/airspeed profiles are shown in Appendix A and detailed information on the frequency of operations is presented in Appendix D.

Table 3-1 NAS Corpus Christi Annual Operations

Group	Departures	Arrivals	Visual Pattern Operations	Instrument Pattern Operations	Total Operations
Based Aircraft Annual Operations					
T-44C	10,920	10,920	764	10,156	32,760
T-6B	25,000	25,000	56,250	18,750	125,000
P-3C	364	364	728	0	1,456
HH/UH-60 (modeled as SH-60)	486	486	0	0	972
AH-64 (modeled as SH-60)	54	54	0	0	108
A CONTRACTOR OF THE PARTY OF TH	TOTAL:				160,296
Transient Aircraft					
H-60 (modeled as SH-60)	38	38	0	0	76
AH-64 (modeled as SH-60)	22	22	0	0	44
CH-47 (modeled as CH-46)	- 4	4	0	0	8
Learjet (small jets) C-21	9	9	0	0	18
F/A-18C/D (and other fighter jets)	60	60	0	360	480
T-38 (and other trainer jets)	90	90	0	720	900
C-130 (and other cargo)	24	24	0	0	48
C-12 (and other props)	28	28	0	0	56

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Table 3-1 NAS Corpus Christi Annual Operations

Group	Departures	Departures Arrivals Visual Pattern Operations Instrument Pattern Operations			
				TOTAL:	1,630
GRAND TOTAL (including based and transient aircraft):					161,926

Key: NAS = Naval Air Station.

3.2 NOLF Cabaniss

NOLF Cabaniss supports approximately 56,000 T-44C operations annually (Table 3-2). The airfield supports only visual flying operations. Flight tracks and profiles at NOLF Cabaniss are shown in Appendix B and detailed information on the frequency of operations is presented in Appendix D.

Table 3-2 NOLF Cabaniss Annual Operations

Group	Departures	Arrivals	Visual Pattern Operations	Instrument Pattern Operations	Total Operations
T-44C	1,474	1,474	53,064	0	56,012
				TOTAL:	56,012

Key: NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

3.3 International, Regional and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

T-44C are one of several users at the seven non-Navy airfields analyzed (see Table 3-3). T-6 aircraft based at NAS Corpus Christi also make use of each of the airfields. Other military users of the airfields include T-1, T-38, T-45, and C-12 aircraft and similar aircraft types. Civilian aircraft using the non-Navy airfields are recorded by the FAA as air carrier, air taxi, or general aviation operations. "Air carrier" aircraft include large commercial aircraft types such as the Boeing 737 and Boeing 767. Smaller commercial aircraft that have a maximum seating capacity of 60 seats or maximum payload of 18,000 pounds are categorized as "air taxi." Aircraft types operating as air taxis include jets such as the Bombardier Challenger 601 and propeller-driven aircraft such as the Beechcraft King Air. "General aviation" aircraft are used for private transportation and recreation and include a wide a variety of jet-powered and propeller-driven aircraft types.

Table 3-3 Current Operations at International, Regional, and Publicly Owned
Municipal Airfields

Airfield	T-44C	T-6 and Other Military Aircraft	Civilian Air Carrier	Civilian Air Taxí	Civilian General Aviation
Alice International Airport	28,153	5,000	0	0	6,600
Corpus Christi International Airport	20,805	37,428	7,531	8,818	17,107
Valley International Airport	14,848	5,000	7,817	3,120	15,955
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	10,948	5,052	o	20	13,400
Palacios Municipal Airport	5,183	2,500	0	.0	5,600
Victoria Regional Airport	4,896	39,544	1	3,809	7,670

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Table 3-3 Current Operations at International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

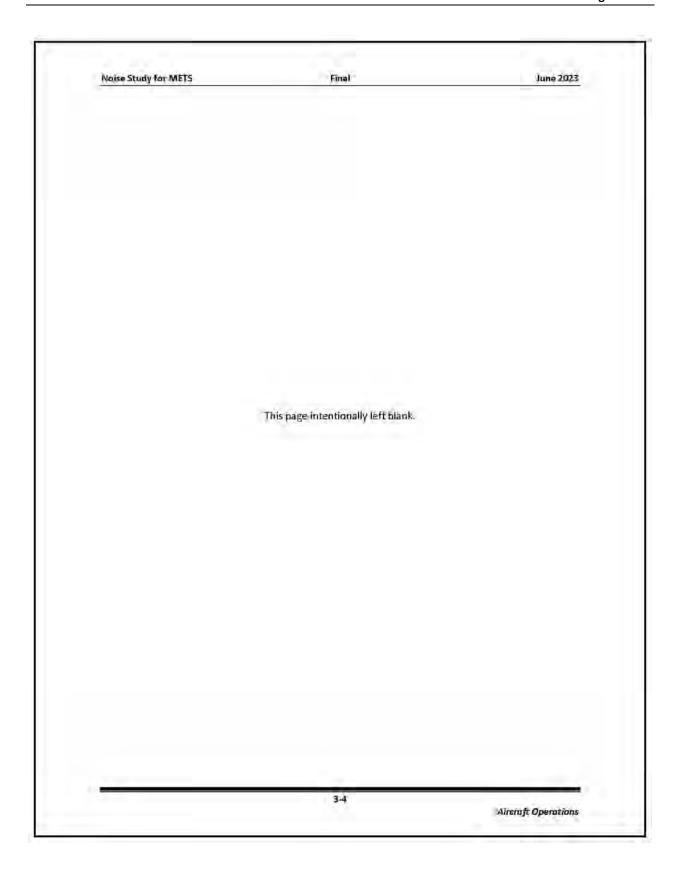
	T-44C	T-6 and Other Military Aircraft	Civilian Air Carrier	Civilian Air Taxí	Civilian General Aviation
Calhoun County Airport	3,557	7,500	0	.0	7,200

In addition to arrival and departure operations, flight pattern operations at the non-Navy airfields include but are not limited to:

- Visual closed patterns at 800 above ground level and approximately 1-nautical mile abeam distance
- Instrument closed patterns at 1,500 above ground level and approximately 5-nautical mile abeam distance
- Civilian aircraft practice approaches

Modeled nominal flight tracks at each international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfield and representative profiles for each surrogate aircraft are shown in Appendix C. Detailed information on the frequency of operations is presented in Appendix D.

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4 Noise Results

4.1 NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss

This section compares detailed noise results for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss under Alternatives 1 and 2 to the No Action Alternative. Results are presented using the DNL, maximum sound level, number of events exceeding maximum sound level, and Legisler.

4.1.1 Alternative 1

Maximum noise levels associated with individual overflights of T-44C, T-54A, T-6, and transient F/A-18C aircraft at 1,000 feet above ground level (AGL) are listed in Table 4-1. As noted in Section 2.3, *Noise Modeling*, the C-12 aircraft was used as the noise modeling surrogate for both the T-54A and for the T-44C. Individual overflight noise levels for the T-54A and T-44C would be approximately the same. Both the T-54A and the T-44C are not as loud as the T-6 and transient aircraft types such as the F/A-18C. At NOLF Cabaniss, only T-44C operations occur on a regular basis.

Table 4-1 Individual Overflight Maximum Noise Levels Generated by T-44, T-45A, and Other Aircraft

Aircraft	Aircraft Configuration	Engine Power	Lmax (dBA)
T-44C (C-12 surrogate)		100% RPM	73
T-54A (C-12 surrogate)	Talasakk (kalli massasi)	100% RPM	73
T-6	Takeoff (full power)	100% torque	78
F/A-18C		96.7% NC (afterburner)	115
T-44C (C-12 surrogate)		86% RPM	73
T-54A (C-12 surrogate)	Control Control of Control	86% RPM	73
T-6	Cruise (intermediate power)	54% torque	75
F/A-18C		96.5% NC	108
T-44C (C-12 surrogate)		30% RPM	70
T-54A (C-12 surrogate)	Assistant Manager and State	30% RPM	70
T-6	Arrival (low power)	35% torque	75
F/A-18C		88,5% NC	104

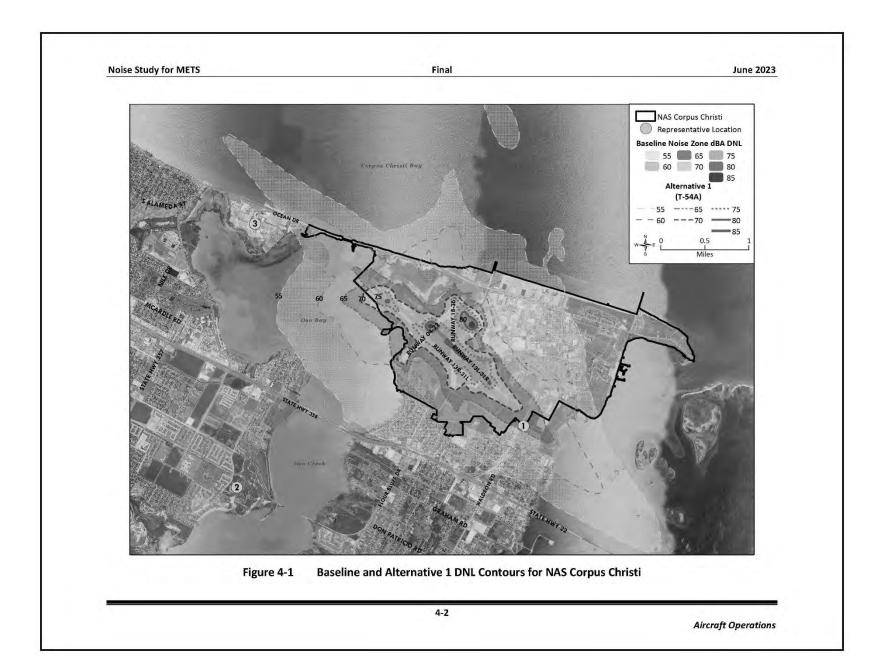
Source: SELcalc, version 3; standard acoustic conditions (59 degrees Fahrenheit and 70% relative humidity)

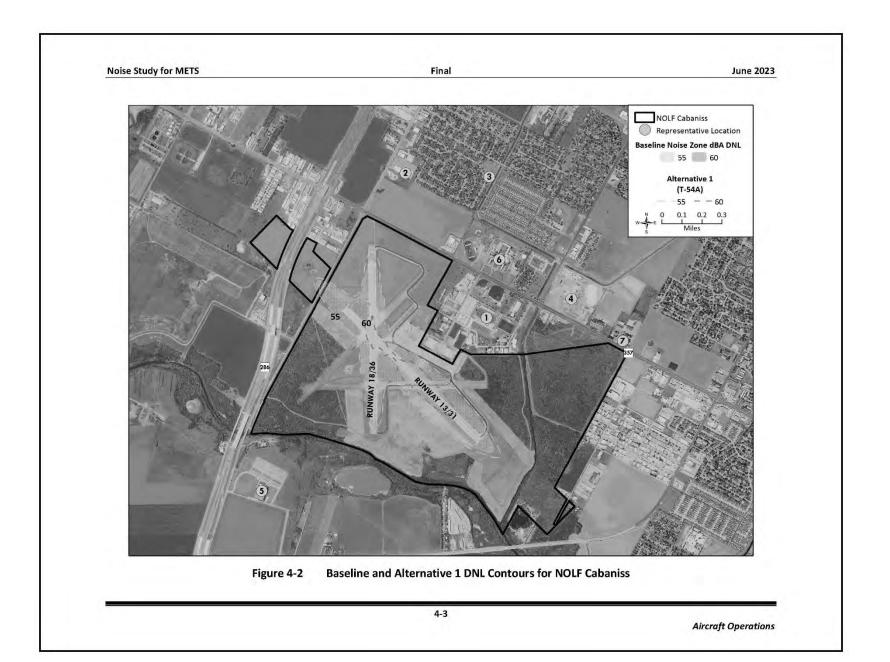
Key: % = percent; dBA = A-weighted decibels; NC = core engine speed; RPM = revolutions per minute.

The T-54A would follow the same flight procedures and patterns of flight (e.g., runway usage) as the T-44C and would accomplish climbs and descents at approximately the same rate. Alternative 1 would differ from the No Action Alternative in that T-54A aircraft would conduct approximately 10 percent more airfield operations annually than are conducted currently by T-44C aircraft at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields.

Alternative 1 DNL contours are shown in Figure 4-1 and Figure 4-2 for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss, respectively, The number of off-station land acres near NAS Corpus Christi exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater would increase from 50 to 51, and the estimated number of residents affected at these levels would remain at 91. At NOLF Cabaniss, off-station aircraft noise levels would remain below 65 dBA DNL (Table 4-2).

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Table 4-2 Off-Station Acres and Population Exposed to Elevated Noise Levels near NAS
Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss under Alternative 1

According.	No Action A 65–69 d	STATE SECTION IS	Alterno 65–69 d		Change		
Location	Land Area (acres) ¹	Residents ²	Land Area (acres) ¹	Residents ²	Land Area (acres) ¹	Residents ²	
NAS Corpus Christi	50	91	51	91	+1	0	
NOLF Cabaniss	0	0	0	0	0	0	

Key: dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. Acreage presented does not include areas over water or lands owned by the U.S. Navy.
- The affected populations were estimated based on U.S. Census data at the block group level with adjustments to remove nonresidential areas from calculations (U.S. Census Bureau, 2020).

Under Alternative 1, there would be no measurable change in noise level (i.e., dB DNL) at the locations studied near NAS Corpus Christi, and noise levels at locations studied near NOLF Cabaniss would increase by 0.5 dB DNL or less (Table 4-3). Increases in DNL of 0.5 dB or less at locations near NOLF Cabaniss would not be expected to be noticeable, and noise levels at all of the locations studied near NOLF Cabaniss would remain well below the 65 dB DNL land use compatibility threshold.

Table 4-3 DNL at Representative Locations under Alternative 1

ID.	Closest	Consider Resolution	DNL (dBA)					
ID.	Installation	Location Description	No Action Alternative!	Alternative 11	Change			
1	NAC COMMO	Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	66.3	66.3	0			
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	<45	<45	0			
3		Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi	48.1	48.1	0			
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	<45	45.2	0.2			
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	49.2	49.6	0.4			
3]	Camargo Park	49.1	49.5	0.4			
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48.3	48.8	0.5			
5	Cabaniss	Church Unlimited	<45	<45	0			
6		Saint John Paul II High School	<45	45.2	0.2			
7		Most Precious Blood Church	48.9	49.4	0,5			

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; ID = identification; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.</p>

Note:

1, Noise levels below 45 dBA DNL are assumed to be below ambient sound levels and are listed as "<45."

The numbers of indoor noise events per average daytime hour (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) at representative locations with the potential to interfere with speech under Alternative 1 are listed in Table 4-4. The number of events would increase by one at the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard if windows are closed but would remain the same if windows are open and if outdoors. The number of potential speech interference events indoors and outdoors at the other two locations near NAS Corpus Christi would remain the same as the No Action Alternative. At all locations studied near NOLF Cabaniss, the number of events would remain the same indoors but would increase by one event per hour outdoors at six locations. Increases in the frequency of disruptions in communication or activities (e.g., watching television) have a high likelihood of being annoying. However, the frequency of such disruptions would remain the same or increase only minimally under Alternative 1.

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Table 4-4 Speech Interference Events per Average Daytime Hour under Alternative 1

	Closest		4	Alternative 1		Change Relative to No Action Alternative		
D.	Installation	Location Description	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor ¹
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	7	13	18	1	0	0
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	0	0	1	0	0	0
3	Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	Ò	3	10	a	ā	Ó
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	ō	0	6	Ö	0	1
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	1	2	6	0	0	i
3		Camargo Park	0	- 4	6	.0	0	-1
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	0	5	6	0	0	1
5	Cabaniss	Church Unlimited	0	0	5	0	0	0
6		Saint John Paul II High School	0	0	6	0	0	1
7		Most Precious Blood Church	0	5	6	0	0	1

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{min} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Nayal Ali Station; NOLF = Nayal Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

 Number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} (or increase in the number of events) rounds to zero.

Exterior L_{eq(Bin)} at representative schools would remain below 60 dBA at all the schools studied (Table 4-5). At both Carroll High School and Saint John Paul II High School, L_{eq(Bin)} would increase by 0.4 dBA. but would remain well below the 60 dBA impact threshold (see Section 2.2.3, *Classroom Criteria and Noise Effects on Children*). The number of potential speech interference events per hour was calculated, as prescribed by the DoD Noise Working Group, and was found to change by less than one at all the locations studied. Classroom noise impacts would be minimal.

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Table 4-5 Potential Classroom Interference under Alternative 1

			1	Alternative	1	Increase Relative to No Action Alternative			
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Outdoor Leg(8hr) (dBA) ²	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Decident and the	Outdoor Leg(8hr) (dBA) ²	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	Events per Hour, Windows Open ²	
3	NAS Corpus Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	49.2	0	3	0	0	0	
4	NOLF	Carroll High School	48.4	0	5	0.4	0	0	
	Cabaniss	Saint John Paul II High		.0	0	0.4	0	0	

Key; dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{eq(dec)} = eight-hour equivalent sound level; L_{max} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

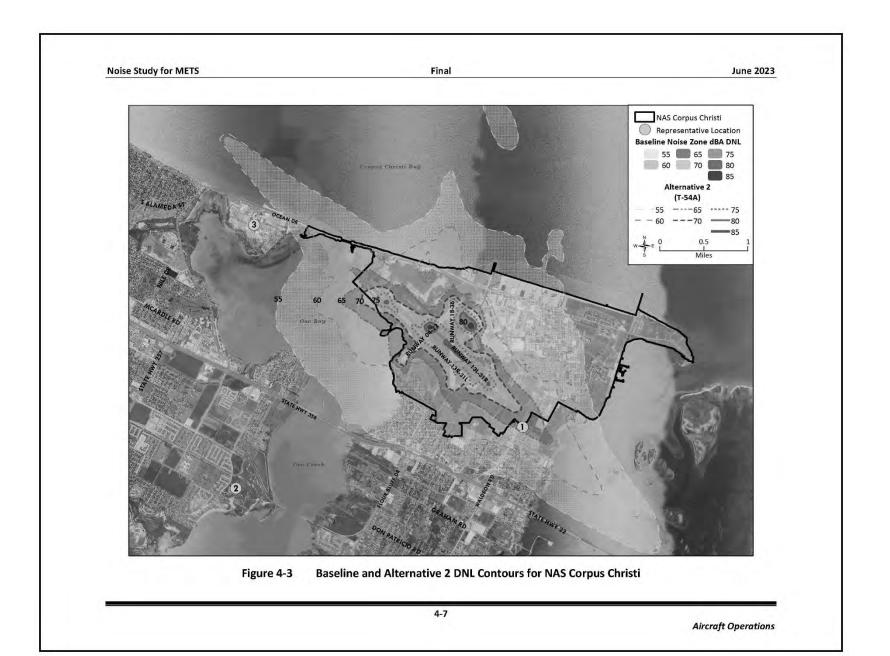
- 1. L_{eq(Sh)} calculated for eight-hour typical school day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{max} rounds to zero.

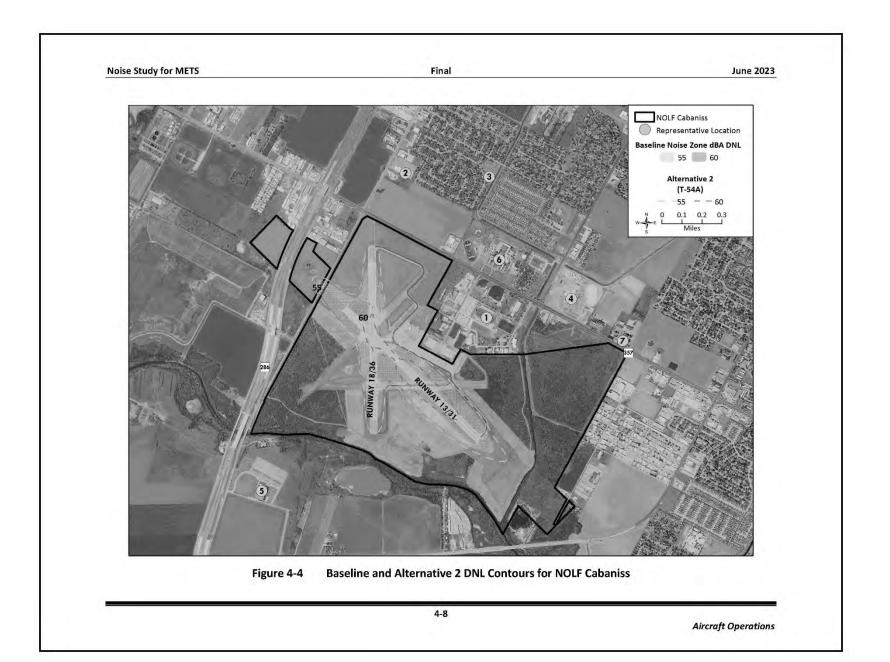
4.1.2 Alternative 2

All aspects of Alternative 2 would be the same as Alternative 1, except for the tempo of T-54A aircraft operations, which would be 20 percent higher than the baseline T-44C operations tempo. As is the case under Alternative 1, T-54A aircraft flight paths, runway usage patterns, and altitude profiles would be approximately the same as are flown by T-44C aircraft currently, and the percentage of operations conducted late at night would not change.

Alternative 2 DNL contours for NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss are shown in Figure 4-3 and Figure 4-4, respectively. The number of off-station land acres near NAS Corpus Christi exposed to 65 dBA DNL or greater would be the same under Alternative 2 as under Alternative 1. The estimated number of off-installation residents exposed to levels exceeding 65 dBA DNL would remain the same under Alternative 1 but would increase from 91 to 92 under Alternative 2. The extremely minor changes in noise contour extent reflect individual T-54A overflight noise levels being approximately the same as those generated by ongoing T-44C operations. In the context of ongoing aircraft operations at NAS Corpus Christi, the contribution of T-54A aircraft-generated noise to overall noise levels would be relatively small, and the difference in noise levels associated with a slightly higher operations tempo under Alternative 2 relative to Alternative 1 is similarly minimal. People exposed to higher DNL are more likely to become highly annoyed by the noise, and at noise levels greater than 65 dBA DNL, the DoD considers noise to be sufficiently intrusive that some noise-sensitive land uses are considered to be incompatible with the noise.

4-6





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Noise levels would remain below 65 dBA DNL at all the locations studied except for the mobile homes on Lexington Boulevard (Table 4-6). At Texas A&M University — Corpus Christi, the noise level would increase by 0.1 dBA DNL, but the noise levels at the other two locations near NAS Corpus Christi would remain the same. The locations near NOLF Cabaniss would experience increases in noise level of 0.8 dBA DNL or less, and all locations would remain well below the 65 dB DNL land use compatibility threshold.

Table 4-6 DNL at Representative Locations under Alternative 2

			1	ONL (dBA)	
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	No Action Alternative	Alternative 21	Change
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Boulevard	66,3	66.3	0
2	NAS Corpus Christi	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	<45	<45	0
3		Texas A&M University - Corpus Christi	48.1	48.2	0.1
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	<45	45,6	0.6
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	49.2	50	0.8
3		Camargo Park	49.1	49.9	8.0
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48.3	49.1	0.8
5		Church Unlimited	<45	<45	0
6	1,00	Saint John Paul II High School	<45	45,6	0.6
7		Most Precious Blood Church	48,9	49.7	0.8

Key: <= less than; dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; ID = identification; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Note:

1. Noise levels below 45 dB DNL are assumed to be below ambient sound levels and are listed as "<45."

The number of indoor noise events per average daytime hour (7:00 a.m. to 10:00 p.m.) at representative locations with the potential to interfere with speech would increase by one or less under Alternative 2 (Table 4-7). Any increases in the frequency of disruptions in communication have a high likelihood of being annoying. However, increases in the frequency of such events under Alternative 2 would be minor.

Exterior L_{eq(6hr)} would remain below 60 dBA at all the schools studied under Alternative 2 (Table 4-8) (see Section 2.2.3, Classroom Criteria and Noise Effects on Children). L_{eq(8hr)} would remain the same at Texas A&M Corpus Christi and would increase by 0.8 dB at both Carroll High School and Saint John Paul II High School. The number of potential speech interference events per average hour would increase by one or less. Although the frequency of classroom speech interference events would increase under Alternative 2 relative to the No Action Alternative, noise levels would remain below the recommended 60 dBA exterior L_{eq(8hr)} and impacts to learning would be expected to be minimal.

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Table 4-7 Speech Interference Events per Average Daytime Hour under Alternative 2

	et const			Alternative 2		Change Rela	ative to No Action	Alternative
ID	Closest Installation	Location Description	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor	Windows Closed ¹	Windows Open ¹	Outdoor ¹
1		Mobile Homes on Lexington Blvd	7	14	19	1	1	1
2	NAS Corpus	Oso Bay Wetlands Preserve	.0.	0	1	0	0	0
3	Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	0	3	10	O	ð	Ö
1		Cabaniss Athletic Complex	0	0	6	0	0	1
2		Bowlero Bowling Alley	1	2	6	0	0	1
3	Noit	Camargo Park	0	5	6	0	1	1
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	0	6	6	0	1	1
5	Cabaniss	Church Unlimited	0	0	6	0	Q	1
5		Saint John Paul II High School	0	0	6	0	0	1
7		Most Precious Blood Church	0	б	6	0	1	1

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; L_{mor} = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NQLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field. Notes:

Table 4-8 Potential Classroom Interference under Alternative 2

	Closest Installation			Alternative 2	1000	Increase Relative to No Action Alternative			
ID		Location Description	Outdoor Leg(Shr) (dBA) ¹	Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	T-8 T-10 T-10 T-10 T-10 T-10 T-10 T-10 T-10		Events per Hour, Windows Closed ²	CONTRACTOR CONTRACTOR AND ADDRESS OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR	
3	NAS Corpus Christi	Texas A&M University – Corpus Christi	49.2	0	3	0	Ď.	0	
4	NOLF Cabaniss	Carroll High School	48,8	0	6	0.8	0	1	
6		Saint John Paul II High School	45.3	0	0	0.8	0	0	

Key: dB = decibels; dBA = A-weighted decibels; ID = identification; Leq(Shr) = eight-hour equivalent sound level; Lmas = maximum A-weighted sound level; NAS = Naval Air Station; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

Notes:

- 1. Len(libr) calculated for eight-hour typical school day from 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.
- Number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{min}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed; 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{min} rounds to zero.

^{1.} Number of events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{mm}; standard structural noise attenuation levels are assumed: 25 dB with windows closed and 15 dB with windows open. Zero indicates that the number of aircraft noise events per hour exceeding 50 dBA L_{mm} (or increase in the number of events) rounds to zero.

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4.2 International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

This section describes the results of the screening analysis at each of the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields under Alternatives 1 or 2 using methods described in Chapter 2, Noise Metrics, Impacts, and Modeling.

Figure 4-5 through Figure 4-11 show DNL contours for the No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 scenarios at each of the non-Navy airports. Changes in noise levels at all of the non-Navy airports are minimal and difficult to distinguish at map scale. At Alice International, Port Isabel — Cameron County, Palacios, and Calhoun County Airports, the screening analysis shows noise levels under any operational scenario would only exceed 65 dBA DNL on and immediately adjacent to the runways (Figure 4-5, Figure 4-8, Figure 4-9, and Figure 4-11). At Corpus Christi International, Valley International, and Victoria Regional airports, the screening analysis shows noise levels exceeding 65 dBA DNL at locations beyond the immediate vicinity of the runways, but there would not be a change in the extent of the 65 dBA DNL contour that is visible at map scale under any scenario (Figure 4-6, Figure 4-7, and Figure 4-10).

DNL changes at representative noise-sensitive locations near each airfield would not exceed significance criteria established by the FAA in Order 1050.1F (Table 4-9). Specifically, there would be no increases of 1.5 dBA DNL or greater to an end-state level of 65 dBA DNL or greater at any noise-sensitive locations. Although this screening criterion aligns with impact criteria established by the FAA, its application to this screening analysis does not imply Navy adoption of FAA criterion for use in other analyses. Rather, the criterion is useful as a point of reference for this screening analysis. Non-exceedance impacts would be minimal and would not be significant.

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Aircraft Operations

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DNL at Representative Locations near International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields under Table 4-9 Alternatives 1 and 2

			DNL (dBA)	Under Each Se	enorio		Sumn	nary (Highest-Imp	act Scenaria)	
Municipal Public Use Airport	ID	Closest Noise Sensitive Locations	Baseline / No Action	Alternative 1	Change	Alternative 2	Change	Exceeds 65 dBA DNL	Change equals or exceeds 1.5 dBA	Potential Significant Impacts
Alice International	1	Residence 1	52.9	53	0.1	53,1	0.2	No	No	No
Airport	2	Residence 2	49.6	49.7	0.1	49,8	0.2	No	Yes	No
Corpus Christi	1	Residence 1	52.6	52.6	0	52.7	0.1	No	No	No
International Airport	2	Residence 2	65.4	65.4	0	65,4	0	Yes	No	No
Valley International	1	Valley International Military Academy	53.1	53.1	0	53.1	0	No	No	No
Airport	2	Residence 1	50.3	50.4	0.1	50.4	0.1	No	No	Nα
Port Isabel-	1	Port Isabel AMI Kids (educational)	48.5	48.5	0	48.6	0.1	No	No	No
Cameron County Airport	2	Port Isabel Detention Center	50.7	50.7	0	50.8	0.1	No	No	No
1	1	Bayside Recreational Vehicle Camp ¹	<45	<45	0	<45	0.	No	No	No
	2	Golf Course	51.7	51.7	0	51.8	0.1	No	No	No
Palacios Municipal Airport	3	City of Palacios (represented by Palacios Junior High School)	56.5	56.5	Q	56.5	Q	No	No	No
4	4	Residence 1	48.4	48.5	0.1	48,5	0.1	No	No	No
Victoria Regional	1	Dorothy O'Connor Pet Adoption Center	64,3	64.3	0	64.3	0	No	No	No
Airport	2	Residence 1	52.2	52.2	0	52.2	0	No	No	No
Calhoun County	1	Drifters (bar)	50:8	50.8	0	50.8	0	No	No	No
Airport	2	Residence 1	53.1	53.1	0	53.1	0	No	No	No

Key: < = less than; dBA = A-weighted decibels; DNL = day-night average sound level; ID = identification.

1. Aircraft noise levels less than 45 dB DNL can be assumed to be below ambient sound levels.

4-12



Figure 4-5 No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL Contours for Alice International Airport



Figure 4-6 No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL Contours for Corpus Christi International Airport

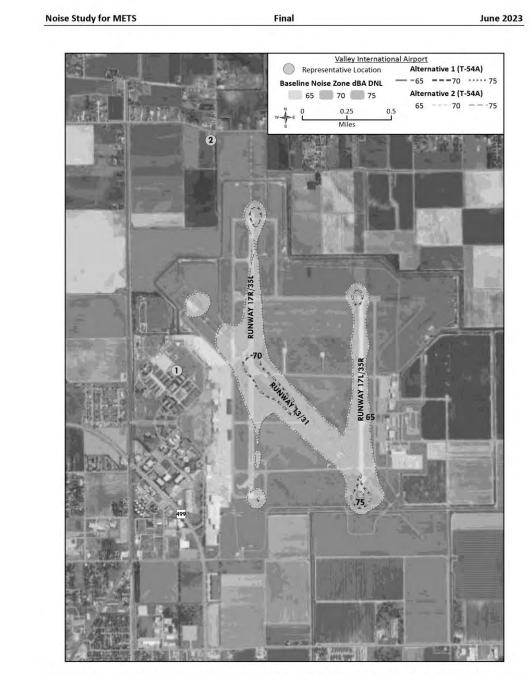
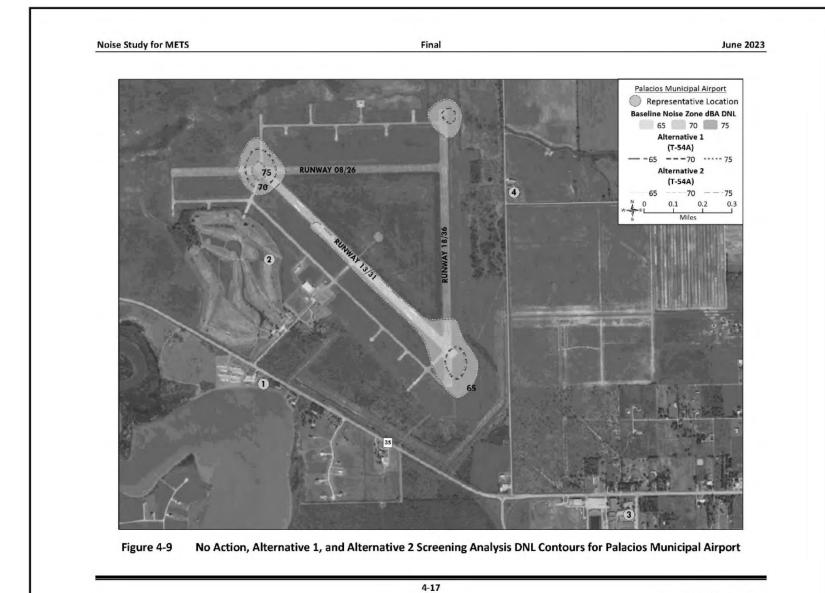


Figure 4-7 No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL Contours for Valley International Airport



Figure 4-8 No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL Contours for Port Isabel-Cameron County International Airport



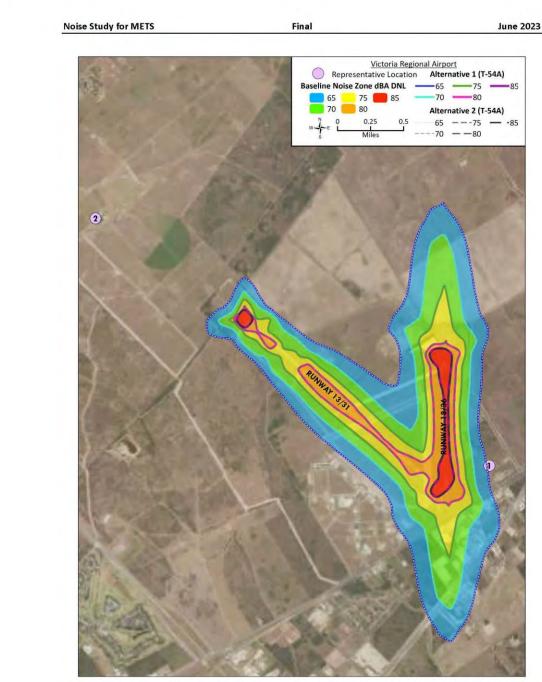


Figure 4-10 No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL Contours for Victoria Regional Airport

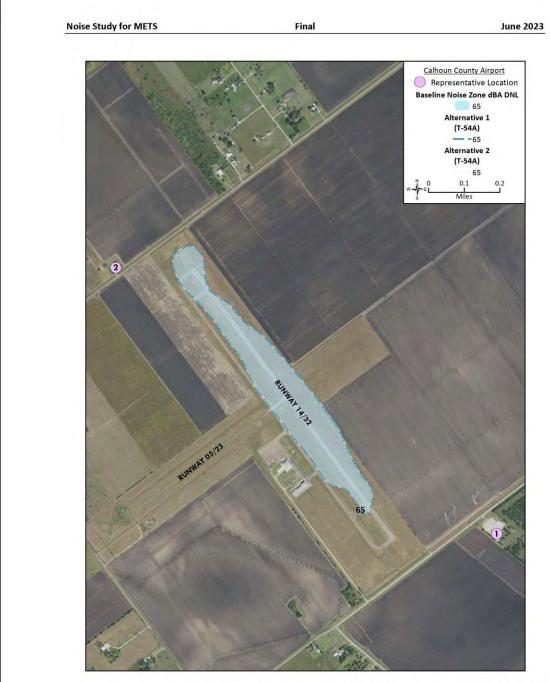
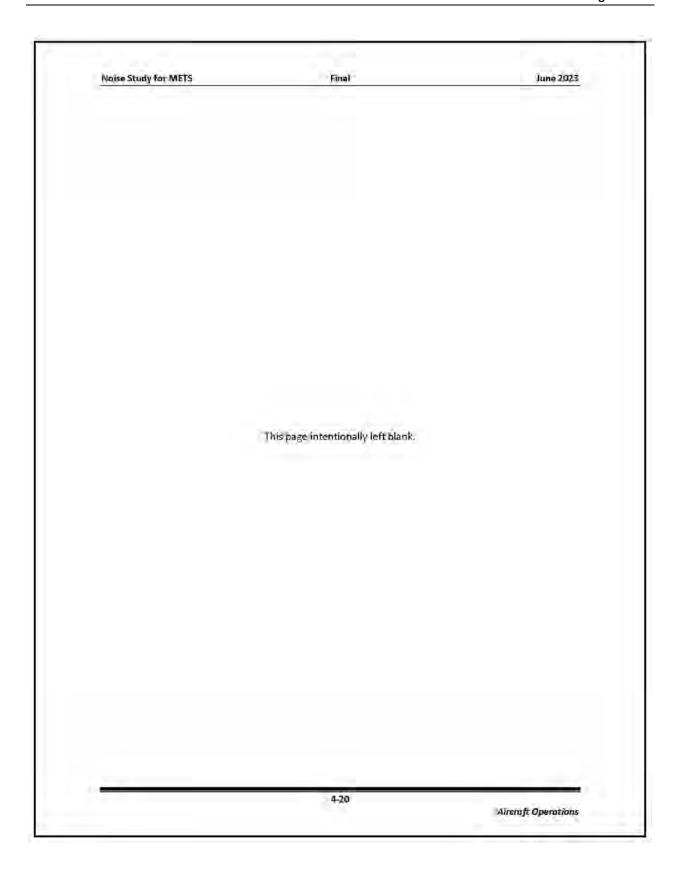


Figure 4-11 No Action, Alternative 1, and Alternative 2 Screening Analysis DNL Contours for Calhoun County Airport



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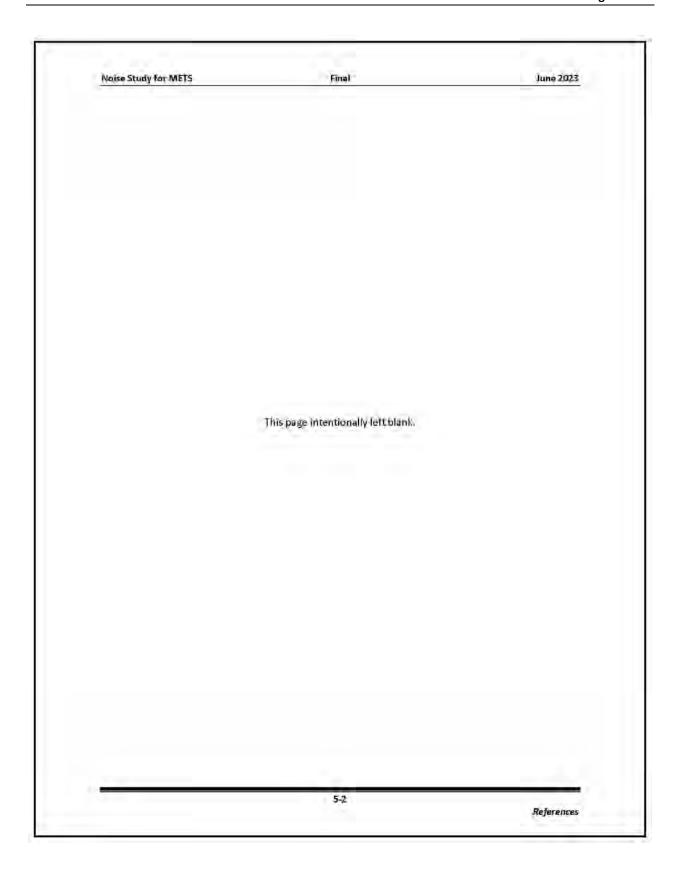
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5-1

References



Final

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Appendix A Profile and Flight Tracks for T-44C (equivalent to T-54A profiles) at NAS Corpus Christi

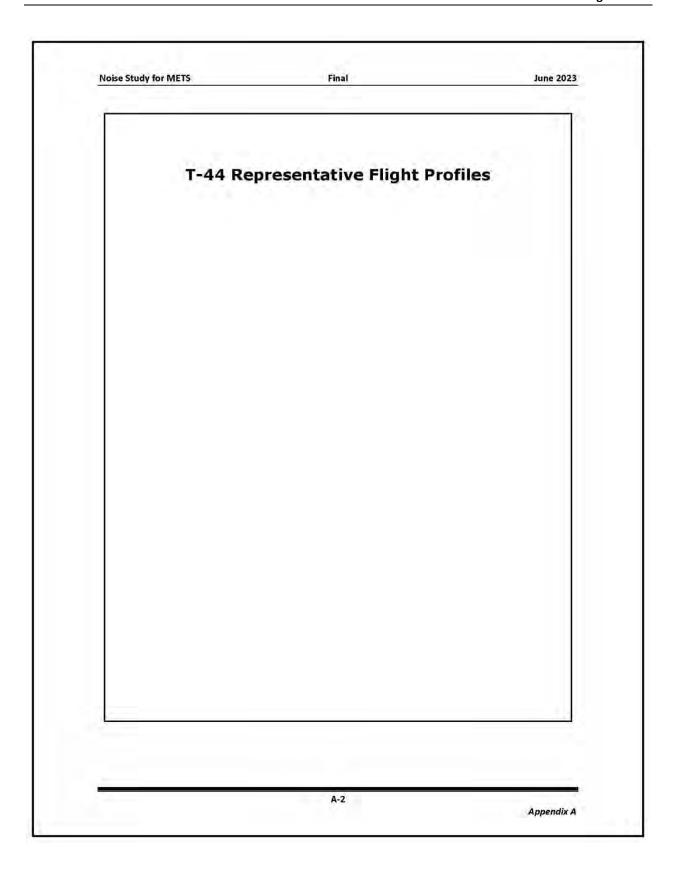
Appendix A displays representative flight profile and summary flight tracks for T-44C aircraft at NAS Corpus Christi. The T-44C profiles shown are equivalent to profiles that would be used by T-54A aircraft, which are also referred to in this appendix as the Multi-Engine Training System(METS). Flight profiles and tracks were developed based on inputs from operational subject matter experts and then reviewed/validated to ensure accuracy.

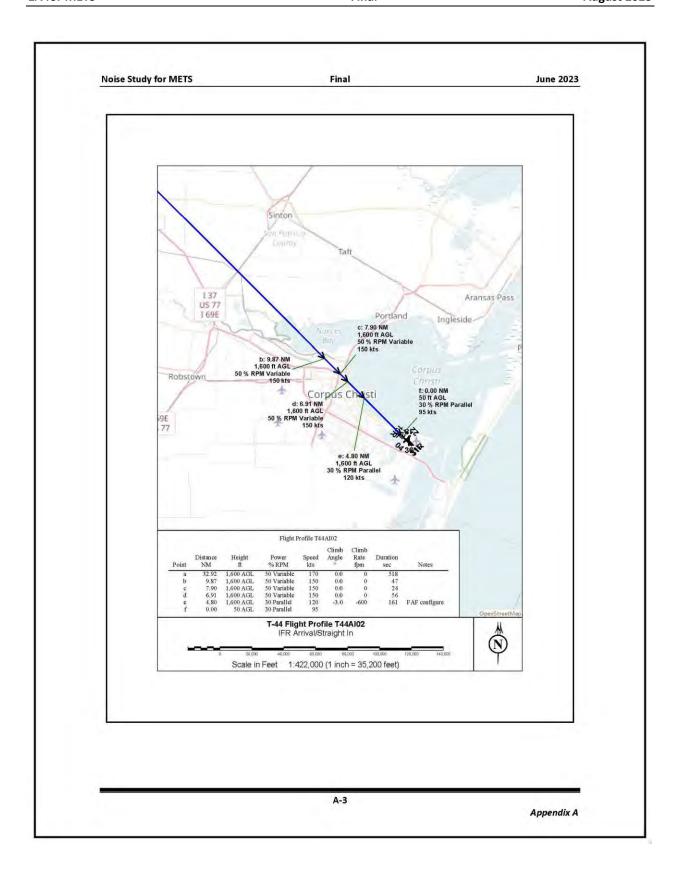
Each category of aircraft profile is shown only once. Representative profiles shown are applicable to all tracks of the particular category (i.e., Instrument Flight Rules approach) for that aircraft. Each figure includes a table of flight parameters describing the flight trajectory along the flight track. The parameters are varied linearly between the points denoted by the corresponding letter. For departure and pattern profiles, the trajectories proceed as the aircraft flies. However, for arrivals, the trajectories are described in reverse. Please note that some of the following profiles depicted have trajectories that extend beyond the map range.

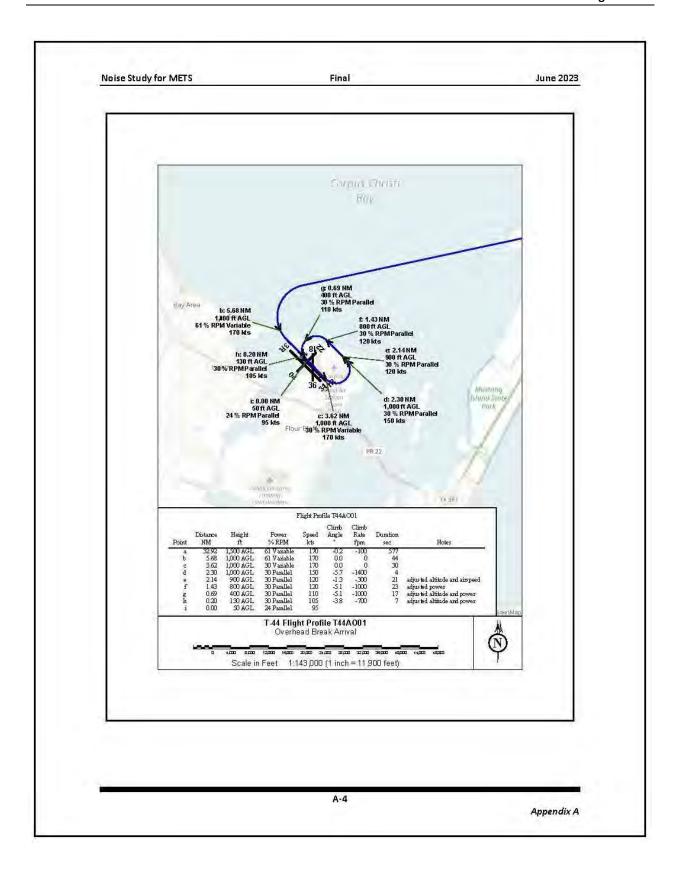
There are some modeling parameters that are important to note. First, the terms "Variable" and "Parallel" refer to noise interpolation codes that are used to distinguish between clean and dirty configurations, respectively when the noise data is significantly different between the configurations for an individual aircraft. (The "dirty" configuration has flaps and landing gear extended.) The engine power settings are also limited to certain ranges for each aircraft based on the reference noise data.

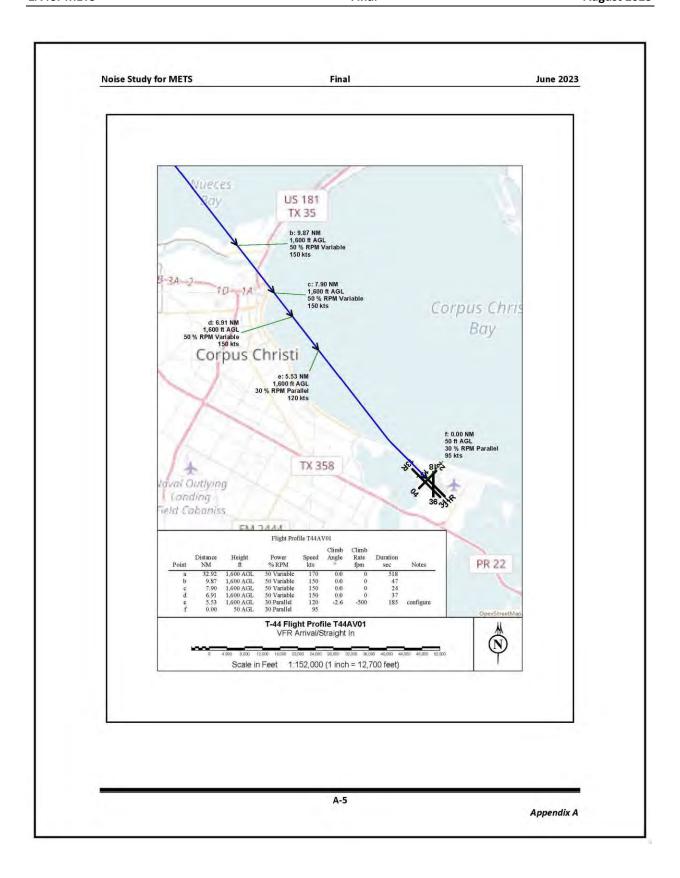
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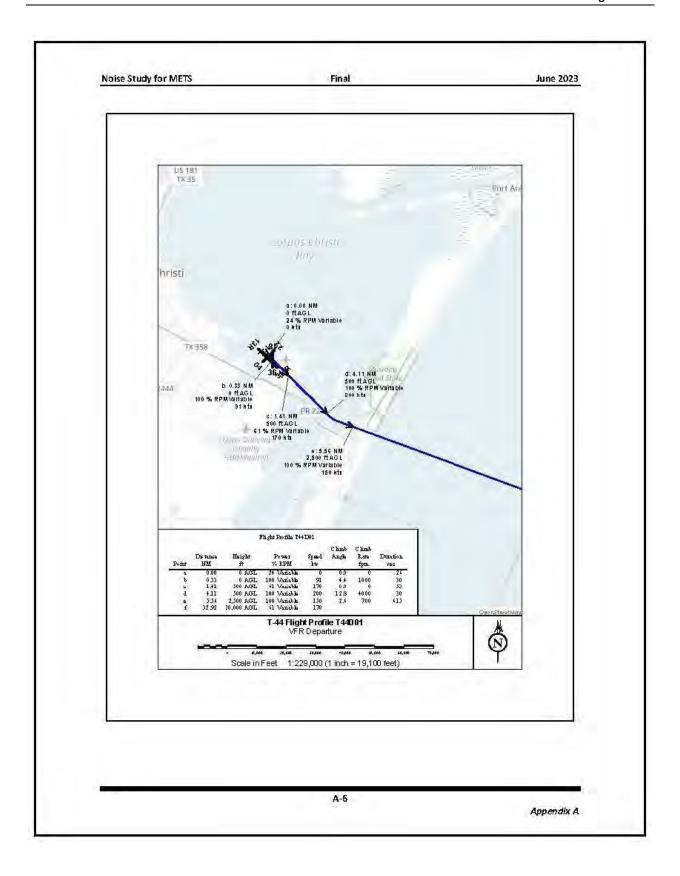
Appendix A

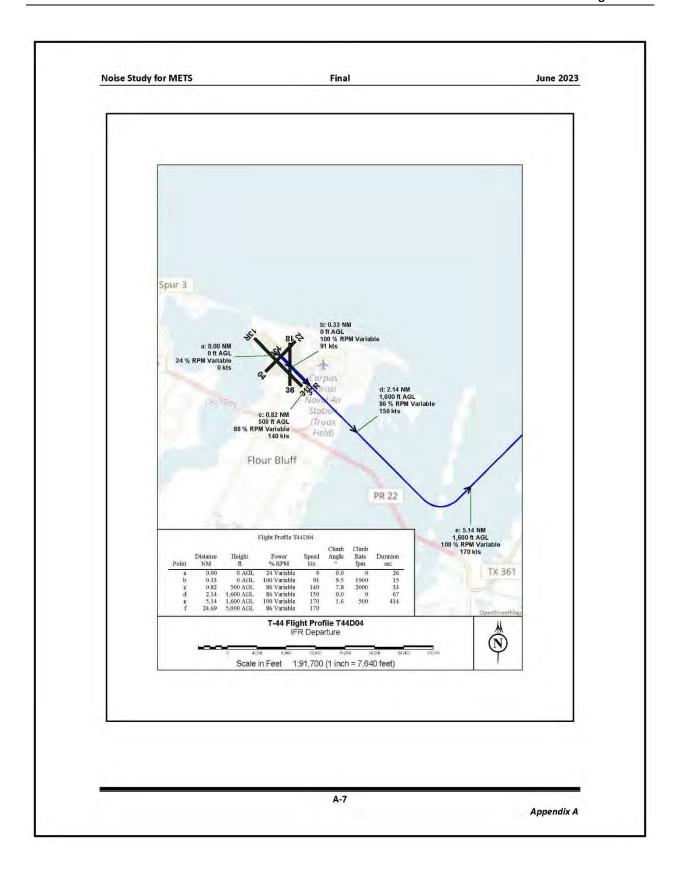


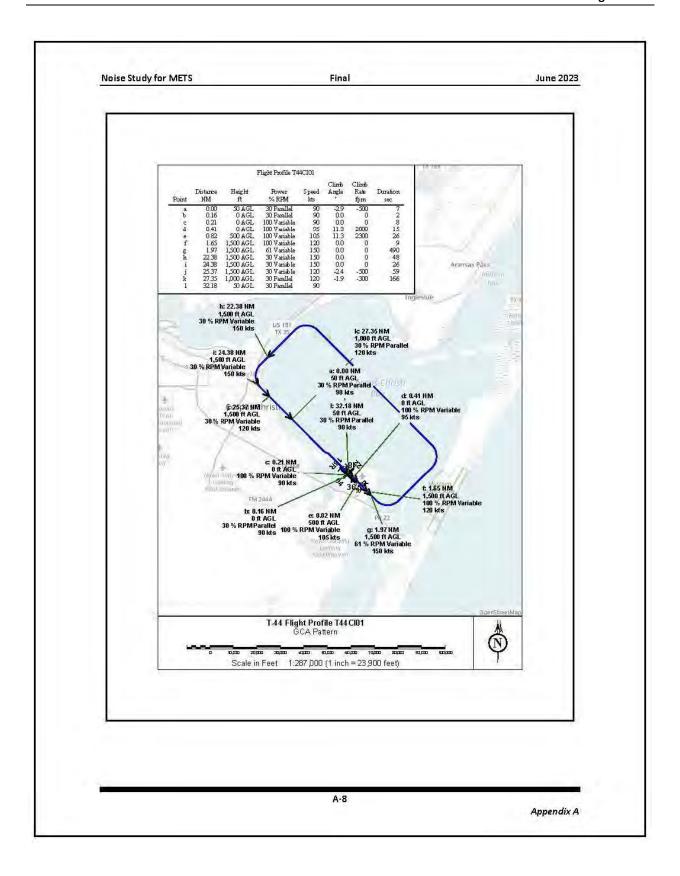


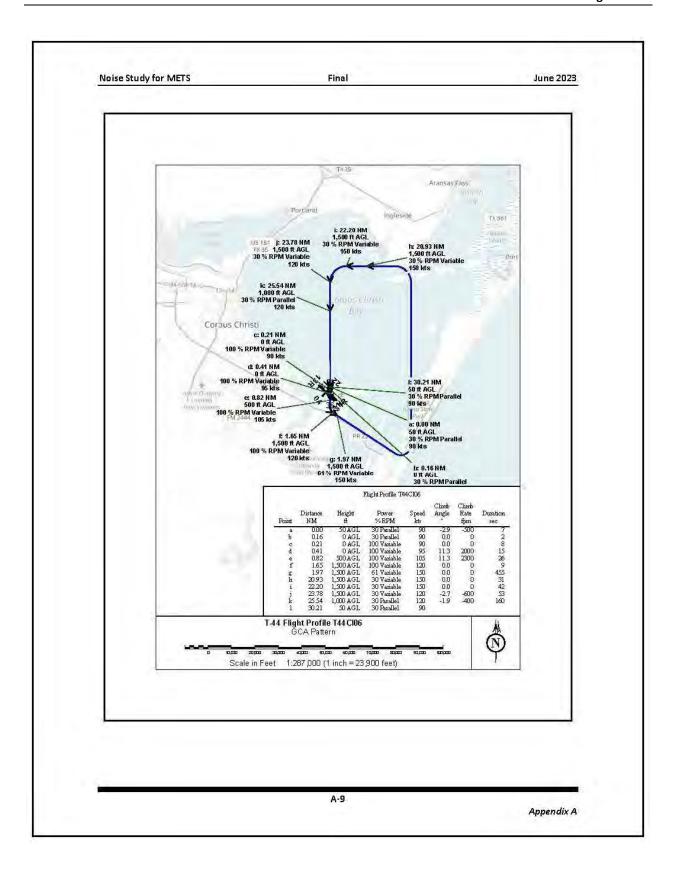


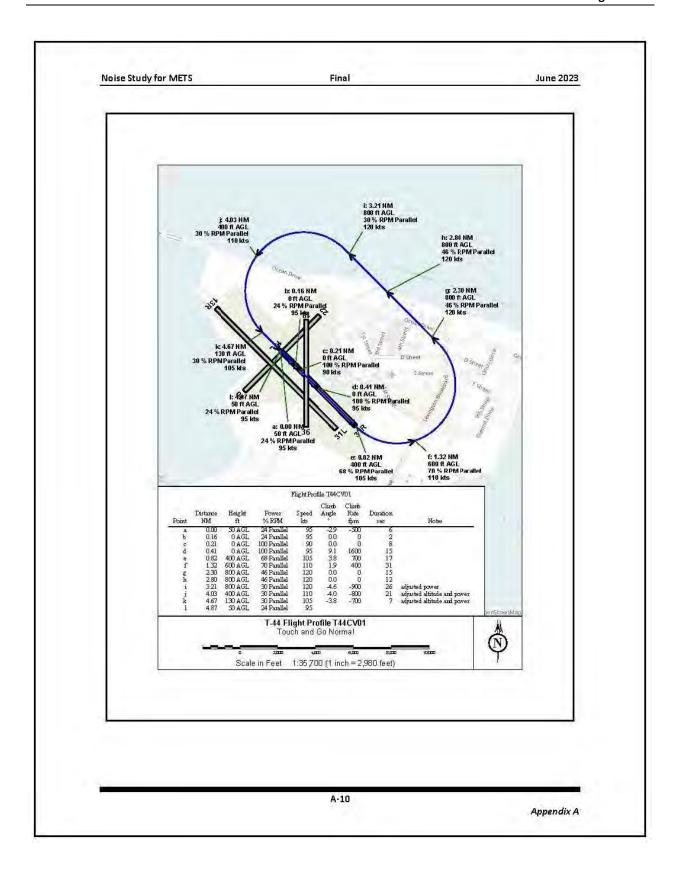


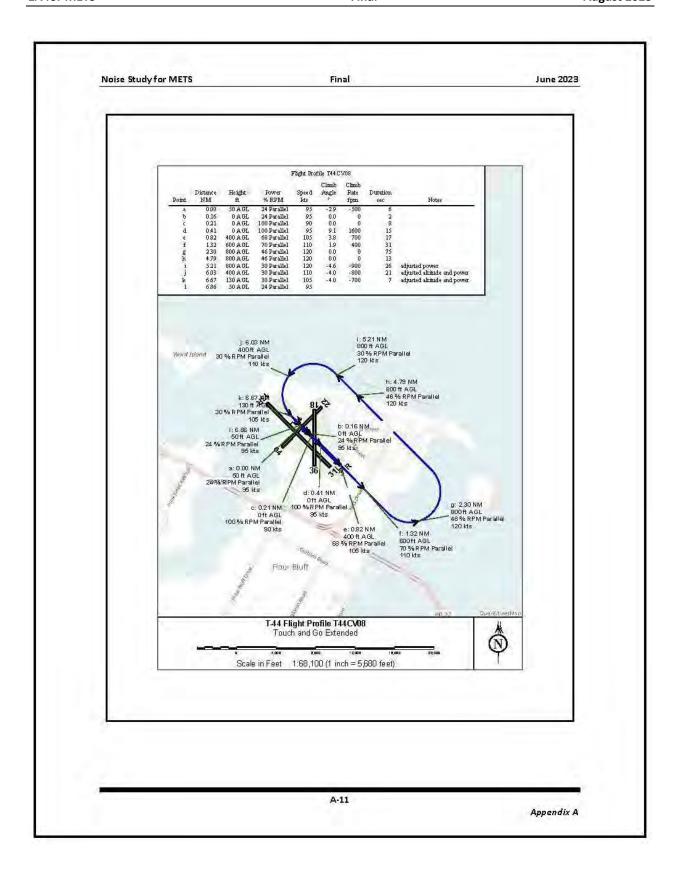


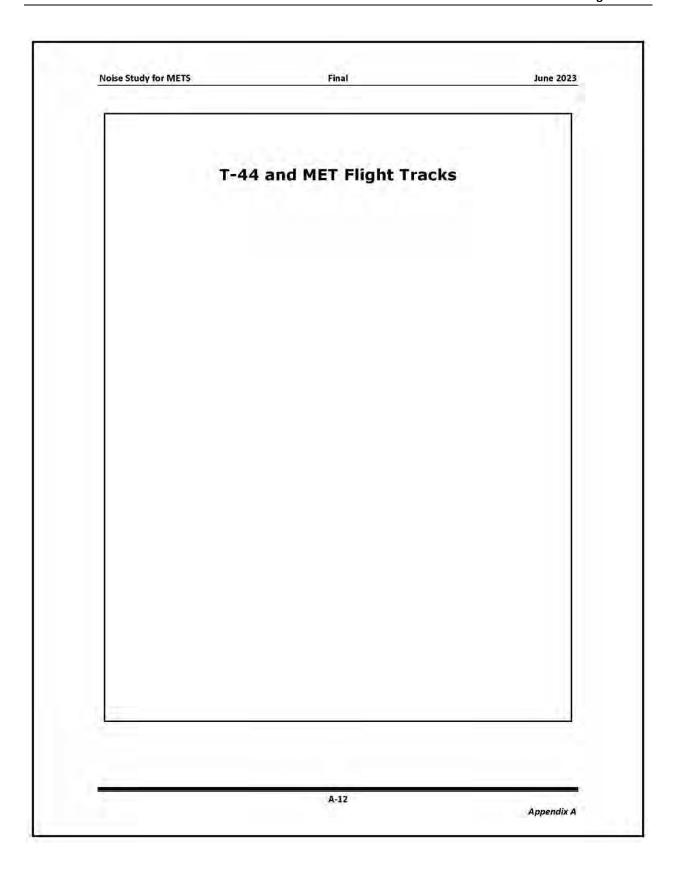


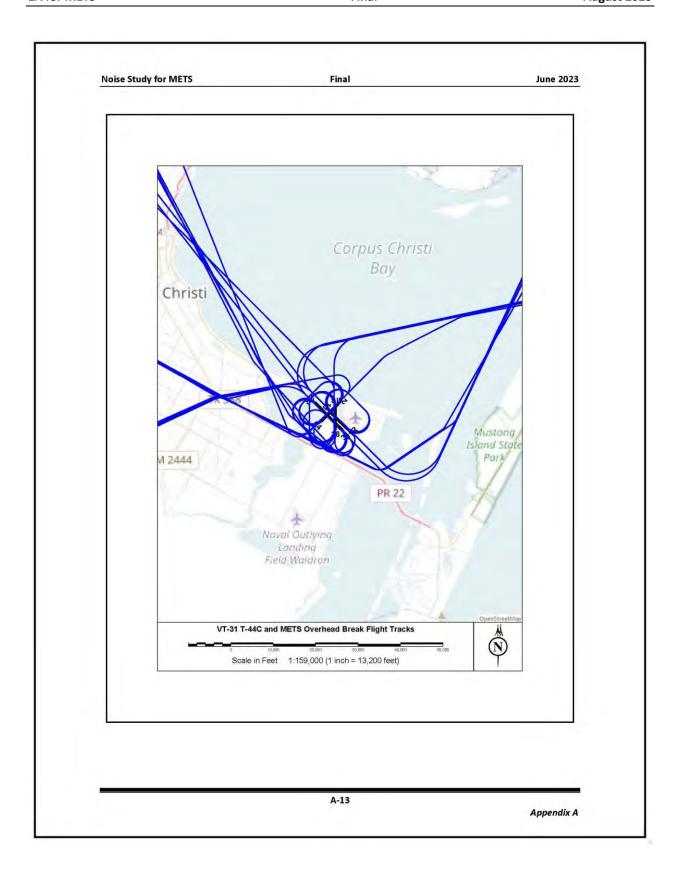


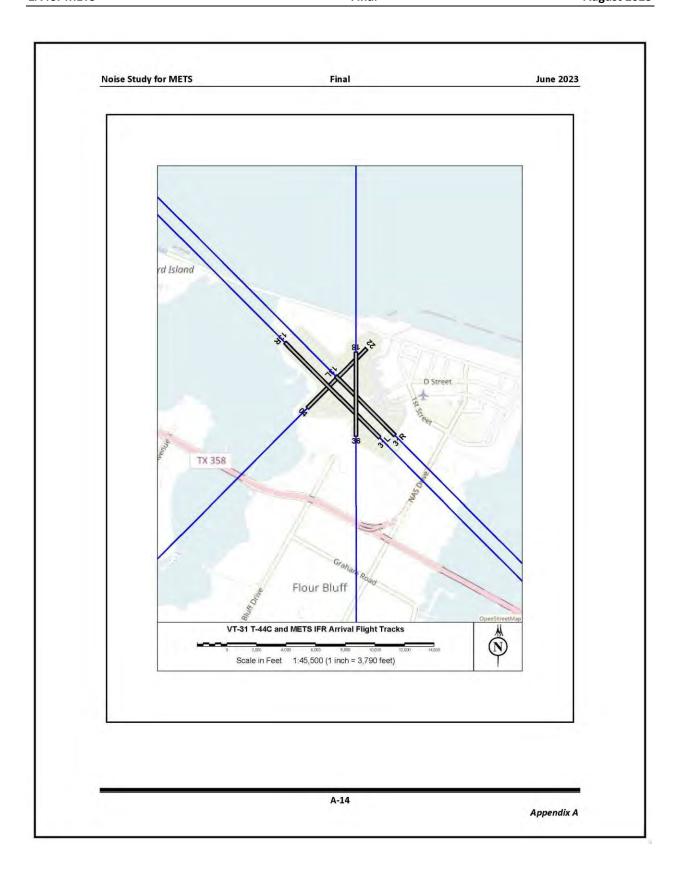


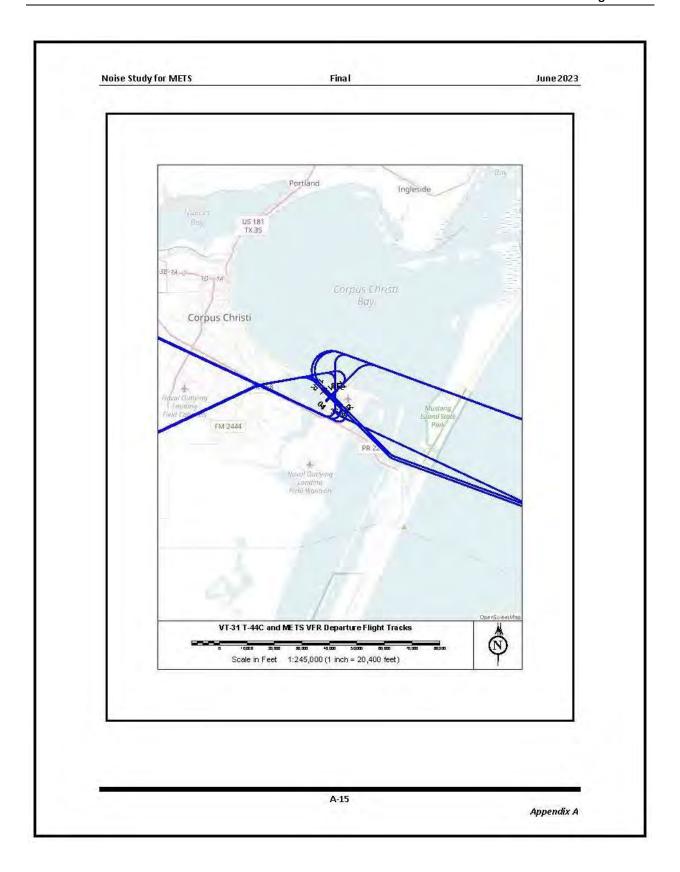


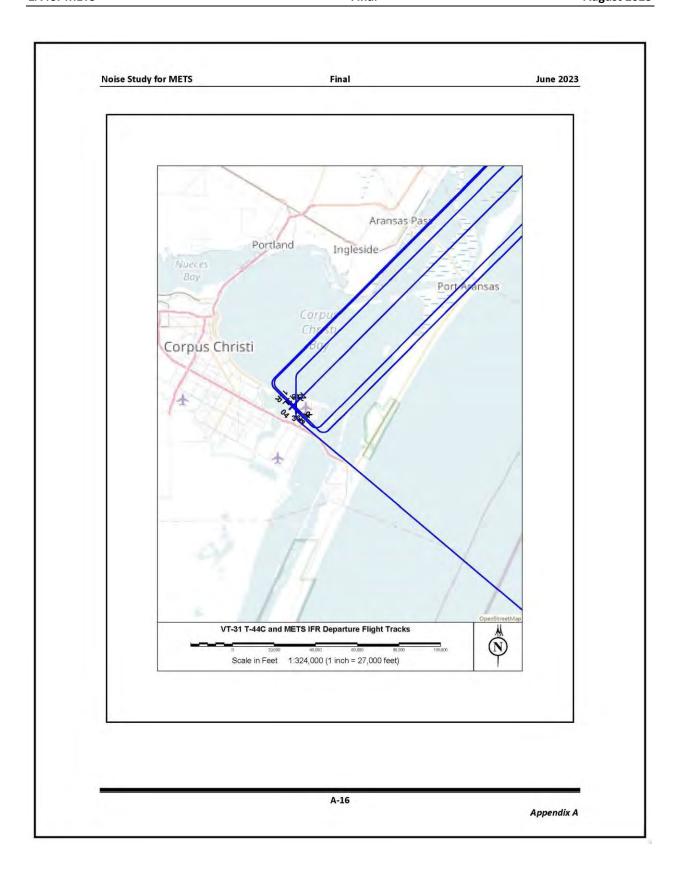


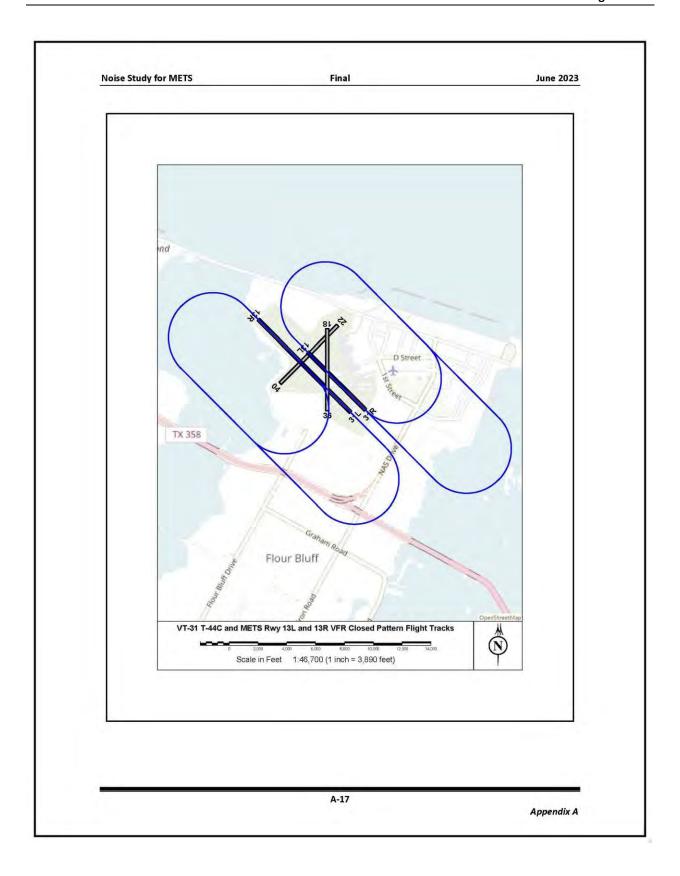


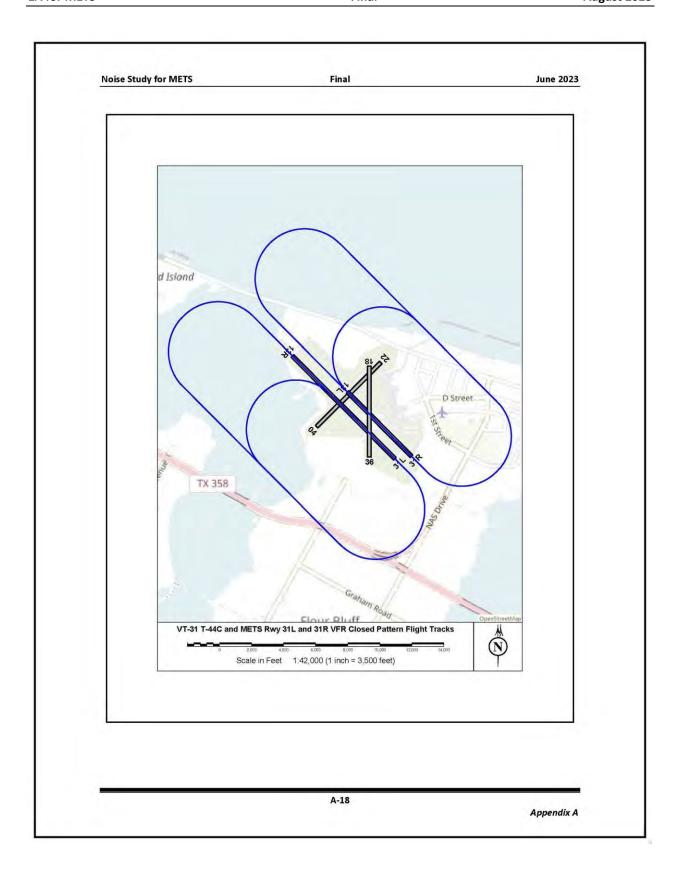


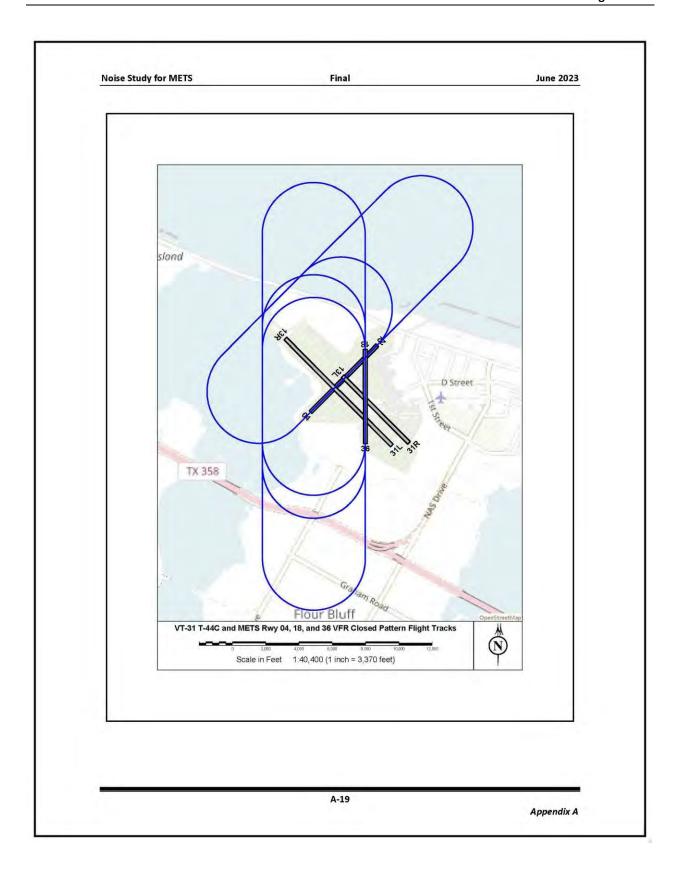


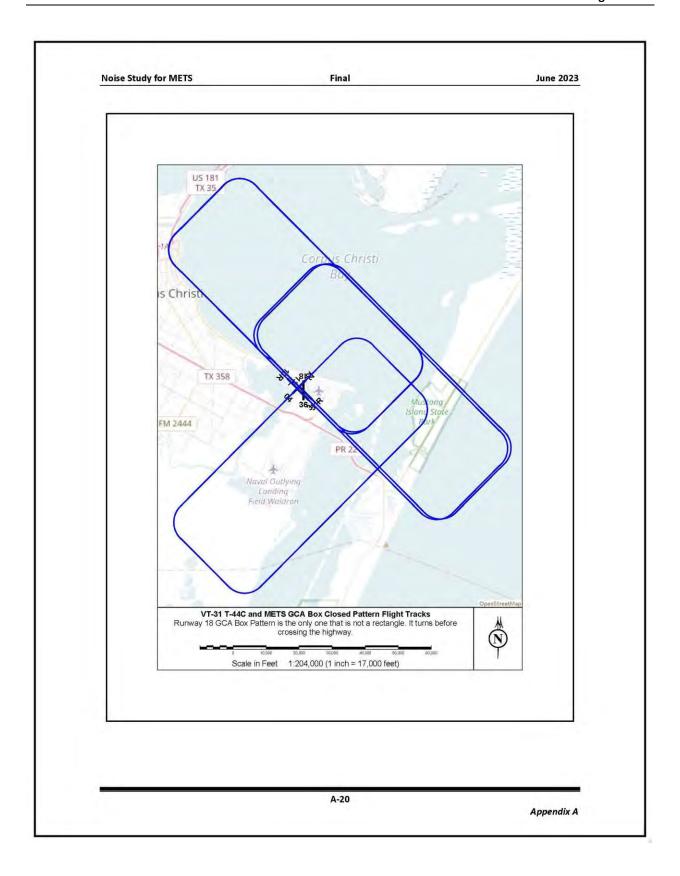




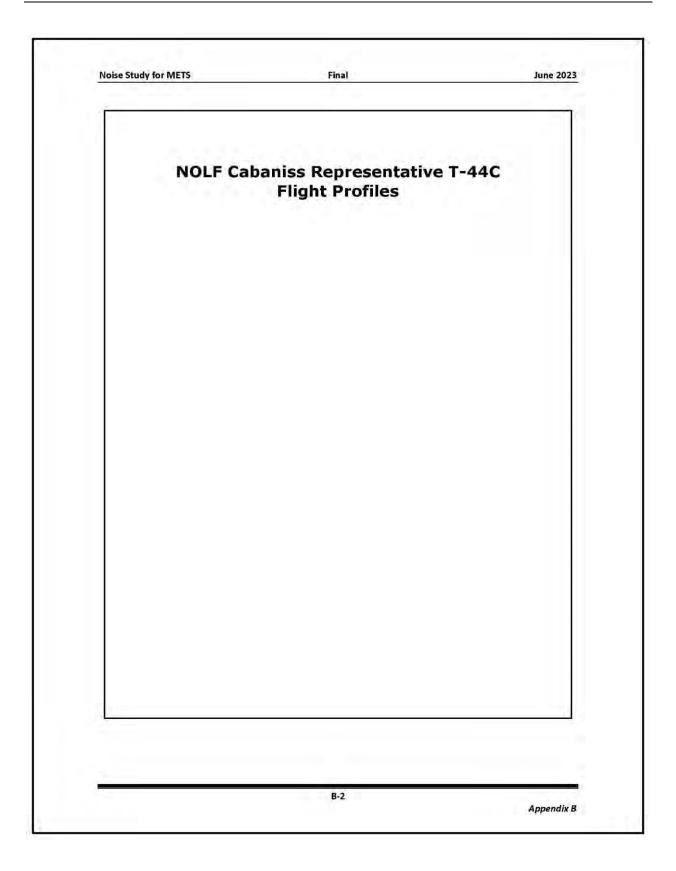


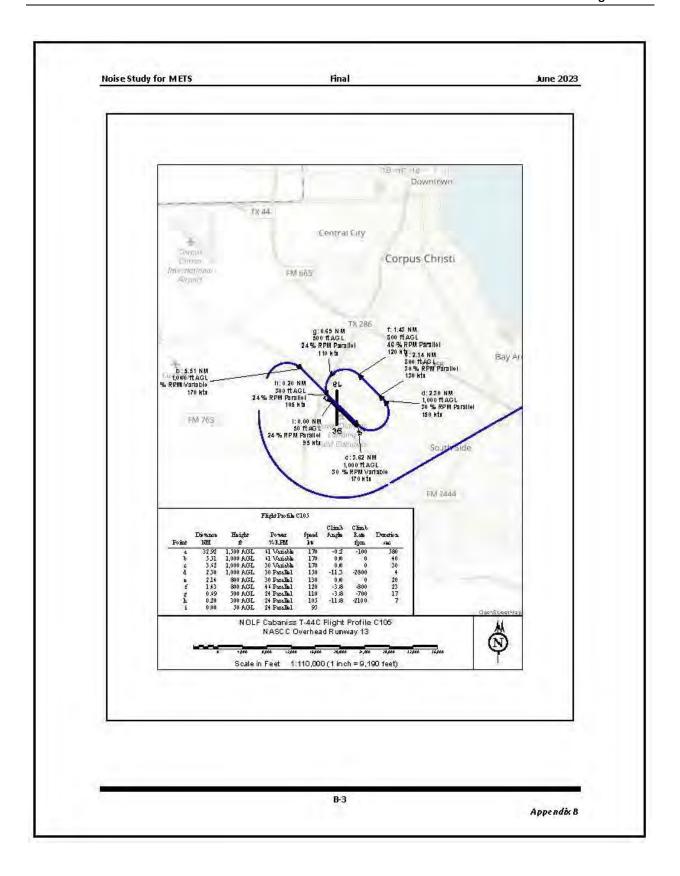


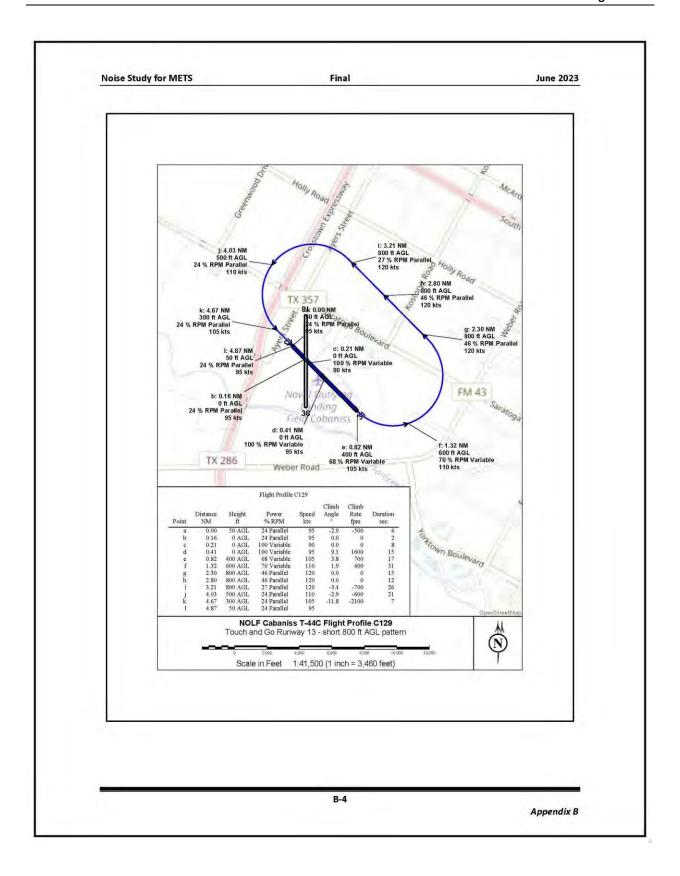


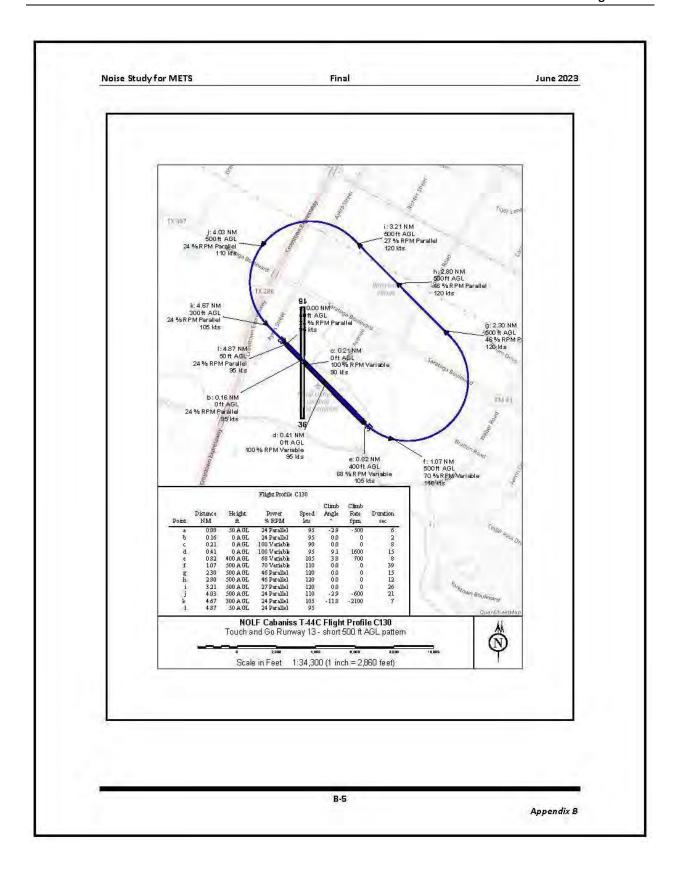


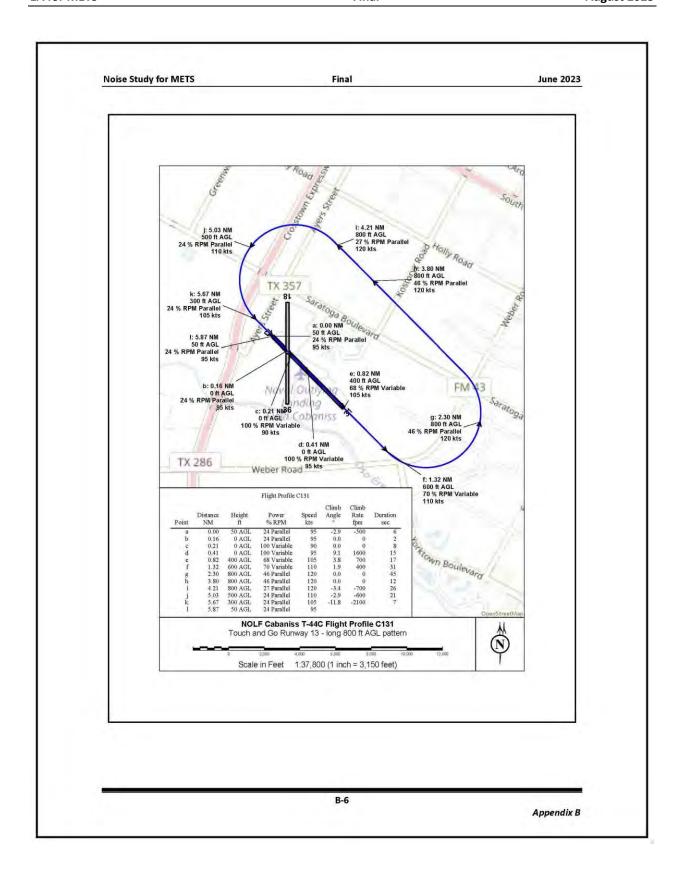
Final June 2023 **Noise Study for METS** Appendix B Profile and Flight Tracks for T-44C (equivalent to T-54A profiles) at **NOLF Cabaniss** Appendix B displays representative flight profile and summary flight tracks for T-44C aircraft at NOLF Cabaniss. The T-44C profiles shown are equivalent to profiles that would be used by T-54A aircraft, which are also referred to in this appendix as METS. Flight profiles and tracks were developed based on inputs from operational subject matter experts and then reviewed and validated to ensure accuracy. B-1 Appendix B

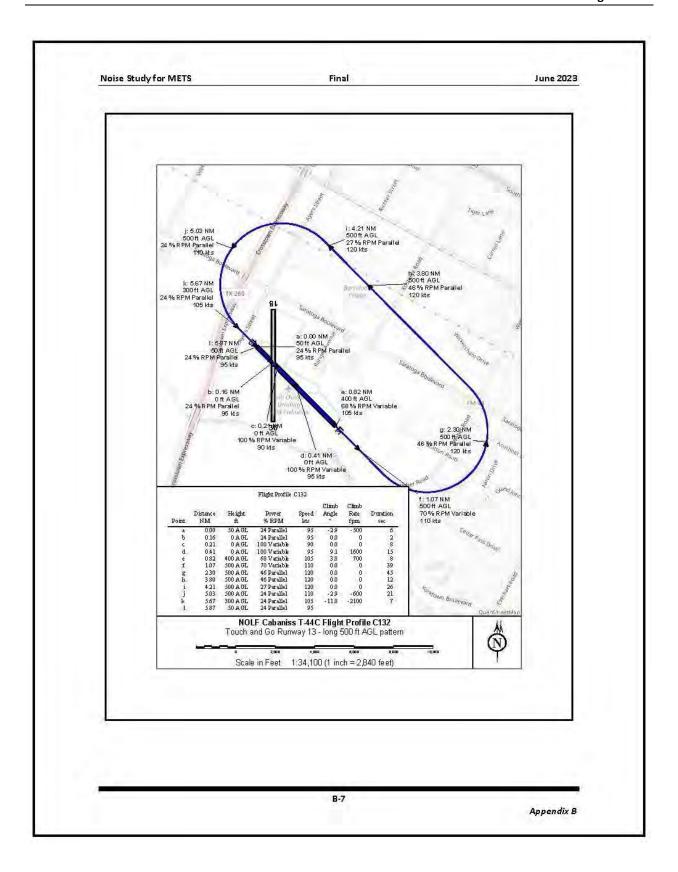


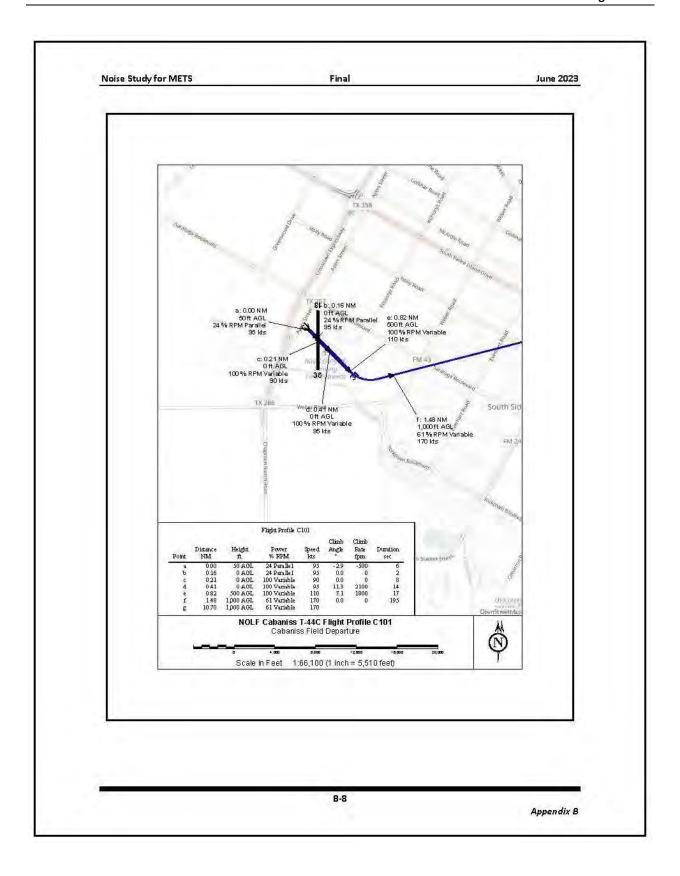


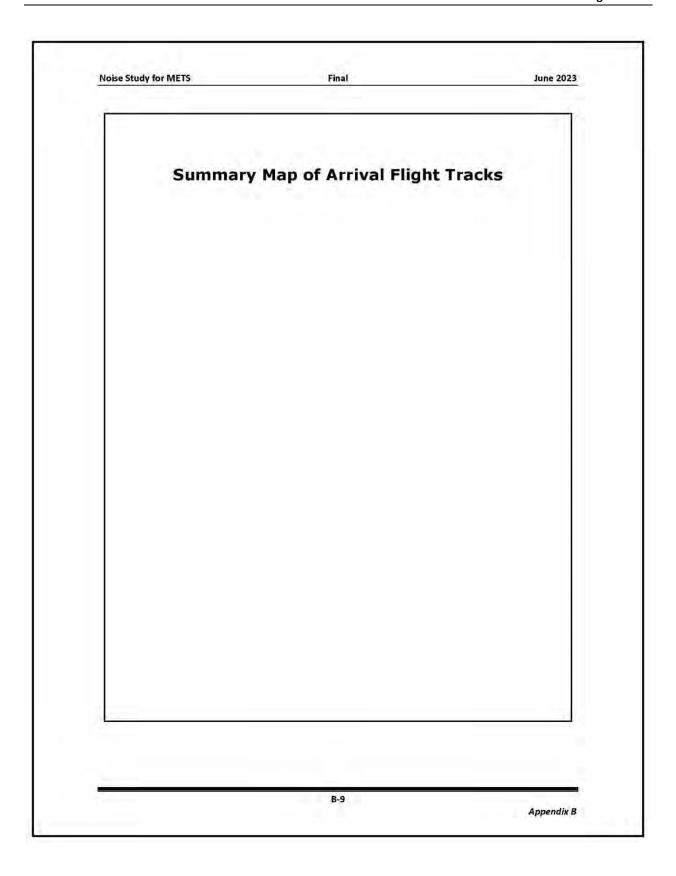


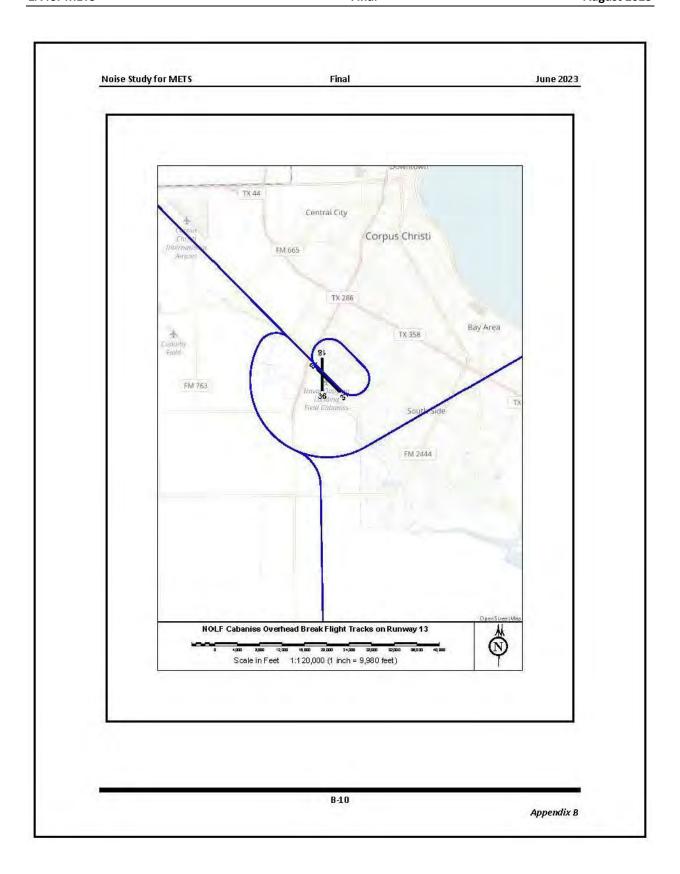


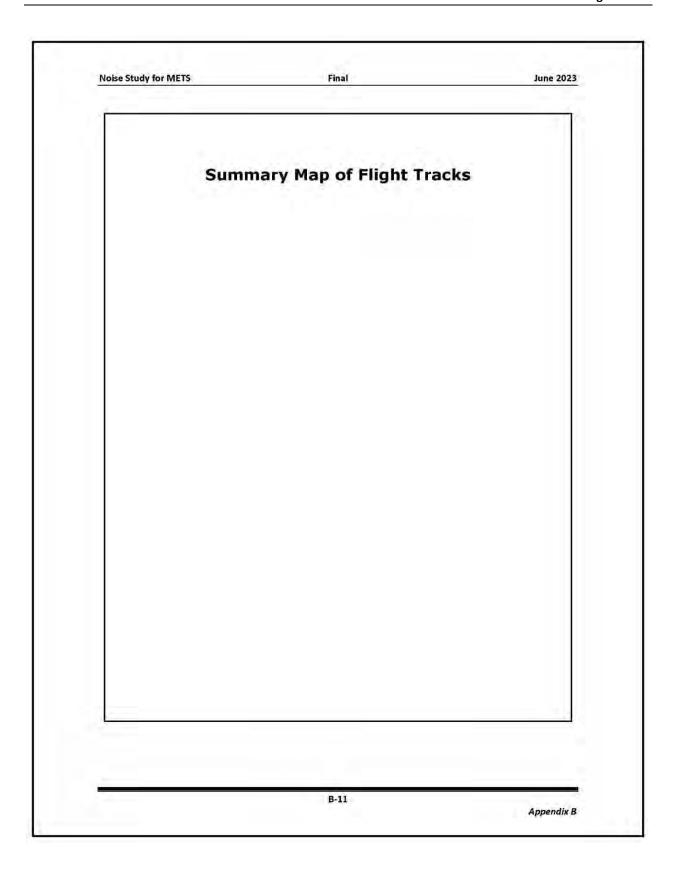


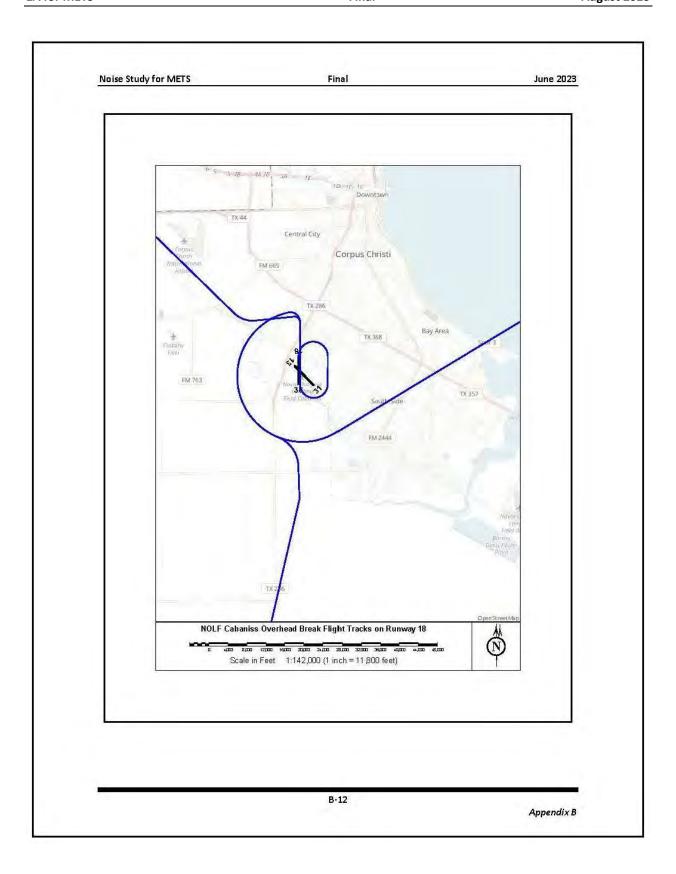


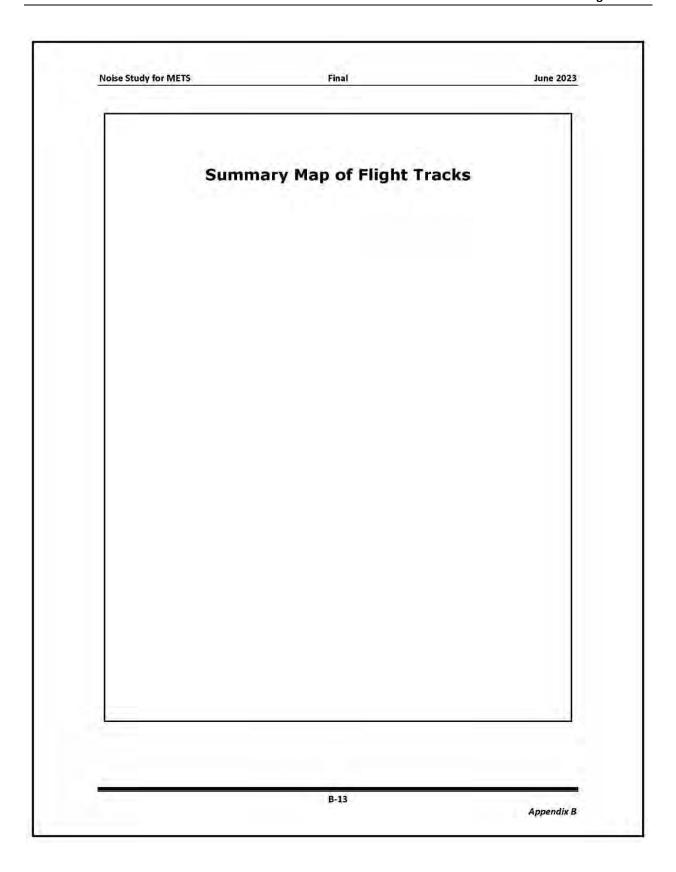


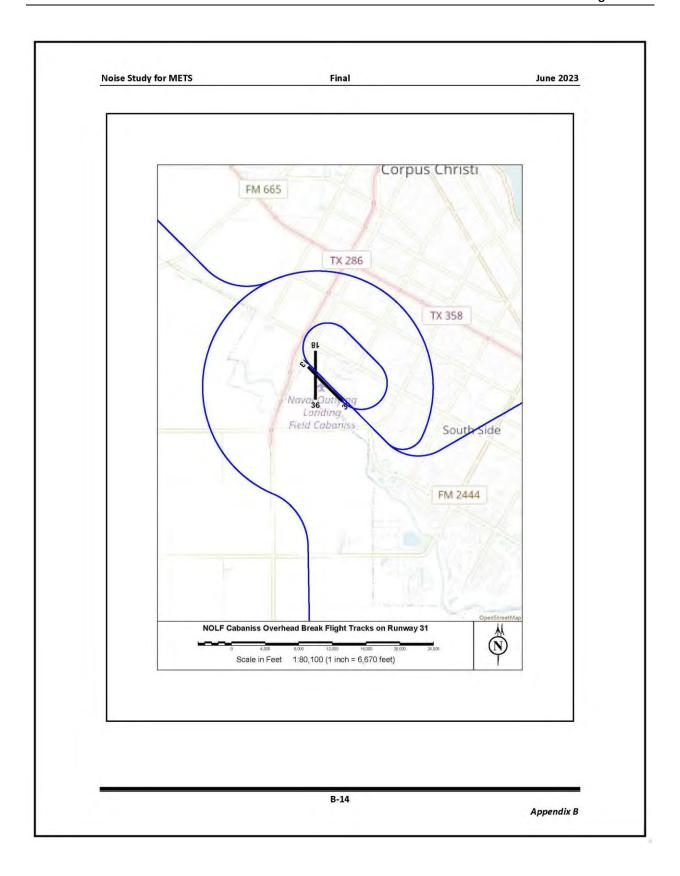


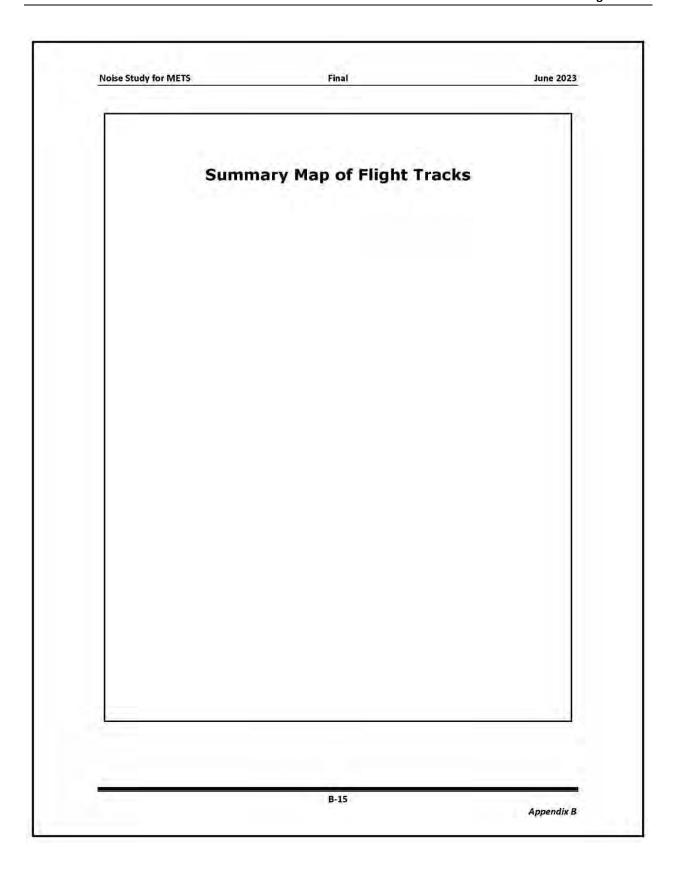


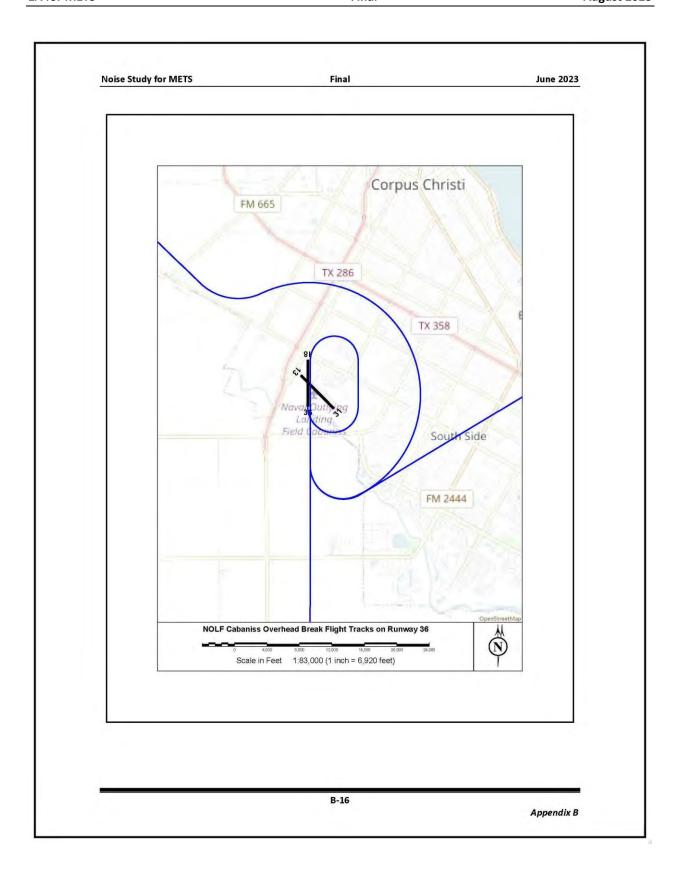


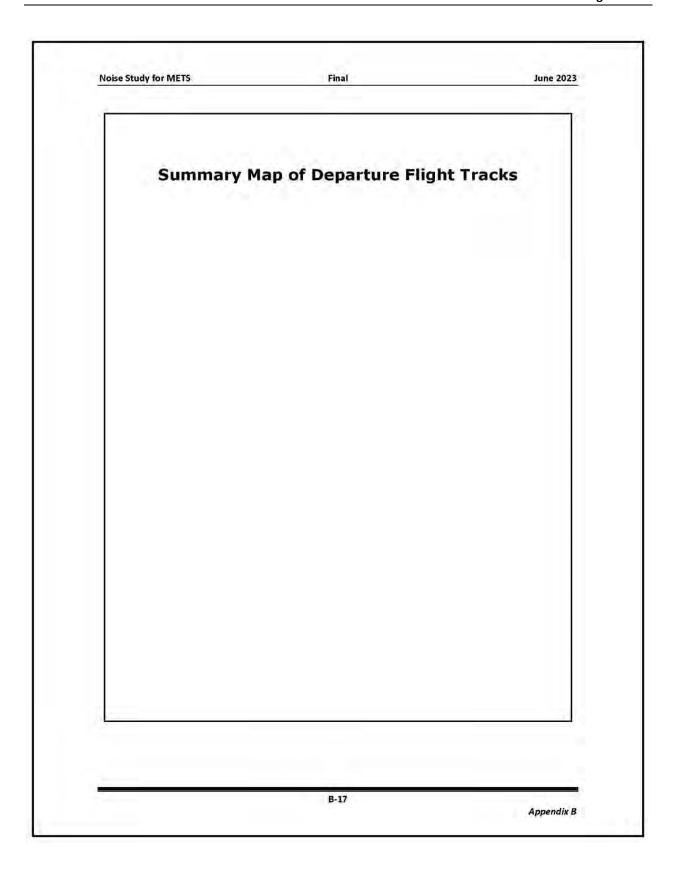


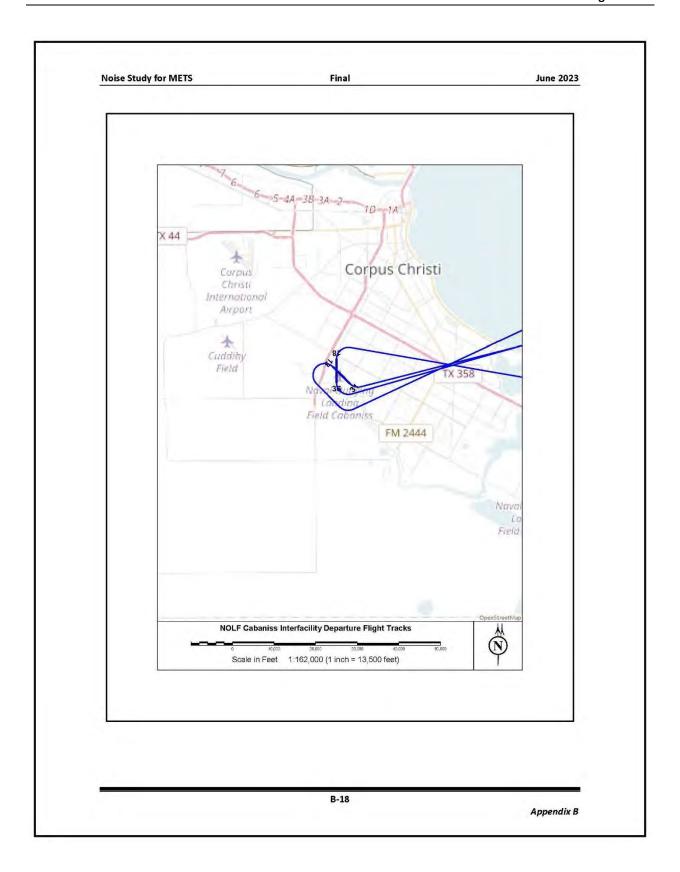


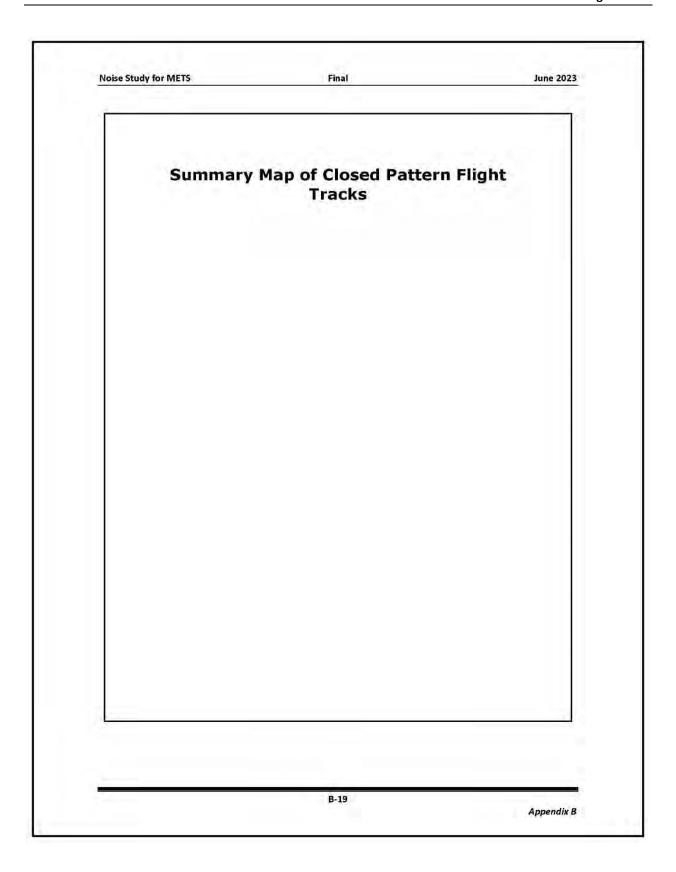


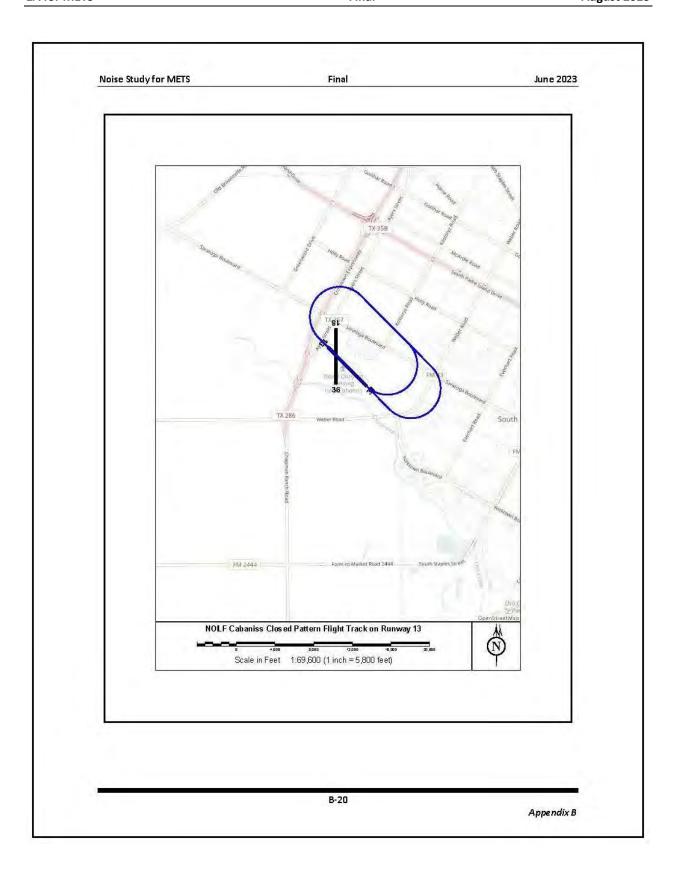


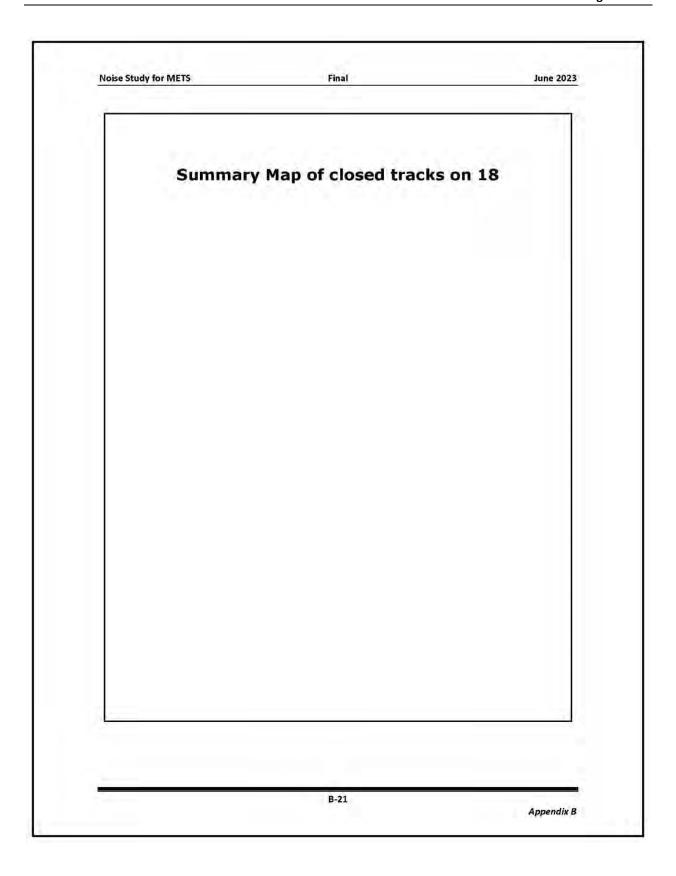


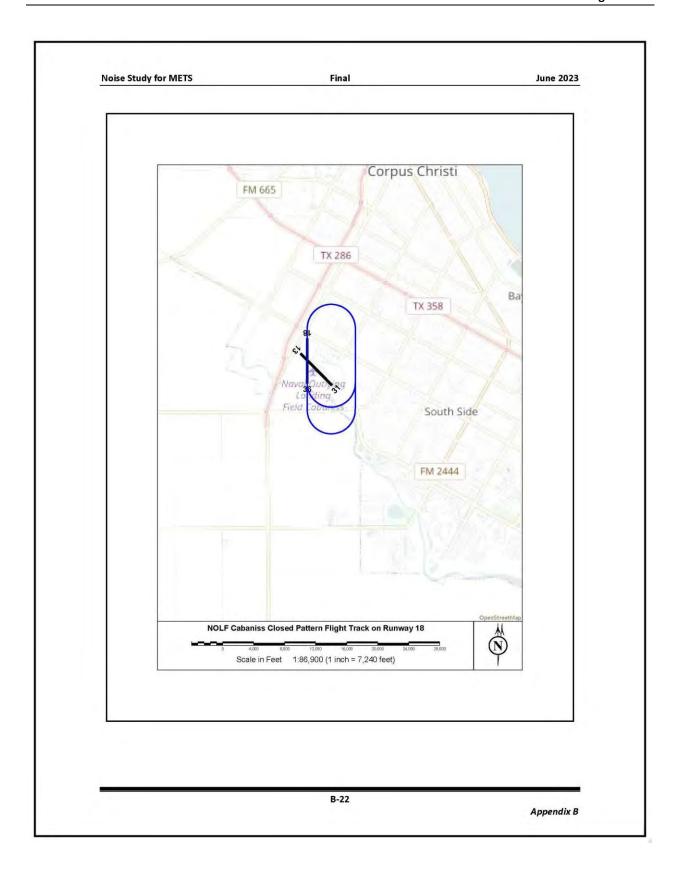


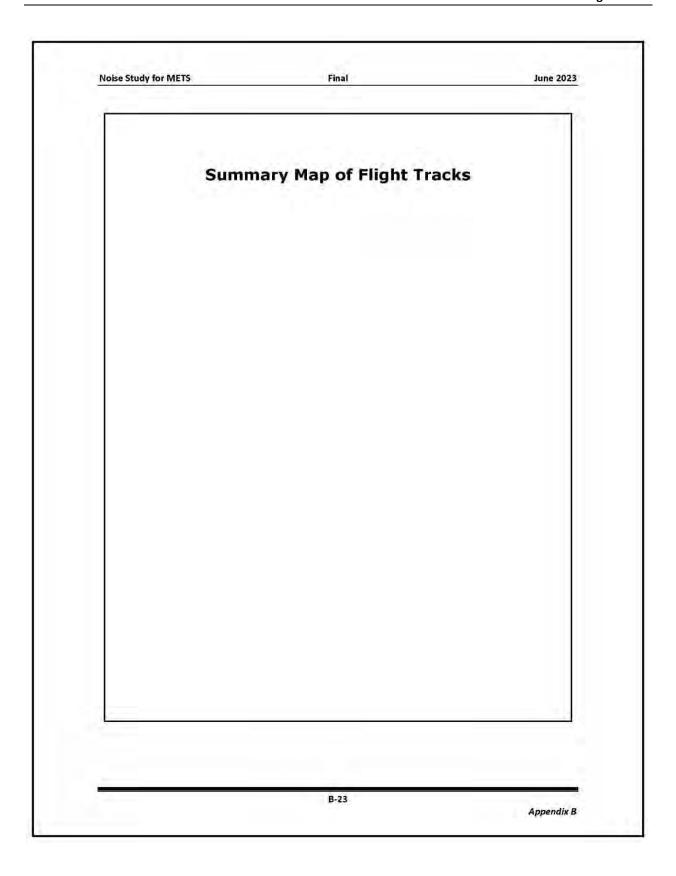


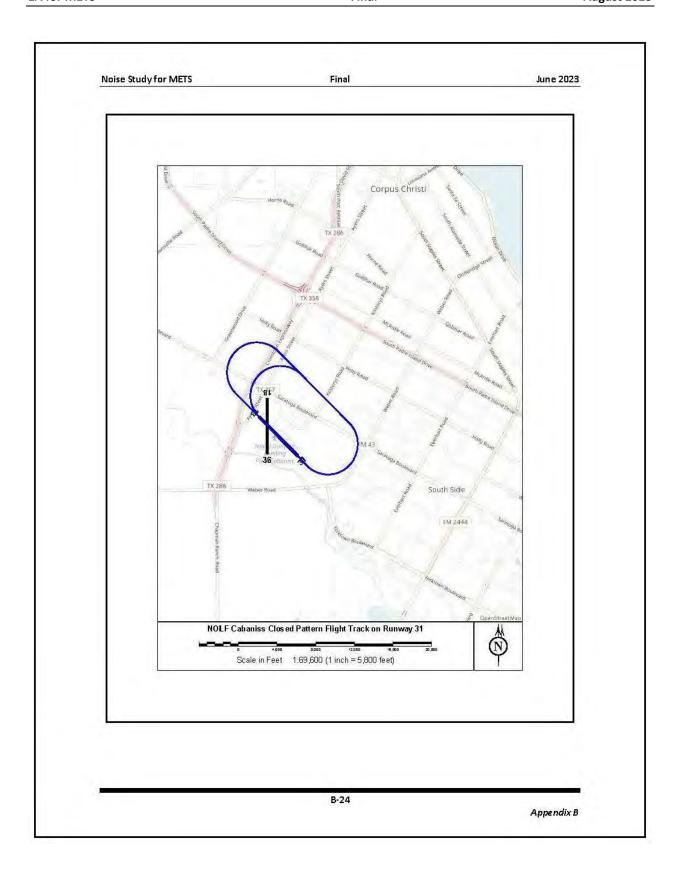


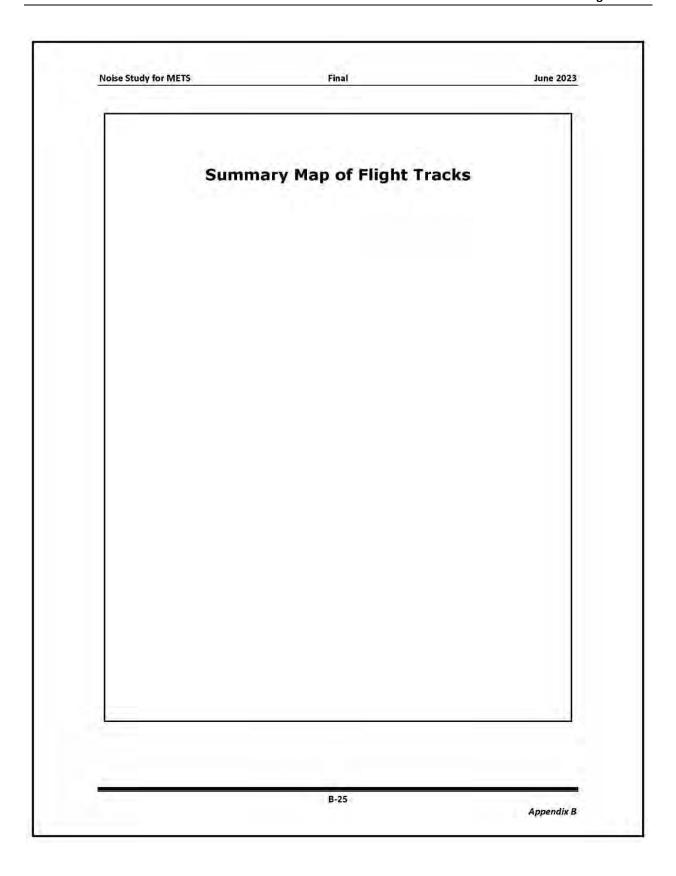


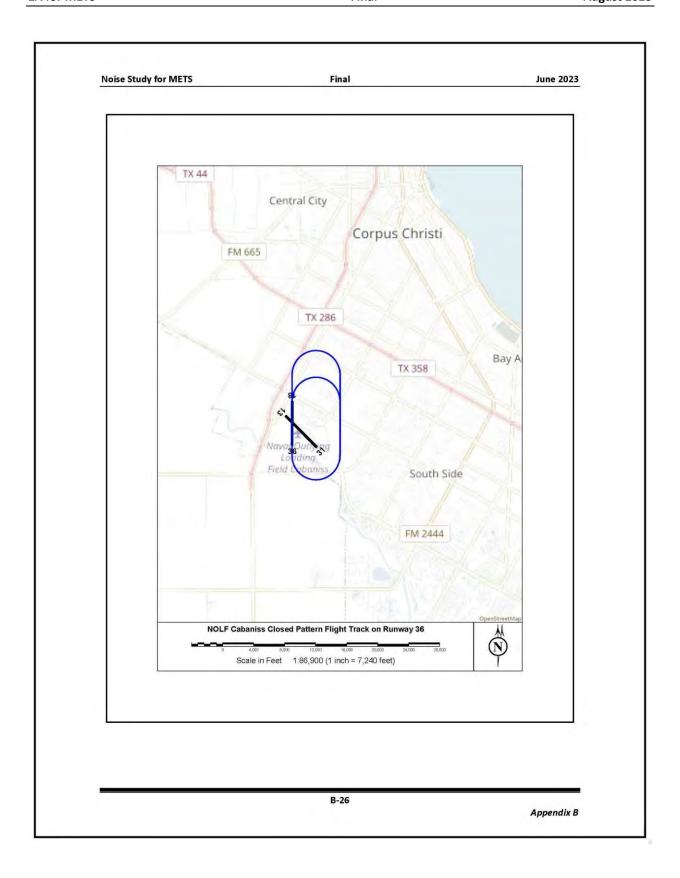












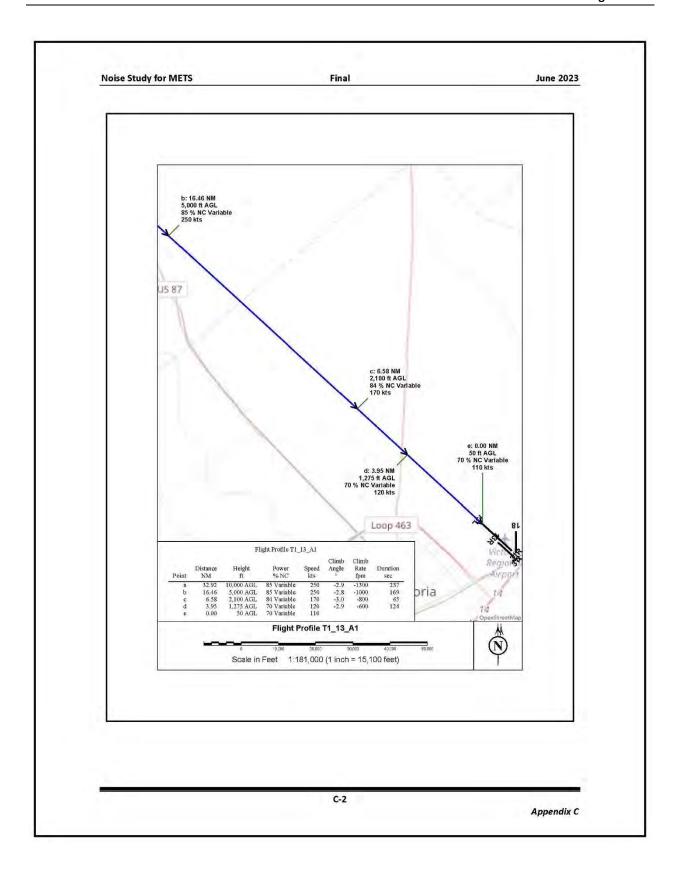
Noise Study for METS Final June 2023

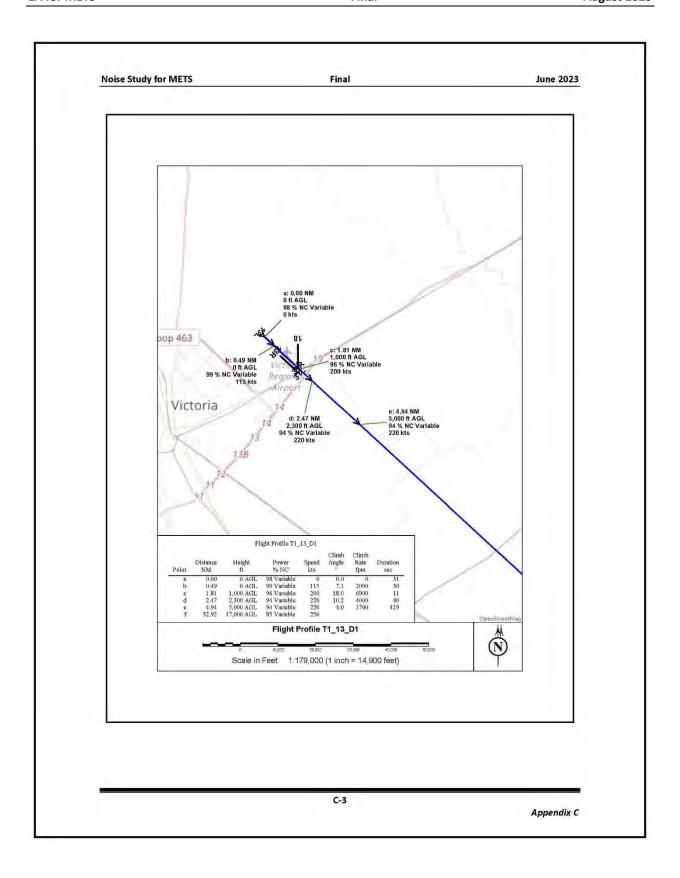
Appendix C Nominal Profile and Flight Tracks for T-44C and T-54A Aircraft at International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields

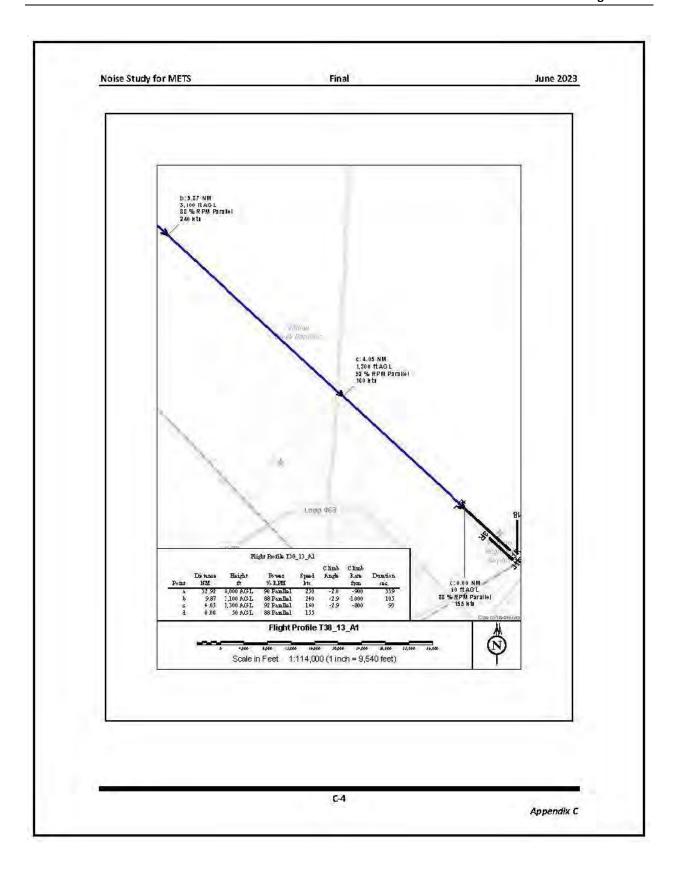
Appendix C displays nominal flight profile and summary flight tracks for several surrogate aircraft types at international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields. The nominal flight tracks used in modeling support a screening-level analysis sufficient to establish whether replacement of T-44C operations with T-54A operations would exceed noise thresholds. T-44C and T-54A flight profiles defined for Naval Air Station Corpus Christi were also used in modeling at non-Navy airfields.

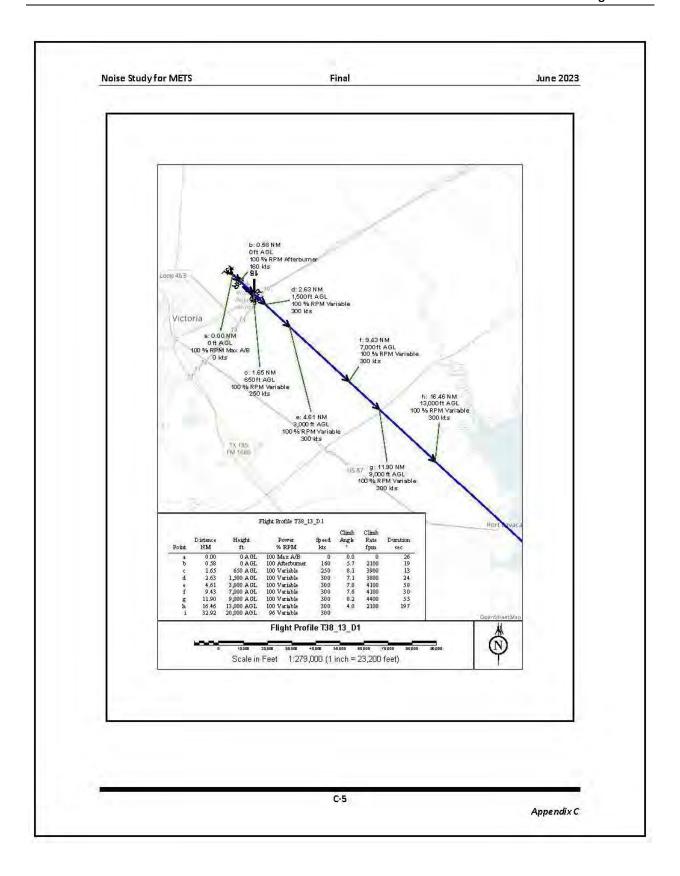
C-1

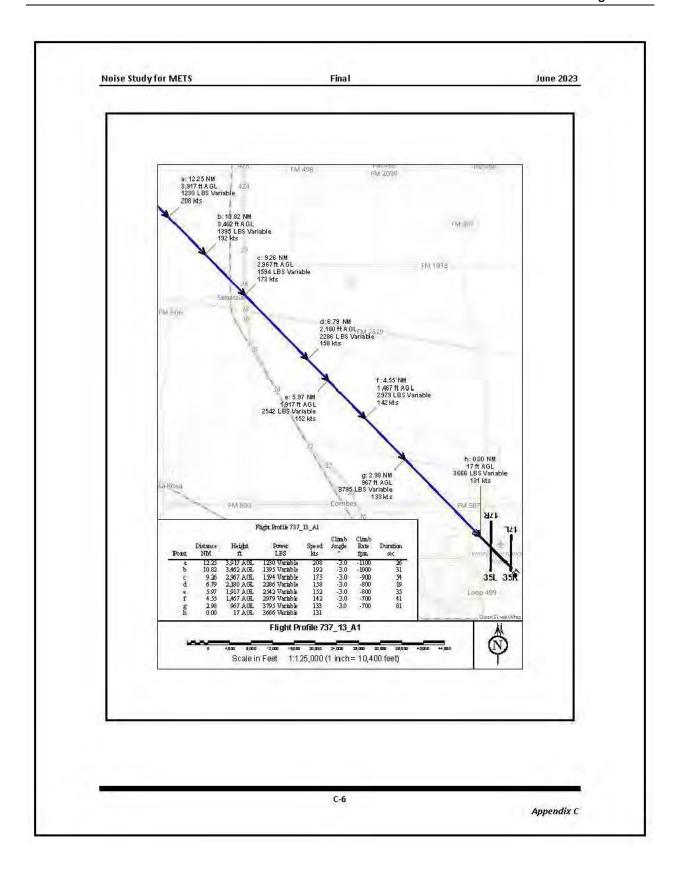
Appendix C

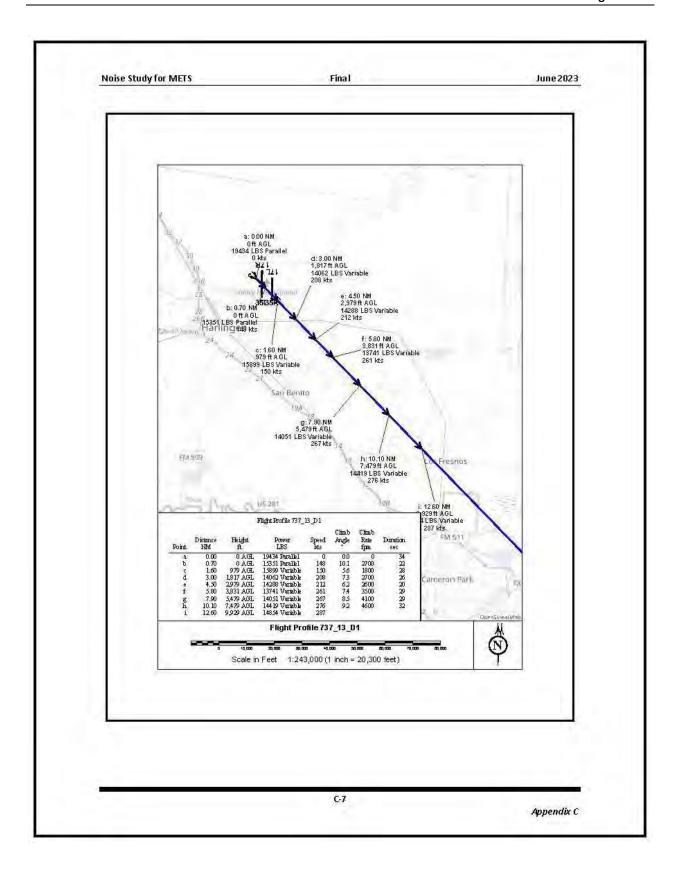


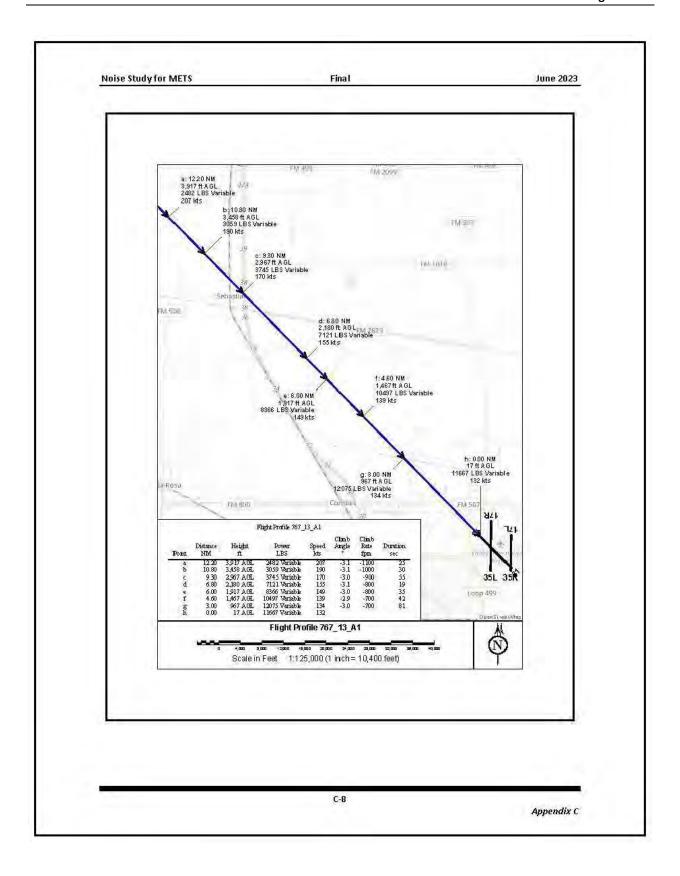


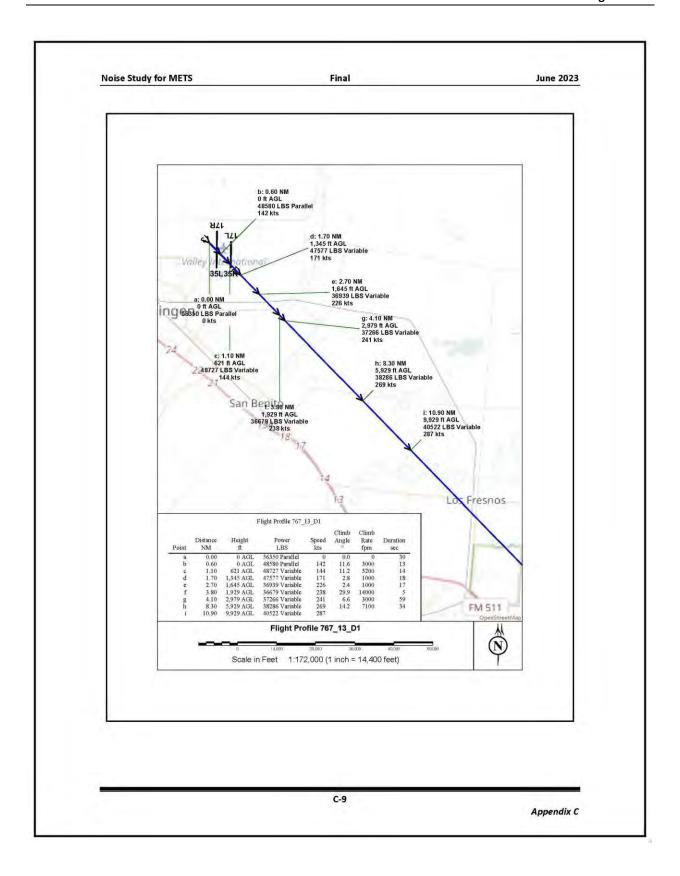


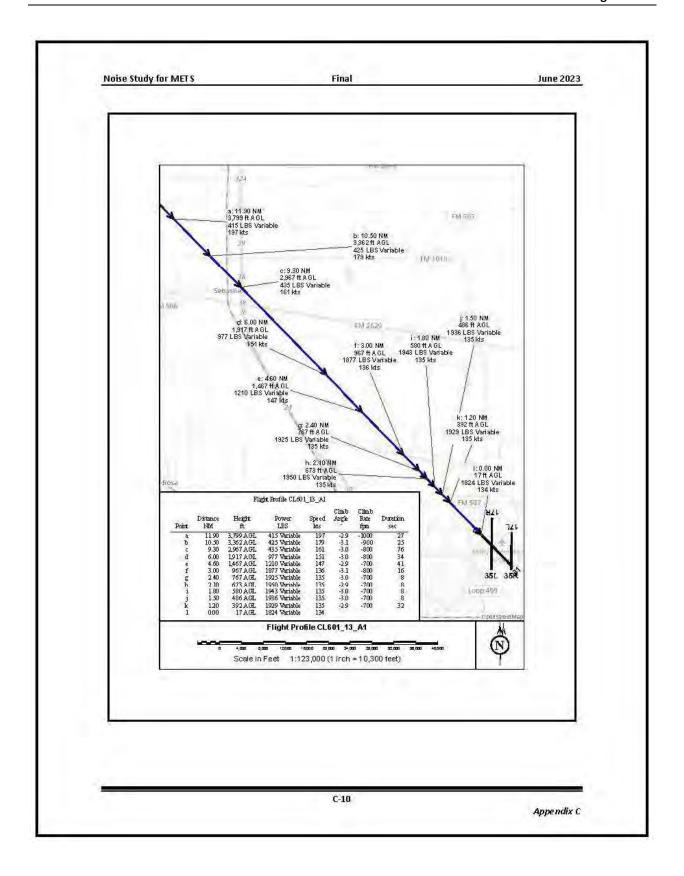


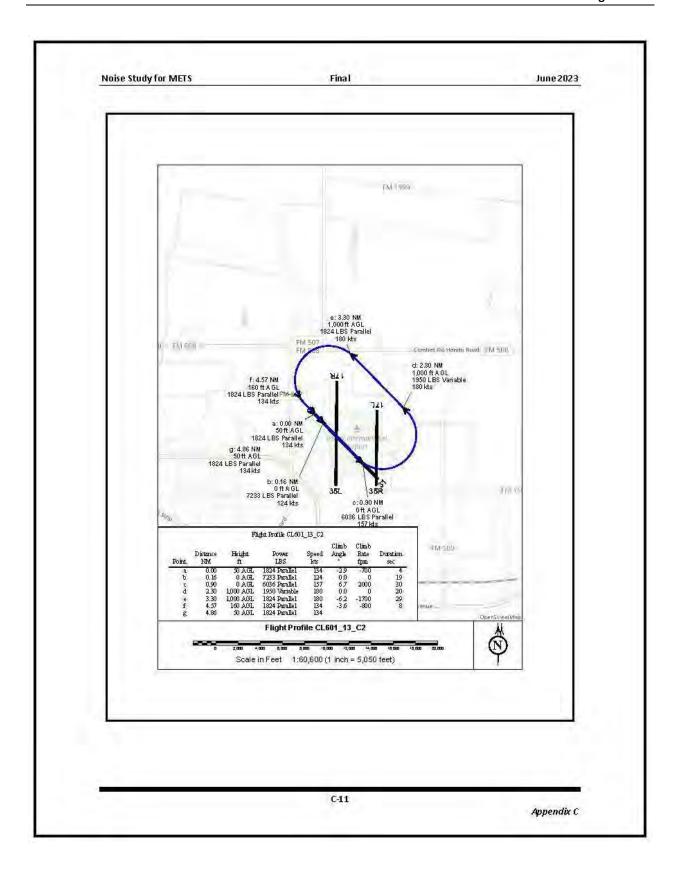


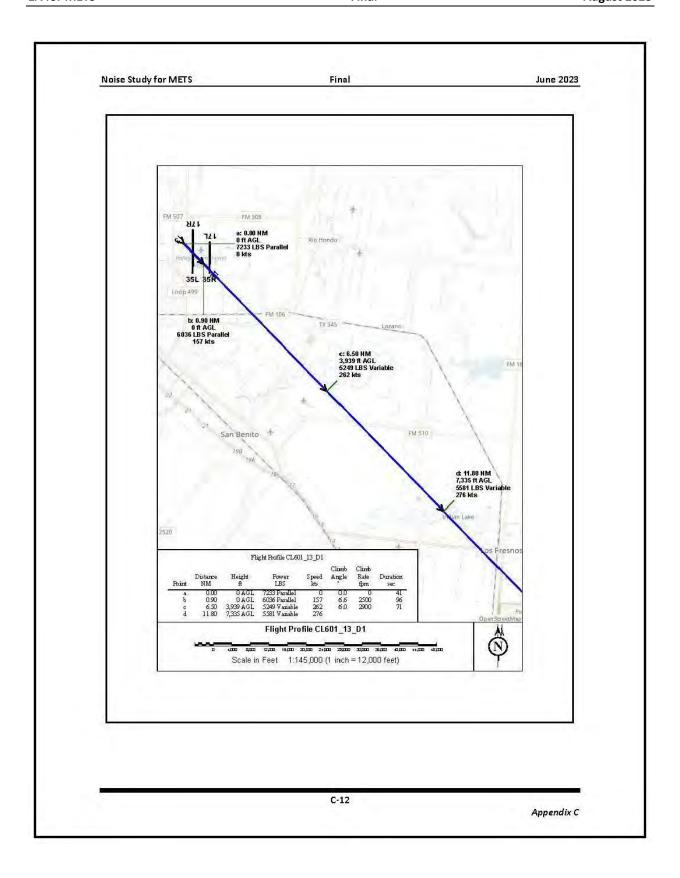


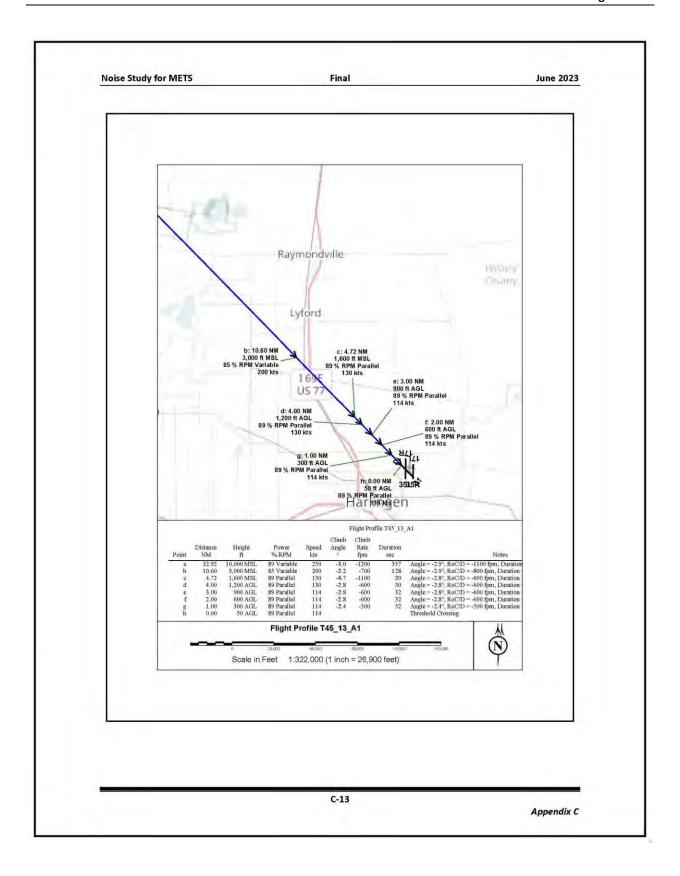


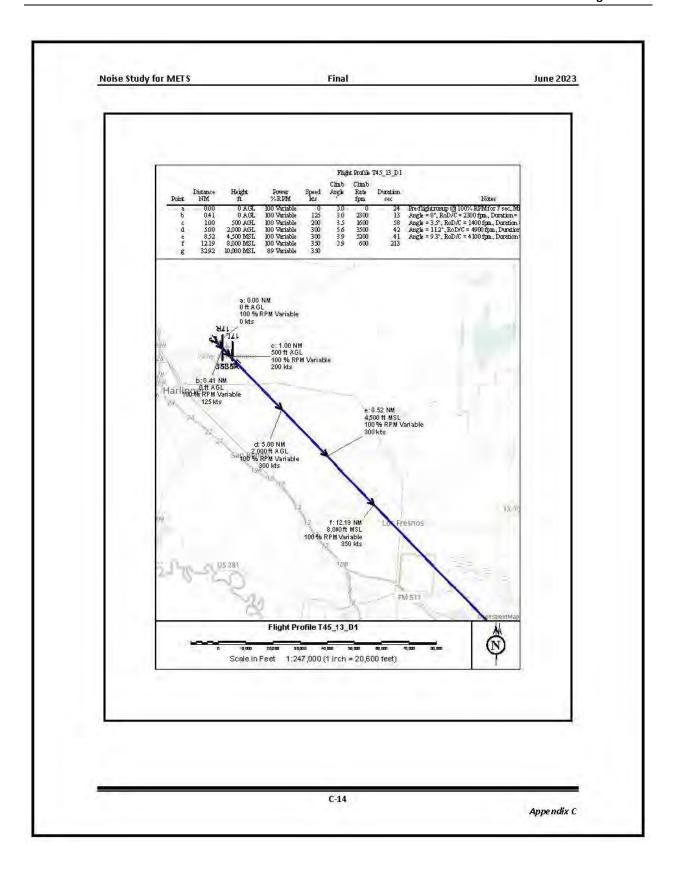


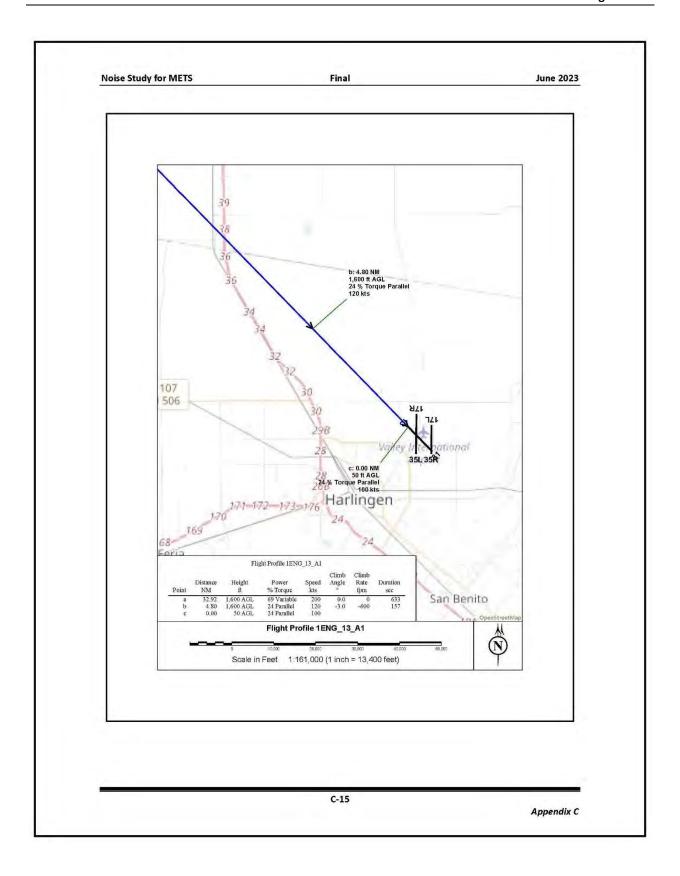


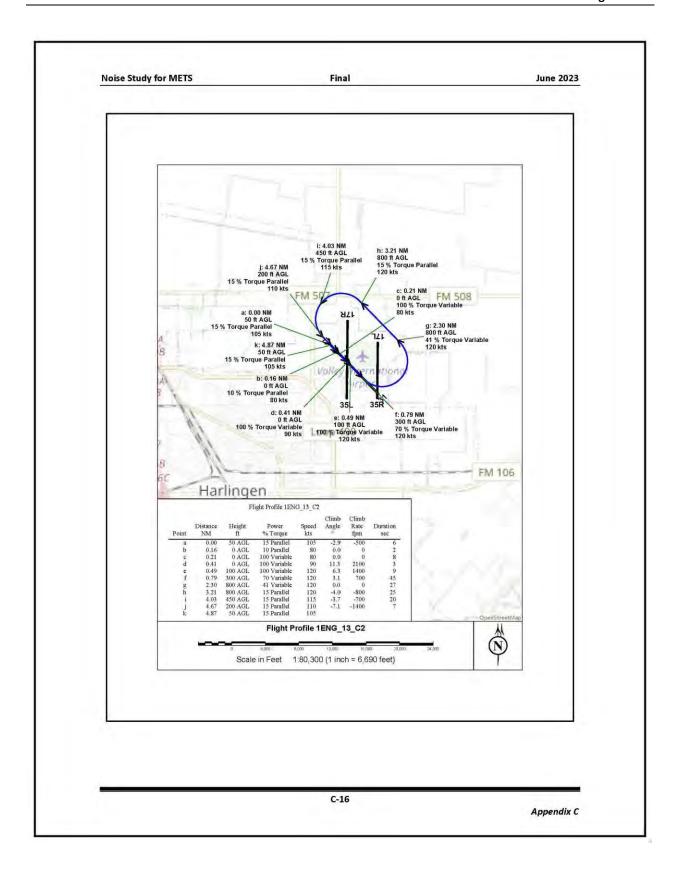


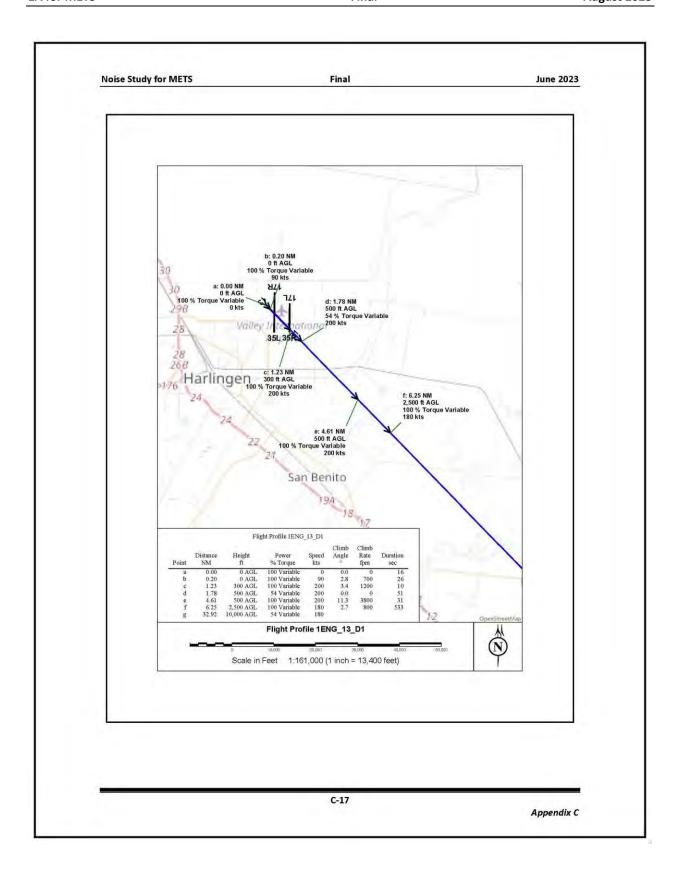


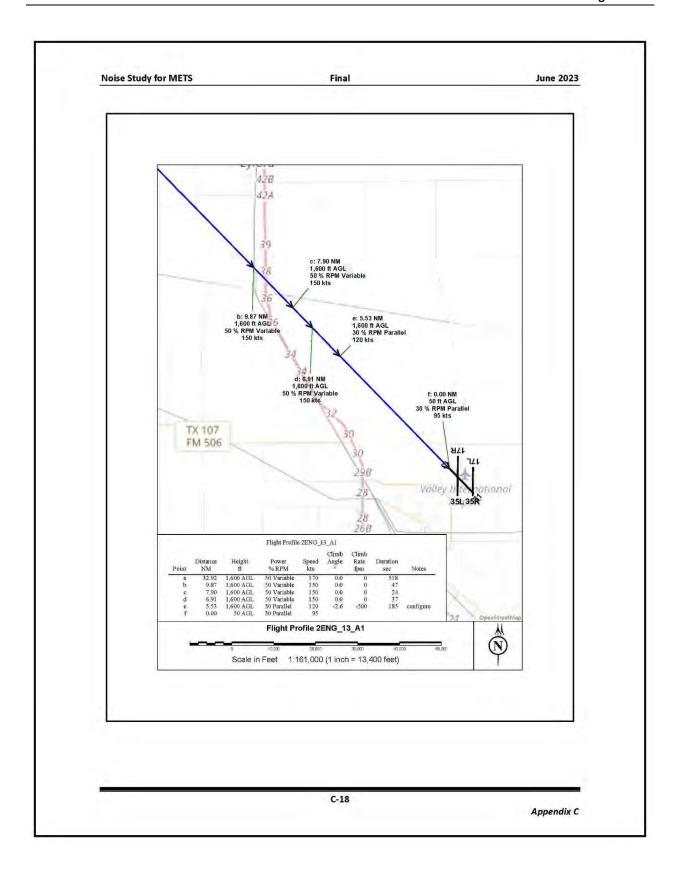


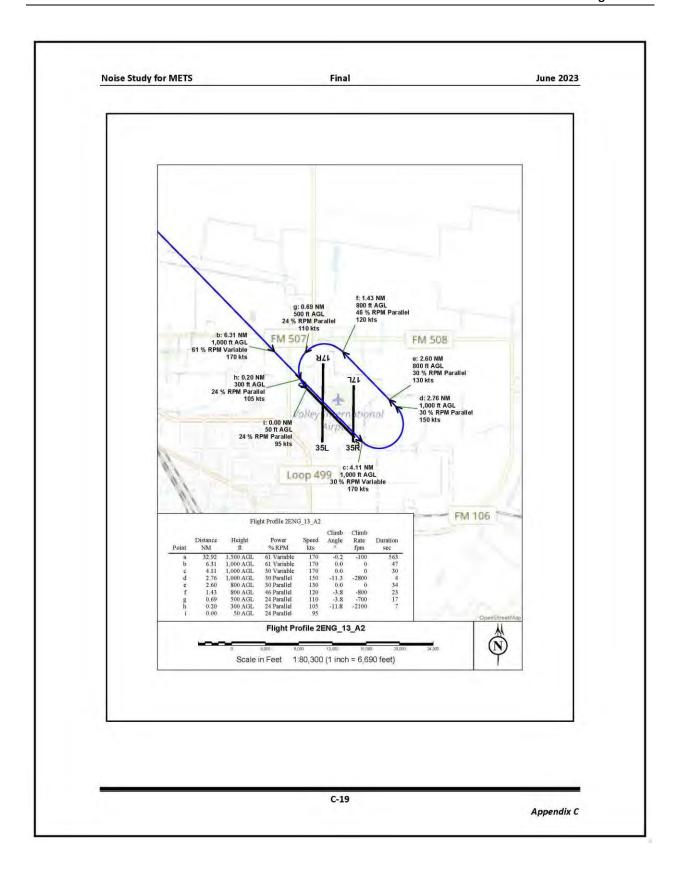


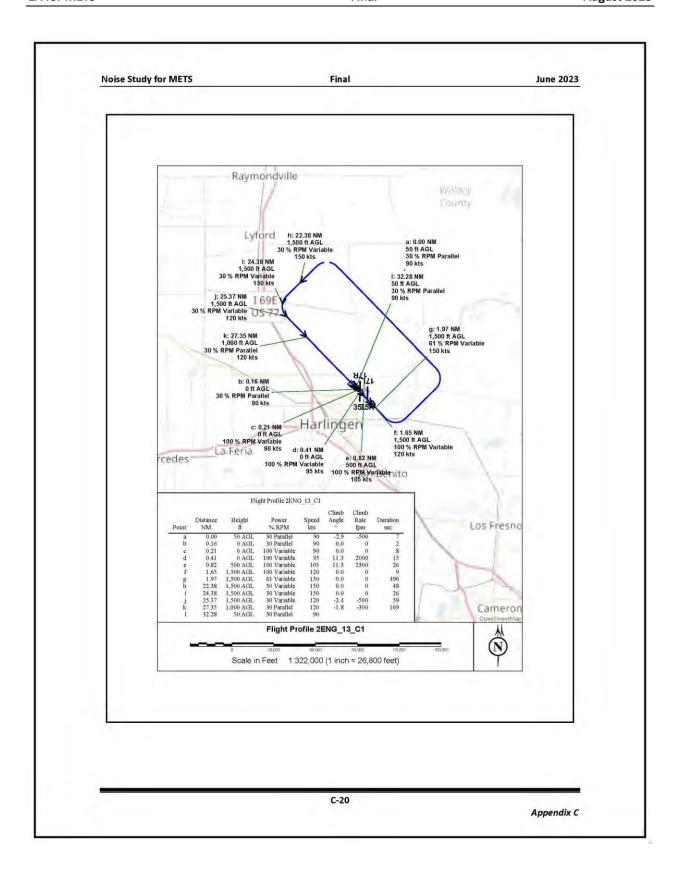


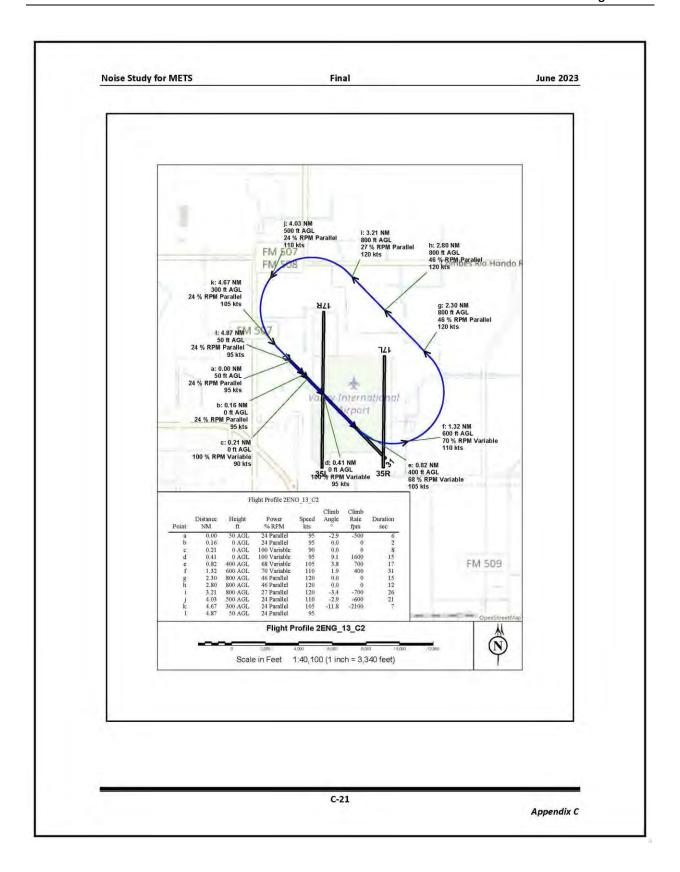


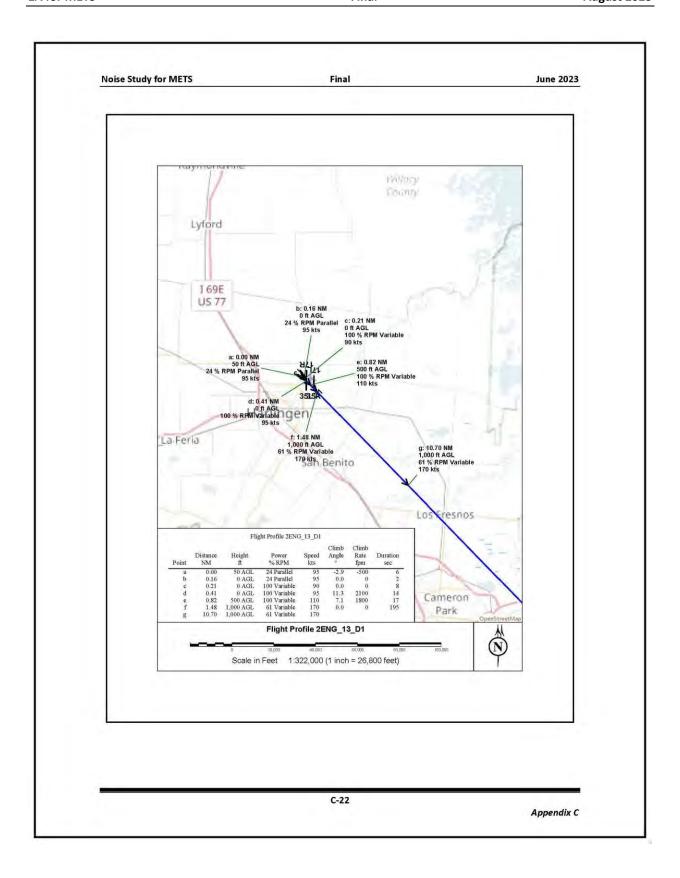


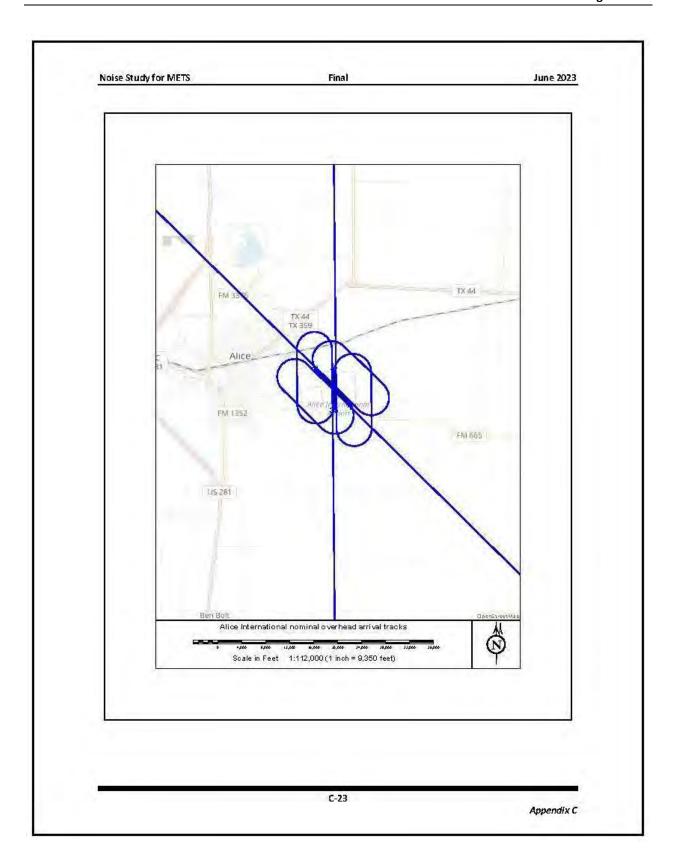


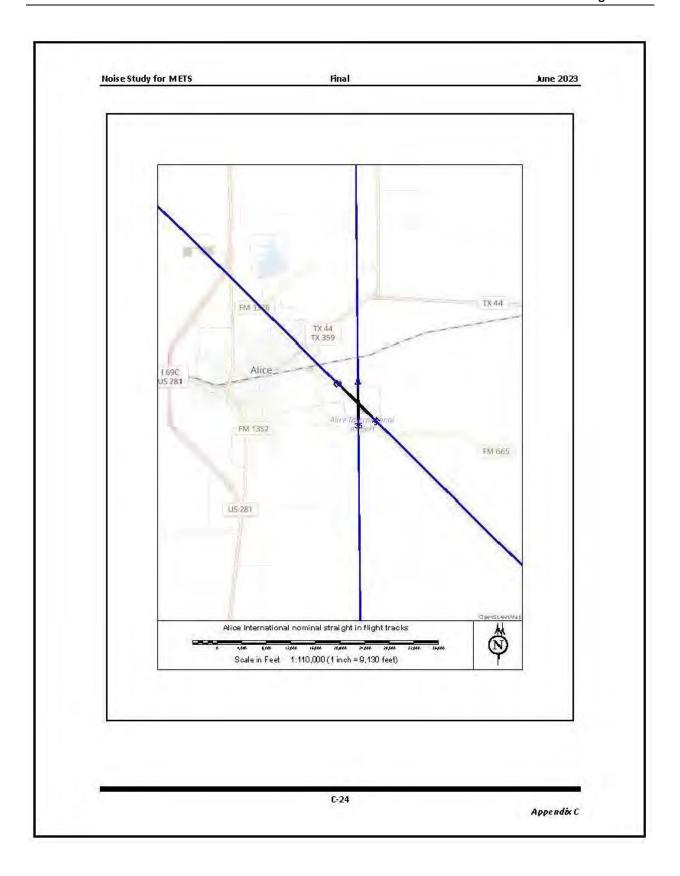


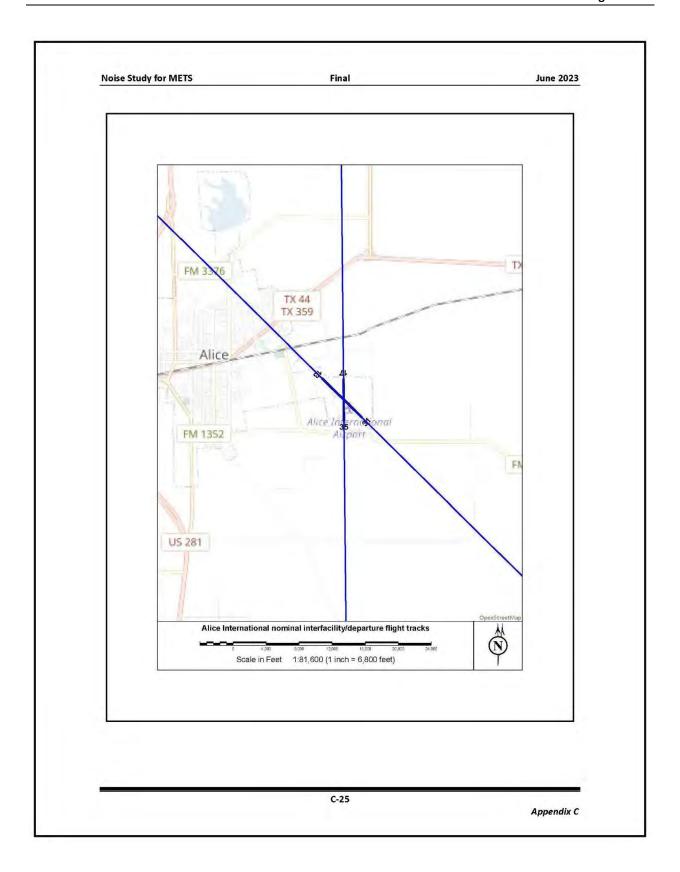


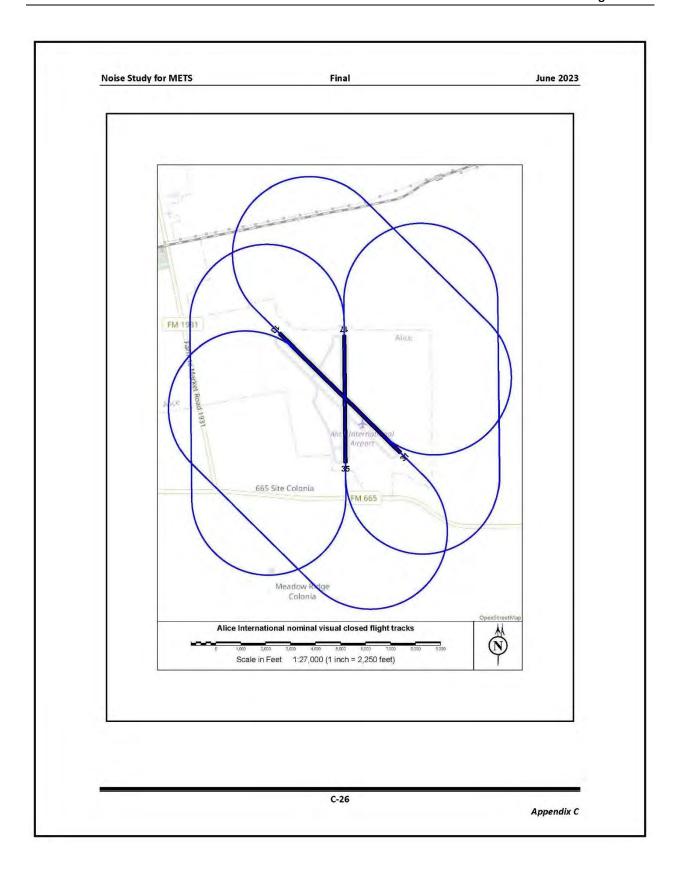


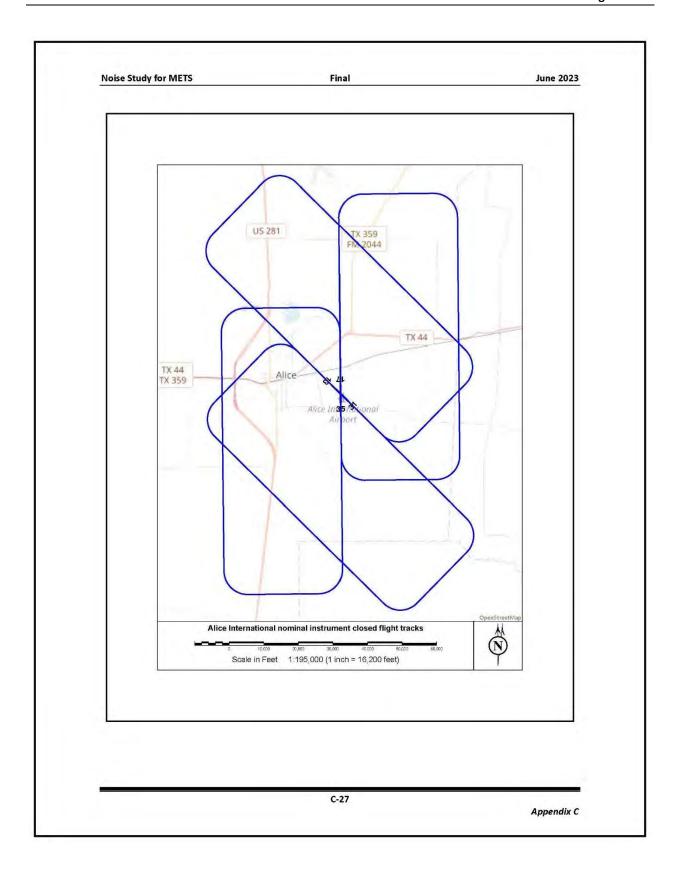


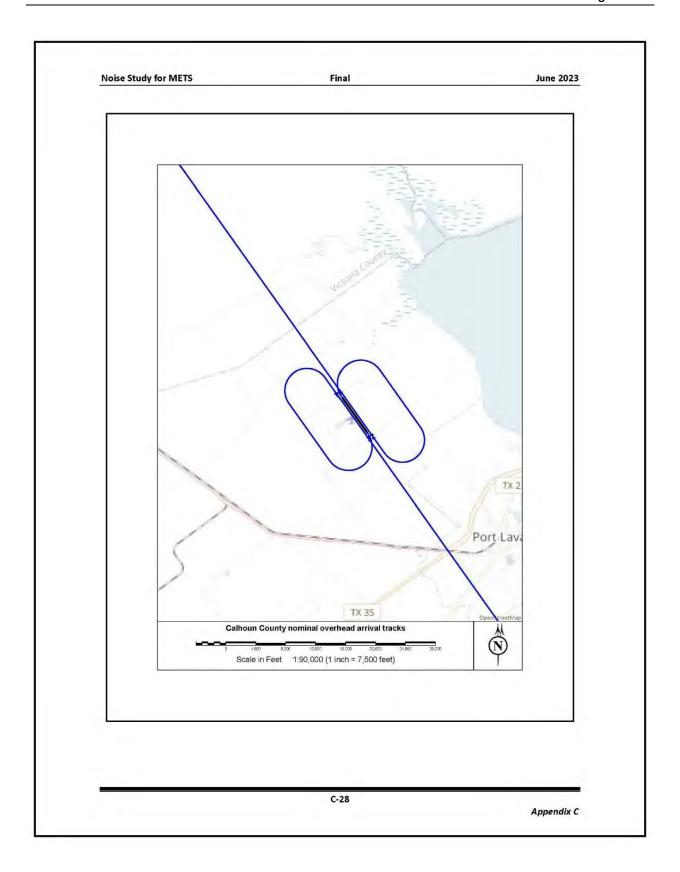


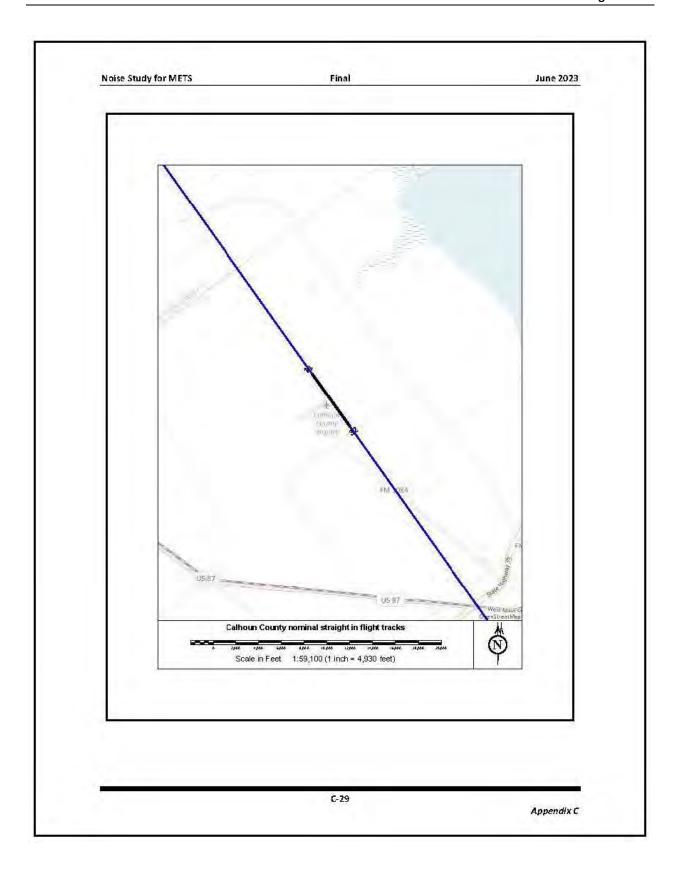


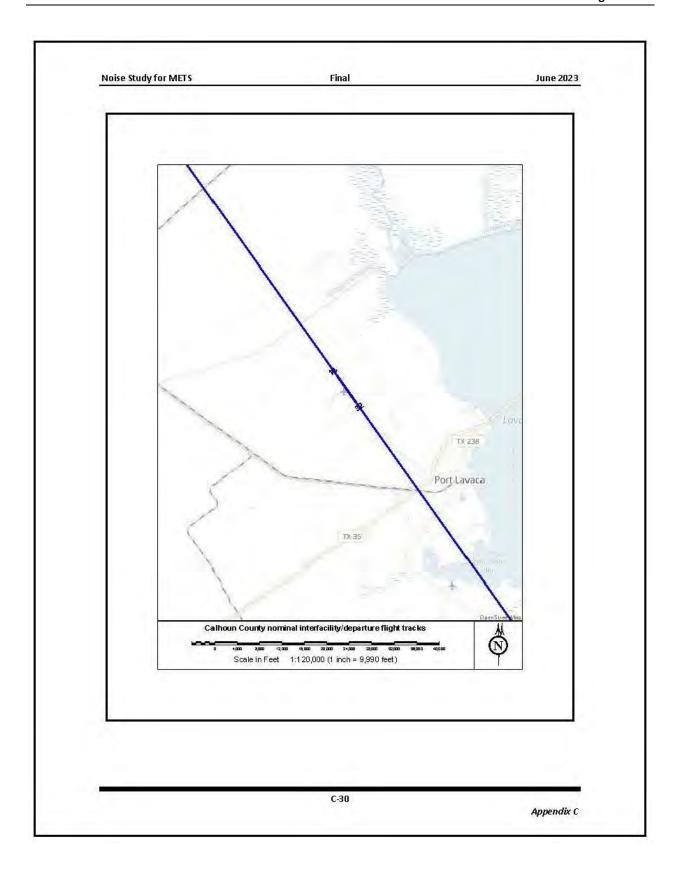


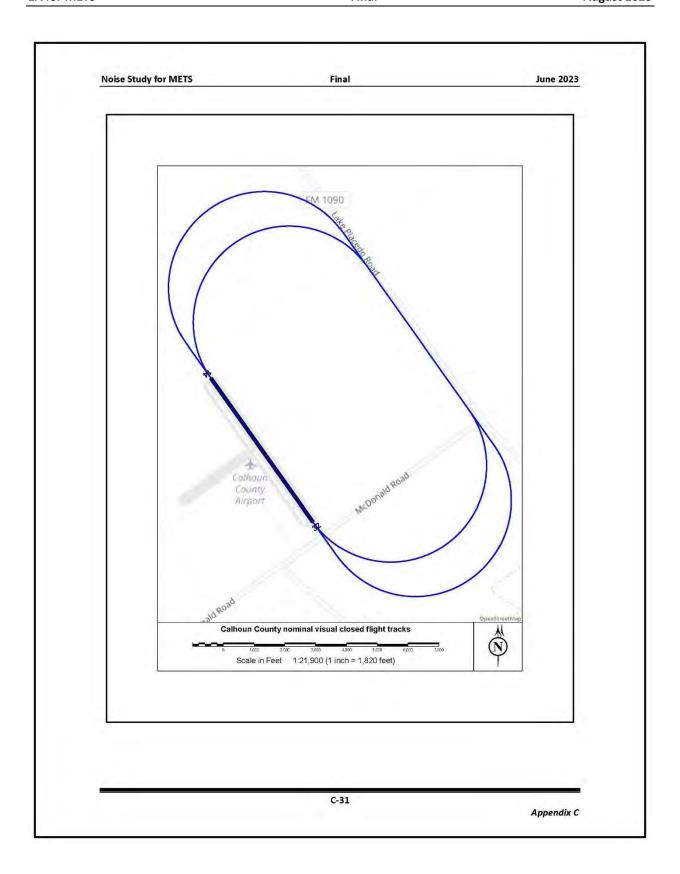




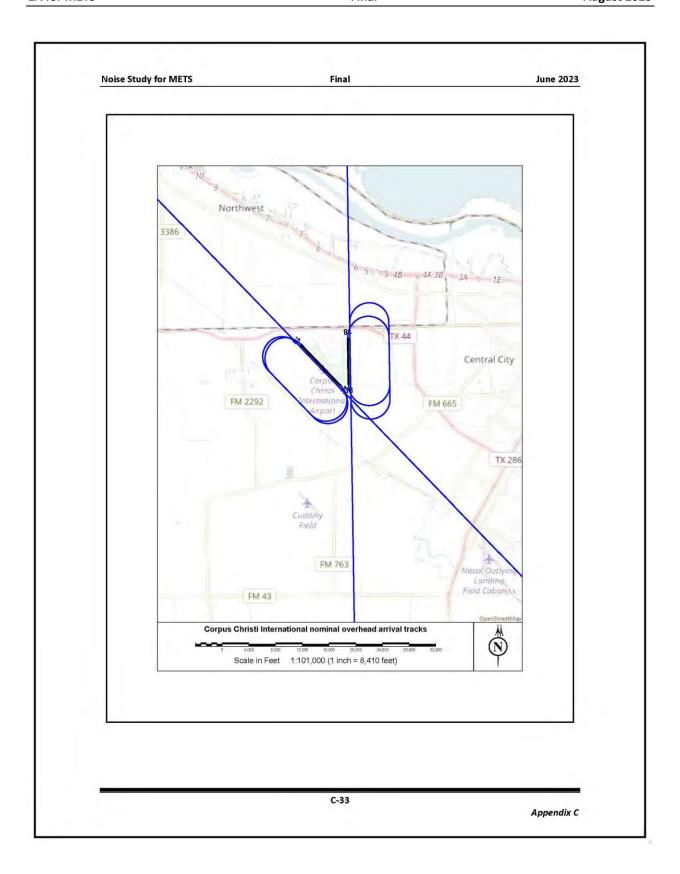


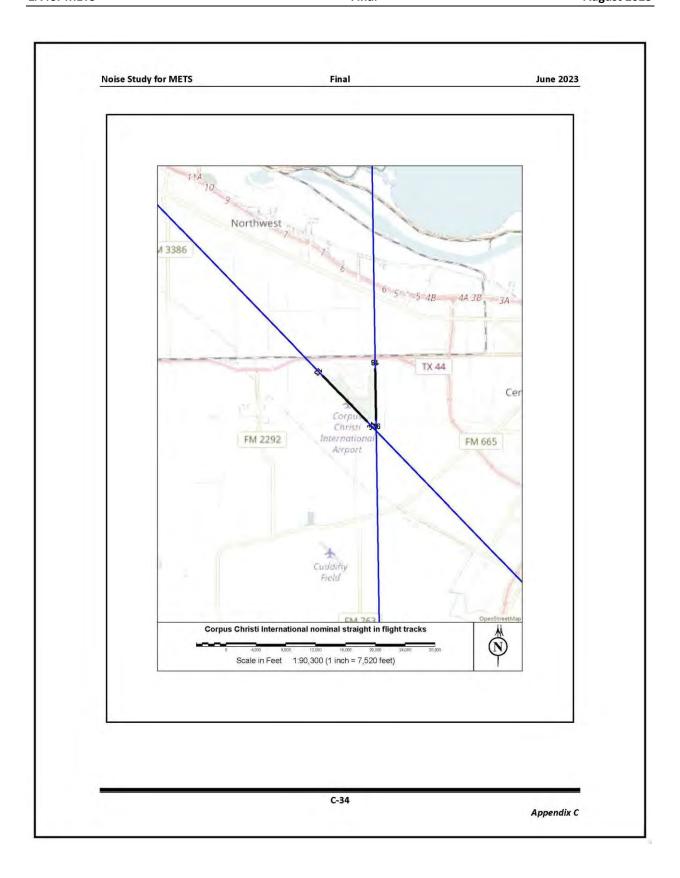


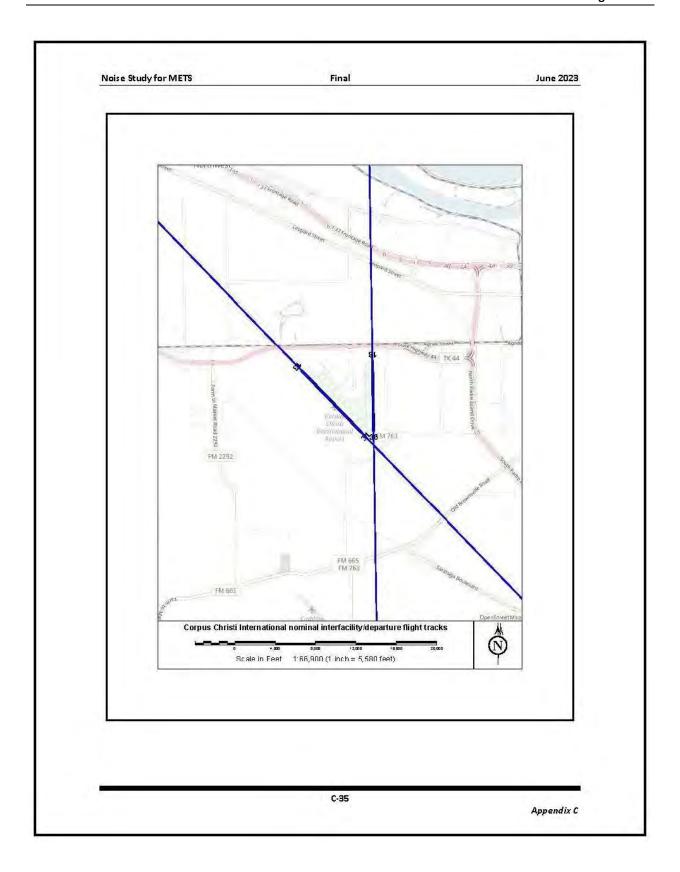


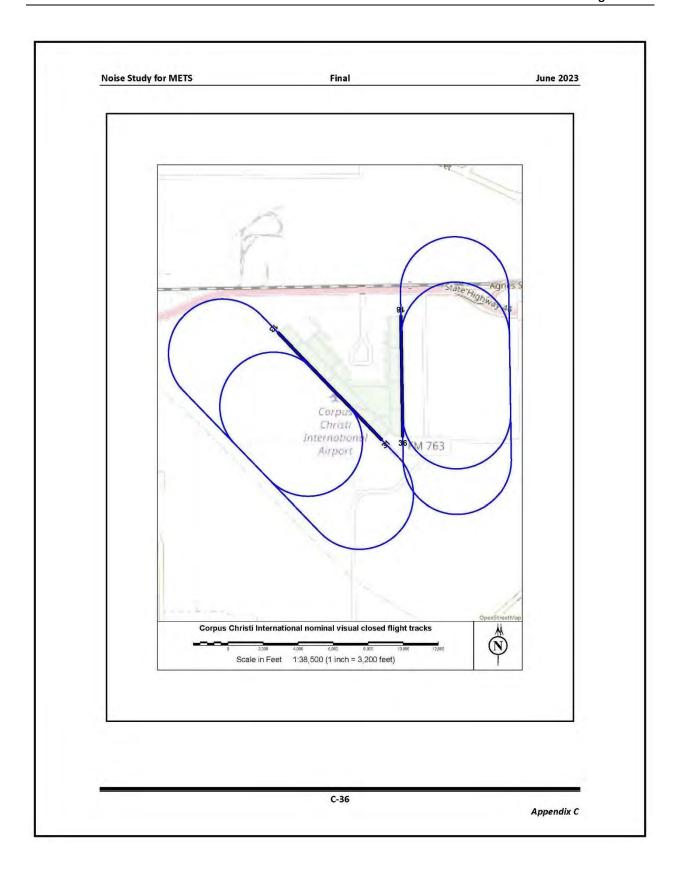


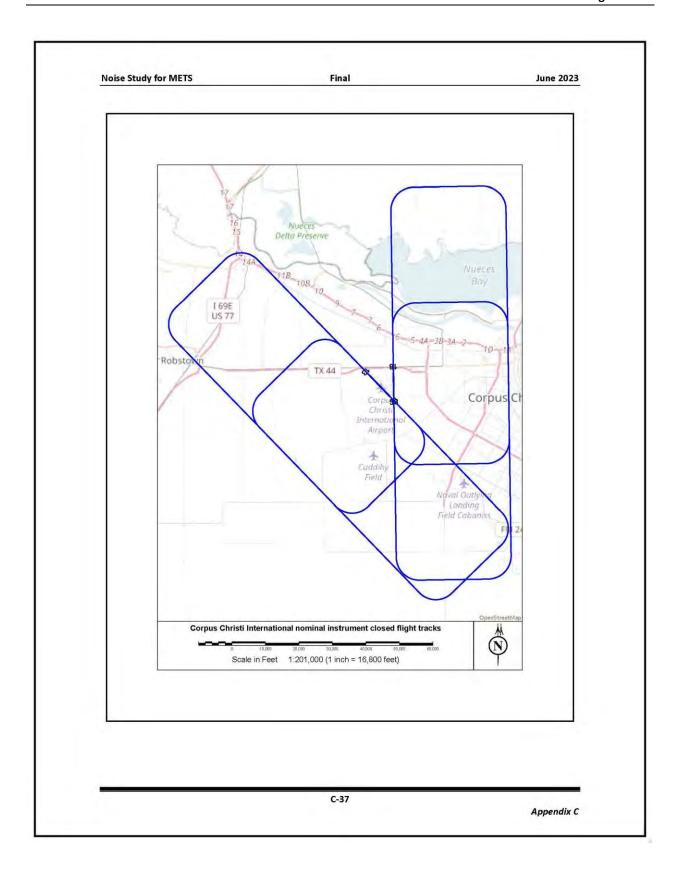


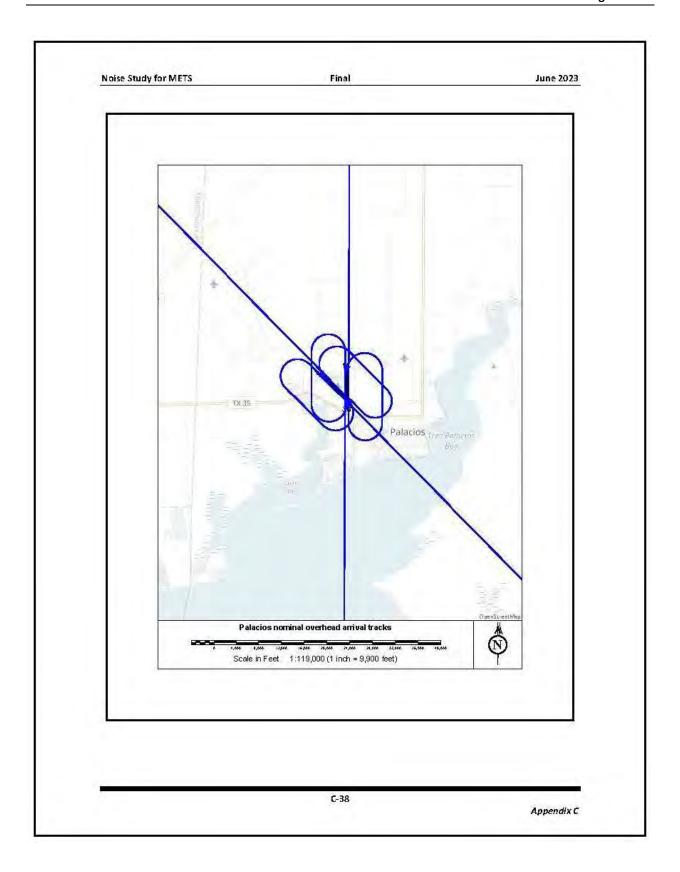


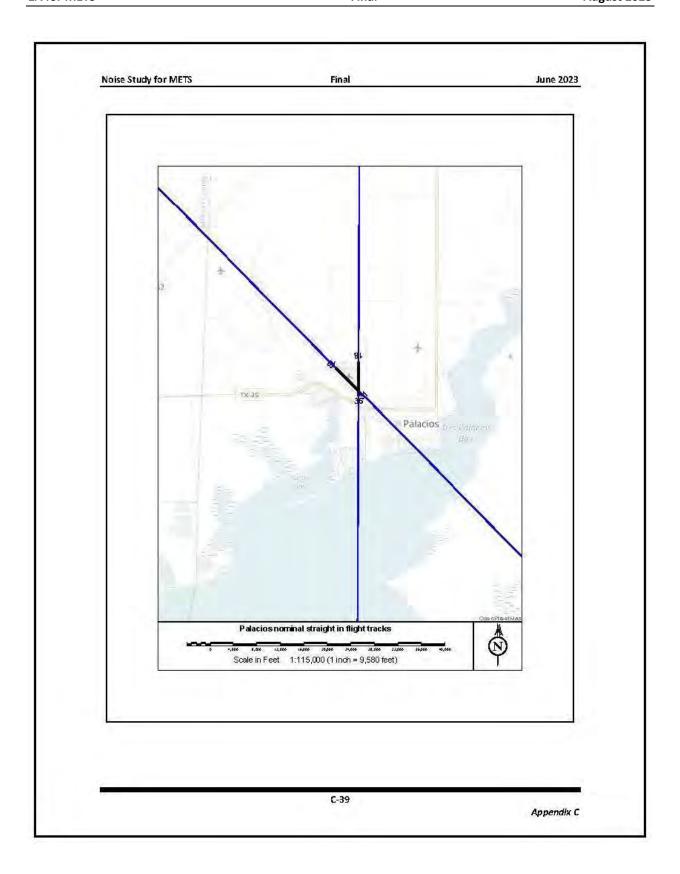


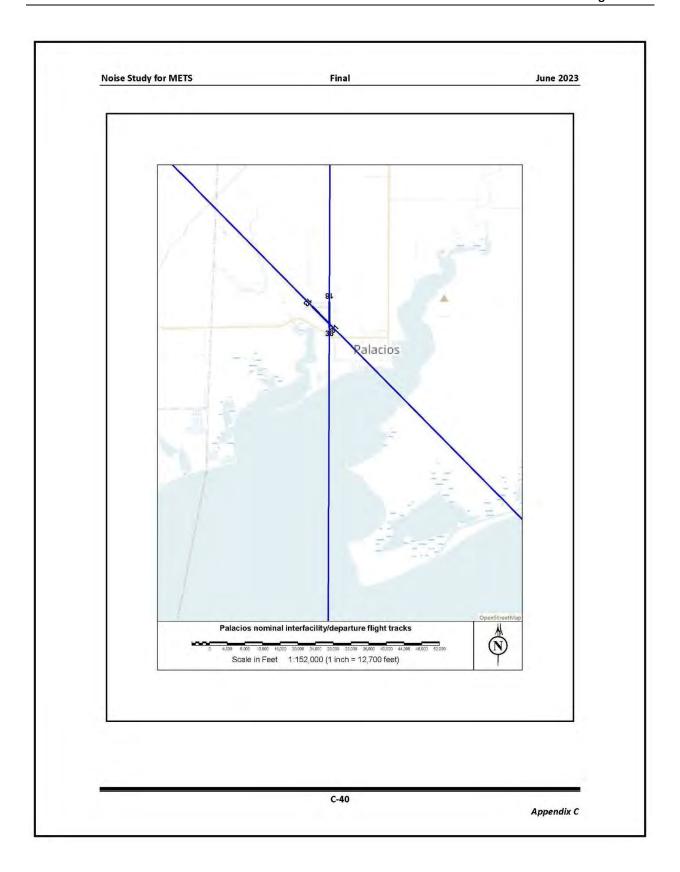


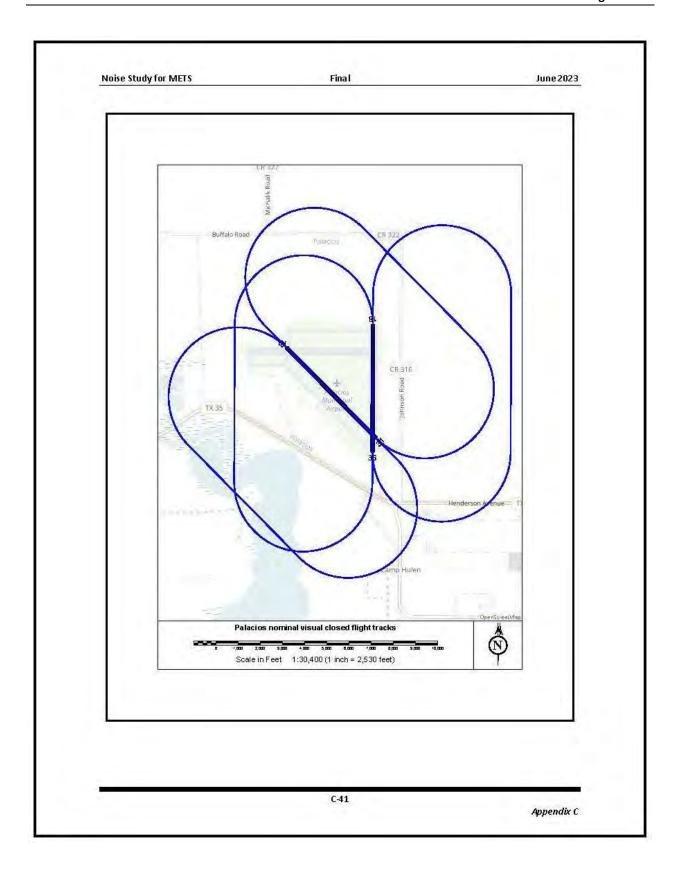


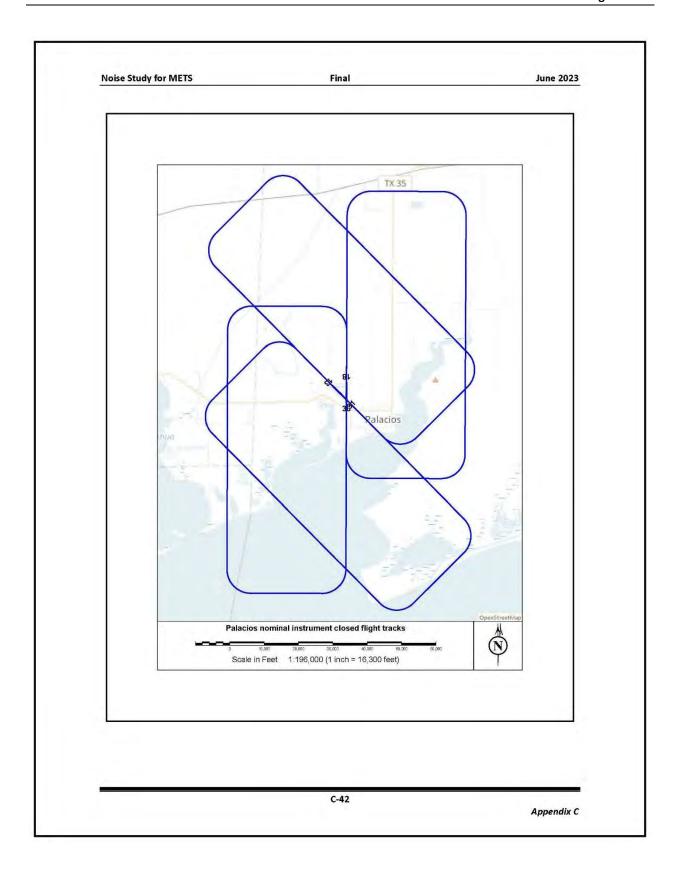


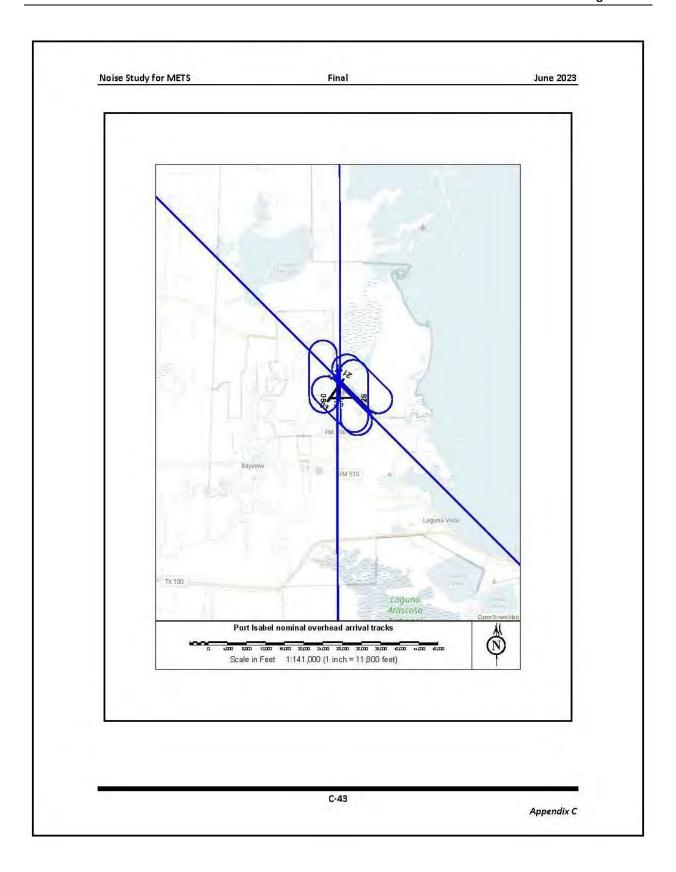


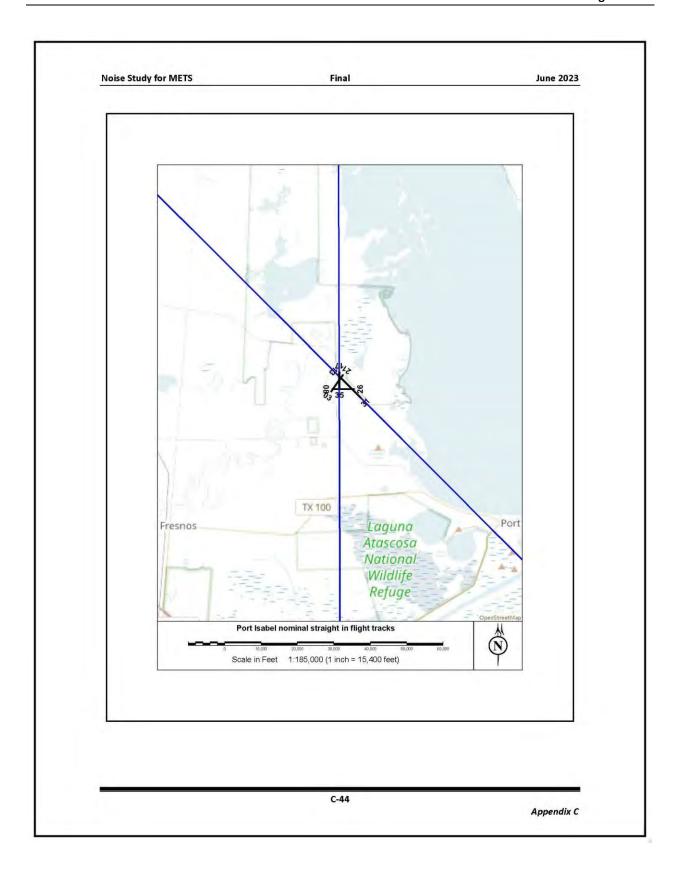


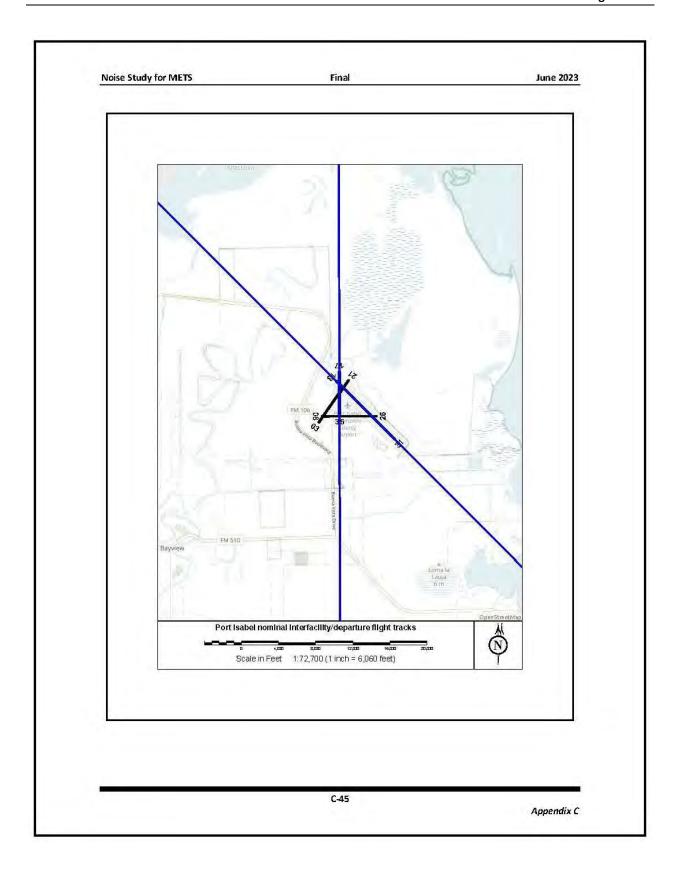


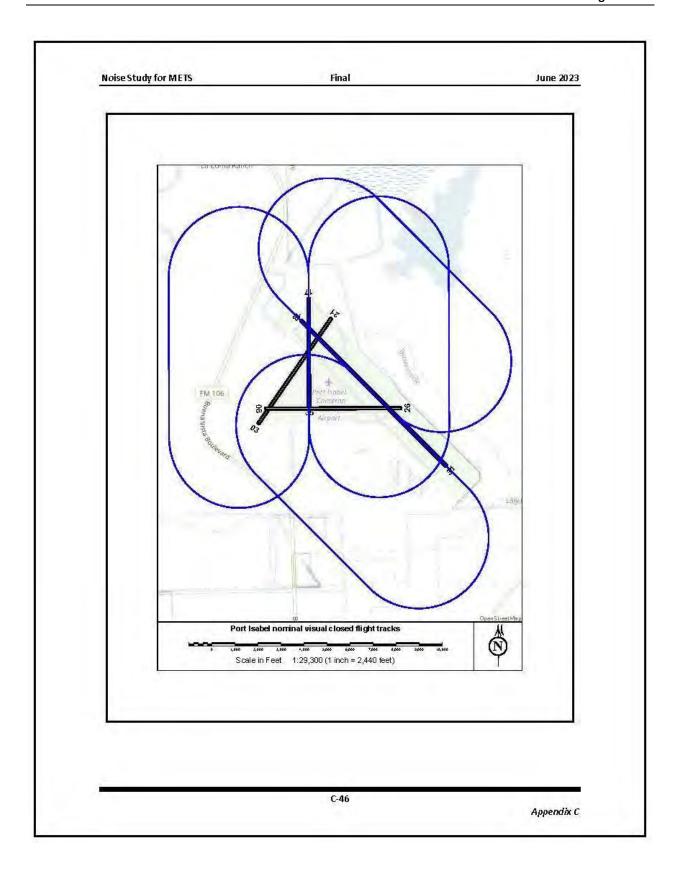


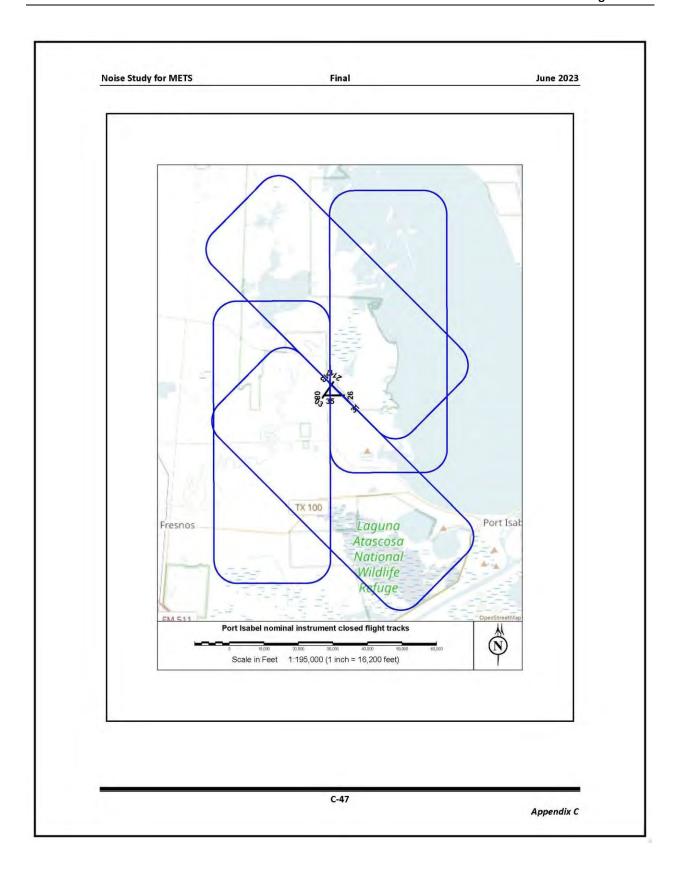


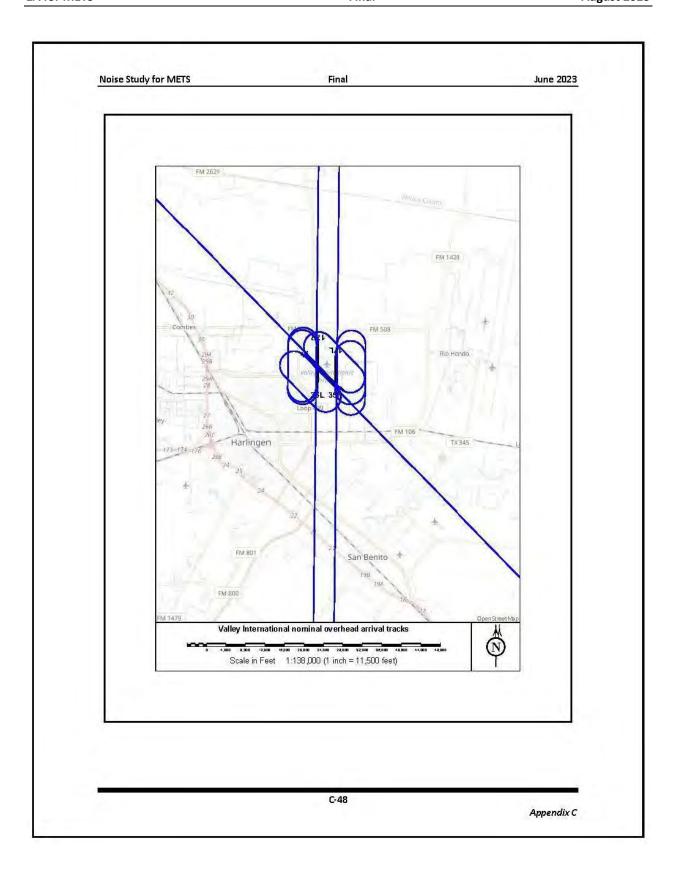


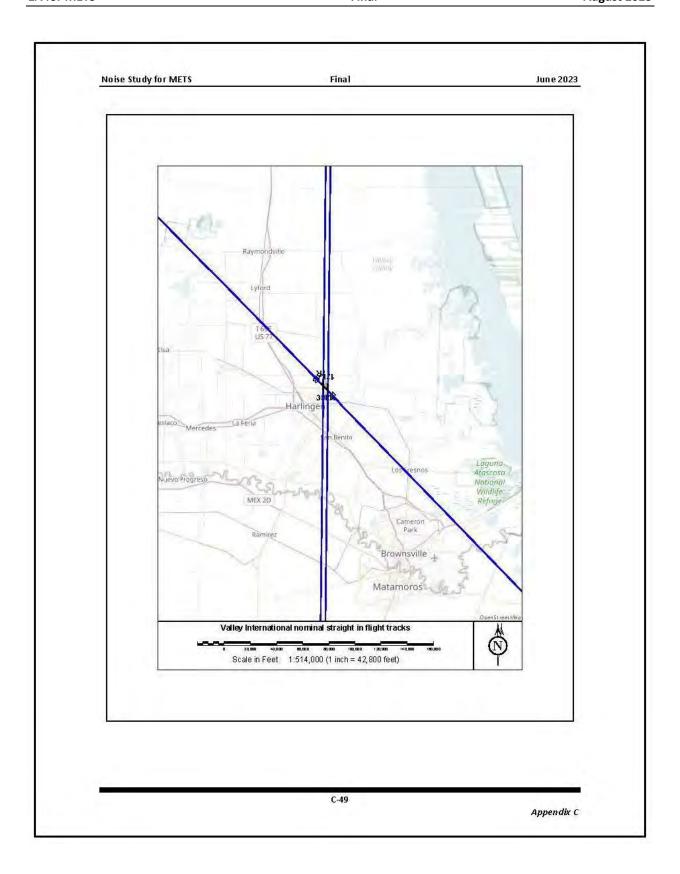


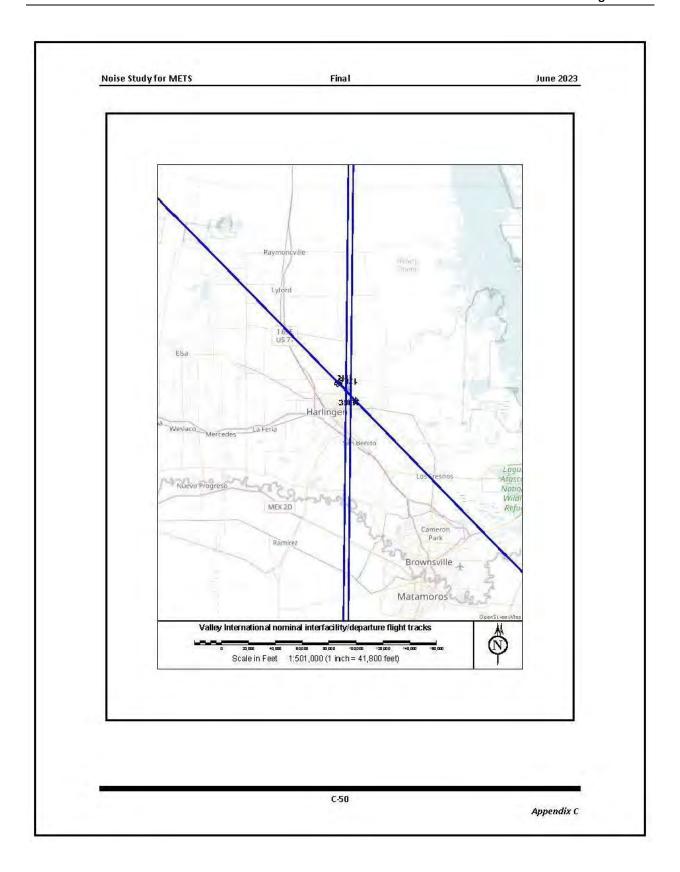


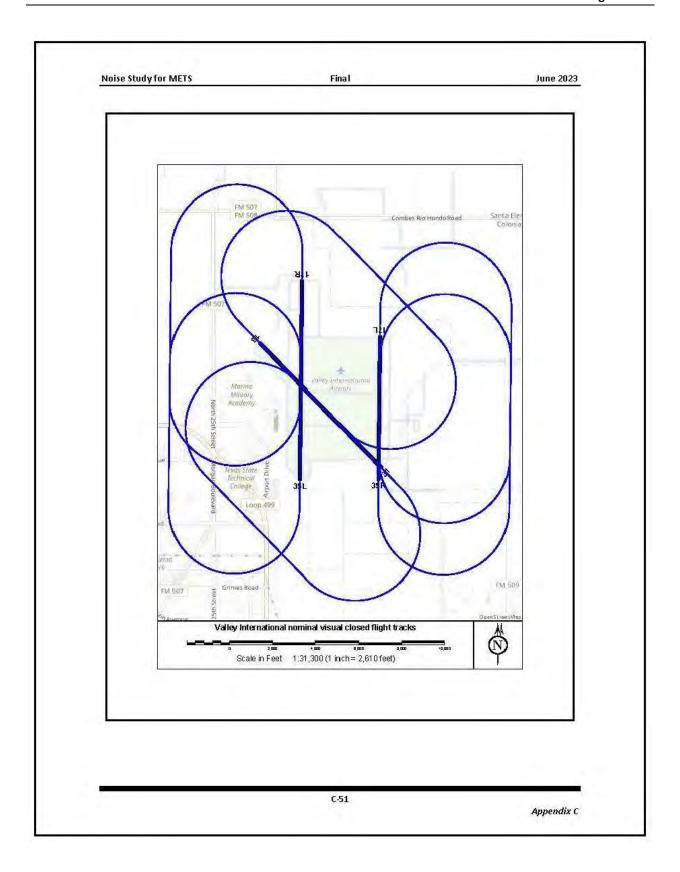


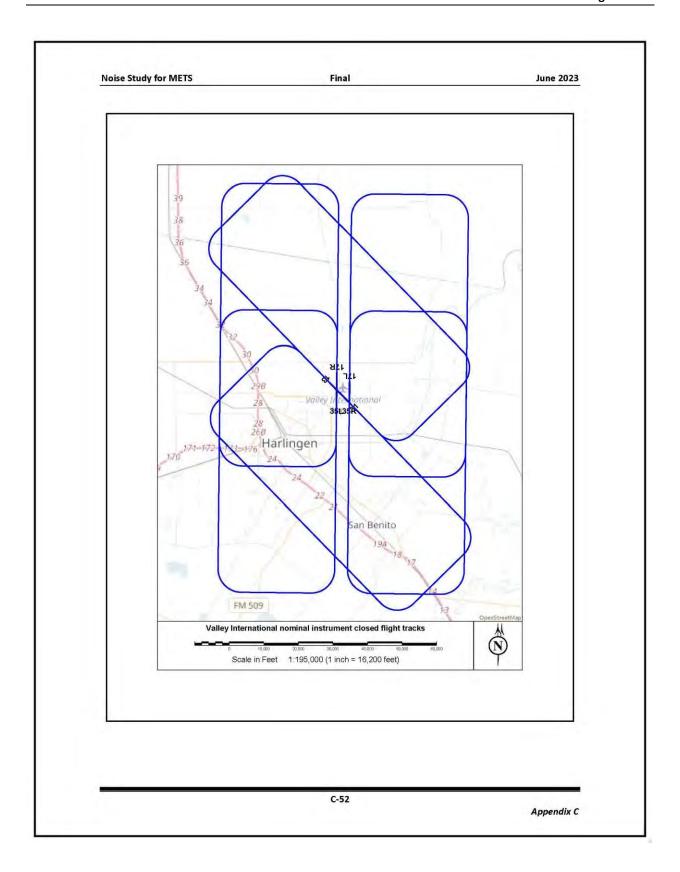


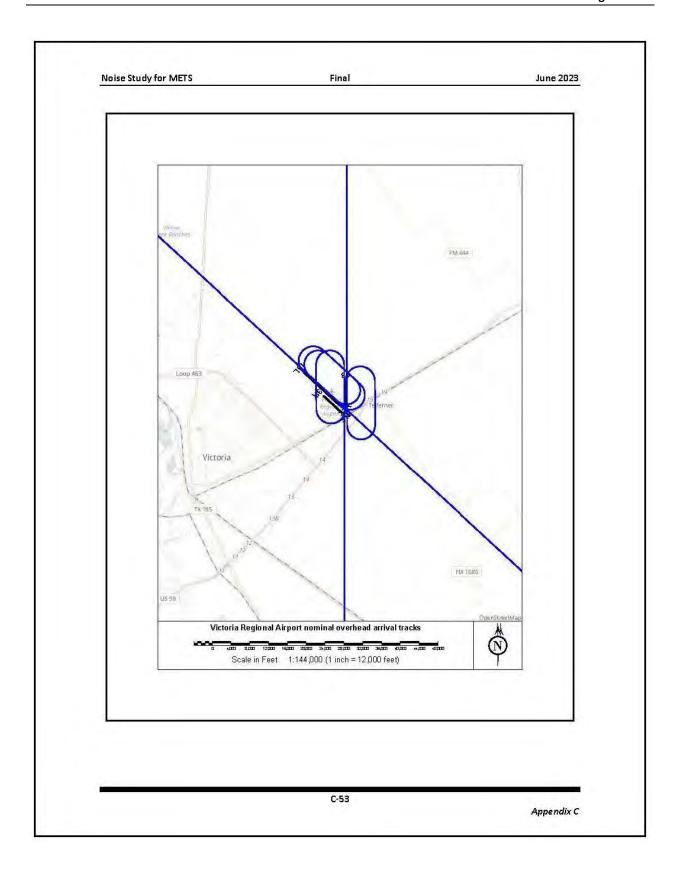


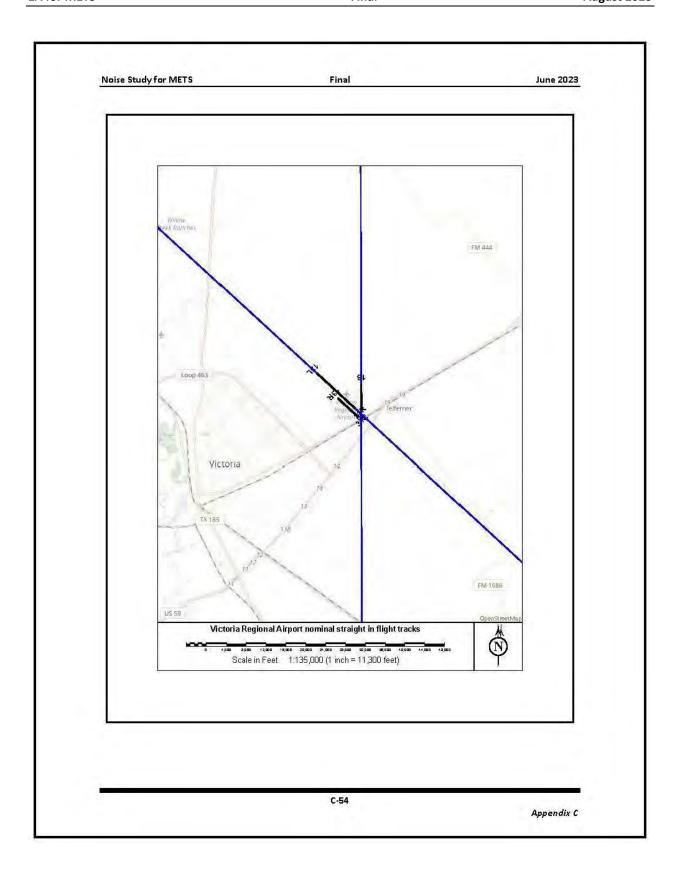


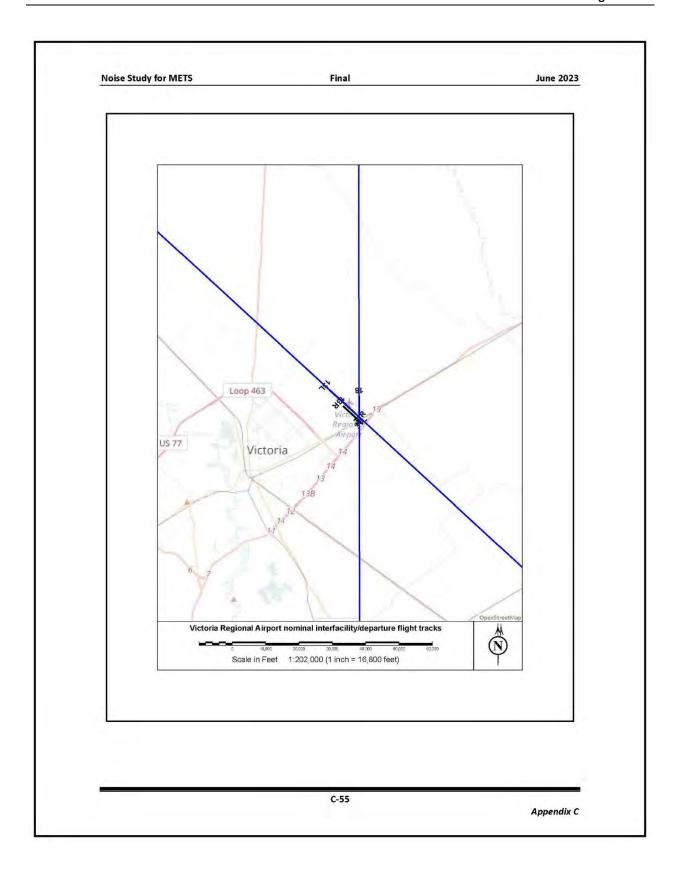


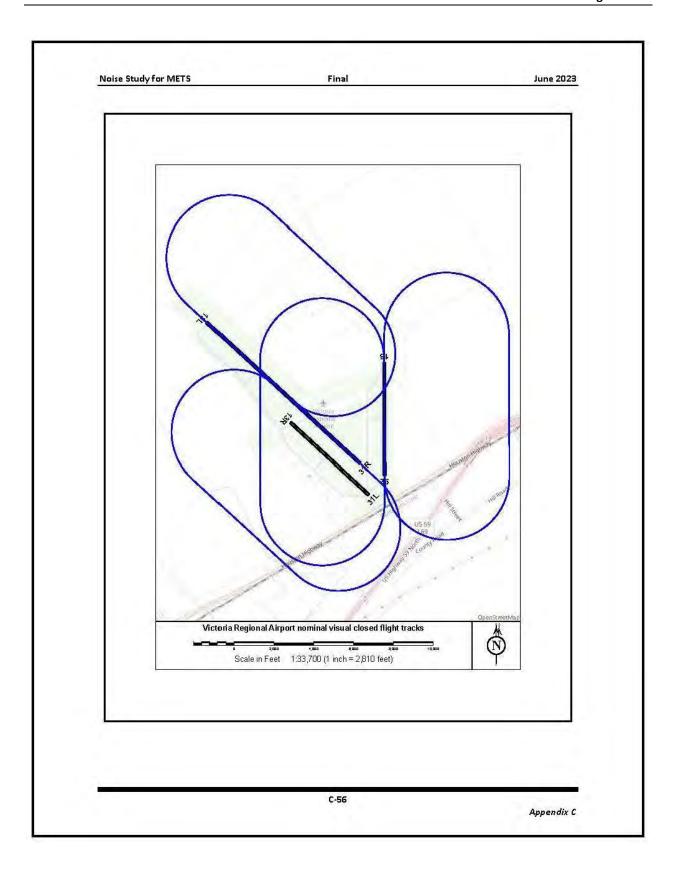


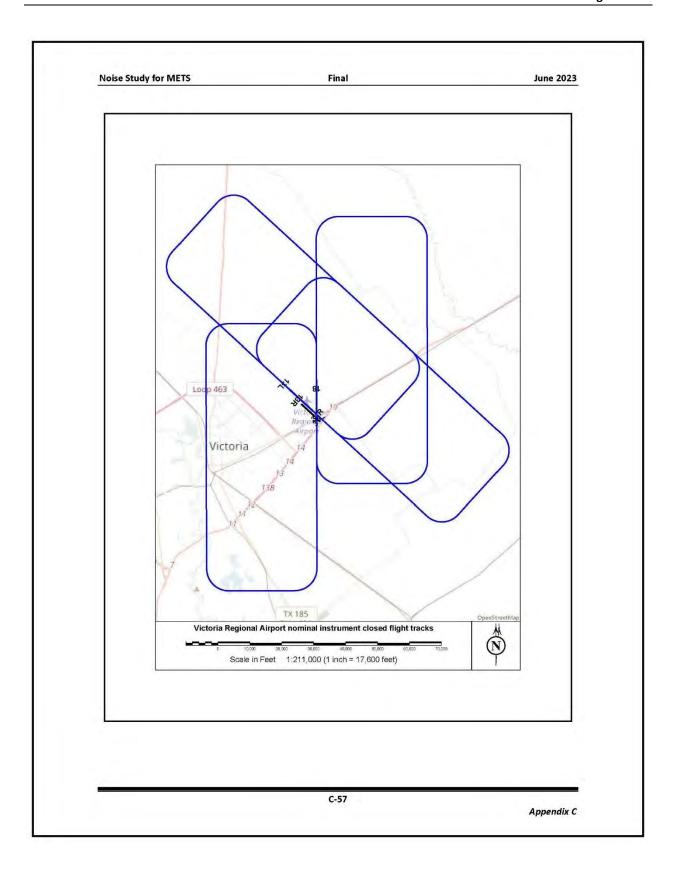


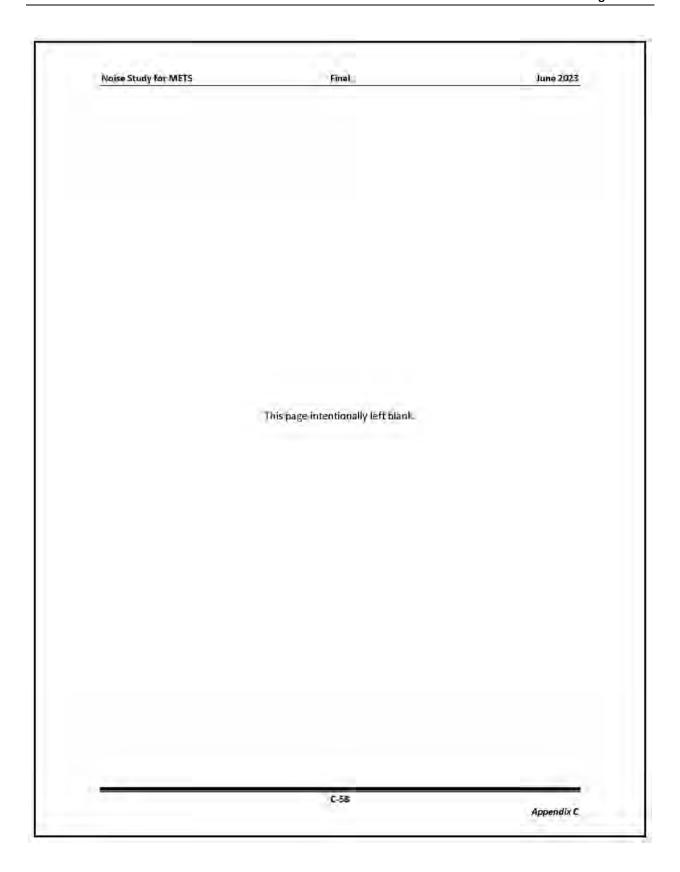












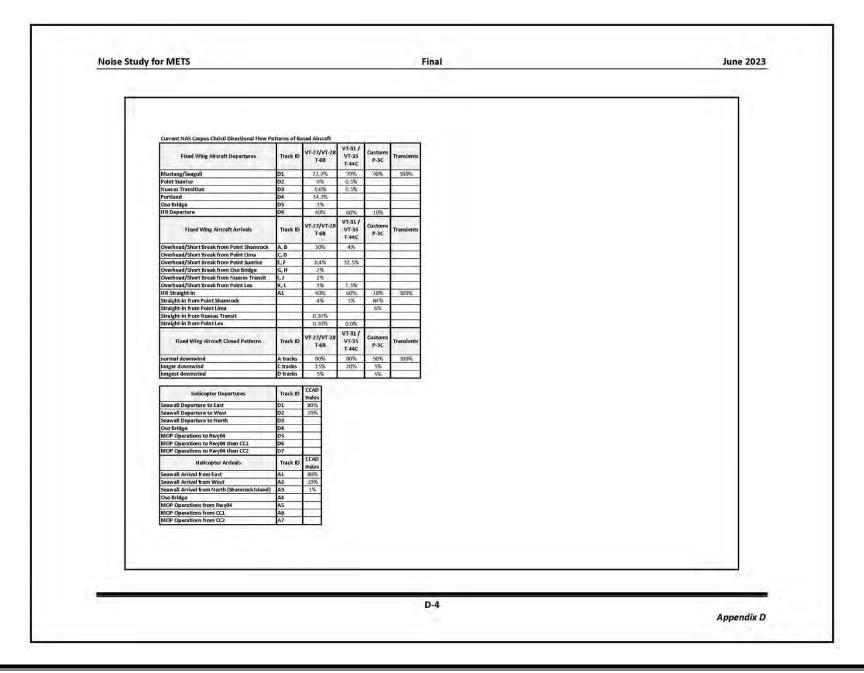
Final June 2023 **Noise Study for METS** Appendix D Operations Frequency Calculations at NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, and International, Regional, and Publicly Owned Municipal Airfields Appendix D displays modeling parameters used to calculate frequency of each operation type at NAS Corpus Christi, Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields. Parameters were reviewed by operational subject matter experts and/or sourced from recorded data.

D-1

Appendix D

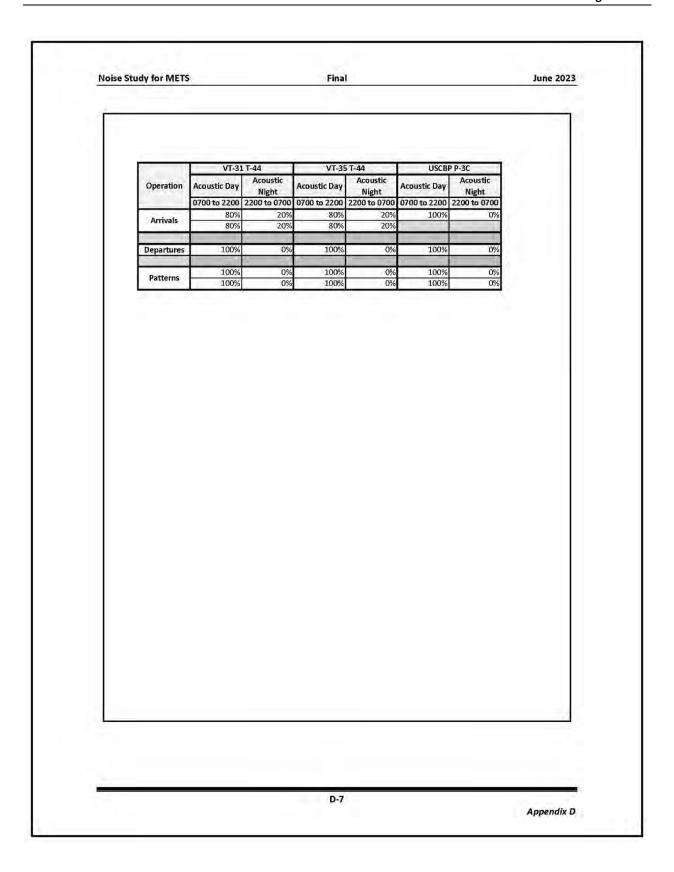
-												
NAS Corpus Christi Operatio			erations a	nt NAS Corp	us Christi	7						
Group	2020 Annual Sorties	Unit / Description	# of Flying Days	Basis of Sorties (# of days)	Patterns per Sortie	VFR Patterns Rate	IFR Patterns Rate	Annual Departures	Annual Arrivals	Annual VFR Pattern Operations	Annual IFR Pattern Operations	Total Annual Operations
Based												
T-6B:	25,000	VT-27 and VT-28	365	365	1.5	75.0%	25.0%	25,000	25,000	56,250	18,750	125,000
T-44C	10.000	VOT 24 4 VOT 25	200	200	0.5000	7.00	00.004	40.000	40.010	201	10150	22.700
P-3C		VT-31 and VT-35 U.S.CBP	365 365		0.5000	7.0%	93.0%	10,920 364		764 728	10,156	
HH/UH-60 (modeled as SH- 60)		CCAD	365		0	0.0%	100.0%	486		0	0	
AH-64 (modeled as SH-60)		CCAD	365	1.1	0	0.0%	100.0%	54		0	0	
			365	365			100.0%	0	0	0	0	
Transient Aircraft			0							TOTAL:		160,296
H-60 (modeled as SH-60)	7 29	Transients	365	365	0	0%	100.0%	38	38	0	0	76
AH-64 (modeled as SH-60)		Transients	365		0	0%		22		0	0	
CH-47 (modeled as CH-46)		Transients	365			0%		4		0	0	
Learjet (small jets) C-21		Transients	365	365	0	0%		9		0	0	18
F-18C/D (and other fighter je		Transients	365		3	0%		60		0		
T-38 (and other trainer jets)		Transients	365 365		4	0%		90		0	720	
C-130 (and other cargo) C-12 (and other props)		Transients Transients	365	365 365	0	0%		28		0	0	
e 12 june errer propaj	1	Transients	- 000	505	-	1	100.075				-	30
						1				TOTAL		1,630
H.									6	RAND TOTAL:		161,926

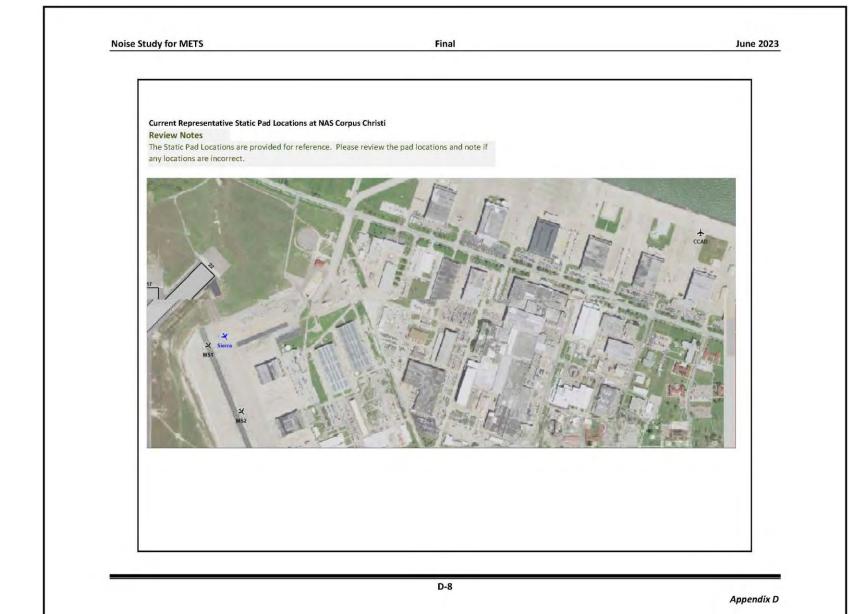
		Fina	al.							June 2023
Current Distribution of Runway	v Use at NAS Corpu	ıs Christ	i							
Based Fixed Wing Aircraft		13L	13R	31R	311	04	22	18	36	
	Arrival	53%	19%	9%	6%	3%	0%	5%	5%	
VT-27/VT-28 T-6B	Departure	53%	19%	9%	6%	3%	0%	5%	5%	
	Closed Pattern Arrival	53%	19% 19%	9% 5%	6% 6%	3% 3%	0%	5% 7%	5% 7%	
VT-31/VT-35 T-44C	Departure	53%	19%	5%	6%	3%	0%	7%	7%	
	Closed Pattern	53%	19%	5%	6%	3%	0%	7%	7%	
	Arrival	0%	90%	0%	10%	0%	0%	0%	0%	
USCBP P-3C	Departure Closed Pattern	0%	90%	0%	10%	0%	0% 0%	0%	0%	
Transient Fixed Wing Aircraft	Closed i ditterii	13L	13R	31R	31L	04	22	1.8	36	
han to a series of a series	Arrival	53%	19%	5%	6%	3%	0%	7%	7%	
Transient Fixed Wing Aircraft		53%	19%	5%	6%	3%	0%	7%	7%	
Note: For helicopter operations, CCAD	Closed Pattern	53%	19%	5%	6%	3%	0%	7%	7%	

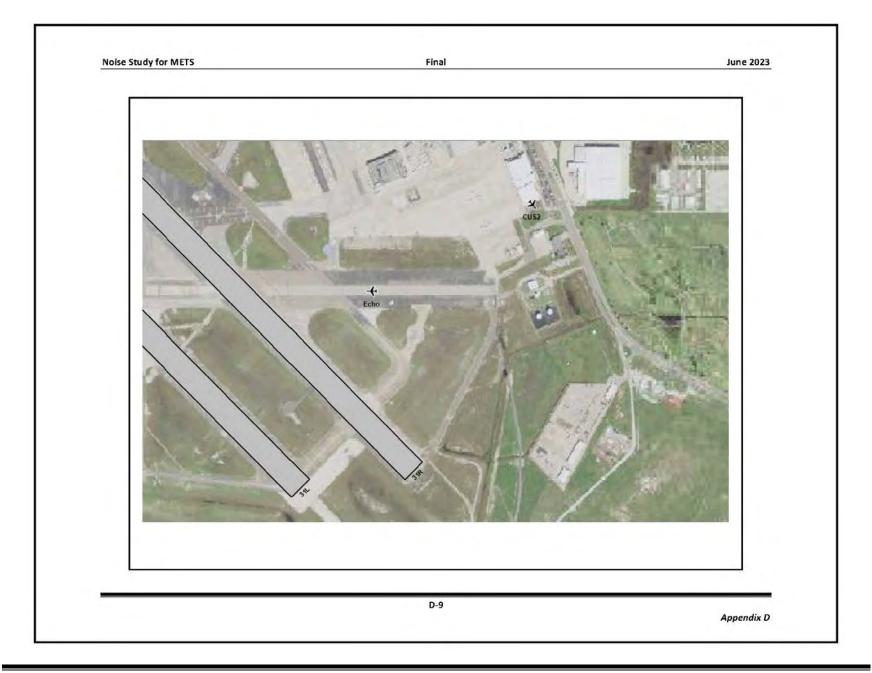


e Study for METS			Fina	d			June 20
Current Opera	tion Types for Based Aircraft a	NAS Corpus Ch	risti				
Operation	Туре	VT-27 / VT-28 T-5	VT-31 / VT-35 T-44	USCBP P-3C	CCAD Helicopters	Transients	
-	VFR Overhead Break Arrival	50%	33%				
Amelonia	IFR Straight-in Arrival	40%	65%	10%		100%	
Arrivals	VFR Straight-in Arrival	9%	2%	90%	100%		
	VFR Short Break Arrival	1%	0%			7	
Departures	Standard Departure	60%	40%	90%	100%	100%	
2.57.37.687.63	IFR Departure	40%	60%	10%		-	
	VFR (Visual) Pattern IFR ILS Pattern	75% 25%	5% 95%	100%		100%	
Patterns	IFR TACAN Pattern	25%	95%				
	FCLP						

Noise Study for METS Final June 2023 Current NAS Corpus Christi Percentages of Operations during Acoustic Day and Night VT-27 T-6 VT-28 T-6 Acoustic Acoustic Operation Type Acoustic Day Acoustic Day Acoustic Day Night Acoustic Day Night 0700 to 2200 2200 to 0700 0700 to 2200 2200 to 0700 Straight-In 90% 10% 90% 10% Arrivals Overhead Break 90% 10% 90% 10% Military 100% 100% Departures 0% 0% VFR Pattern 99% 1% 99% 1% **Patterns** IFR Pattern 99% 1% 99% 1% CCAD Helos Transients Acoustic Acoustic Operation Type Acoustic Day Acoustic Day Acoustic Day Night 0700 to 2200 2200 to 0700 Acoustic Day Night 0700 to 2200 2200 to 0700 100% 100% Straight-In Arrivals Overhead Break 100% 0% Military 100% 100% 0% Departures VFR Pattern 100% 0% Patterns 0% IFR Pattern 100% D-6 Appendix D









Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

Maintenance and Ground Run-up Operations For Based Aircraft at NAS Corpus Christi

Runs

Engine

Synchronization

Engine

Desalinization Runs

Maintenance Spot#2

Maintenance Spot#1

Maintenance Spot#2

Maintenance Spot#1

Maintenance Spot#2

		Licenter	A	nnual Run-up	Events				
Aircraft Type	Run-up Type	Location	Total	Anı	nual	Reported Power	Duration	Number of	Heading
		Name		0700-2200	2200-0700	Setting	(sec)	Engines	
VT-27/VT-28	Preflight	Echo for North Flow	5750	100.00%	0.00%	30% Torque	30	1	West
	Run-up				177	Idle	120	1	West
T-6		Sierra for South Flow	19250	100.00%	0.00%	30% Torque	30	1	Southeast
						Idle	120	1	Southeast
	High Power	Maintenance Spot#1	56.5	22.00%	78.00%	1015 ft lbs Q	1800	1 -	Southeast
	Runs	Maintenance Spot#2	56.5	22.00%	78.00%	1015 ft lbs Q	1800	1	Southeast
	Engine	Maintenance Spot#1	3390	22.00%	78.00%	900 ft lbs Q	20	1	Southeast
	Desalinization Runs	Maintenance Spot#2	3390	22.00%	78.00%	900 ft lbs Q	20	1	Southeast
VT-31/VT-35	Preflight	Echo for all pre-flight runs	10,920	100.00%	0.00%	70% RPM	120	2	West
T-44	Run-up					Idle	480	2	West
	High Power	Maintenance Spot#1	15	22.00%	78.00%	1315 ft lbs Q	1800	1	Southeast
	Runs	Maintenance Spot#2	15	22.00%	78.00%	1315 ft lbs Q	1800	1	Southeast
1	Engine	Maintenance Spot#1	15	22.00%	78.00%	1000 ft lbs Q	300	2	Southeast
	Synchronization	Maintenance Spot#2	15	22.00%	78.00%	1000 ft lbs Q	300	2	Southeast
	Engine	Maintenance Spot#1	1500	22.00%	78.00%	1000 ft lbs Q	20	2	Southeast
	Desalinization Runs	Maintenance Spot#2	1500	22.00%	78.00%	1000 ft lbs Q	20	2	Southeast
VT-31/VT-35	Preflight	Echo for all pre-flight runs	26	100.00%	0.00%	70% NC	120	2	West
MET	Run-up					Idle	480	2	West
	High Power	Maintenance Spot#1	18	22.00%	78.00%	100% NC	1800	1	Southeast
	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	The second secon		The second secon			-		4

18

18

18

1800

1800

D-11

22.00%

22.00%

22.00%

22.00%

22.00%

78.00%

78.00%

78.00%

78.00%

78.00%

100% NC

76% NC

76% NC

76% NC

76% NC

1800

300

300

20

20

2

Southeast

Southeast

Southeast

Southeast

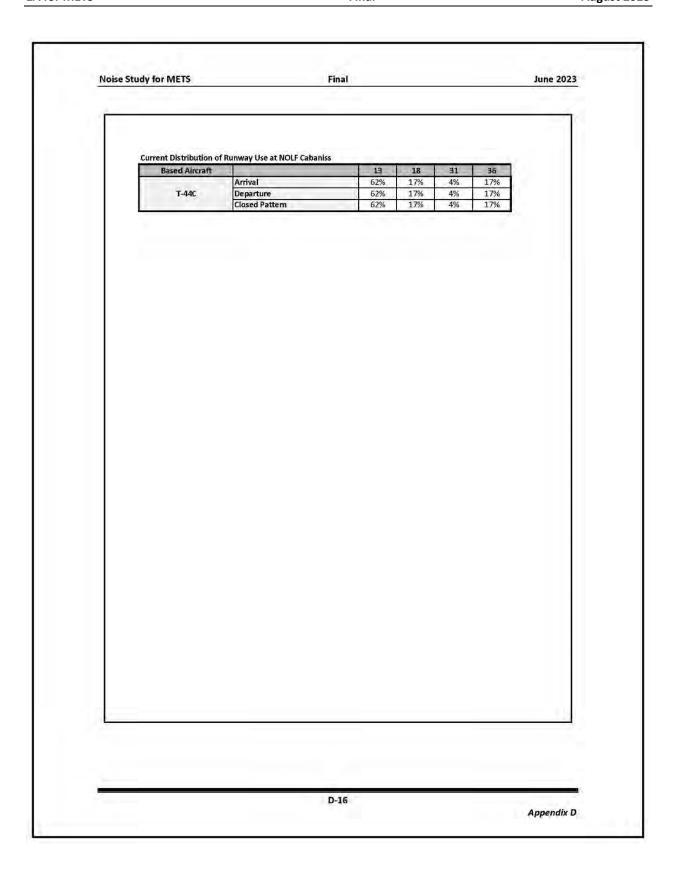
Southeast

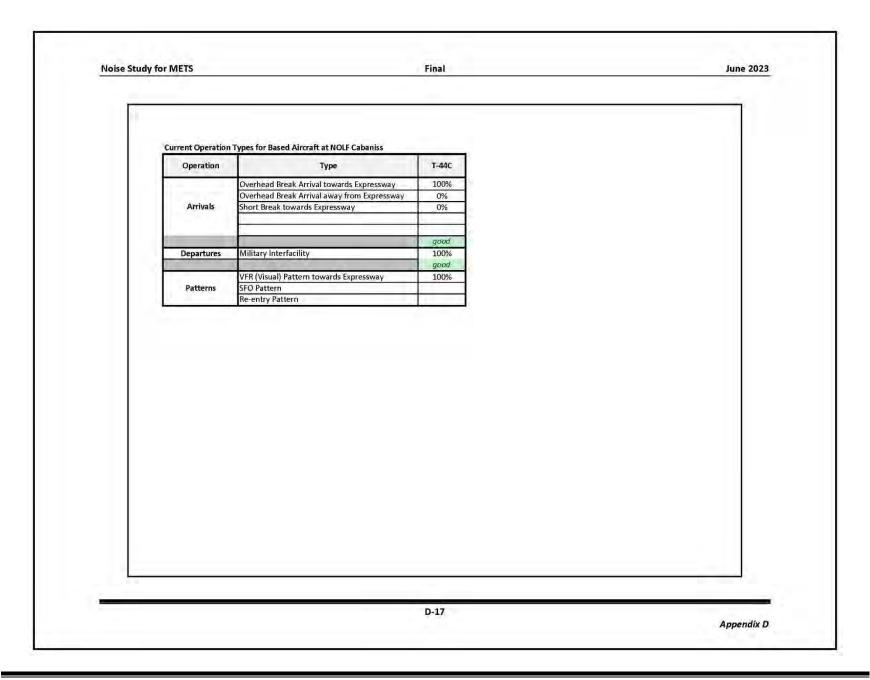
Appendix D

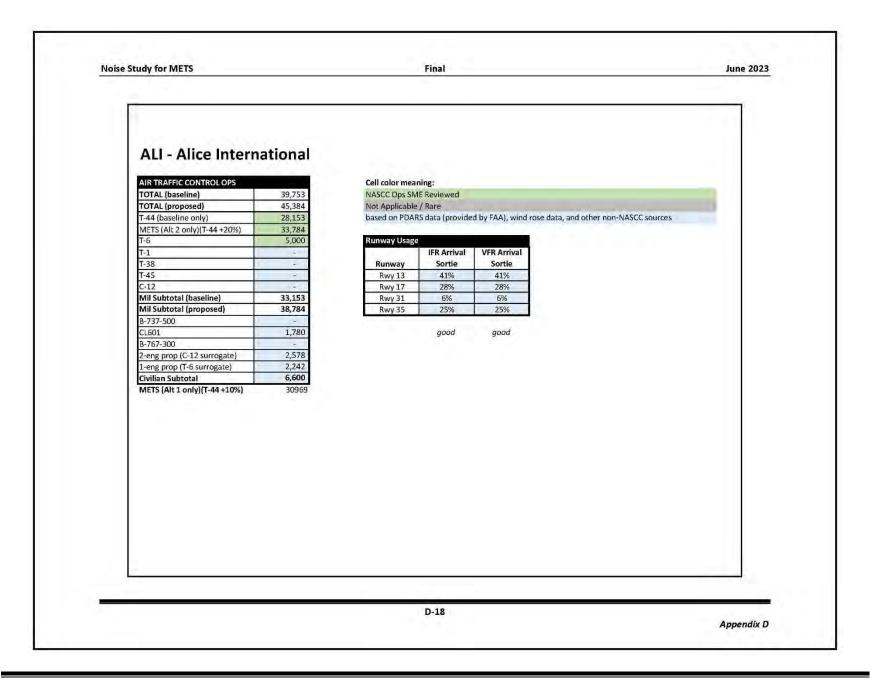
						FII	nal						June 202
	aniss Operatio				t is used to	estimate th	e distribut	on of operation	ns for the T-4	14C			
Aircraft	Sorties at Full Unit Strength	Unit / Description	# of Flying Days	Basis of Sorties (# of days)	Patterns per Sortie	VFR Patterns Rate	IFR Patterns Rate	Annual Departures	Annual Arrivals	Annual VFR Pattern Operations	Annual IFR Pattern Operations	Total Annual Operations	
Based													
T-44C	1,474	VT-31	312	312	18.00	100%		1,474	1,474	53,064	4	56,012	
	-				-				1				
										TOTAL:		56,012	
Transient	Aircraft	al .	365	365	0.00	0%		o	0	0	1 0		
	-		365	365		U%		0	0	0			
F			365					. 0				O	
			365					0	0	0		0	
			365	365		- 10		0	0	0	0	0	
			365	365				0	0	0		0	
			365	365				0	0	0	0	0	
										TOTAL:			
-		-								RAND TOTAL:		56012	
La constant		1	-		1					JOHE TOTAL		Jour	

		Final		June 2023
1				-10
Current NOLF Ca	baniss Percentages of O	perations during Acous	tic Day and Night	
AND ASSESSED.		T-4	4C	
Operation	Туре	Acoustic Day	Acoustic Night	
	Straight-In	0700 to 2200 100%	2200 to 0700 0%	
Arrivals	Overhead Break	100%	0%	
1				
Departures	Interfacility	93%	7%	
Patterns	VFR Pattern	93%	7%	
				14

oise Study for METS Final			June 20
r			
Current NOLF Cabaniss Directional Flow Patterns of Based Aircraft			
Departure	Track ID	T-44C	
Departure over Sunrise Mall back to NAS Corpus Christi		100%	
		and a	
		good	
Arrival	Track ID	T-44C	
Arrival From NAS Corpus Christi	A tracks	78%	
Arrival from Corpus Christi International Airport	C tracks	5%	
Arrival from the South	E tracks	17%	
The state of the s			
(-		good	
Closed Pattern	Track ID	T-44C	
Shortest downwind - turn towards expressway with 800 ft AGL Pattern Altitude	A tracks	96%	
Longer downwind - turn towards expressway with 800 ft AGL Pattern Altitude	C tracks	4%	
Shortest downwind - turn towards expressway with 500 ft AGL Pattern Altitude Longer downwind - turn towards expressway with 500 ft AGL Pattern Altitude	A tracks C tracks	0%	
conger administration control of the	e ducio	570	
		and the same of th	
		good	
-			_
D-15			





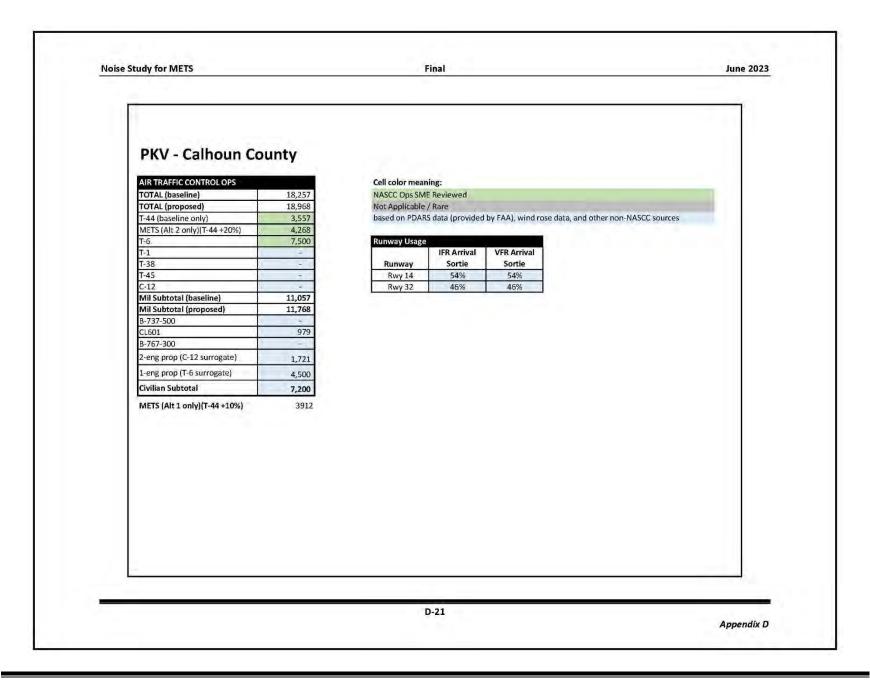


Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

	T-44 (bas	eline only)	METS (pro	METS (proposed only)		-6	Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)	
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38
% of Total Ops	16%	84%	16%	84%	0%	100%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	4,500	23,653	5,400	28,384	0	5,000	0	0
Arrival % 2200-0700L	.0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%
Closed % 2200-0700L	7%	7%	796	7%	0%	0%	4%	4%
Departure % 2200-0700L	7%	7%	7%	7%	D%6	0%	4%	4%
OPS / SORTIE		(reference)		******		revenue.		
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1				
ARR - PEL						1		
ARR - ST in	1		1		1		1	1
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16		9		
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)		2						
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1			
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2
Annual Sorties	1,125	1,314	1,350	1,577	0	455	0	0
ANNUAL EVENTS		- removed	- 1					
Departure	1,125	1,314	1,350	1,577	0	455	0	0
Arrival	1,125	1,314	1,350	1,577	0	455	0	0
Touch and Go events	1,125	10,513	1,350	12,615	0	2,045	0	0

Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

		military ops	Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates)					
	(representati	ve surrogates)		Civilian circi	it ops (represent	tive samobates/		
	T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	2-eng prop (C-12 surrogate)	1-eng prop (T-6 surrogate)	
% of Total Ops	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
# of Total Ops	0	0	0	1,780	0	2,578	2,242	
Arrival % 2200-0700L	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Closed % 2200-0700L	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Departure % 2200-0700L	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
OPS / SORTIE								
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
ARR - Overhead Break								
ARR - PEL						1		
ARR - ST in	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
PATT - Touch and Go				1		1	1	
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument								
Ops per Sortie	2	2	2	3	2	3	3	
Annual Sorties	0	0	0	593	0	859	747	
ANNUAL EVENTS	- Ferries	-	lettere.		-			
Departure	0	0	0	593	0	859	747	
Arrival	0	0	0	593	0	859	747	
Touch and Go events	0	0	0	297	0	430	374	

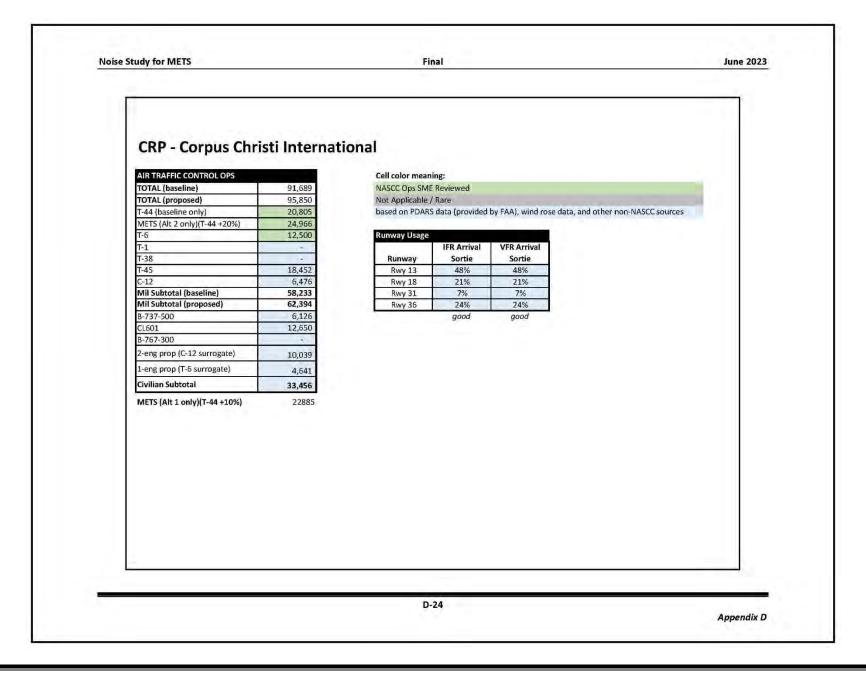


Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023
HOISE Study for METS	1 mai	Julie Edea

	T-44 (base	T-44 (baseline only)		METS (proposed only)		T-6		Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)	
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38	
% of Total Ops	17%	83%	17%	83%	80%	20%	100%	100%	
# of Total Ops	600	2,957	720	3,548	6,000	1,500	0	0	
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	
Closed % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	
Departure % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%	
OPS / SORTIE		-				annual 1			
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1				1	
ARR - PEL						1			
ARR - ST in	1		1		1	1	1	1	
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16	1	9			
PATT - PEL High Key								1	
PATT - PEL Low Key					Y)	
PATT - Delta (Hold)								3	
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1			(
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2	
Annual Sorties	150	164	180	197	2,000	136	0	0	
ANNUAL EVENTS				-	*****	-	******		
Departure	150	164	180	197	2,000	136	0	0	
Arrival	150	164	180	197	2,000	136	0	0	
Touch and Go	150	1,314	180	1,577	1,000	614	0	0	

Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

		military ops ve surrogates)	Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates)					
	T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	2-eng prop (C-12	1-eng prop (T-6	
% of Total Ops	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
# of Total Ops	0	0	0	979	0	1,721	4,500	
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	
Closed % 2200-0700L*	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	
Departure % 2200-0700L*	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	
OPS / SORTIE	india.		-		-			
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
ARR - Overhead Break								
ARR - PEL								
ARR - ST in	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
PATT - Touch and Go				6		6	6	
PATT - PEL High Key		11 3						
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument								
Ops per Sortie	2	2	2	8.0	2	8.0	8.0	
Annual Sorties	0	0	0	122	0	215	563	
ANNUAL EVENTS	33,2202					-		
Departure	0	0	0	122	0	215	563	
Arrival	0	0	0	122	0	215	563	
Touch and Go	0	0	0	367	0	645	1,688	

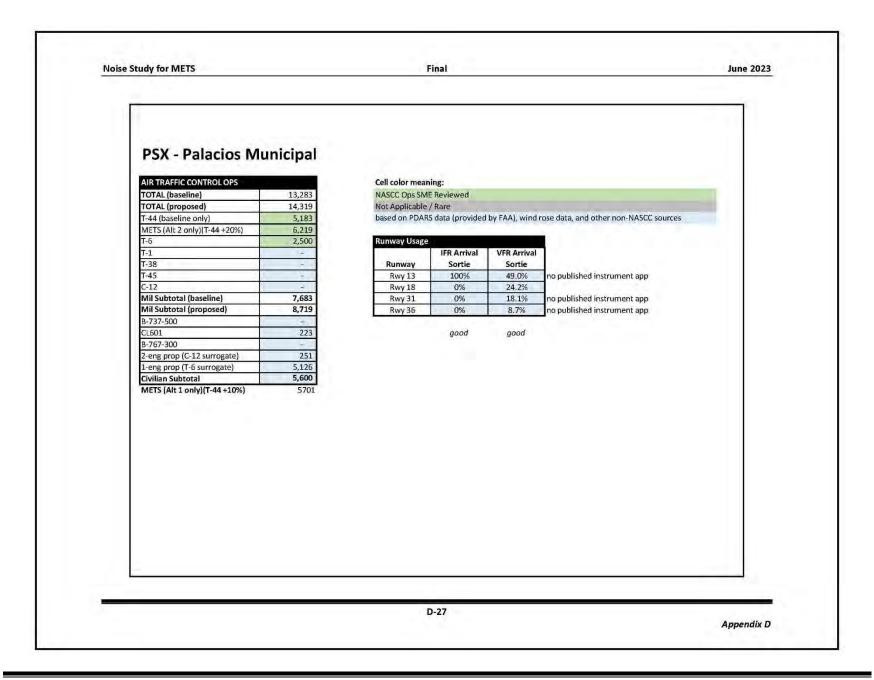


Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023
Noise study for Inters	1.1041	June Lors

	T-44 (baseline only)		METS (proposed only)		T-6		Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)	
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38
% of Total Ops	36%	64%	36%	64%	0%	100%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	7,500	13,305	9,000	15,966	0	12,500	0	0
Arrival % 2200-0700L	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	10%	10%
Closed % 2200-0700L	7%	7%	7%	7%	0%	0%	10%	10%
Departure % 2200-0700L	7%	7%	7%	7%	0%	0%	10%	10%
OPS / SORTIE	-		******		******	******	Name of the last o	
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1		1		
ARR - PEL								
ARR - ST in	1		1		1		1	1
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16		9		
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key				J.				
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1			
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2
Annual Sorties	1,875	739	2,250	887	0	1,136	0	0
ANNUAL EVENTS	милими	меняны	*******	*****	MARKET	Antonio.	A	AMADAMA .
Departure	1,875	739	2,250	887	0	1,136	0	0
Arrival	1,875	739	2,250	887	0	1,136	0	0
Touch and Go	1,875	5,913	2,250	7,096	0	5,114	0	0

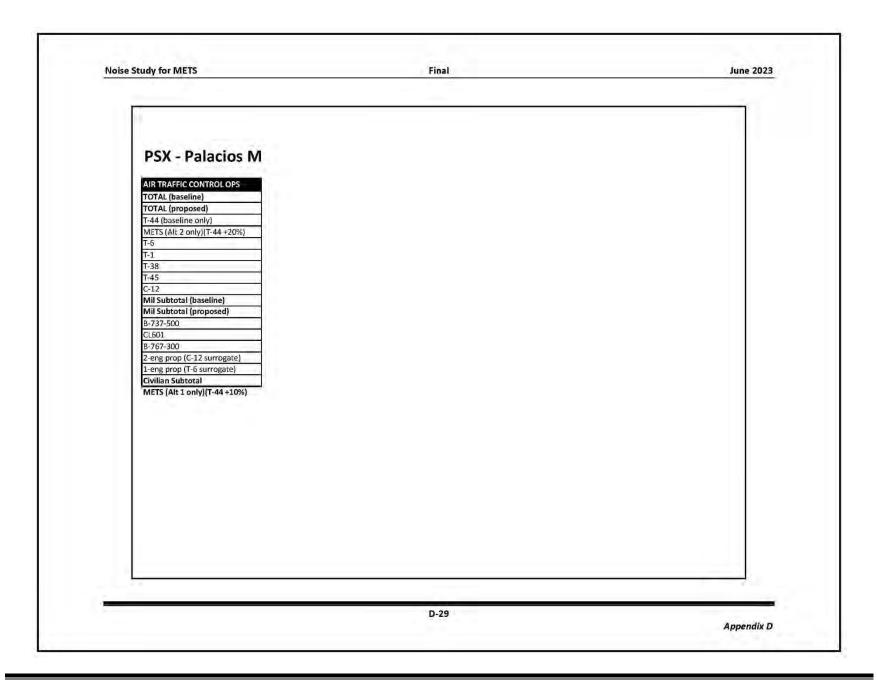
Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023
Noise study for METS	1.1041	Julie Edes

	Non-NASCC	military ops						
	(repres	entative	Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates)					
	surro	gates)	- 1			2-eng prop	1-eng prop	
	T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	(C-12 surrogate)	(T-6 surrogate)	
% of Total Ops	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
# of Total Ops	18,452	6,476	6,126	12,650	0	10,039	4,641	
Arrival % 2200-0700L	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	
Closed % 2200-0700L	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	
Departure % 2200-0700L	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	10%	
OPS / SORTIE	-		/	**********	-	******		
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
ARR - Overhead Break								
ARR - PEL								
ARR - ST in	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
PATT - Touch and Go				0.1		0.1	0.1	
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument								
Ops per Sortie	2	2	2	2.1	2	2.1	2.1	
Annual Sorties	9,226	3,238	3,063	6,024	0	4,780	2,210	
ANNUAL EVENTS		-		-	and all the same of the same o	жимения	Anna Maria	
Departure	9,226	3,238	3,063	6,024	0	4,780	2,210	
Arrival	9,226	3,238	3,063	6,024	0	4,780	2,210	
Touch and Go	0	0	0	301	0	239	110	

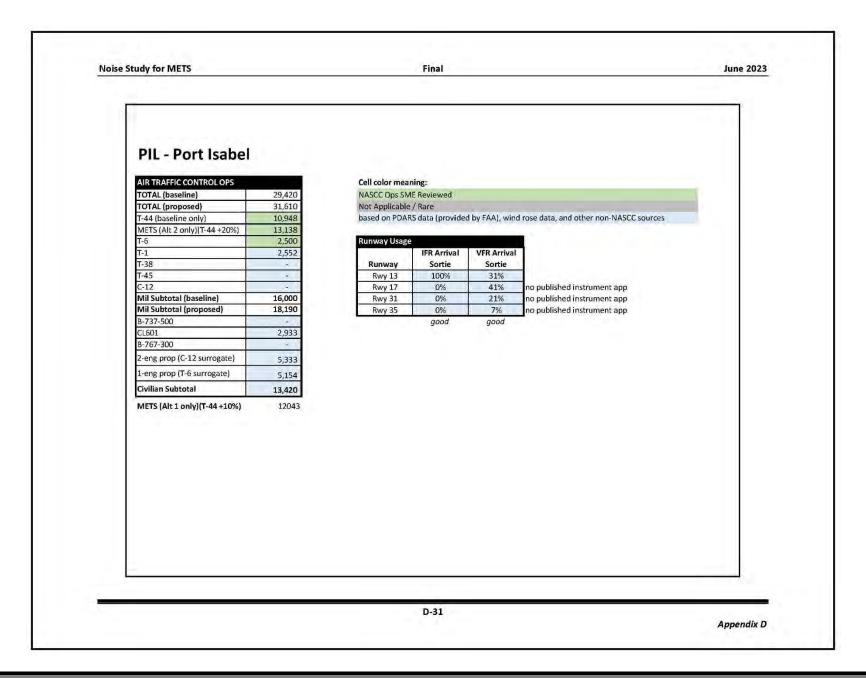


Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

	T-44 (baseline only)		METS (proposed only)		Т-6		Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)	
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38
% of Total Ops	12%	88%	12%	88%	80%	20%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	600	4,583	720	5,499	2,000	500	0	0
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%
Closed % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	D%	0%	0%	4%	4%
Departure % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%
OPS / SORTIE							rote	
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1		1		
ARR - PEL								
ARR - ST in	1		1		1		1	1
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16		9		
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1			
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2
Annual Sorties	150	255	180	306	667	45	0	0
ANNUAL EVENTS	******	******	******	******		******		******
Departure	150	255	180	306	667	45	0	0
Arrival	150	255	180	306	667	45	0	0
Touch and Go	150	2,037	180	2,444	333	205	0	0



(represe	entative	Civi	ilian aircraft	ops (represen	tative surrogat	es)	
T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	2-eng prop (C-12 surrogate)	1-eng prop (T-6 surrogate)	
100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
0	0	0	223	0	251	5,126	
4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
		7000					
1	1	1	1	1	1	4	
		1	_	1			
1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
						0	
1	100000000000000000000000000000000000000	0 - 12-22 - 1	1.00	0.000			
				0			
0	0	0	5	0	6	122	
	(repress surro, 100% 0 0 4% 4% 4% 1 1 1 2 0 0 0 0 0 0 0 0	100% 100% 0 0 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1	(representative surrogates) Civ T-45 C-12 B-737-500 100% 100% 100% 0 0 0 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4%	(representative surrogates) Civilian aircraft T-45 C-12 B-737-500 CL601 100% 100% 100% 100% 0 0 0 223 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 0 0 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 0 0 0 106 0 0 0 106	(representative surrogates) Civilian aircraft ops (represent surrogates) T-45 C-12 B-737-500 CL601 B-767-300 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 0 0 0 223 0 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4%	(representative surrogates) T-45 C-12 B-737-500 CL601 B-767-300 Z-eng prop (C-12 surrogate) 100% 100 100 100 119 100 100 100 100 119 100 100 100 100 119 100 119 100 100 100 119 <t< td=""><td>(representative surrogates) Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates) T-45 C-12 B-737-500 CL601 B-767-300 2-eng prop (C-12 surrogate) 1-eng prop (T-6 surrogate) 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 0 0 0 223 0 251 5,126 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 <td< td=""></td<></td></t<>	(representative surrogates) Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates) T-45 C-12 B-737-500 CL601 B-767-300 2-eng prop (C-12 surrogate) 1-eng prop (T-6 surrogate) 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 100% 0 0 0 223 0 251 5,126 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 4% 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 1 <td< td=""></td<>

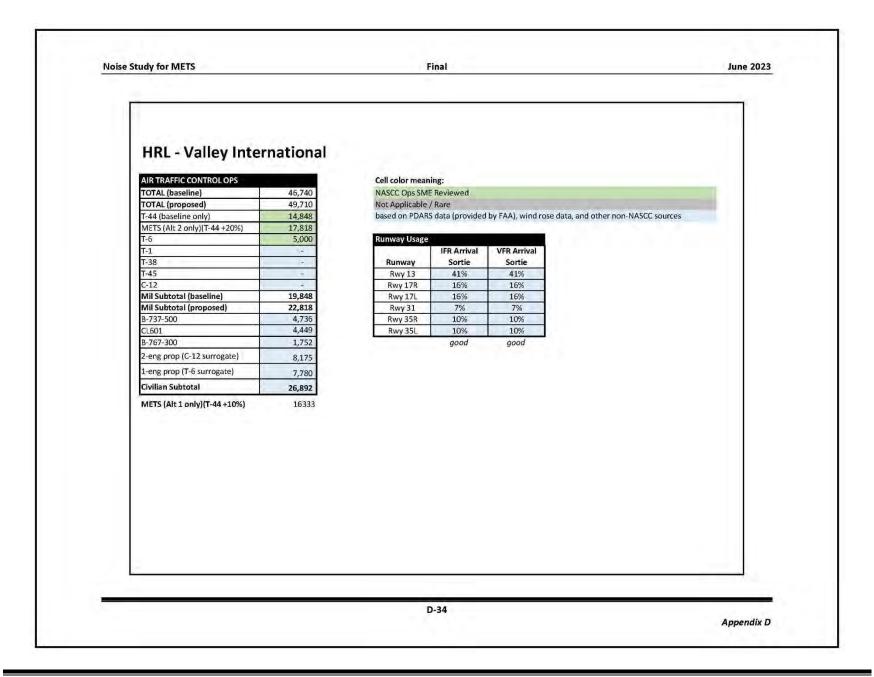


Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

	T-44 (bas	eline only)	METS (pro	posed only)	T-6		Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)	
	- 22.47		20000				(representati	ve surrogates)
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38
% of Total Ops	5%	95%	5%	95%	0%	100%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	600	10,348	720	12,418	0	2,500	2,552	0
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%
Closed % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%
Departure % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	2%	2%
OPS / SORTIE		******			imm	- marie - mari	******	
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1		1		
ARR - PEL								
ARR - ST in	1		1		1		1	1
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16		9		
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1	1		
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2
Annual Sorties	150	575	180	690	0	227	1,276	0
ANNUAL EVENTS				900000	*****	-	+	
Departure	150	575	180	690	0	227	1,276	0
Arrival	150	575	180	690	0	227	1,276	0
Touch and Go	150	4,599	180	5,519	0	1,023	0	0

CACTA SAFE CATALOGUES	100 40	
Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

Ops per Sortie by Sortie Type										
	The street of	Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)		Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates)						
	T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	2-eng prop (C- 12 surrogate)	1-eng prop (T- 6 surrogate)			
% of Total Ops	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%			
# of Total Ops	0	0	0	2,933	0	5,333	5,154			
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%			
Closed % 2200-0700L*	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%			
Departure % 2200-0700L*	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%	2%			
OPS / SORTIE				******		(month)	******			
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
ARR - Overhead Break										
ARR - PEL										
ARR - ST in	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			
PATT - Touch and Go				0.4		0.4	0.4			
PATT - PEL High Key										
PATT - PEL Low Key										
PATT - Delta (Hold)		1								
PATT - Instrument		1					1			
Ops per Sortie	2	2	2	2.4	2	2.4	2.4			
Annual Sorties	0	0	0	1,222	0	2,222	2,147			
ANNUAL EVENTS		(-144-)	10000	Service .		(marrie)	-2000			
Departure	0	0	0	1,222	0	2,222	2,147			
Arrival	0	0	0	1,222	0	2,222	2,147			
Touch and Go	0	0	0	244	0	444	429			

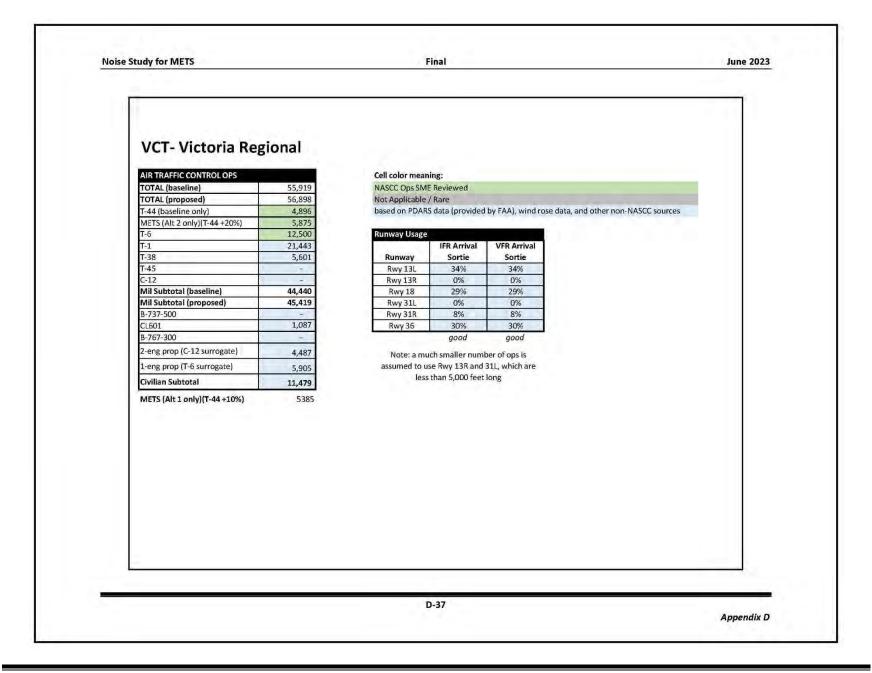


Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023

	- 44.C	en e e e e e	NATTO!		1		Non-NASCC	military ops
	1-44 (bas	eline only)	METS (pro	proposed only)		-6	(representative surrogates)	
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38
% of Total Ops	30%	70%	30%	70%	0%	100%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	4,500	10,348	5,400	12,418	0	5,000	0	0
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	16%	16%
Closed % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	16%	16%
Departure % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	16%	16%
OPS / SORTIE				- Carrier C	144444	Janes I	Toning T	
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1		0		
ARR - PEL						1		
ARR - ST in	1		1		1		1	1
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16		9		
PATT - PEL High Key								-
PATT - PEL Low Key						7		
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1			
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2
Annual Sorties	1,125	575	1,350	690	0	455	0	0
ANNUAL EVENTS	200000					-		2060000
Departure	1,125	575	1,350	690	0	455	0	0
Arrival	1,125	575	1,350	690	0	455	0	0
Touch and Go	1,125	4,599	1,350	5,519	0	2,045	0	0

Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023
Noise study for METS	1.1041	Julie Edes

Ops per Sortie by Sortie Type	1. 1						
	Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)		Civilian aircraft ops (representative surrogates)				
	T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	2-eng prop (C-12 surrogate)	1-eng prop (T-6 surrogate)
% of Total Ops	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	0	0	4,736	4,449	1,752	8,175	7,780
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%
Closed % 2200-0700L*	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%
Departure % 2200-0700L*	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%	16%
OPS / SORTIE			- Comi		2000	(2000000)	200000
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break							
ARR - PEL							
ARR - ST in	1	1	1	1	1	1	1
PATT - Touch and Go				0.2		0.1	0.1
PATT - PEL High Key		Y					
PATT - PEL Low Key							
PATT - Delta (Hold)							
PATT - Instrument							
Ops per Sortie	2	2	2	2.2	2	2.1	2.1
Annual Sorties	0	0	2,368	2,022	876	3,893	3,705
ANNUAL EVENTS		- ania	and a	-	-		
Departure	0	0	2,368	2,022	876	3,893	3,705
Arrival	0	0	2,368	2,022	876	3,893	3,705
Touch and Go	0	0	0	202	0	195	185



Final	June 2023
	Final

	T-44 (baseline only)		METS (proposed only)		T-6		Non-NASCC military ops (representative surrogates)	
	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	IFR Arrival	VFR Arrival	T-1	T-38
% of Total Ops	25%	75%	25%	75%	0%	100%	100%	100%
# of Total Ops	1,200	3,696	1,440	4,435	0	12,500	21,443	5,601
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	096	0%	.0%	4%	4%
Closed % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%
Departure % 2200-0700L*	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	0%	4%	4%
OPS / SORTIE	-				*******		-	ceremin'
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1.	1	1	1
ARR - Overhead Break		1		1				
ARR - PEL						1		
ARR - ST in	1		1		1		1	1
PATT - Touch and Go		16		16		9		
PATT - PEL High Key								
PATT - PEL Low Key		1					1	
PATT - Delta (Hold)								
PATT - Instrument	2		2		1			
Ops per Sortie	4	18	4	18	3	11	2	2
Annual Sorties	300	205	360	246	0	1,136	10,722	2,801
ANNUAL EVENTS							-	-
Departure	300	205	360	246	0	1,136	10,722	2,801
Arrival	300	205	360	246	0	1,135	10,722	2,801
Touch and Go	300	1,643	360	1,971	0	5,114	0	0

Ops per Sortie by Sortie Type								
	(represe	military ops entative gates)	C	Civilian aircraf	t ops (represent	ative surrogates		
	T-45	C-12	B-737-500	CL601	B-767-300	2-eng prop (C- 12 surrogate)	1-eng prop (T- 6 surrogate)	
% of Total Ops	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	100%	
# of Total Ops	0	0	0	1,087	0	4,487	5,905	
Arrival % 2200-0700L*	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Closed % 2200-0700L*	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
Departure % 2200-0700L*	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	4%	
OPS / SORTIE		-	-				* ****** * *	
DEPARTURES	1	1	1	1	1	1	1	
ARR - Overhead Break		J.			-	1		
ARR - PEL								
ARR - ST in	1	1	1	0.4	1	0.4	0.4	
PATT - Touch and Go PATT - PEL High Key				0.4		0.4	0.4	
PATT - PEL Low Key								
PATT - Delta (Hold)					1	6	- 1	
PATT - Instrument								
Ops per Sortie	2	2	2	2.4	2	2.4	2.4	
Annual Sorties	0	0	0	453	0	1,870	2,460	
ANNUAL EVENTS							Town III	
Departure	0	0	0	453	0	1,870	2,460	
Arrival	0	0	0	453	0	1,870	2,460	
Touch and Go	0	0	0	91	0	374	492	

Noise Study for METS	Final	June 2023
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Appendix B Special Status Species Documentation

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United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office
4444 Corona Drive, Suite 215
Corpus Christi, Texas 78411
PHONE: 361/994-9004
FAX: 361/994-8262

In Reply Refer To: 2022-0050570

August 2, 2023

Mr. Biji Pandisseril Environmental Program Director Department of the Navy Naval Air Station Corpus Christi 11001 D. Street, Suite 101 Corpus Christi, Texas 78419-5021

Dear Mr. Pandisseril:

This responds to your June 23, 2023, letter received by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) requesting concurrence on your determination of effects of the Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi's Multi-Engine Training System, on federally listed threatened and endangered species and critical habitat. The proposed project is to replace 54 T-44C Pegasus aircraft with 58 new T-54A aircraft including short- and long-term construction projects of Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi, Nueces County, Texas. This proposed project has been reviewed pursuant to the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. § 1536).

The Navy determined that the project may affect but is not likely to adversely affect the following species as they have the potential to occur in the project area, due to the presence of suitable habitat within or near the project area.

Eastern black rail (Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. Jamaicensis)

Northern aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis)

Piping plover (Charadrius melodus)
Red knot (Calidris canutus rufa)
Whooping crane (Grus americana)

Based on our review and discussions with the Navy the following measures were agreed upon to prevent or minimize potential adverse effects to the northern aplomado falcon and whooping crane species to the extent practicable.

Mr. Biji Pandisseril 2

Northern aplomado falcon

Low-level aircraft routes (less than 500 feet above ground level) should avoid northern
aplomado falcon nesting platforms and territories on Mustang and Matagorda Islands by
at least one mile to reduce potential noise and human disturbance effects. Maintaining a
distance of 1,500 feet above ground level is preferable.

Whooping crane

 Whooping cranes are not expected in the project area. Report sightings of whooping cranes to the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office in Corpus Christi at 361-533-6765.

Based on the information provided and the implementation of the conservation, avoidance and minimization measures noted above, the Service agrees the likelihood of an impact occurring to eastern black rail, northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot and whooping crane is insignificant and discountable. The Service, therefore, concurs with the Navy's determination that the project may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect these five species.

The Navy has made a "no effect" determination for the following species due to lack of habitat:

West Indian manatee (Trichechus manatus)
Green sea turtle (Chelonia mydas)
Hawksbill sea turtle (Eretmochelys imbricata)
Kemp's ridley sea turtle (Lepidochelys kempii)
Leatherback sea turtle (Dermochelys coriacea)
Loggerhead sea turtle (Caretta caretta)

Black lace cactus (Echinocereus reichenbachii var. albertii)

Slender rush-pea (Hoffmannseggia tenella)
South Texas ambrosia (Ambrosia cheiranthifolia)
Texas avenia (Ayenia limitaris)
False spike (Fusconaia mitchelli)
Guadalupe orb (Cyclonaias necki)

Attwater's prairie chicken (Tympanuchus cupido attwater!)

West Indian manatee (Trichechus manatus)
Ocelot (Felis pardalis)

Jaguarundi (Pumayagouaroundi cacomitli)

Monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus)

The Service does not provide concurrence for "no effect" determinations, but by making a determination pursuant to Section 7 of the Act, we believe Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended was complied with.

Should project plans change, or if additional information on the distribution of listed or proposed species becomes available, this determination can be reconsidered. If you have any questions or

Mr. Biji Pandisseril		3
need further assistance, please codayma_wasmund@fws.gov.	ontact Dayma Wasmund at 361-225-7318 or by e	mail at
	Sincerely,	
	CHARLES CHARLES APPRIZATIONE ARDIZZONE Hele 2023 08 02 Charles Ardizzone Field Supervisor	

NAVY LETTERHEAD

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office 4444 Corona Drive, Suite 215 Corpus Christi, TX 78411 (281) 286-8282

SUBJECT: ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SECTION 7 CONSULTATION FOR THE NAVAL AIR STATION (NAS) CORPUS CHRISTI MULTI-ENGINE TRAINING SYSTEM, Project Code: 2022-0050570

U.S. Fleet Forces Command on behalf of Chief of Naval Air Training, a Command of the U.S. Navy (hereinafter, jointly referred to as the Navy), proposes to replace aircraft used for multi-engine maritime flight training. This training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four, located at NAS Corpus Christi. The Proposed Action includes replacement of 54 T-44C Pegasus aircraft with 58 new T-54A aircraft. The aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi.

A 10 percent increase in flight operations is also proposed. In accordance with section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act (16 United States Code Sections 1531–1544, as amended) and the Sikes Act (16 United States Code 670a–670o, 74 Stat. 1052), the Navy is requesting coordination and informal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concerning the potential effects to threatened and endangered species and critical habitats within the project area. The Navy is also preparing a National Environmental Policy Act Environmental Assessment to assess the potential environmental consequences of this action.

Enclosed is the Navy's Biological Evaluation for the Proposed Action. The Navy has determined that the Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, eastern black rail, whooping crane, and tricolored bat, as these species are at risk, although negligible, of potential aircraft strike during flight. The Proposed Action would have no effect on any other listed species or any critical habitats.

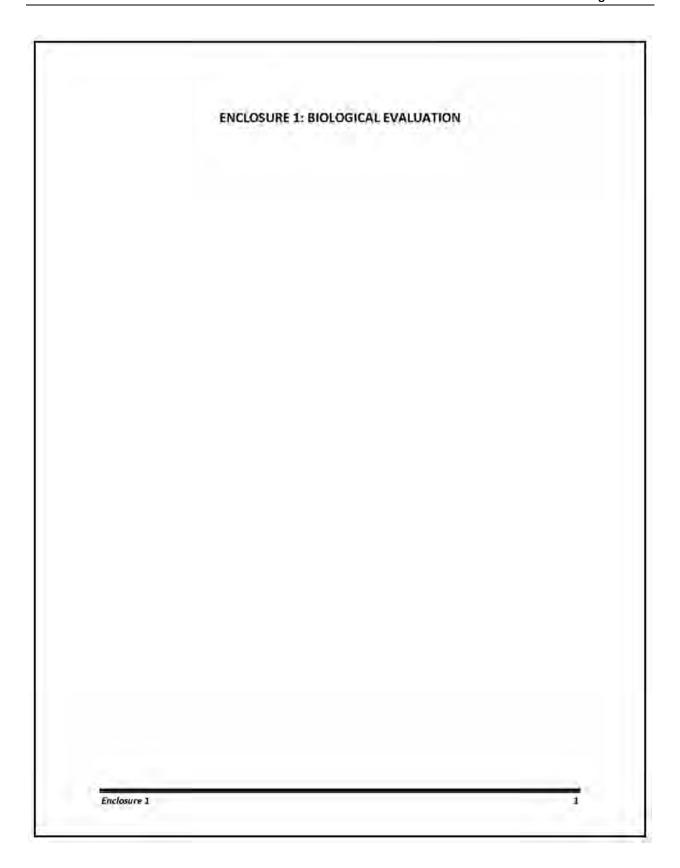
The Navy requests that the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service provide written concurrence with this determination in satisfaction of section 7 of the Endangered Species Act.

If you need further information or have any questions regarding this matter, please contact XXX at XXX.

Thank you very much for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,

XX
Enclosure 1: Biological Evaluation.
Enclosure 2: USFW5 Official Species List, Project Code 2022-0050570



BIOLOGICAL EVALUATION

For

MULTI-ENGINE TRAINING SYSTEM

AT

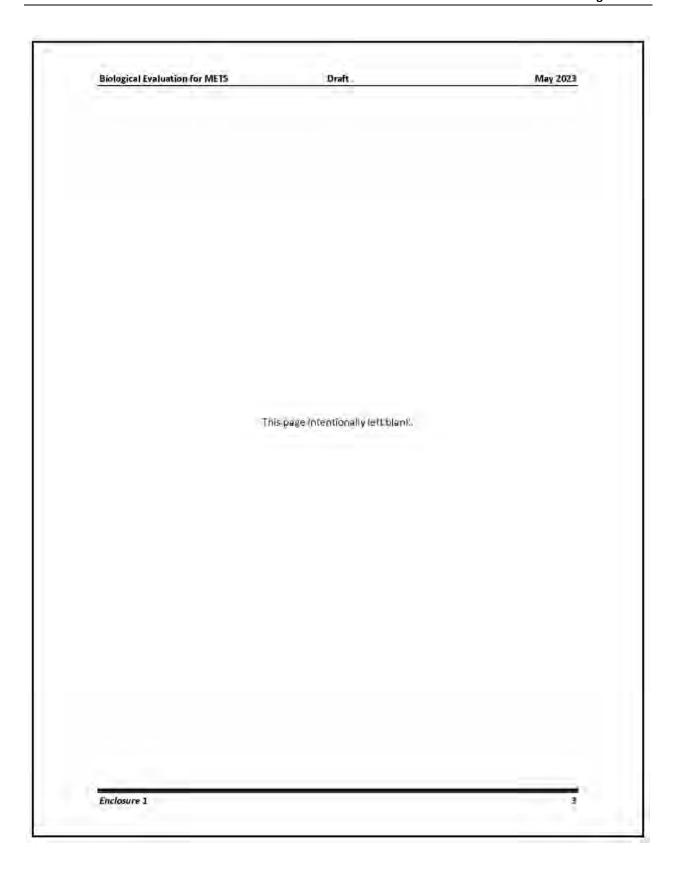
NAVAL AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI

CORPUS CHRISTI, TEXAS

May 2023



Enclosure 1



Biological Evaluation for METS

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May 2023

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Biological Evaluation

Multi-Engine Training System

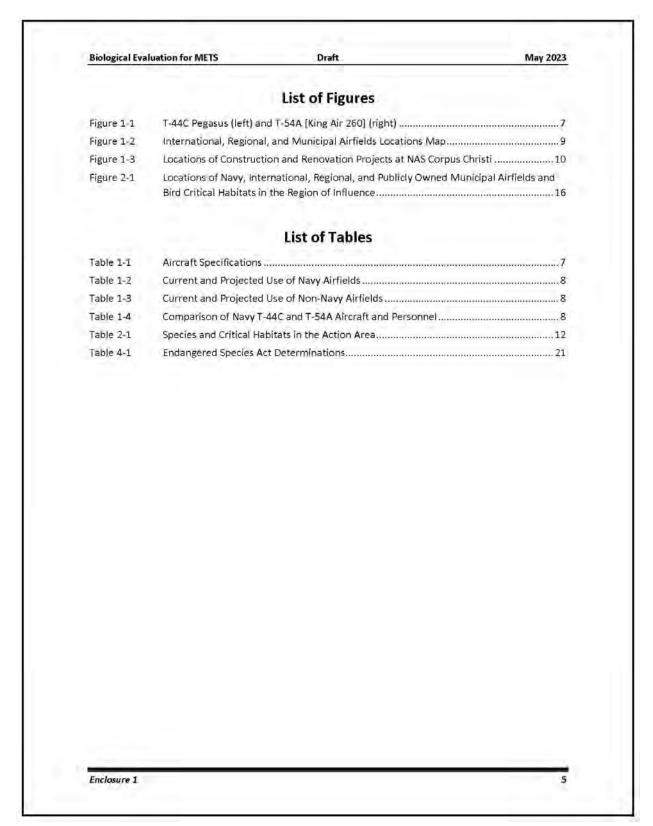
Naval Air Station Corpus Christi

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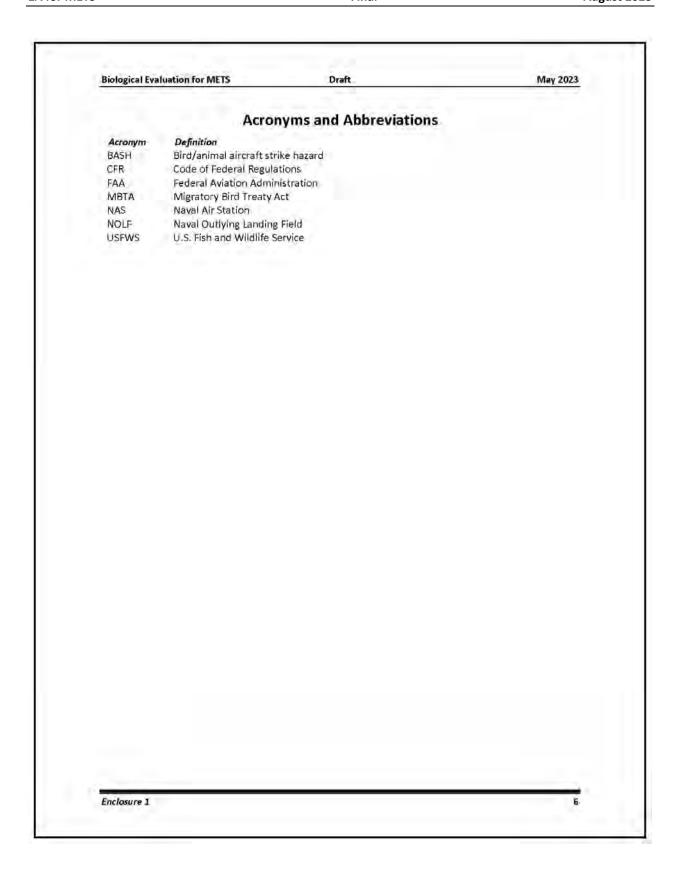
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Enclosure 1

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ESA Section 7 Consultation between the Navy and the USFWS regarding the NAS Corpus Christi METS, Enclosure 1 Biological Evaluation



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1 Introduction and Description of the Proposed Action

Fifty-four T-44C Pegasus aircraft would be replaced by 58 new T-54A aircraft at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. The new aircraft would be delivered between 2024 to 2026, and proposed construction would begin in 2024 and continue through 2027. The T-44C Pegasus and the T-54A are both twin engine, pressurized, fixed-wing monoplane aircraft derived from the Beechcraft King Air/Super King Air line of commercial aircraft (Figure 1-1). Aircraft specifications are presented in Table 1-1.



Figure 1-1 T-44C Pegasus (left) and T-54A [King Air 260] (right)

Table 1-1 Aircraft Specifications

Aircraft Specifications	T-44C	T-54A
Length	35.5 feet	43.8 feet
Height	14.25 feet	14.83 feet
Wingspan	50.25 feet	57.91 feet
Weight (empty)	6,246 pounds	8,830 pounds
Weight (maximum takeoff)	9,650 pounds	12,500 pounds
Ceiling	31,300 feet	35,000 feet
Range	1,300 nautical miles	1,720 nautical miles
Maximum airspeed	245 knots	310 knots
Crew	3	3

Sources: (Navy, 2021; Navy, ND)

The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with a 10 percent increase in the number of annual operations. Approximately 7 percent of the operations would occur at night; the same percentage of operations as occurs with the T-44C. Figure 1-2 shows the location of the airfields that the T-54A would utilize. Table 1-2 and Table 1-3 detail these changes.

Airfield operations include takeoffs, landings, touch-and-goes, low approaches, and simulated emergency landings. An approach and departure from an airfield are considered two airfield operations that occur with one landing. A practice approach can end in a full-stop landing, touch-and-go, or low approach (no landing). Landing requirements include the following:

- Full-stop landing is a typical landing ending with the aircraft stopping and exiting the runway.
- Touch-and-go operations are when the student pilot lands (touches down) and then takes off again
 without coming to a stop; the "touch-and-go" is considered two operations but a single landing. As
 many as five or six aircraft may enter the landing pattern at an airfield, sequentially performing
 touch-and-go operations.
- Low approach is a practice approach without landing followed by a go-around maneuver.

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Simulated emergency landings are performed while in the landing pattern at surrounding airfields.
 During a simulated landing, the student pilot practices landing the aircraft under a simulated emergency condition, under the instruction and direct supervision of a qualified instructor pilot.

The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi. The locations of these activities are depicted in Figure 1-3.

Table 1-4 shows the proposed change in number of aircraft associated with the Proposed Action. There would be no increase in the number of personnel associated with the Proposed Action.

Table 1-2 Current and Projected Use of Navy Airfields

Name	FAA Identifier	Baseline T-44C Aircraft Operations	Proposed Action Projected T-54A Operations
Truax Field	NGP	32,760	36,000
NOLF Cabaniss	NGW	56,012	61,600
TOTAL		88,772	97,600

Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field.

1. Proposed Action includes a 10 percent increase in operations.

Table 1-3 Current and Projected Use of Non-Navy Airfields

Name	FAA Identifier	Baseline T-44C Aircraft Operations ¹	Proposed Action Projected T-54A Operations ^{1, 2}
Alice International Airport	ALI	28,200	31,000
Calhoun County Airport	PKV	3,600	3,900
Corpus Christi International Airport	CRP	20,800	22,900
Palacios Municipal Airport	PSX	5,200	5,700
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	PIL	11,000	12,000
Valley International Airport	HRL	14,800	16,300
Victoria Regional Airport	VCT	4,900	5,400
Other		7,400	8,200
TOTAL		95,900	105,400

Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration.

Notes:

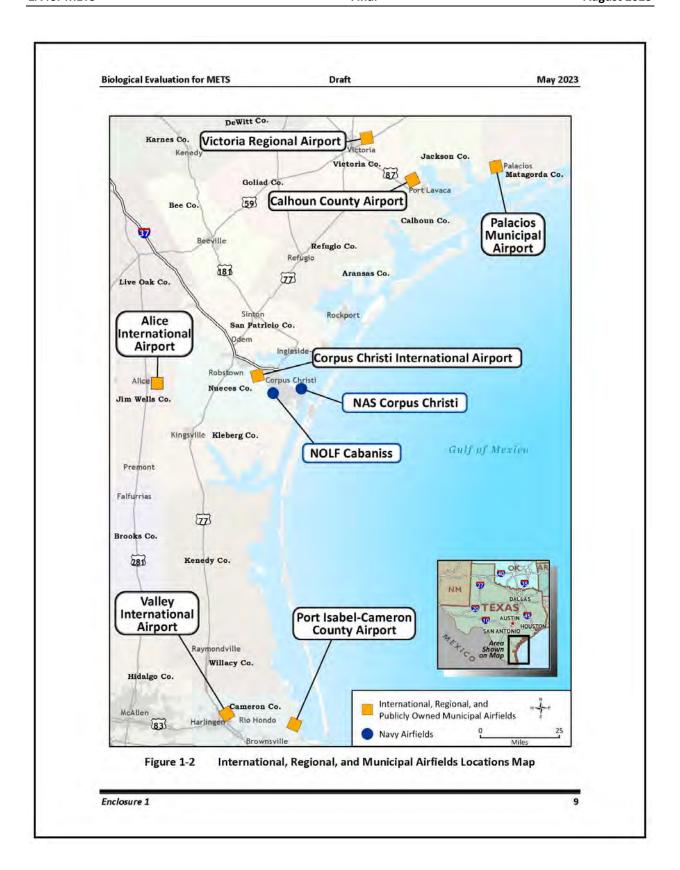
Table 1-4 Comparison of Navy T-44C and T-54A Aircraft and Personnel

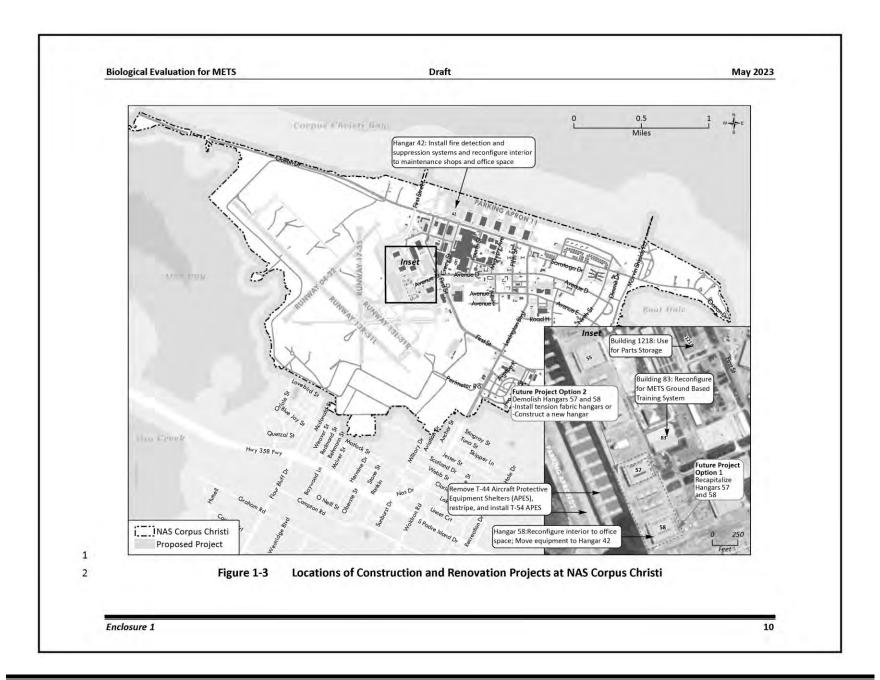
Aircraft and Personnel Numbers	Baseline (T-44C)	Proposed Action (T-54A)
Aircraft		
Number of aircraft	54	.58
Personnel		
Students	110	110
Instructors	55	55
Maintenance	175 (Contractor)	175 (Contractor)
Total Personnel	340	340

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Numbers are rounded to nearest hundred.

^{2.} Proposed Action includes a 10 percent increase in operations.





Biological Evaluation for METS	Draft	May 2023
1.1 Action Area Definition		
The Action Area is defined by regulation action and not merely the immediate at Section 402.02). For the purposes of this Proposed Action airfields for aircraft not traveled between airfields for aircraft siby the Proposed Action. All ground distilland.	rea involved in the action (50 Code is Biological Evaluation analysis, the ise, aircraft strike, and construction trike only. No habitats or natural ve	of Federal Regulations [CFR] e Action Area includes the n impacts and the airspace egetation would be disturbed

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2 Species and Critical Habitat in the Action Area

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) Information for Planning and Consultation web application and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department Annotated County List of Rare Species was used to identify federally threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species that could potentially occur within the Action Area (USFWS, 2022a; TWPD, 2022a). These species are presented in Table 2-1.

Table 2-1 Species and Critical Habitats in the Action Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Listing Status ²	Critical Habitat Within the Action Area? ²	Patential Occurrence (by Airport Code)
Plants				
Black lace cactus	Echinocereus reichenbachii var. albertii	Endangered	4	ALI, NGW, NGP, CRP
Slender rushpea	Hoffmannseggia tenella	Endangered	-	NGW, NGP, CRP
South Texas ambrosia	Ambrosia cheiranthifolia	Endangered	3	ALI, NGW, NGP, CRP, PIL, HRL
Texas ayenia	Ayenia limitaris	Endangered	-	PIL, HRL
Insects				
Monarch butterfly	Danaus plexippus	Candidate	9	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Mollusks				
False spike clam	Fusconaia mitchelli	Proposed endangered	-	PKV
Guadalupe orb clam	Cyclonaias necki	Proposed endangered		VCT, PKV
Birds				
Attwater's greater prairie chicken	Tympanuchus cupido attwateri	Endangered		VCT
Eastern black rail	Laterallus jamaicensis ssp. jamaicensis	Threatened	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Northern aplomado falcon	Falco femoralis septentrionalis	Endangered	1	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Piping plover	Charadrius melodus	Threatened	Yes	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV. CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Red knot	Calidris canutus rufa	Threatened	Yes (Proposed)	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL, VCT
Whooping crane	Grus americana	Endangered	Yes	ALI, NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, VCT
Mammals			0	
Gulf Coast jaguarundi	Herpailurus yagovaroundi cacomitli	Endangered	-	PIL, HRL
Ocelot	Leopardus pardalis	Endangered	8	ALI, CRP, NGP, NGW, PIL, HRL

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Table 2-1 Species and Critical Habitats in the Action Area

Common Name	Scientific Name	Federal Listing Status	Critical Habitat Within the Action Area? ²	Potential Occurrence (by Airport Code)
Tricolored bat	Perimyotis subflavus	Proposed endangered	7	ALI, PKV, PIL, PSX, CRP, NGP, NGW, VCT
West Indian manatee	Trichechus manatus	Endangered	None	CRP, NGP, NGW, PKV, PSX, PIL
Reptiles				
Green sea turtle	Chelonia mydas	Threatened	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Hawksbill sea turtle	Eretmochelys imbricata	Endangered	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Kemp's ridley sea turtle	Lepidochelys kempii	Endangered	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Leatherback sea turtle	Dermochelys coriacea	Endangered	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL
Loggerhead sea turtle	Caretta caretta	Threatened	None	NGP, NGW, PKV, CRP, PSX, PIL, HRL

Sources: (TWPD, 2022; USFWS, 2022a)

- Federally listed species are those designated as threatened, endangered, or candidate species by the Endangered Species
 Act. These species and locations were determined based on the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Information for Planning
 and Conservation tool (USFWS, 2022a).
- If blank (-), then critical habitat has not been designated for the species. If "None," then critical habitat has been designated but it is not located within the ROI.

2.1 Species Not Carried Forward in this Biological Evaluation

Twenty-two federally listed species have the potential to occur in the Action Area. This Biological Evaluation analyzes potential impacts to six species. The 16 species that are not carried forward in this Biological Evaluation include 4 plants, 2 clams, 1 insect, 5 sea turtles, 1 bird, 1 marine mammal, and 2 land mammals.

The plants identified in Table 2-1 do not occur within any of the Proposed Action airfields and would not be affected by overflights of the T-54A. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the black lace cactus, the slender rushpea, the south Texas ambrosia, and the Texas avenia.

Similarly, the two clam species do not occur within any of the Proposed Action airfields and would not be affected by overflights of the T-54A (Table 2-1). Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the false spike clam and the Guadalupe orb clam.

Habitat for the Monarch butterfly, which requires a diverse assemblage of nectar resources as well as milkweed for laying eggs and larval sustemance, does not occur on the Proposed Action airfields and this species is not expected to be affected by T-54A flights. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the Monarch butterfly.

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Key: ALI = Alice International Airport; CRP = Corpus Christi International Airport; HRL = Valley International Airport; NGP = NAS Corpus Christi; NGW = Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss; PIL = Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport; PKV = Calhoun County Airport; PSX = Palacios Municipal Airport; ROI = region of influence; VCT = Victoria Regional Airport.

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Nesting habitat for the five sea turtle species does not exist at any of the Proposed Action airfields. In addition, the most intense underwater noise from subsonic aircraft is less than the behavioral response threshold for sea turtles (166 dB RMS re 1 μ Pa)¹ (Laney & Cavanagh, 2000). Note that the modeled subsonic aircraft from Laney & Cavanagh (2000) was an F-18 flying subsonic, which is much louder than a T-54A at any speed. Additionally, the sound frequencies associated with these pressures would possibly be below the in-air and in-water hearing sensitivity ranges for sea turtles (Bartol & Ketten, 2006; Piniak et al., 2016), reducing the likelihood of a behavioral reaction. Finally, the sound profiles of the new aircraft (T-54A) versus the legacy aircraft (T-44C) are virtually the same; there would only be a 10 percent increase over current operations. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the green, hawksbill, Kemp's ridley, leatherback, and loggerhead sea turtles.

The Attwater's prairie chicken is found in three locations in Texas: the Attwater's Prairie Chicken National Wildlife Refuge (Colorado County, Texas), the Texas City Prairie Preserve (Galveston County, Texas), and a private ranch in Goliad County, Texas (USFWS, 2021a). All of these locations are far removed from the Proposed Action airfields. Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the Attwater's prairie chicken.

West Indian manatees are infrequent visitors to the Action Area and are considered extralimital. Individuals occurring in the Action Area are likely vagrants from the Mexico or Florida populations (Schmidly & Bradley, 2023). Overflights of the T-54A would not be expected to disturb West Indian manatees as flights would be conducted at altitudes higher than those shown to elicit responses in this species (over 600 feet above ground level) (Rathbun, 1988). Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the West Indian manatee.

The ocelot is believed to have fewer than 100 individuals in two separate populations in southern Texas—one in Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge in Cameron County and the other on private ranchland in Willacy County. In south Texas, ocelots occupy dense thornscrub communities (USFWS, 2016). Primary threats facing ocelots include habitat loss, conversion, fragmentation, and commercial exploitation and hunting (USFWS, 2016). Automobile collisions make up 40 percent of ocelot mortalities within the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge population (Blackburn et al., 2021).

The Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport directly abuts the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge, one of two locations where populations of the ocelot exist in Texas. Records of aircraft ocelot strikes have not been recorded in the literature, and the slight increase in modeled noise in the vicinity of the airfield would not be expected to affect ocelots at the refuge. Aircraft noise has not been named as a stressor or threat for this species. As noted earlier, the greatest threat to ocelots at the Laguna Atascosa National Wildlife Refuge is collisions with automobiles. Therefore; the Proposed Action would have no effect on the ocelot.

The final species not carried forward, the jaguarundi, is extinct in Texas (Schmidly & Bradley, 2023). The last verified sighting of a jaguarundi in Texas occurred in 1986. A survey for jaguarundis from 2003 to 2021 across southern Texas and northern Tamaulipas, Mexico, did not record any jaguarundis in Texas and concluded that jaguarundis were likely extirpated from Texas (Lombardi et al., 2022). Therefore, the Proposed Action would have no effect on the jaguarundi.

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Inderwater sound threshold is measured in decibels using root-mean-square (RMS) pressure as referenced to a pressure of 1 microPascal (µPa) (University of Rhode Island and Inner Space Center, 2021).

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May 2023

2.2 Species Carried Forward in this Biological Evaluation

This section presents brief summaries of the federally listed species carried forward for analysis. Complete species accounts are provided in various resources including the USFWS Environmental Conservation Online System (ecos.fws.gov). Critical habitats within the Action Area are presented in Figure 2-1 and described in the following summaries.

2.2.1 Eastern Black Rail

The eastern black rail (Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis) is a subspecies of black rail (Laterallus jamaicensis), a small, cryptic marsh bird that occurs in salt, brackish, and freshwater wetlands in the eastern United States (east of the Rocky Mountains), Mexico, Central America, and the Caribbean (USFWS, 2019). The USFWS listed the eastern black rail as a threatened species on November 9, 2020 (85 FR 63764).

Habitat for black rails in Texas consists of tidal salt marshes along the barrier islands and the mainland fringe, as well as drier coastal prairie. A recent Texas study found that black rails used the salt and brackish high tidal marsh, salty prairie, and baccharis (*Baccharis* spp.) shrubland habitat types, and avoided salt and brackish low tidal marsh habitat types (Haverland et al., 2022). Critical habitat has not been designated for this species.

Watts (2016) estimates, with high uncertainty, the Texas population at 100 to 500 pairs. The USFWS estimates that prior to Hurricane Harvey there were an estimated 1,299 individuals on the upper Texas coast within specific protected areas (USFWS, 2019).

The USFWS has concluded that the eastern black rail is at risk of extinction within the foreseeable future due to continued wetland habitat loss, sea level changes, increasing storm frequency and intensity and increased flood events (which are both associated with high tides and storms), wetland subsidence, and land management practices (e.g., incompatible prescribed fire, grazing, and mechanical treatment activities) (85 FR 63797).

2.2.2 Northern Aplomado Falcon

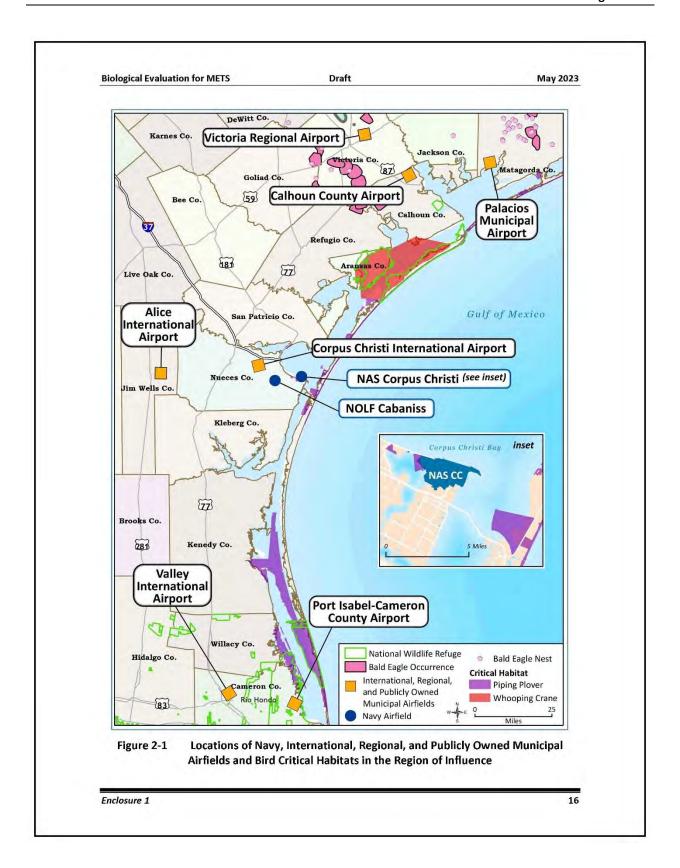
The northern aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis) is one of three subspecies of the aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis). This species was listed as endangered on February 25, 1986 (51 FR 6686–6690). This small falcon's current range includes the reintroduced Texas population (Brownsville, Rockport, Chihuahuan Desert) and reports of solitary and breeding falcons in New Mexico and Arizona. There is also a nonessential experimental population in southern New Mexico (USFWS, 2014).

Northern aplomado falcon habitat varies and can consist of palm and oak savannahs, numerous coastal grassland and desert associations, and open pine woodlands. Key elements of these habitats seem to include an abundance of prey (small- to medium-sized birds and insects) scattered trees, and comparatively sparse ground cover (USFWS, 2014). Critical habitat has not been designated for this species.

During a survey conducted from 2010 to 2014, the known number of breeding pairs of northern aplomado falcons in the United States ranged from 28 to 36 pairs, virtually all of which were recorded using artificial nesting towers in southern coastal Texas. Additional surveys in 2013 and 2014 found 29 pairs in south Coastal Texas (USFWS, 2014).

Threats to the northern aplomado falcon include Chihuahuan Desert habitat changes (e.g., agricultural development), drought/water depletion, climate change, prey declines, peripheral ranges (species is at the northern terminus of its range), and wind towers (USFWS, 2014).

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2.2.3 Piping Plover

The piping plover (Charadrius melodus) was historically common in certain habitats along the Atlantic and Gulf Coasts, along river systems and lakes of the northern Great Plains, the Great Lakes, and in the Bahamas and West Indies (65 FR 41782). The Atlantic Coast and Northern Great Plains populations of this species were listed as threatened on December 11, 1985 (50 FR 50726–50734). Today, only remnant populations occur throughout the historic range. Piping plovers spend 60 to 70 percent of the year wintering primarily along the Gulf Coast and Atlantic Coast from North Carolina to Florida.

The preferred wintering habitats of piping plover include beaches, sandflats, mudflats, algal mats, washover passes, and spoil islands along the Gulf Intracoastal Waterway.

The destruction, modification, and loss of habitat along with recreation disturbance continue to be the primary threats to the piping plover coastal migration and wintering range. Oil spills, predation, storms, wind farms, and severe cold weather are also of concern. Accelerating sea level rise and increases in storm frequency are thought to compound ongoing habitat losses. Military operations pose minimal threat to nonbreeding piping plovers (USFWS, 2020a).

The USFWS designated 142 areas along the coasts of North Carolina, South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Louisiana, and Texas as critical habitat for wintering populations of the piping plover on July 10, 2001 (66 FR 36038). Piping plover critical habitat in the Action Area is shown in Figure 2-1. While critical habitat has been designated within NAS Corpus Christi, piping plovers have not been recorded within the boundaries of the station; however, a small number of these birds have been observed regularly along the western side of Oso Bay, adjacent to the eastern boundary of NAS Corpus Christi (Navy, 2016).

2.2.4 Red Knot

The red knot (Calidris canutus rufa) is one of six subspecies of red knot (Calidris canutus), each with its own migration route and yearly cycle. This subspecies was listed as threatened on January 12, 2015 (79 FR 73705–73748) This medium-sized shore bird migrates between breeding grounds in the central Canadian Arctic and four wintering regions: the Southeast United States and through the Caribbean; the Western Gulf of Mexico from Mississippi through Central America; northern Brazil and extending west along the northern coast of South America; and Tierra del Fuego at the southern tip of South America (mainly in Chile) and extending north along the Patagonian coast of Argentina. During the spring and fall migrations, the birds utilize staging and stopover sites to rest and feed (USFWS, 2020b). There are an estimated 63,600 rufa red knots distributed across these four geographically large wintering regions (USFWS, 2021b).

Coastal habitats used by red knots in migration and wintering areas are similar in character, generally coastal marine and estuarine habitats with large areas of exposed intertidal sediments. Migration and wintering habitats include both high-energy ocean or bayfront areas, as well as tidal flats in more sheltered bays and lagoons. Preferred wintering and migration habitats are muddy or sandy coastal areas, specifically, bays and estuaries, tidal flats, and unimproved tidal inlets (USFWS, 2020b).

Loss of breeding and nonbreeding habitat is attributed to sea level rise, coastal engineering, coastal development, and arctic ecosystem change. Secondary factors include hunting in nonbreeding areas; predation in nonbreeding areas; harmful algal blooms; human disturbance; oil spills; wind energy development, especially near the coasts; beach cleaning; agriculture; research activities; and disease (USFWS, 2021b).

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Critical habitat has been proposed for this species in the Action Area (86 FR 37410–37668) and will largely overlap with piping plover critical habitat (Figure 2-1), however, it has not been finalized.

2.2.5 Whooping Crane

Whooping cranes (*Grus americana*) migrate from Wood Buffalo National Park in Canada to winter at Aransas National Wildlife Refuge in Texas. This species was listed as endangered on March 11, 1967 (32 FR 4001). An estimated 543 whooping cranes overwintered at the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge during the winter of 2021–22 (USFWS and CWS, 2023). Habitats used during breeding, migration, wintering, and foraging include coastal and inland marshes, estuaries, lakes, ponds, shallow bays, sand and tidal flats, wet meadows, rivers, pastures, and agricultural fields (USFWS, 2012).

Threats to the whooping crane include limited genetics of the population, loss and degradation of migration stopover habitat, construction of additional power lines, degradation of coastal ecosystems, and threat of chemical spills in Texas. Climate change, sea level rise, wind turbines, and collisions with other objects are also threats. Aircraft strikes are a rare event, due to the small number of whooping cranes, but are a rising concern (USFWS, 2012).

Critical habitat in the Action Area has been designated for the whooping crane (43 FR 20938–20942). It is primarily located in the Aransas National Wildlife Refuge and vicinity (Figure 2-1). (USFWS, 2016; Blackburn et al., 2021)

2.2.6 Tricolored Bat

The tricolored bat (*Perimyotis subflavis*) is one of the smallest bats native to North America. This species was proposed as endangered on September 14, 2022 (87 FR 56381–56393). The once-common species is wide ranging, occurring across the eastern and central United States and portions of southern Canada, Mexico, and Central America. During the winter, tricolored bats are found in caves and mines, although in the southern United States including Texas, where caves are sparse, tricolored bats are often found roosting in road-associated culverts. During the spring, summer, and fall, tricolored bats are found in forested habitats where they roost in trees, primarily among leaves (USFWS, 2022b).

Abundance of this species has declined by 24 percent in the Southern representation unit, which includes Texas (USFWS, 2021c). Threats to this species (in order of severity) include white-nose syndrome, wind energy related mortality, climate change, and habitat loss (USFWS, 2021c).

Critical habitat has not been designated for this species.

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3 Analysis of Effects and Description of the Manner in Which the Action May Affect Any Listed (and/or Proposed) Species or Critical Habitat

3.1 Effects on Critical Habitat

The nearest proposed construction project would be approximately 1,700 meters from piping plover and red knot critical habitat. No other species' critical habitats are in the vicinity of Proposed Action construction. Proposed Action construction would have no effect on critical habitats.

The surrogate aircraft used to model the T-54A for noise modeling, the C-12 (a variant of Beechcraft King Air that uses the same engines as the T-54A), has the same noise properties as the aircraft it is replacing, the T-44C. Results of noise modeling indicate that noise impacts would be minimal as the only factor that would change would be operations tempo. Noise from Proposed Action operations would have no effect on critical habitats.

3.2 Effects on Federally Listed Species

3.2.1 Eastern Black Rail, Northern Aplomado Falcon, Piping Plover, Red Knot, and Whooping Crane

Under the Proposed Action air operations would increase by 10 percent, Threatened and endangered bird species in the Action Area consisting of NAS Corpus Christi, Naval Outlying Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss, and international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields proposed for increased operations are already exposed to and would be potentially habituated to aircraft operations. As the noise properties of the T-54A would be expected to be the same as the T-44C, there would be no significant change in noise associated with the proposed increase in airfield operations as compared with baseline conditions.

However, there could be a minor increase in aircraft strike potential for threatened and endangered birds. The potential for interactions between aircraft and birds that migrate or transit through the Action Area would be increased proportionally to the 10 percent increase in aircraft operations.

Strikes involving threatened or endangered species have not been recorded while operating the T-44C aircraft; therefore, strikes involving T-54A aircraft would not be expected because the aircraft would operate in a similar manner (e.g., same training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace) and are virtually the same size (see Table 1-1).

Continued implementation of the Bird/Animal Aircraft Strike Hazard (BASH) Reduction Plan (Navy, 2011) at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss would reduce BASH risk. Non-Navy training airfields also implement measures to mitigate BASH risk and adhere to Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) regulations, including conducting the required airport Wildlife Hazard Assessments and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans. In addition to these plans, the Visual Flight Rule Course Rules for Training Air Wing Four require that aircraft maintain altitudes above 3,000 feet above ground level when overflying Aransas National Wildlife Refuge, to include Matagorda Island and Padre Island National Seashore. This requirement exceeds the FAA altitude guidelines for flights over National Wildlife Refuges. These guidelines were recommended by the USFWS during informal consultation to reduce BASH risk for prior flight training operations at NAS Corpus Christi (USFWS, 2017).

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The Navy has determined that the Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the eastern black rail, northern aplomado falcon, piping plover, red knot, and whooping crane, as individuals of these species are at risk, although negligible, of potential aircraft strike during flight.

3.2.2 Tricolored Bat

Habitat for this species of bat does not occur at any of the Proposed Action airfields. This bat has not been recorded at any of the Proposed Action airfields, however, this species may still be present in the Action Area, e.g., transiting the airfields or foraging in the area. Bat strikes make up an extremely small minority of the recorded BASH incidents (Block, 2022; FAA, 2022). T-54A night operations are planned to comprise only 7 percent of total operations. Therefore, strikes involving this species are unlikely. The Navy has determined that the Proposed Action may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect, the tricolored bat.

3.3 Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects are defined in 50 CFR Section 402.02 (Interagency Cooperation on the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended): "...those effects of future State or private activities not involving Federal activities that are reasonably certain to occur within the Action Area of the Federal action subject to consultation." Reasonably foreseeable future federal actions and potential future federal actions that are unrelated to the Proposed Action are not considered in the analysis of cumulative effects because they would require separate consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. Cumulative effects include the effects of future state, tribal, local, or private actions that are reasonably certain to occur in the Action Area.

A review of proposed and upcoming projects for southeast Texas did not locate any projects that would result in cumulative effects when combined the Proposed Action.

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4 Conclusion

Table 4-1 summarizes the Navy's Endangered Species Act determinations of effects of the Proposed Action for each of the species analyzed in this Biological Evaluation.

Table 4-1 Endangered Species Act Determinations

Species	Endangered Species Act Determination
Eastern black rail (Laterallus jamaicensis jamaicensis)	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Northern aplomado falcon (Falco femoralis septentrionalis)	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Piping plover (Charadrius melodus)	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Red knot (Calidris canutus rufa)	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Whooping crane (Grus americana)	May affect, not likely to adversely affect
Tricolored bat (Perimyotis subflavis)	May affect, not likely to adversely affect

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5 Birds Covered by the Migratory Bird Treaty Act and Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act

The Proposed Action would, in the long term, recapitalize or demolish buildings that may contain active bird nests within the buildings or on the rooftop. Building demolition work and tree removal (if any) would, to the extent feasible, take place outside of the breeding season. If work must be conducted during the bird breeding season, a qualified biologist will confirm that no active nests would be impacted by these actions. The qualified biologist will survey the area within 72 hours of commencing work to determine if active nests are present. If an active nest is found in the project area at any time during project work, work would be halted immediately, and the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist would be contacted. Any removal action must be overseen by the NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist. The NAS Corpus Christi Wildlife Biologist, in coordination with the qualified biologist, will confirm that there would be no impacts to active nests before construction work could resume. With implementation of these measures, construction activities associated with the Proposed Action would not result in takes of migratory birds or their active nests.

Under the Proposed Action, there would be a minor increase in aircraft strike potential for birds corresponding to the increase in operations.

Bird/aircraft collisions are not an acknowledged population level stressor for any bird species and are not mentioned in the literature regarding sources of direct anthropogenic mortality. Collisions between aircraft and birds are estimated to account for a small percentage of all bird deaths per year (USFWS, 2022c). Kelly and Allen (2006) concluded that it is likely that mortalities from bird aircraft collisions are not additive (i.e., in excess of what would occur naturally) and, therefore, are not of conservation concern. Population-level anthropogenic sources of mortality commonly cited for birds include cats, buildings, automobiles, powerlines, wind turbines, pesticides, gill nets, oil and gas activities, and marine longlines/trawls (Loss et al., 2015; Kelly & Allan, 2006).

From August 2020 through July 2022, the Proposed Action airfields that recorded BASH data (NAS Corpus Christi, NOLF Cabaniss, Corpus Christi International Airport, Palacios Municipal Airport, Valley International Airport, and Victoria Regional Airport), reported between 214 and 327 bird/wildlife strikes per year total for all aircraft operations (not just T-44C). A wide range of bird species were struck, though the identity of numerous impacted birds was not determined.

Due to the low number of strikes when compared to the overall operations numbers and the information presented above, additional strikes resulting from the 10 percent increase in flight operations under the Proposed Action would not pose population-level risks for any bird species.

Continued implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss would reduce BASH risk. International, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields also implement measures to mitigate BASH risk by adhering to FAA regulations, including conducting required Wildlife Hazard Assessments and implementing Wildlife Hazard Management Plans.

For compliance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA), the Navy has determined that the Proposed Action may result in the incidental "take" of native birds protected by the MBTA by operation of the T-54A aircraft. The definition of "take," as defined by the MBTA is "pursue, hunt, shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect." Under the MBTA's regulations that are applicable to military readiness activities (50 CFR part 21), the USFWS has promulgated a rule that authorizes the incidental take of MBTA-listed birds, provided it does not result in significant adverse effects on their population. The

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Proposed Action is not expected to result in adverse impacts on any migratory bird species populations with current standard operating procedures (e.g., BASH Plan and Wildlife Hazard Management Plans).

The term "take," as defined by the USFWS for Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act purposes, means to "pursue, shoot, shoot at, poison, wound, kill, trap, capture, trap, collect, molest or disturb." Although there is no exemption for military readiness activities from the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act, a prohibited "take" is unlikely due to:

- · Lack of previous takes of eagles by historical operation of T-44C aircraft
- Implementation of the BASH Plan at NAS Corpus Christi and NOLF Cabaniss
- Implementation of Wildlife Hazard Management Plans for the international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields
- The absence of eagle nests in the vicinity of Proposed Action airfields (There are no bald eagle nests
 or occurrences in proximity to any of the Proposed Action airfields [see Figure 2-1].)

The Proposed Action does not require an eagle take permit.

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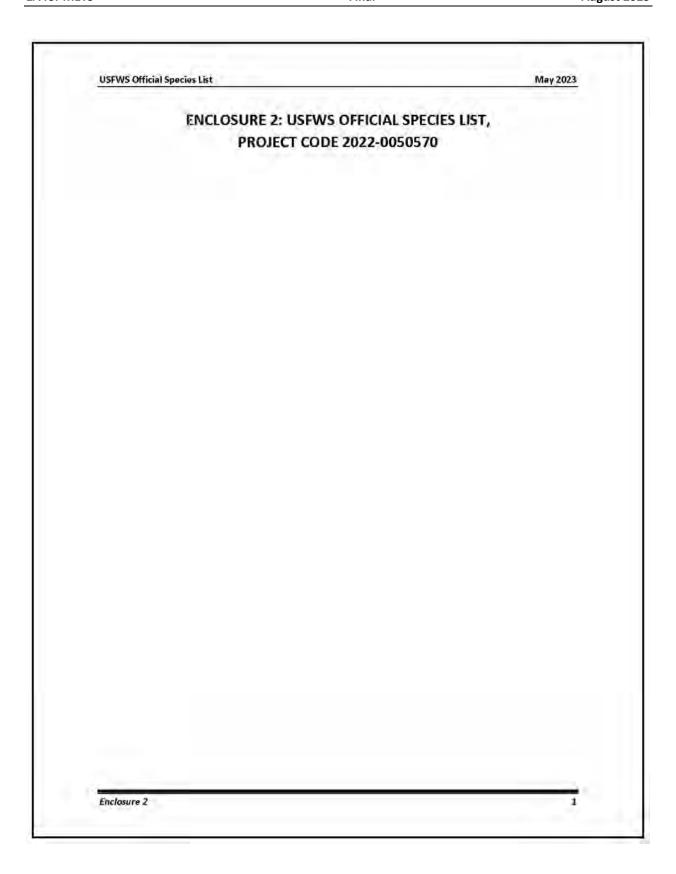
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United States Department of the Interior



FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office 4444 Corona Drive, Suite 215 Corpus Christ, TX 78411 Phone: (281) 286-8282 Fax: (281) 488-5882

In Reply Refer To:

Project Code: 2022-0050570

Project Name: NAS Corpus Christi Multi-Engine Trainer System

June 06, 2022

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project location or may be affected by your proposed project

To Whom It May Concern:

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) field offices in Clear Lake, Tx, and Corpus Christi, Tx, have combined administratively to form the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office. A map of the Texas Coastal Ecological Services Field Office area of responsibility can be found at: http://www.fws.gov/southwest/es/TexasCoastal/Map.titml. All project related correspondence should be sent to the field office responsible for the area in which your project occurs. For projects located in southeast Texas please write to: Field Supervisor; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; 17629 El Camino Real Ste. 211; Houston, Texas 77058. For projects located in southern Texas please write to: Field Supervisor; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; P.O. Box 81468; Corpus Christi, Texas 78468-1468. For projects located in six counters in southern Texas (Cameron, Hidalgo, Starr, Webb, Willacy, and Zapata) please write: Santa Ana NWR, ATTN: Ecological Services Sub Office, 3325 Green Jay Road, Alamo, Texas 78516.

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 etseq.).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the ECOS-IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and

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implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the ECOS-IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 et seq.), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

http://www.fws.gov/endangered/esa-library/pdf/TOC-GLOS.PDF

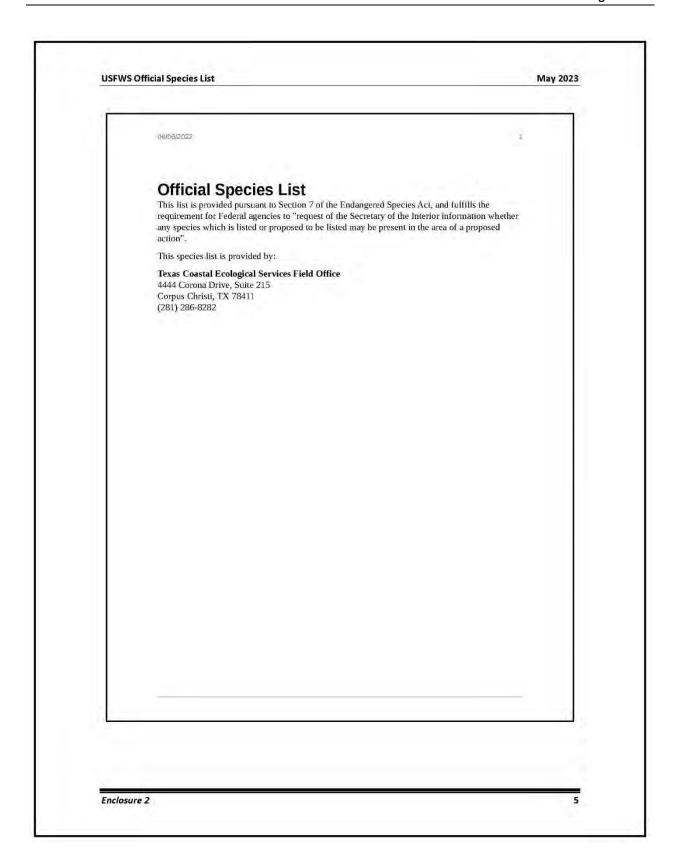
Migratory Birds: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts see https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations.php.

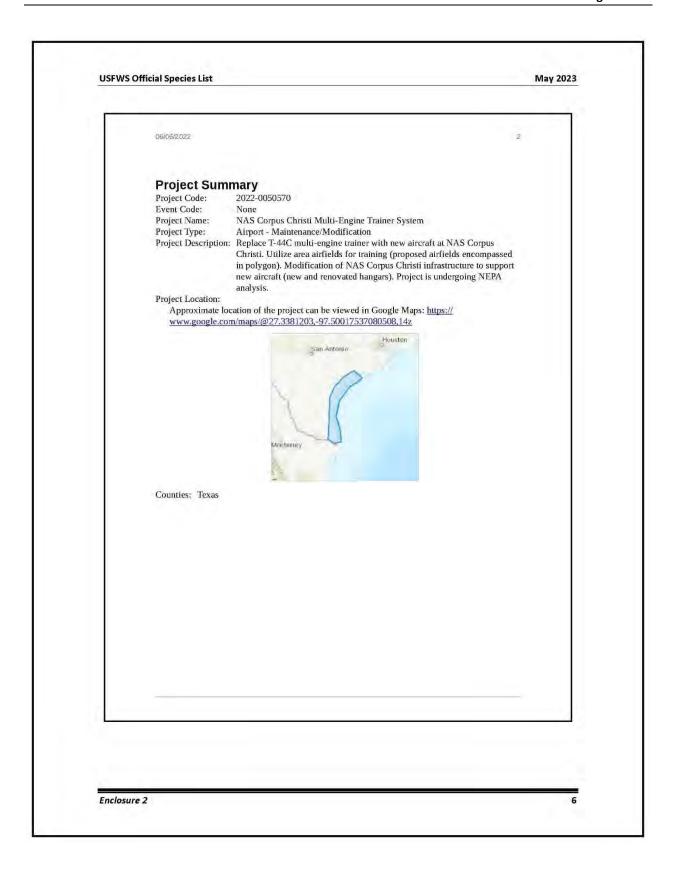
The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures see https://www.fws.gov/birds/bird-enthusiasts/threats-to-birds.php.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities

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USFWS Official Species List May 2023 that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/birds/policies-and-regulations/ executive-orders/e0-13186.php. We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office. Attachment(s): · Official Species List · Migratory Birds Marine Mammals · Coastal Barriers Wetlands Enclosure 2

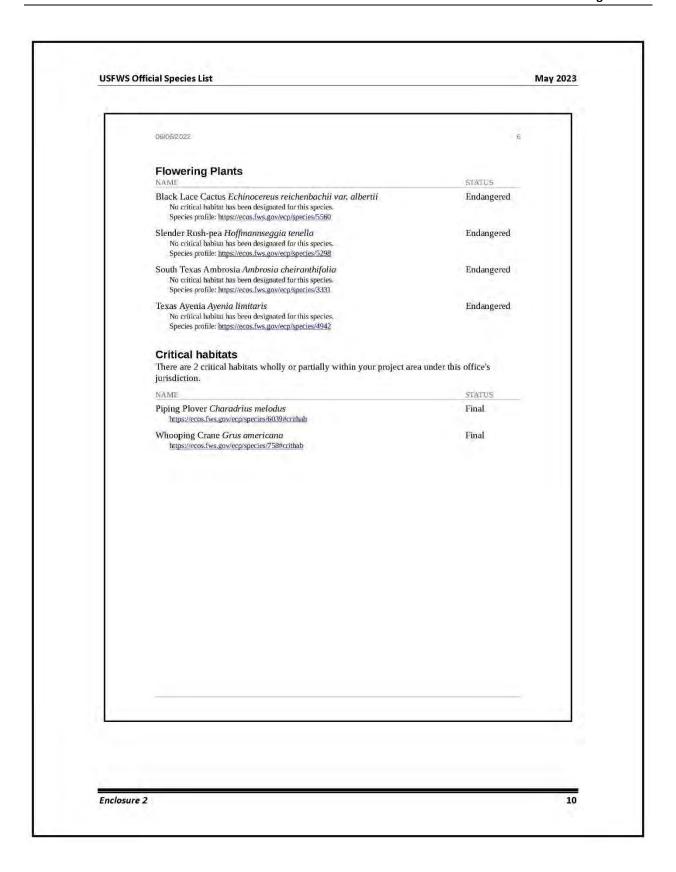




USFWS Official Species List May 2023 **Endangered Species Act Species** There is a total of 21 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list. Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species. IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries¹, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce. See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions. 1. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce. Mammals STATUS Gulf Coast Jaguarundi Puma yagouaroundi cacomitli Endangered No critical habitat has been designated for this specie Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/3945 Endangered Ocelot Leopardus (=Felis) pardalis No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4474 West Indian Manatee Trichechus manatus Threatened There is final critical habitat for this species. The location of the critical habitat is not available. This species is also protected by the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and may have additional consultation requirements. Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469 Enclosure 2







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Migratory Birds

Certain birds are protected under the Migratory Bird Treaty $Act^{\underline{L}}$ and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection $Act^{\underline{Z}}$.

Any person or organization who plans or conducts activities that may result in impacts to migratory birds, eagles, and their habitats should follow appropriate regulations and consider implementing appropriate conservation measures, as described <u>below</u>.

- 1. The Migratory Birds Treaty Act of 1918.
- 2. The Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act of 1940.
- 3. 50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)

The birds listed below are birds of particular concern either because they occur on the USFWS Birds of Conservation Concern (BCC) list or warrant special attention in your project location. To learn more about the levels of concern for birds on your list and how this list is generated, see the FAQ below. This is not a list of every bird you may find in this location, nor a guarantee that every bird on this list will be found in your project area. To see exact locations of where birders and the general public have sighted birds in and around your project area, visit the E-bird data mapping tool (Tip: enter your location, desired date range and a species on your list). For projects that occur off the Atlantic Coast, additional maps and models detailing the relative occurrence and abundance of bird species on your list are available. Links to additional information about Atlantic Coast birds, and other important information about your migratory bird list, including how to properly interpret and use your migratory bird report, can be found below.

For guidance on when to schedule activities or implement avoidance and minimization measures to reduce impacts to migratory birds on your list, click on the PROBABILITY OF PRESENCE SUMMARY at the top of your list to see when these birds are most likely to be present and breeding in your project area.

BREEDING

American Golden-plover Pluvialis dominica
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

American Oystercatcher Haematopus palliatus
This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8935

Audubon's Shearwater Puffinus Iherminieri

This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.

Breeds Mar 1 to Aug 5

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NAMI	BREEDING SEASON
Bald Eagle Haliaeetus leucocephalus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1626	Breeds Sep 1 to Jul 31
Black Scoter Melanitta nigra This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere
Black Skimmer Rynchops niger This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/5234	Breeds May 20 to Sep 15
Black-legged Kittiwake Rissa tridactyla This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere
Brown Pelican Pelecanus occidentalis This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/6034	Breeds Jan 15 to Sep 30
Chestnut-collared Longspur Calcarius ornatus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere
Common Loon gavia immer This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4464	Breeds Apr 15 to Oct 31
Cory's Shearwater Calonectris diomedea This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere
Double-crested Cormorant phalacrocorax auritus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/sep/species/3478	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 31

06/08/2022	2
NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Golden Eagle Aquila chrysactos This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/1680	Breeds Jan 1 to Aug 31
Great Shearwater Puffinus gravis This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere
Gull-billed Tern Gelochelidon nilotica This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9501	Breeds May 1 to Jul 31
Hudsonian Godwit Limosa haemastica This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds elsewhere
King Rail Rallus elegans This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/eco/species/8936	Breeds May 1 to Sep 5
Lesser Yellowlegs Tringa flavipes This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9679	Breeds elsewhere
Long-billed Curlew Numenius americanus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA https://ecos.fws.gov/eep/species/5511	Breeds elsewhere
Long-tailed Duck Clangula hyemalis This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7238	Breeds elsewhere
Magnificent Frigatebird Fregata magnificens This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere
Marbled Godwit Limosa fedoa This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9481	Breeds elsewhere

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06/06/2022	i	
NAME	BREEDING SEASON	
Mountain Plover Charadrius montanus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.lws.gov/ecp/species/3638	Breeds elsewhere	
Orchard Oriole Icterus spurius This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds Jun 10 to Aug 15	
Pomarine Jaeger Stercorarius pomarinus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere	
Prothonotary Warbler Protonotaria citrea This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 1 to Jul 31	
Red Phalarope Phalaropus fulicarius This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere	
Red-breasted Merganser Mergus serrator This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere	
Red-headed Woodpecker Melanerpes erythrocephalus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds May 10 to Sep 10	
Red-necked Phalarope Phalaropus lobatus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere	
Red-throated Loon <i>Gavia stellata</i> This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere	
Reddish Egret Egretta rufescens This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/7617	Breeds Mar 1 to Sep 15	
Ring-billed Gull Larus delawarensis This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types	Breeds elsewhere	

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cial Species List	
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NAME	BREEDING SEASON
Royal Tern Tholasseus maximus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Apr 15 to Aug 31
Ruddy Turnstone Arenaria interpres morinella This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA	Breeds elsewhere
Short-billed Dowitcher Limnodromus griseus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fvs.gov/ecp/species/9480	Breeds elsewhere
Sooty Tern Onychoprion fuscatus This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds Mar 10 to Jul 31
Sprague's Pipit Anthus spragueii This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8964	Breeds elsewhere
Surf Scoter Melanitta perspicillata This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere
Swallow-tailed Kite Elanoides forficatus This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/8938	Breeds Mar 10 to Jun 30
White-winged Scoter Melanitta fusca This is not a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) in this area, but warrants attention because of the Eagle Act or for potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities.	Breeds elsewhere
Willet Tringa semipalmata This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 20 to Aug 5
Wilson's Plover Charadrius wilsonia This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska.	Breeds Apr 1 to Aug 20
Yellow Rail Coturnicops noveboracensis This is a Bird of Conservation Concern (BCC) throughout its range in the continental USA and Alaska. https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9476	Breeds elsewhere

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Probability Of Presence Summary

The graphs below provide our best understanding of when birds of concern are most likely to be present in your project area. This information can be used to tailor and schedule your project activities to avoid or minimize impacts to birds. Please make sure you read and understand the FAQ "Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report" before using or attempting to interpret this report.

Probability of Presence (III)

Each green bar represents the bird's relative probability of presence in the 10km grid cell(s) your project overlaps during a particular week of the year. (A year is represented as 12 4-week months.) A taller bar indicates a higher probability of species presence. The survey effort (see below) can be used to establish a level of confidence in the presence score. One can have higher confidence in the presence score if the corresponding survey effort is also high.

How is the probability of presence score calculated? The calculation is done in three steps:

- The probability of presence for each week is calculated as the number of survey events in
 the week where the species was detected divided by the total number of survey events for
 that week. For example, if in week 12 there were 20 survey events and the Spotted Towhee
 was found in 5 of them, the probability of presence of the Spotted Towhee in week 12 is
 0.25.
- 2. To properly present the pattern of presence across the year, the relative probability of presence is calculated. This is the probability of presence divided by the maximum probability of presence across all weeks. For example, imagine the probability of presence in week 20 for the Spotted Towhee is 0.05, and that the probability of presence at week 12 (0.25) is the maximum of any week of the year. The relative probability of presence on week 12 is 0.25/0.25 = 1; at week 20 it is 0.05/0.25 = 0.2.
- The relative probability of presence calculated in the previous step undergoes a statistical conversion so that all possible values fall between 0 and 10, inclusive. This is the probability of presence score.

Breeding Season (*)

Yellow bars denote a very liberal estimate of the time-frame inside which the bird breeds across its entire range. If there are no yellow bars shown for a bird, it does not breed in your project area.

Survey Effort (1)

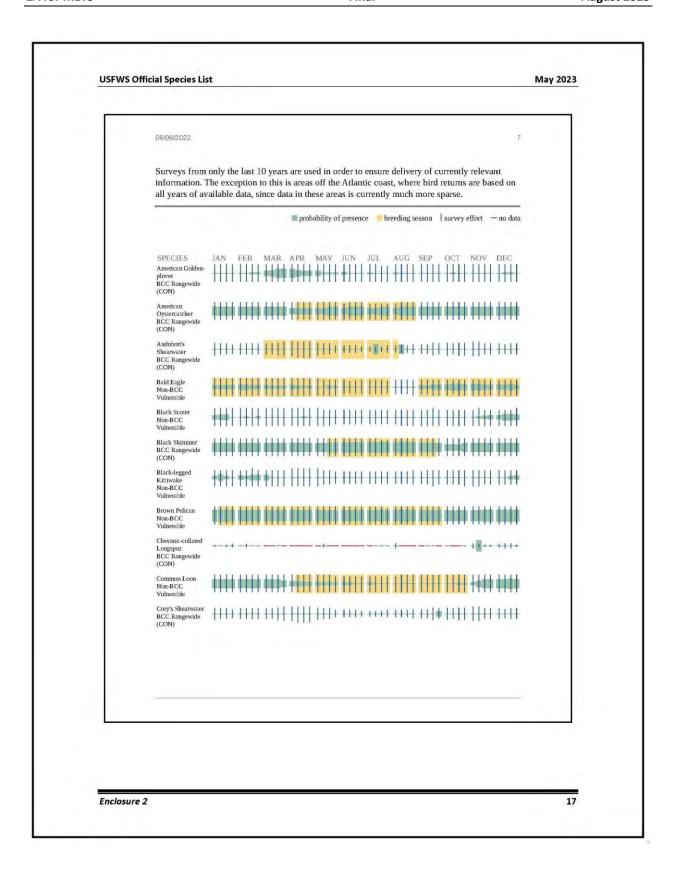
Vertical black lines superimposed on probability of presence bars indicate the number of surveys performed for that species in the 10km grid cell(s) your project area overlaps. The number of surveys is expressed as a range, for example, 33 to 64 surveys.

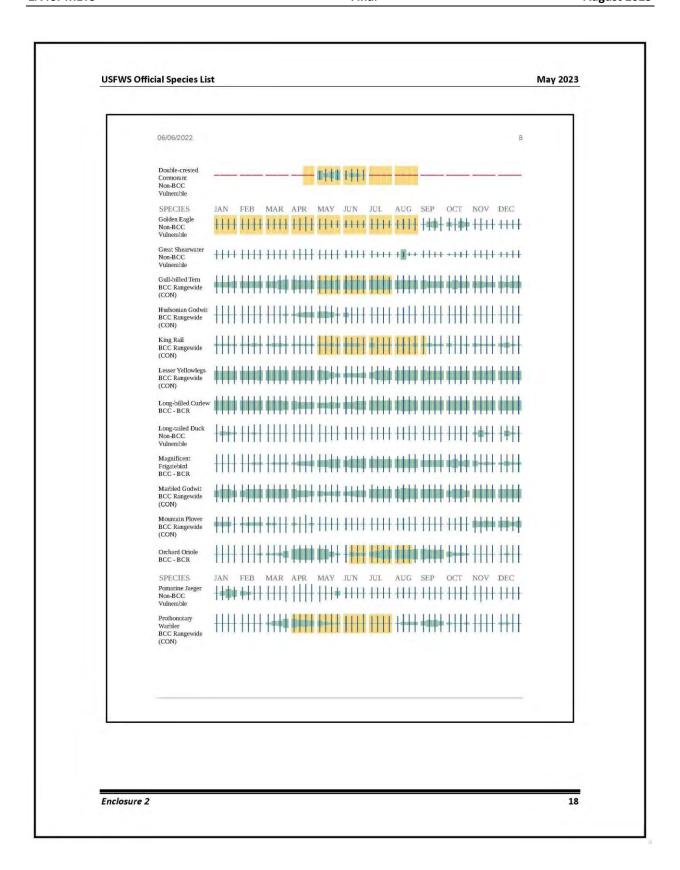
No Data (-

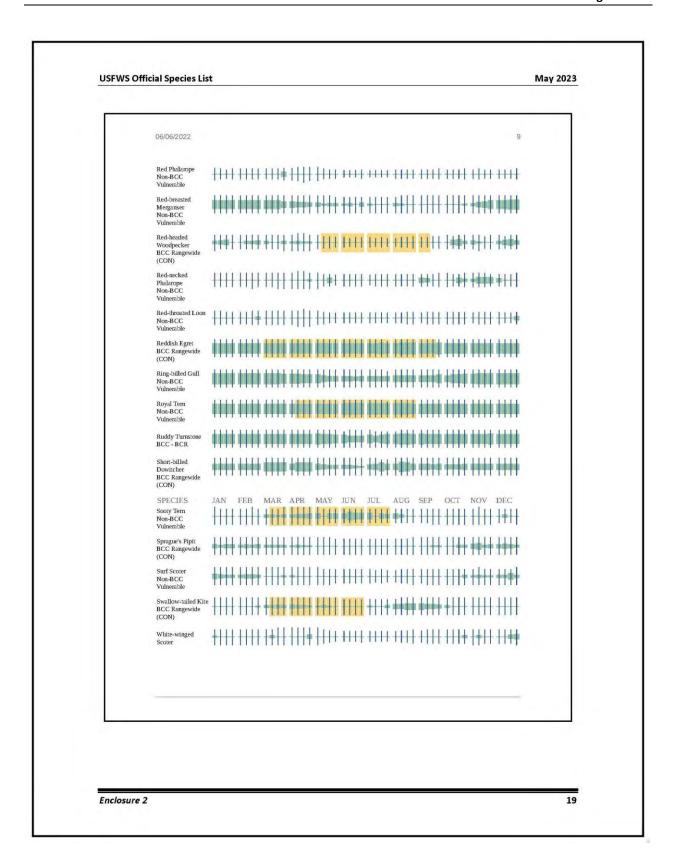
A week is marked as having no data if there were no survey events for that week.

Survey Timeframe

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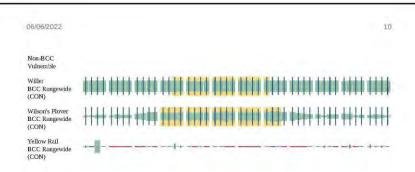








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Additional information can be found using the following links:

- Birds of Conservation Concern https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-birds/species
- Measures for avoiding and minimizing impacts to birds https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/avoiding-and-minimizing-incidental-take-migratory-birds
- Nationwide conservation measures for birds https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/nationwide-standard-conservation-measures.pdf

Migratory Birds FAQ

Tell me more about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds.

Nationwide Conservation Measures describes measures that can help avoid and minimize impacts to all birds at any location year round. Implementation of these measures is particularly important when birds are most likely to occur in the project area. When birds may be breeding in the area, identifying the locations of any active nests and avoiding their destruction is a very helpful impact minimization measure. To see when birds are most likely to occur and be breeding in your project area, view the Probability of Presence Summary. Additional measures or permits may be advisable depending on the type of activity you are conducting and the type of infrastructure or bird species present on your project site.

What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The Migratory Bird Resource List is comprised of USFWS <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) and other species that may warrant special attention in your project location.

The migratory bird list generated for your project is derived from data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. The AKN data is based on a growing collection of <u>survey, banding, and citizen science datasets</u> and is queried and filtered to return a list of those birds reported as occurring in the 10km grid cell(s) which your project intersects, and that have been identified as warranting special attention because they are a BCC species in that area, an eagle (<u>Fagle Act</u> requirements may apply), or a species that has a particular vulnerability to offshore activities or development.

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Again, the Migratory Bird Resource list includes only a subset of birds that may occur in your project area. It is not representative of all birds that may occur in your project area. To get a list of all birds potentially present in your project area, please visit the AKN Phenology Tool.

What does IPaC use to generate the probability of presence graphs for the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location?

The probability of presence graphs associated with your migratory bird list are based on data provided by the <u>Avian Knowledge Network (AKN)</u>. This data is derived from a growing collection of <u>survey</u>, <u>banding</u>, <u>and citizen science datasets</u>.

Probability of presence data is continuously being updated as new and better information becomes available. To learn more about how the probability of presence graphs are produced and how to interpret them, go the Probability of Presence Summary and then click on the "Tell me about these graphs" link.

How do I know if a bird is breeding, wintering, migrating or present year-round in my project area?

To see what part of a particular bird's range your project area falls within (i.e. breeding, wintering, migrating or year-round), you may refer to the following resources: The Cornell Lab of Ornithology All About Bird Suide, or (if you are unsuccessful in locating the bird of interest there), the Cornell Lab of Ornithology Neotropical Birds guide. If a bird on your migratory bird species list has a breeding season associated with it, if that bird does occur in your project area, there may be nests present at some point within the timeframe specified. If "Breeds elsewhere" is indicated, then the bird likely does not breed in your project area.

What are the levels of concern for migratory birds?

Migratory birds delivered through IPaC fall into the following distinct categories of concern:

- "BCC Rangewide" birds are <u>Birds of Conservation Concern</u> (BCC) that are of concern throughout their range anywhere within the USA (including Hawaii, the Pacific Islands, Puerto Rico, and the Virgin Islands);
- "BCC BCR" birds are BCCs that are of concern only in particular Bird Conservation Regions (BCRs) in the continental USA; and
- "Non-BCC Vulnerable" birds are not BCC species in your project area, but appear on
 your list either because of the <u>Eagle Act</u> requirements (for eagles) or (for non-eagles)
 potential susceptibilities in offshore areas from certain types of development or activities
 (e.g. offshore energy development or longline fishing).

Although it is important to try to avoid and minimize impacts to all birds, efforts should be made, in particular, to avoid and minimize impacts to the birds on this list, especially eagles and BCC species of rangewide concern. For more information on conservation measures you can implement to help avoid and minimize migratory bird impacts and requirements for eagles, please see the FAOs for these topics.

Details about birds that are potentially affected by offshore projects

For additional details about the relative occurrence and abundance of both individual bird species and groups of bird species within your project area off the Atlantic Coast, please visit the Northeast Ocean Data Portal. The Portal also offers data and information about other taxa besides

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birds that may be helpful to you in your project review. Alternately, you may download the bird model results files underlying the portal maps through the <u>NOAA NCCOS Integrative Statistical Modeling and Predictive Mapping of Marine Bird Distributions and Abundance on the Atlantic Outer Continental Shelf project webpage.</u>

Bird tracking data can also provide additional details about occurrence and habitat use throughout the year, including migration. Models relying on survey data may not include this information. For additional information on marine bird tracking data, see the <u>Diving Bird Study</u> and the <u>nanotag studies</u> or contact <u>Caleb Spiegel</u> or <u>Pam Loring</u>.

What if I have eagles on my list?

If your project has the potential to disturb or kill eagles, you may need to <u>obtain a permit</u> to avoid violating the Eagle Act should such impacts occur.

Proper Interpretation and Use of Your Migratory Bird Report

The migratory bird list generated is not a list of all birds in your project area, only a subset of birds of priority concern. To learn more about how your list is generated, and see options for identifying what other birds may be in your project area, please see the FAQ "What does IPaC use to generate the migratory birds potentially occurring in my specified location". Please be aware this report provides the "probability of presence" of birds within the 10 km grid cell(s) that overlap your project; not your exact project footprint. On the graphs provided, please also look carefully at the survey effort (indicated by the black vertical bar) and for the existence of the "no data" indicator (a red horizontal bar). A high survey effort is the key component. If the survey effort is high, then the probability of presence score can be viewed as more dependable. In contrast, a low survey effort bar or no data bar means a lack of data and, therefore, a lack of certainty about presence of the species. This list is not perfect; it is simply a starting point for identifying what birds of concern have the potential to be in your project area, when they might be there, and if they might be breeding (which means nests might be present). The list helps you know what to look for to confirm presence, and helps guide you in knowing when to implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize potential impacts from your project activities, should presence be confirmed. To learn more about conservation measures, visit the FAQ "Tell me about conservation measures I can implement to avoid or minimize impacts to migratory birds" at the bottom of your migratory bird trust resources page.

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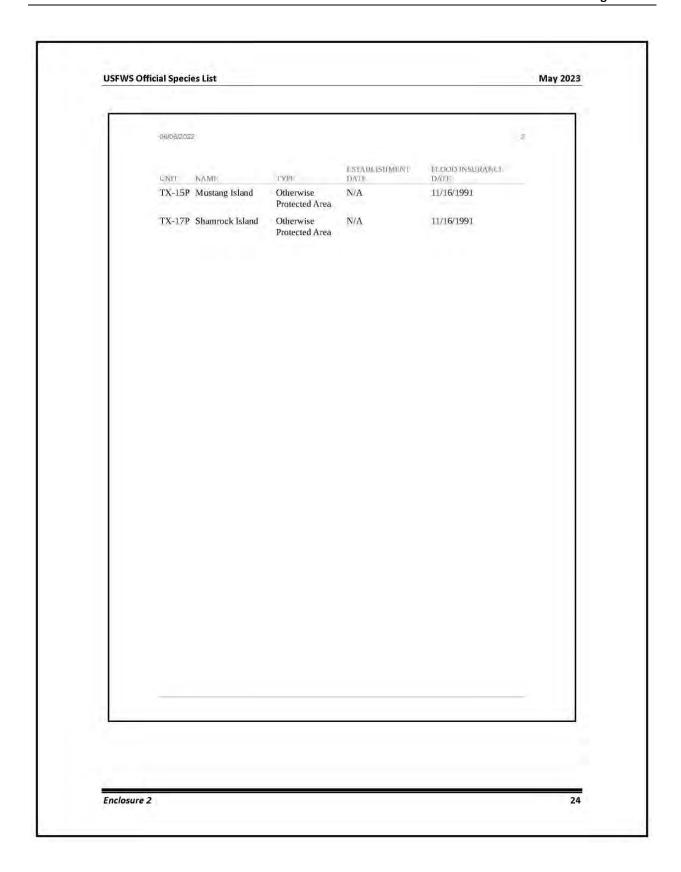
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Coastal Barriers

Projects within the John H. Chafee Coastal Barrier Resources System (CBRS) may be subject to the restrictions on federal expenditures and financial assistance and the consultation requirements of the Coastal Barrier Resources Act (CBRA) (16 U.S.C. 3501 et seq.). For more information, please contact the local Ecological Services Field Office or visit the CBRA Consultations website. The CBRA website provides tools such as a flow chart to help determine whether consultation is required and a template to facilitate the consultation process.

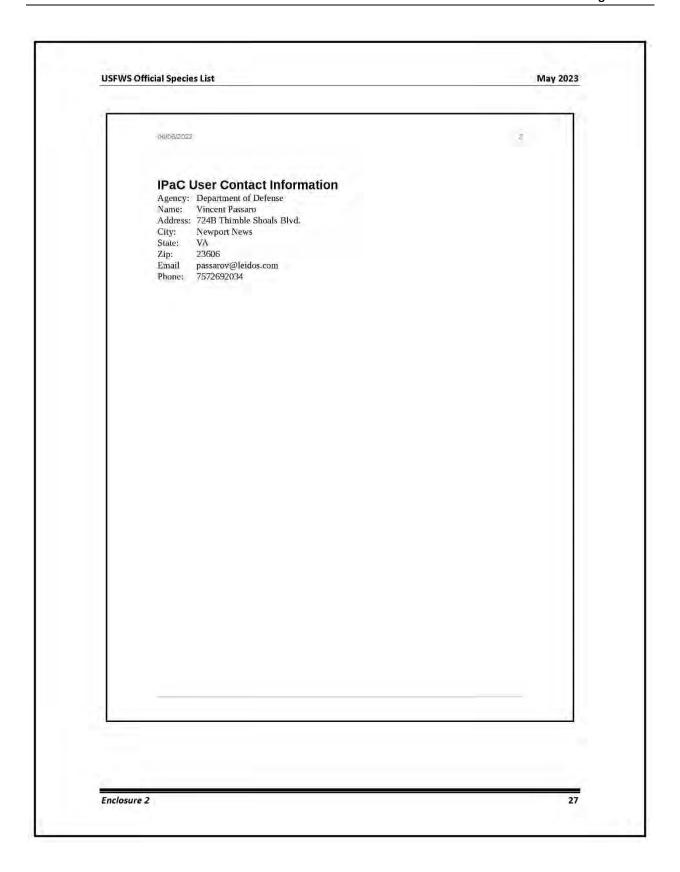
UNIT	NAME	TYPE	ESTABLISHMENT DATE	FLOOD INSURANCE DATE
T07	Matagorda Peninsula	System Unit	10/18/1982	10/1/1983
T07	Matagorda Peninsula	System Unit	11/16/1990	11/16/1990
T08	San Jose Island	System Unit	10/18/1982	10/1/1983
T10	North Padre Island	System Unit	10/18/1982	10/1/1983
T11	South Padre Island	System Unit	10/18/1982	10/1/1983
T12	Boca Chica	System Unit	11/16/1990	11/16/1990
T12	Boca Chica	System Unit	11/15/1993	11/16/1991
TX-17	Shamrock Island	System Unit	11/16/1990	11/16/1990
TX-19	Starvation Point	System Unit	11/16/1990	11/16/1990
TX-21	Kleberg Point	System Unit	11/16/1990	11/16/1990
Т07Р	Matagorda Peninsula	Otherwise Protected Area	N/A	11/16/1991
T08P	San Jose Island	Otherwise Protected Area	N/A	11/16/1991
T10P	North Padre Island	Otherwise Protected Area	N/A	11/16/1991
T11P	South Padre Island	Otherwise Protected Area	N/A	11/16/1991
TX-06P	Matagorda Island	Otherwise Protected Area	N/A	10/1/1983
TX-06P	Matagorda Island	Otherwise Protected Area	N/A	11/16/1991

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USFWS Official Species List May 2023 **Marine Mammals** Marine mammals are protected under the Marine Mammal Protection Act. Some are also protected under the Endangered Species Act^1 and the Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora2. The responsibilities for the protection, conservation, and management of marine mammals are shared by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [responsible for otters, walruses, polar bears, manatees, and dugongs] and NOAA Fisheries3 [responsible for seals, sea lions, whales, dolphins, and porpoises]. Marine mammals under the responsibility of NOAA Fisheries are not shown on this list; for additional information on those species please visit the Marine Mammals page of the NOAA Fisheries website. The Marine Mammal Protection Act prohibits the take of marine mammals and further coordination may be necessary for project evaluation. Please contact the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Field Office shown. 1. The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973. 2. The Convention on International Trade in Endangered Species of Wild Fauna and Flora (CITES) is a treaty to ensure that international trade in plants and animals does not threaten their survival in the wild. 3. NOAA Fisheries, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce. West Indian Manatee Trichechus manatus Species profile: https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/4469 Enclosure 2 25

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Wetlands Impacts to NWI wetlands and other aquatic habitats ma 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statu	
For more information please contact the Regulatory Pro Engineers District.	gram of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of</u>
Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify the actual extent of wetlands on site.	
Due to your project's size, the list below may be incompinaccurate. For a full list, please contact the local U.S. I www.fws.gov/wetlands/data/mapper.HTML	
FRESHWATER EMERGENT WETLAND • Palustrine	
RIVERINE • Riverine	
• <u>Estuarine</u>	
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Appendix C National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Documentation

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From: Goodwin, Sara R CIV USN NAVFAC LANT NOR VA (USA)

To: Farrell, Peggy [US-US]

Cc: Thompson, Gregory S CIV USN (USA)

Subject: EXTERNAL: PW: [Non-DoD Source] HANGARS 57 AND 58, NASCC

Date: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 11:31:02 AM

Attachments:

WRD031.ioc
Final METS MOA.docx
Final METS MOA.pdf

Peggy,

Final MOA signed.

Vr, Sara

From: Calabrese, John A CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) <john.a,calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil>

Sent: Wednesday, July 5, 2023 10:28 AM

To: Goodwin, Sara R CIV USN NAVFAC LANT NOR VA (USA) <sara.r.goodwin.civ@us.navy.mil>

Subject: FW: [Non-DoD Source] HANGARS 57 AND 58, NASCC

Sara:

Trailing is the THC's assent to the MOA. I just returned from two weeks leave, so my apologies for the delay. I have attached the MOA, now marked as Final, with the changes to Stipulation 1.8 as we had vetted by the lawyers.

Who sends this on to Capt. Jurica for signature? Me, or Mary?

V/r,

John

From: noreply@thc.state.tx.us <noreply@thc.state.tx.us>

Sent: Friday, June 23, 2023 12:59 PM

To: Calabrese, John A CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) < john.a.calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil>;

reviews@thc.state.tx.us

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] HANGARS 57 AND 58, NASCC



Re: Project Review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

THC Tracking #202308548

Date: 06/23/2023

HANGARS 57 AND 58, NASCC Naval Air Station Corpus Christi

Description: Revised MOA Submission

Dear Dr. John Calabrese:

Thank you for your submittal regarding the above-referenced project. This response represents the comments of the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC), pursuant to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The review staff, led by Jeff Durst and Alexander Shane, has completed its review and has made the following determinations based on the information submitted for review:

Archeology Comments

· THC/SHPO concurs with information provided.

We have the following comments: The Division of Architecture Review Staff, led by Alexander Shane, wants to thank the Navy for the 2nd submission of the METS draft MOA. In the next submission please submit a clean copy for our review and finalization. We look forward to further consultation.

We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. Thank you for your cooperation in this review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. If the project changes, or if new historic properties are found, please contact the review staff. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please email the following reviewers: Jeft.Durst@thc.texas.gov, Alexander.Shane@thc.texas.gov.

This response has been sent through the electronic THC review and compliance system (eTRAC). Submitting your project via eTRAC eliminates mailing delays and allows you to check the status of the review, receive an electronic response, and generate reports on your submissions. For more information, visit http://thc.texas.gov/etrac-system.

Sincerely.



for Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission

Please do not respond to this email.

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND

THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER REGARDING

THE DEMOLITION OF HANGARS 57 AND 58 AND SUPPORT BUILDINGS 57A, 57B, and 58A AT

NAVAL AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, the United States Navy (Navy) is planning to implement the critical Multi-Engine Training System (METS) at NAS Corpus Christi (NASCC) which entails the introduction of new training aircraft along the flight line; and,

WHEREAS, Hangars 51, 55, 56, 57, and 58, and support buildings 56A, 56B, 57A, 57B, and 58A along the flight line are contributing resources of the Landplane Hangars Historic District found eligible under Criterion A for its association with World War II (WWII) history; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy has concluded that the WWII hangars have exceeded their "life expectancy" and do not afford sufficient interior space to support METS; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy has concluded that Hangars 57 and 58 are optimally sited on the flight line to support METS; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy is currently evaluating alternative construction options that include the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 to support METS; and,

WHEREAS, the demolition option would entail razing Hangars 57 and 58 and constructing in their footprint a single large replacement hangar or multiple fabric-tension structures to house training aircraft; and.

WHEREAS, the recapitalization option would entail deconstructing Hangars 57 and 58 to their structural frames and rebuilding the facilities to accommodate METS space requirements in compliance with current building and safety codes; and.

WHEREAS, the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 both entail "physical destruction of or damage to all or part" of Hangars 57 and 58 and constitute an adverse effect pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i); and,

WHEREAS, the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 will prompt the demolition of non-functional WWII storage buildings 57A, 57B, and 58A due to their loss of historical association; and,

WHEREAS, storage buildings 57A, 57B, and 58A are contributing resources of the Landplane Hangars Historic District and their demolition constitutes an adverse effect pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i); and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with 36 CFR Section 800.6(a)(1)(iii), the ACHP has declined to participate in consultation regarding METS; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Navy (and consulting parties) agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

I. STIPULATIONS

The Navy agrees to undertake the following actions, following SHPO concurrence, to mitigate the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 and the demolition of support facilities 57A, 57B, and 58A (Subject Properties):

- The Navy will contact the SHPO when program funding is received and represent a final decision on demolishing or recapitalizing the Subject Properties in support of METS.
- 2. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will coordinate the salvage and removal of select structural elements, as appropriate, from the Subject Properties for potential use in extant World War II hangars at NASCC or other installations in the Southeastern Area of Operations (AOR). Such elements including windows, doors, and hardware fixtures will be inventoried and curated at the installation in secure and environmentally-regulated conditions. The Navy will provide a roster of all recovered items and circulate the list to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- 3. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will ensure that original "asbuilt" drawings of the Subject Properties are located and adequately curated, as they are available. The Navy does not anticipate that Historic American Building Survey documentation of the Subject Properties is required. The Navy will convey digital copies of all available "as-built" drawings to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will endeavor to locate all
 historic photographs of the Subject Properties. The Navy will convey digital
 copies of available historic photographs to the SHPO within 270 calendar days
 following the final execution of this instrument.

- 5. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will undertake digital photographic documentation of the Subject Properties. The photography shall conform to the requirements of NPS National Register Photo Policy Factsheet found at: https://www.nps.gov/subjects/nationalregister/publications.htm. The format, number, and type of photographs shall be determined in consultation with the SHPO. The Navy will convey all photographic documentation to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- 6. Following salvage recovery and drawing/photographic documentation, the consulting parties will review the records. Once those records are approved and deemed sufficient by all consulting parties, the Navy will demolish or recapitalize the Subject Properties at its earliest convenience.
- 7. The Navy will represent the history of the Subject Resources in text and photographs on the NASCC public website. All such content and the manner in which it is presented will be coordinated with the consulting parties. The Navy will create the public website within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- 8. Following the completion of all ground construction actions associated with METS, NASCC will erect a commemorative sign or signs in the Landplane Hangars Historic District that depicts the Subject Properties and their role in the WWII mission. The Navy will coordinate the contents, medium, and placement of the sign with all the consulting parties. The Navy will erect signage at a safe location within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument. The sign shall conform to the NASCC Installation Appearance Plan and be designed and fabricated in a manner consistent with the Department of the Interior's Wayside Exhibits: A Guide to Developing Outdoor Interpretive Exhibits (Wayside Guide) (nps.gov). THC will review the sign at the 30% design stage, at which time fabrication of the sign may proceed.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE STIPULATIONS

A. Resolving Objections

1. Should any signatory or concurring party to this MOA object to any action carried out or proposed by the Navy with respect to the implementation of this agreement, the Navy shall consult with the objecting party to attempt resolution of the objection. If after initiating such consultation, the Navy determines that the objection cannot be resolved through consultation, the Navy will forward all documentation relevant to the disagreement to the ACHP, including the Navy's proposed response to the objection. The ACHP shall provide the Navy with its advice on the resolution of the objection within thirty (30) days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching a final decision on the dispute, the Navy shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the

ACHP, signatories and concurring parties, and provide them with a copy of this written response. The Navy will then proceed according to its final decision.

- 2. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the thirty (30) day time period, the Navy may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to reaching such a final decision, the Navy shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the signatories and concurring parties to the MOA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.
 - The Navy's responsibility to carry out all actions under this MOA that are not subject to the dispute shall remain unchanged.
 - 4. At any time during implementation of the measures stipulated in this MOA, should an objection pertaining to this MOA be raised by a member of the public, the Navy shall notify the parties to this MOA and take the objection into account, consulting with the objector and, should the objector so request, with any of the parties to this MOA in an attempt to resolve the objection.

B. Amendments and Termination

- This MOA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by all signatories. The amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by all of the signatories is filed with the ACHP.
- If the Navy determines that it cannot implement the terms of this MOA, or if any party determines that the MOA is not properly implemented, the Navy and/or its consulting parties may propose to the other parties that the MOA be terminated.
- The party proposing to terminate this MOA shall so notify all parties to this MOA, explaining the reasons for termination and affording them at least thirty (30) calendar days to consult and seek alternatives to termination, including amendment per Stipulation II.B.1.
- Should such consultation fail and the MOA be terminated, the Navy shall ensure that each action that would otherwise be covered by this MOA is reviewed in accordance with 36 CFR §800.4 through 800.6.

C. MOA Duration

This MOA shall be null and void if its terms are not carried out within ten (10)) years from the date of its execution unless the signatories agree in writing to an extension for carrying out its terms. The Navy shall notify the signatories when it has determined that all of the stipulations have been implemented.

III. ANTI-DEFICIENCY ACT

- A. All requirements set forth in this MOA requiring the expenditure of Government funds are expressly subject to the availability of appropriations and the requirements of the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. Part 1341. No obligation of this MOA shall require or be construed to require a commitment by the Navy to expend funds not appropriated for a legally sufficient purpose.
- B. The obligations of this MOA as to the Navy are severable. If the Navy cannot perform any obligation set forth in this MOA because of the unavailability of funds, the parties intend that the remainder of the MOA be executed to the greatest extent practicable. The parties agree to consult in accordance with Stipulation II.B on any obligation of the MOA that cannot be performed because of the unavailability of funds.

IV. EXECUTION

Execution of this MOA by the Navy and its consulting parties, and implementation of its terms, confirms that the Navy has afforded the ACHP an opportunity to comment on the Project and its effects on historic properties, and that the Navy has taken into account the effects of the Project on historic properties.

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PRINCIPAL SIGNATORIES Captain Ty Jurica Commanding Officer, NAS Corpus Christi By:	Date: 8/23/2023
6	

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	CONCURRING SIGNATORIES Nueces County Historical Commission Kathy Wemer, President		
	Ву:	Date:	
		8	
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DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING SYSTEMS COMMAND SOUTHEAST JACKSONVILLE, FL 32212-0030

> 5090 Ser EV/00302 April 18, 2023

Mr. Mark Wolfe Executive Director State Historic Preservation Officer Texas Historical Commission P.O. Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711-2276

SUBJECT: A PROPOSAL TO DEMOLISH HANGARS 57 AND 58 AND THREE ANCILLARY FACILITIES IN SUPPORT OF THE MULTI-ENGINE TRAINING SYSTEM AT NAVAL AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI

This letter serves to invite your office to consult in the matter of the Navy proposal to demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and small ancillary facilities 57A, 57B, and 58A in support of the Multi-Engine Training System (METS) at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi (NASCC), Nucces County, Texas.

These hangars and ancillary facilities are contributing resources to the Landplane Hangars Historic District at NASCC and their demolition constitutes an adverse effect under 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i). This undertaking and its effects are being considered under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR 800.

MISSION REQUIREMENTS

Pilot training is the primary operational role of NASCC and METS represents the latest critical evolution in aviation training. NASCC serves as the primary training facility for multi-engine aircraft and the failure to accommodate the METS program jeopardizes Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard pilot instruction as well as Navy readiness throughout the globe.

The METS program will replace the T-44C Pegasus aircraft currently operated by Training Air Wing Four at NASCC with the Beechcraft King 260, a new multi-engine turboprop aircraft (Enclosure 1). The transition to the new training platform will occur in late 2024.

Airfield space at NASCC is limited and predominated by World War II (WWII) hangars 51, 55, 56, 57, and 58 and small support buildings 51A, 56A, 56B, 57A, 57B, and 58A. These 11 facilities comprise the Landplane Hangars Historic District (Enclosure 2). Exceeding their 80th year of service, these facilities have exceeded their "life expectancy" and cannot accommodate modern aviation platforms and training requirements. Given the optimal airfield location of Hangars 57 and 58, the Navy proposes to demolish or recapitalize these facilities in service to the METS program.

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PROPOSED ACTION

The Navy is currently evaluating two viable construction options to support the METS program.

The first option entails the complete demolition and removal of Hangars 57 and 58 to make way for the construction of a large "super hangar" or a series of smaller tension-fabric tent structures designed to secure and house aircraft.

The second option entails the recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58, a construction process whereby the facilities are stripped down to their structural steel skeletons, inspected, repaired, and then fully rebuilt using modern materials that satisfy current building and safety codes. The Navy acknowledges that both construction actions incur an adverse effect under 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i) in that they involve the "physical destruction of or damage to all or part" of the facilities.

With the hangars removed or rebuilt, the Navy will demolish ancillary facilities 57A, 57B, and 58A due to the loss of their functional and historical association. These small buildings once stored ammunition or maintenance supplies at a safe distance from the main hangars, a practice that is no longer exercised in modern hangar construction.

Once the program is fully underway, METS equipment will be stored in Building 1218, a hangar constructed in 1954 that was determined ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). Ground-based METS training will occur in Building 83, an aviation instructional facility constructed in 2010 that does not exhibit Criteria Consideration G characteristics. Neither proposed action has the potential to affect other historic properties.

In addition, Hangar 42, a 1941 construction that contributes to the Seaplane Hangars Historic District, will be used as "swing space" during the course of the METS project. In compliance with safety codes, the hangar interior will be refitted with fire detection and suppression systems. All work will be conducted within the non-contributing interior of the hangar and will not diminish the qualifying characteristics of this historic property.

The METS program will be funded in 2027. At that time, the Navy will select the best construction option to promote mission success and consult your office on the steps that will be taken to avoid, minimize, or mitigate effects on historic properties.

MITIGATING ADVERSE EFFECTS

For the purposes of Section 106 consultation and the resolution of adverse effects, the Navy submits that neither proposed construction action is complex or complicated by greater unknowns that might warrant the implementation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA). In contrast, the Navy concludes that the proposed METS project is better managed through a concise Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) and details its reasoning below.

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As opposed to a miles-long corridor project where the right-of-way may need to be adjusted in course, both METS construction actions entail demolition to "all or part" of the facilities that are sited in a confined Area of Potential Effects (APE).

As opposed to myriad constructions that could affect viewsheds over a large expanse, the proposed action to recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58 or install tension-fabric tent structures will occur in a small footprint that is decidedly industrial in appearance.

The Navy maintains that the recapitalization and creation of new facilities which closely resemble the WWII hangars or the introduction of tent structures do not have the potential to affect significant cultural resources. The Navy submits that the retention of Hangars 51, 55, and 56 and ancillary support buildings 51A, 56A, 56B will continue to convey the Criterion A association of the Landplane Hangars Historic District and its mission during WWII.

Demolition and deconstruction can incur potential effects on archaeological resources that may be located underfoot. Documentary evidence confirms that the NASCC airfield was significantly remodeled through grading and filling during its original construction in 1941. Numerous archaeological investigations conducted at the installation over many years have revealed that no archaeological sites are present at NASCC.

A large-scale Section 110 survey of the remaining undeveloped parcels (204 acres) was conducted in late 2021, also failing to identify archaeological resources. The Navy consulted your office on April 5, 2022, represented the negative findings, and concluded that the installation "in its entirety has been sufficiently surveyed...and that no further Phase I archaeological surveys will be need to be undertaken at NASCC. (Enclosure 3)." Your office concurred with these findings and the summary pronouncement regarding future surveys on April 22, 2022 (Enclosure 4). Notwithstanding this agreement, the Navy will immediately consult your office during the METS project in the remote event of inadvertent archaeological discovery pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13 and resolve the manner in which cultural resources are treated.

In keeping with consultation requirements associated with METS, the Navy has consulted Native American tribes with interest and affinity to prehistoric resources that may be sited on lands occupied by NASCC. As of this writing, no tribe has contested the proposed METS action. Although no archaeological sites, sacred sites, or Traditional Cultural Properties have been identified at the installation, the Navy will consult the tribes in the remote event that prehistoric resources or cultural items subject to the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) are inadvertently discovered in the course of construction.

The NAVFAC SE Historic Preservation Officer telephoned Ms. Kathy Wemer, President of the Nueces County Historical Commission (NCHC), on April 4, 2023. He described the METS action and its effects on historic properties located along the flight line. A longtime consulting party in matters regarding historic preservation at NASCC, President Wemer expressed her support of METS in the knowledge that the Navy has always upheld its historic preservation responsibilities while pursuing its critical air mission.

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Pursuant to 36 CFR 800.6(b)(iv), we have enclosed a draft Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) that proposes mitigations designed to compensate the loss of the subject properties (Enclosure 5).

In keeping with previous Navy undertakings, this instrument is provided to facilitate your review of the action and the manner in which the Navy proposes to offset adverse effects. It does not foreclose our obligation to continue consultation with your office, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, the Nueces County Historical Commission, and the general public with the intent to resolve disagreement and mitigate project effects.

We are confident that the MOA is a sufficient legal instrument that effectively mitigates impacts to historic properties while accommodating the critical and time-sensitive METS project.

SUMMARY

NASCC looks forward to continued consultation with your office regarding the METS project and the manner in which adverse effects will be mitigated. We will keep you apprised of funding issues which will dictate how Hangars 57 and 58 are affected and notify you if any substantive changes to the project are proposed.

Please contact NAVFAC SE Historic Preservation Officer Len Winter at leonard.e,winter2.civ@us.navy.mil or Staff Archaeologist Dr. John Calabrese at john.a.calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil if you develop questions or require clarification on any aspect of this proposal.

Thank you for supporting the Navy mission in Texas.

Sincerely,

M. B. OXENDINE, PE

Environmental Business Line Leader

By direction

of the Commanding Officer

Enclosures: 1. Beechcraft King 260 airplane

- 2. Landplane Hangar Historic District plan view and description
- 3. Navy letter to SHPO re Section 110 survey
- 4. SHPO email to Navy re Section 110 survey
- 5. Draft Memorandum of Agreement

Enclosure 1



Enclosure 1. Beechcraft King 260 airplane.

Enclosure 2

NAS Corpus Christi ICRMP, FY 2014-2019

FINAL REPORT

Table 4-4. Contributing Properties of the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District.

Facility	Name	Built Date	Status
46	CCAD Hangar 46	1941	Contributing
46B	Flammable Storage/CCAD	1942	Contributing
47	CCAD Hangar 47	1941	Contributing
47A	Storage Locker	1941	Contributing
47B	Ready Magazine/CCAD	1942	Contributing
A5	Fuse and Magazine	1941	Contributing
A6	High Explosives Magazine	1941	Contributing
A7	High Explosives Magazine	1941	Contributing
A11	Small Arms/Pyrotechnics Magazine	1942	Contributing
A14	Small Arms Magazine	1944	Contributing
B1	Small Craft Berth	1941	Contributing
B16	Catapult Pier	1942	Contributing
B18	Seaplane Ramp	1942	Contributing
B22	Boat Launch Area	1942	Contributing
B25	Crane Platform	1942	Contributing
B26	Seaplane Ramp	1942	Contributing
B27	Marina Boat Pier	1942	Contributing
B28	Seaplane Ramp	1942	Contributing
B29	Fishing Dock	1942	Contributing
201047	B32b, B-33 (Quay Wall), B33a, B34 and pier	1942	Contributing

Landplane Hangars Historic District

The Landplane Hangars Historic District is located between the Warehouse/Industrial district and the airfield, and consists of aircraft hangars and support facilities. Contributing properties include five hangars and six support facilities (Figures 4-17 and 4-18). The Landplane Hangars Historic District is directly related to the station's primary mission as a flight training activity and is eligible for inclusion in the NRHP under Criterion A for its contribution to naval aviation training efforts from World War II to 1947. Table 4-5 includes an inventory of all contributing properties within the Landplane Hangars Historic District and is based upon information presented in the Thomason and Associates (1994a) report and the 2000 NAS Corpus Christi ICRMP (Moore et al.). SEARCH (2013) made no recommendations for changing the Seaplane Hangars/Ramps Historic District.

FINAL REPORT

NAS Corpus Christi ICRMP, FY 2014-2019



Figure 4-17. Landplane Hangars Historic District. Photo taken December 2012, facing north.

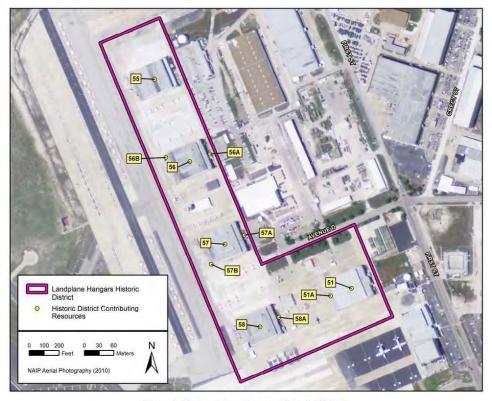


Figure 4-18. Landplane Hangars Historic District.

Chapter 4

4-48

NAS Corpus Christi ICRMP, FY 2014-2019

FINAL REPORT

Table 4-5. Contributing Properties of the Landplane Hangars Historic District.

Facility	Name	Built Date	Status
51	Hangar 51 Maint Hangar/AIMD	1942	Contributing
51A	Flammable Storage	1941	Contributing
55	Hangar 55 VT-35	1941	Contributing
56	Hangar 56 VT27/VT28	1941	Contributing
56A	Storage Locker/ VT28	1941	Contributing
56B	Ready Magazine/VT28	1942	Contributing
57	Hangar 57 VT31	1941	Contributing
57A	OPS/Hazardous/Flammable Storage VT28	1942	Contributing
57B	Ready Magazine VT28	1942	Contributing
58	Hangar 58 Air Operations Hangar	1941	Contributing
58A	Flammable Storage	1941	Contributing

Warehouse/Industrial Historic District

The Warehouse/Industrial Historic District is a concentration of aircraft support facilities located between the landplane and the seaplane hangars (Figure 4-19 and 4-20). The district contains infrastructure and repair facilities directly related to the station's prime mission as a naval aviation training center. The Warehouse/Industrial Historic District includes warehouses, storehouses, and repair shops dedicated to aircraft repair, as well as public works facilities necessary for the station's day-to-day operation. According to the 2000 ICRMP (Moore et al.), the district is significant for its association with the station's World War II training mission and is eligible for inclusion in the NHRP under Criterion A. Table 4-6 includes an inventory of all contributing properties within the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District and is based upon information presented in the Thomason and Associates (1994a) report and the 2000 NAS Corpus Christi ICRMP (Moore et al.). SEARCH (2013) recommended the 1994 boundaries of the Warehouse/Industrial Historic District be reduced so that noncontributing buildings were not included, and Figure 4-20 depicts the reduced boundary.



Figure 4-19. Facility 22. Photo taken September 2013, facing northeast.

4-49

Status of Knowledge

Enclosure 3



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY NAVAL FACILITIES ENGINEERING SYSTEMS COMMAND SOUTHEAST JACKSONVILLE, FL. 32212-0030

5090 Ser EV23/00261 April 5, 2022

Mr. Mark Wolfe, ED, SHPO Texas Historical Commission PO Box 12276 Austin, TX 78711-2276

SUBJECT: ARCHAEOLOGICAL SURVEY 204 ACRES

The Department of the Navy (DON) has completed an archaeological survey of approximately 204 acres at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi (NASCC), located in Nueces County, Texas. A copy of the Technical Report (THC #202110102) is attached for your review in accordance with the terms of Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966.

As described in our previous letter with respect to this project, dated 3 June 2021, the DON completed a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) study of the land base at NASCC. The results of this study, which identified the location of buried utilities, hazardous waste, hardened surfaces, "made-land" and previous archaeological survey areas, indicated that 204 acres of NASCC had the potential to contain archaeological resources that are accessible by Phase I survey methodology.

Between 16 January and 4 February 2022, Environmental Research Group, LLC completed a Phase I archaeological investigation at NASCC of the 204 acres that had the potential to contain archeological resources. This acreage was divided into eight survey blocks (A-H). The investigation included an intensive survey of subsurface shovel testing supplemented by pedestrian survey. Systematic shovel testing resulted in the excavation of 458 shovel test pits (STPs), none of which were positive for *in situ* cultural material.

Cultural material encountered during the survey primarily represents construction demolition and debris (CDD) in the form of unidentified metal, sheet metal roofing fragments, nails, bricks, concrete and asphalt. Other materials encountered, such as plastic, soda cans and glass shards are likely the result of the casual discard of refuse which then became mixed into the CDD fill and buried during subsequent development activities. A total of nine (9) prehistoric artifacts were recovered from seven (7) STPS in Survey Block C; these consisted of non-diagnostic chert flakes (n=7) and shell tools (n=2). All of these prehistoric artifacts were recovered from secondary depositional contexts and therefore do not represent intact archaeological deposits; they were therefore not assigned site designations. Accordingly, they were assigned Isolated Find designations 1 through 9.

Based on the results of this and previous survey efforts, combined with the GIS studies undertaken, the DON submits that the installation in its entirety has been sufficiently surveyed for archaeological resources. As stipulated in our letter of 4 June 2021, we have concluded that no further Phase I archaeological surveys will need to be undertaken at NASCC given the negative findings of this expansive investigation. The DON will continue to apprise your office of projects that have the potential to incur effects on historic architectural properties. However,

5090 Ser EV23/00261 April 5, 2022

all undertakings at NASCC will be represented as actions which warrant a finding of No Historic Properties Affected with respect to archeological resources.

As with all Navy projects, every construction contract and DON project aboard NASCC will carry safeguarding provisions which confirm that inadvertently discovered archaeological resources will be treated pursuant to 36 CFR 800.13. In similar regard, please note that this effort does not include the outlying fields managed by NASCC. These installations and other special-use areas managed by NASCC will continue to be subject to Section 106 consideration and consultation with your office, as warranted.

If you require additional information regarding this project, please contact Dr. John Calabrese, Naval Facilities Engineering Command Southeast Staff Archaeologist, at (904) 542-6985 or john.a.calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil.

Sincerely,

M. B. OXENDINE, PE

Environmental Business Line Leader

By direction

of the Commanding Officer

Enclosure

Copy to:

Mr. Biji Pandisseril, IEPD, NAS Corpus Christi

Enclosure 4

From: Winter, Leonard E CTV USN NAVEAC SE JAX FL (USA)
To: Winter, Leonard E CTV USN NAVEAC SE JAX FL (USA)

Subject: Section 106 Submission

Date: Monday, April 10, 2023 6:49:51 AM

Attachments: ~WRD000.ipg

From: noreply@thc.state.tx.us <noreply@thc.state.tx.us>

Sent: Friday, April 22, 2022 11:38 AM

To: Calabrese, John A CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) < john.a.calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil>;

reviews@thc.state.tx.us

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Section 106 Submission



Re: Project Review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act

THC Tracking #202208721

Date: 04/22/2022

NAS Corpus Christi Section 110, 204 Acres

NAS Corpus Christi

Description: Submission of Section 110 Report for concurrence pursuant to Section 110(a)(2) (D) of the NHPA.

Dear Dr. John Calabrese:

Thank you for your submittal regarding the above-referenced project. This response represents the comments of the State Historic Preservation Officer, the Executive Director of the Texas Historical Commission (THC), pursuant to review under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act.

The review staff, led by Jeff Durst, Caitlin Brashear and Alexander Shane, has completed its review and has made the following determinations based on the information submitted for review:

Archeology Comments

- No historic properties affected. However, if cultural materials are encountered during construction or disturbance activities, work should cease in the immediate area; work can continue where no cultural materials are present. Please contact the THC's Archeology Division at 512-463-6096 to consult on further actions that may be necessary to protect the cultural remains.
- · THC/SHPO concurs with information provided.

We look forward to further consultation with your office and hope to maintain a partnership that will foster effective historic preservation. Thank you for your cooperation in this review process, and for your efforts to preserve the irreplaceable heritage of Texas. If the project changes, or if new historic properties are found, please contact the review staff. If you have any questions concerning our review or if we can be of further assistance, please email the following reviewers: Jeft.Durst@thc.texas.gov, caitlin.brashear@thc.texas.gov, Alexander.Shane@thc.texas.gov.

This response has been sent through the electronic THC review and compliance system (eTRAC). Submitting your project via eTRAC eliminates mailing delays and allows you to check the status of the review, receive an electronic response, and generate reports on your submissions. For more information, visit http://thc.texas.gov/etrac-system.

Sincerely,



for Mark Wolfe, State Historic Preservation Officer Executive Director, Texas Historical Commission

Please do not respond to this email.

Enclosure 5

MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT BETWEEN THE UNITED STATES NAVY AND

THE TEXAS STATE HISTORIC PRESERVATION OFFICER REGARDING

THE DEMOLITION OF HANGARS 57 AND 58 AND SUPPORT BUILDINGS 57A, 57B, and 58A AT

NAVAL AIR STATION CORPUS CHRISTI NUECES COUNTY, TEXAS

WHEREAS, the United States Navy (Navy) is planning to implement the critical Multi-Engine Training System (METS) at NAS Corpus Christi (NASCC) which entails the introduction of new training aircraft along the flight line; and,

WHEREAS, Hangars 51, 55, 56, 57, and 58, and support buildings 56A, 56B, 57A, 57B, and 58A along the flight line are contributing resources of the Landplane Hangars Historic District found eligible under Criterion A for its association with World War II (WWII) history; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy has concluded that the WWII hangars have exceeded their "life expectancy" and do not afford sufficient interior space to support METS; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy has concluded that Hangars 57 and 58 are optimally sited on the flight line to support METS; and,

WHEREAS, the Navy is currently evaluating alternative construction options that include the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 to support METS; and,

WHEREAS, the demolition option would entail razing Hangars 57 and 58 and constructing in their footprint a single large replacement hangar or multiple fabric-tension structures to house training aircraft; and,

WHEREAS, the recapitalization option would entail deconstructing Hangars 57 and 58 to their structural frames and rebuilding the facilities to accommodate METS space requirements in compliance with current building and safety codes; and,

WHEREAS, the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 both entail "physical destruction of or damage to all or part" of Hangars 57 and 58 and constitute an adverse effect pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i); and,

WHEREAS, the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 will prompt the demolition of non-functional WWII storage buildings 57A, 57B, and 58A due to their loss of historical association; and,

WHEREAS, storage buildings 57A, 57B, and 58A are contributing resources of the Landplane Hangars Historic District and their demolition constitutes an adverse effect pursuant to 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i); and,

WHEREAS, in accordance with 36 CFR Section 800.6(a)(1)(iii), the ACHP has elected/declined to participate in consultation regarding METS; and,

NOW, THEREFORE, the Navy (and consulting parties) agree that the undertaking shall be implemented in accordance with the following stipulations in order to take into account the effect of the undertaking on historic properties.

I. STIPULATIONS

The Navy agrees to undertake the following actions to mitigate the demolition or recapitalization of Hangars 57 and 58 and the demolition of support facilities 57A, 57B, and 58A (Subject Properties):

- The Navy will contact the SHPO when program funding is received and represent a final decision on demolishing or recapitalizing the Subject Properties in support of METS.
- 2. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will coordinate the salvage and removal of select structural elements from the Subject Properties for potential use in extant World War II hangars at NASCC or other installations in the Southeastern Area of Operations (AOR). Such elements including windows, doors, and hardware fixtures will be inventoried and curated at the installation in secure and environmentally-regulated conditions. The Navy will provide a roster of all recovered items and circulate the list to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- 3. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will ensure that original "asbuilt" drawings of the Subject Properties are located and adequately curated. The Navy does not anticipate that Historic American Building Survey documentation of the Subject Properties is required. The Navy will convey all "as-built" drawings to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- 4. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will endeavor to locate all historic photographs of the Subject Properties. The Navy will convey digital copies of available historic photographs to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.

- 5. Prior to demolition or recapitalization, the Navy will undertake digital photographic documentation of the Subject Properties. The photography shall conform to the requirements of NPS National Register Photo Policy Factsheet found at: http://www.nps.gov/nr/publications/bulletins/photopolicy/index.htm. The format, number, and type of photographs shall be determined in consultation with the SHPO. The Navy will convey all photographic documentation to the SHPO within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument.
- 6. Following salvage recovery and drawing/photographic documentation, the consulting parties will review the records. Once those records are approved and deemed sufficient by all consulting parties, the Navy will demolish or recapitalize the Subject Properties at its earliest convenience.
- 7. The Navy will represent the history of the Subject Resources in text and photographs on the NASCC public website. All such content and the manner in which it is presented will be coordinated with the consulting parties. The Navy will create the public website within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument
- 8. Following the completion of all ground construction actions associated with METS, NASCC will erect a commemorative sign in the Landplane Hangars Historic District that depicts the Subject Properties and their role in the WWII mission. The Navy will coordinate the contents of the sign with all the consulting parties. The Navy will erect signage at a safe location within 270 calendar days following the final execution of this instrument

II. ADMINISTRATIVE STIPULATIONS

A. Resolving Objections

1. Should any signatory or concurring party to this MOA object to any action carried out or proposed by the Navy with respect to the implementation of this agreement, the Navy shall consult with the objecting party to attempt resolution of the objection. If after initiating such consultation, the Navy determines that the objection cannot be resolved through consultation, the Navy will forward all documentation relevant to the disagreement to the ACHP, including the Navy's proposed response to the objection. The ACHP shall provide the Navy with its advice on the resolution of the objection within thirty (30) days of receiving adequate documentation. Prior to reaching a final decision on the dispute, the Navy shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely advice or comments regarding the dispute from the ACHP, signatories and concurring parties, and provide them with a copy of this written response. The Navy will then proceed according to its final decision.

- 2. If the ACHP does not provide its advice regarding the dispute within the thirty (30) day time period, the Navy may make a final decision on the dispute and proceed accordingly. Prior to reaching such a final decision, the Navy shall prepare a written response that takes into account any timely comments regarding the dispute from the signatories and concurring parties to the MOA, and provide them and the ACHP with a copy of such written response.
 - The Navy's responsibility to carry out all actions under this MOA that are not subject to the dispute shall remain unchanged.
 - 4. At any time during implementation of the measures stipulated in this MOA, should an objection pertaining to this MOA be raised by a member of the public, the Navy shall notify the parties to this MOA and take the objection into account, consulting with the objector and, should the objector so request, with any of the parties to this MOA in an attempt to resolve the objection.

B. Amendments and Termination

- This MOA may be amended when such an amendment is agreed to in writing by all signatories. The amendment will be effective on the date a copy signed by all of the signatories is filed with the ACHP.
- If the Navy determines that it cannot implement the terms of this MOA, or if any party determines that the MOA is not properly implemented, the Navy and/or its consulting parties may propose to the other parties that the MOA be terminated.
- The party proposing to terminate this MOA shall so notify all parties to this MOA, explaining the reasons for termination and affording them at least thirty (30) calendar days to consult and seek alternatives to termination, including amendment per Stipulation II.B.1.
- Should such consultation fail and the MOA be terminated, the Navy shall
 ensure that each action that would otherwise be covered by this MOA is
 reviewed in accordance with 36 CFR §800.4 through 800.6.

C. MOA Duration

This MOA shall be null and void if its terms are not carried out within ten (10)) years from the date of its execution unless the signatories agree in writing to an extension for carrying out its terms. The Navy shall notify the signatories when it has determined that all of the stipulations have been implemented.

III. ANTI-DEFICIENCY ACT

- A. All requirements set forth in this MOA requiring the expenditure of Government funds are expressly subject to the availability of appropriations and the requirements of the Anti-Deficiency Act, 31 U.S.C. Part 1341. No obligation of this MOA shall require or be construed to require a commitment by the Navy to expend funds not appropriated for a legally sufficient purpose.
- B. The obligations of this MOA as to the Navy are severable. If the Navy cannot perform any obligation set forth in this MOA because of the unavailability of funds, the parties intend that the remainder of the MOA be executed to the greatest extent practicable. The parties agree to consult in accordance with Stipulation II.B on any obligation of the MOA that cannot be performed because of the unavailability of funds.

IV. EXECUTION

Captain Tv Jurica

Execution of this MOA by the Navy and its consulting parties, and implementation of its terms, confirms that the Navy has afforded the ACHP an opportunity to comment on the Project and its effects on historic properties, and that the Navy has taken into account the effects of the Project on historic properties.

PRINCIPAL SIGNATORIES

Commanding Officer, NAS Corpus Christ	i
By:	Date:
Texas State Historic Preservation Officer Mr. Mark Wolfe	
By:	Date:
The Advisory Council on Historic Preserv Reid Nelson, Director	ation
By:	Date:

CONCURRING SIGNATORIES	
Nucces County Historical Commissio Kathy Wemer, President	n
By:	Date:
	6

Appendix D Tribal Government-to-Government Documentation

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Goodwin, Sara R CIV USN NAVFAC LANT NOR VA (USA) From:

Farrell, Peggy [US-US]

EXTERNAL: PW: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: OFFICIAL SECTION 106 CORRESPONDENCE: NAS Subject: Corpus Christi/Multi-Engine Training System

Date: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 11:22:01 AM

Attachments: image003.png

FYSA.

From: Winter, Leonard E CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) <leonard.e.winter2.civ@us.navy.mil>

Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 10:01 AM

To: Goodwin, Sara R CIV USN NAVFAC LANT NOR VA (USA) <sara.r.goodwin.civ@us.navy.mil> Cc: Calabrese, John A CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) < john.a.calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil>

Subject: FW: [URL Verdict: Neutral] [Non-DoD Source] RE: OFFICIAL SECTION 106 CORRESPONDENCE: NAS Corpus Christi/Multi-Engine Training System

FYL

From: Winter, Leonard E CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA)

Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 10:00 AM

To: Carissa Speck <cspeck@delawarenation-nsn.gov>

Subject: RE: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: OFFICIAL SECTION 106 CORRESPONDENCE:

NAS Corpus Christi/Multi-Engine Training System

Ms. Speck,

Thank you for the speed-of-light response.

Len

From: Carissa Speck < cspeck@delawarenation-nsn.gov>

Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 9:45 AM

To: Winter, Leonard E CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) < leonard.e.winter2.civ@us.navy.mil>

Subject: [URL Verdict: Neutral][Non-DoD Source] RE: OFFICIAL SECTION 106 CORRESPONDENCE:

NAS Corpus Christi/Multi-Engine Training System

The Delaware Nation does not have any contrary information. Nueces County is outside of our area of interest. Thank you.

Wanishi,

Carissa Speck

Delaware Nation

Historic Preservation Director

405-247-2448 Ext. 1403

rspeck@delawarenation-nsn.gov

From: Winter, Leonard E CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) < leonard.e.winter2.civ@us.navv.mil>

Sent: Wednesday, April 19, 2023 8:13 AM

To: Carissa Speck < cspeck@delawarenation-nsn.gov>

Subject: OFFICIAL SECTION 106 CORRESPONDENCE: NAS Corpus Christi/Multi-Engine Training

System

THIS LETTER CONSTITUTES OFFICIAL SECTION 106 CORRESPONDENCE

Dear Director Speck:

The Navy invites the Delaware Nation to consult in the matter of the Navy proposal to demolish Hangars 57 and 58 and small ancillary facilities 57A, 57B, and 58A in support of the Multi-Engine Training System (METS) at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi (NASCC), Nueces County, Texas. These hangars and ancillary facilities are contributing resources to the Landplane Hangars Historic District at NASCC and their demolition constitutes an adverse effect under 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i). This undertaking and its effects are being considered under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, and its implementing regulations found at 36 CFR 800.

We are inviting you to comment on potential effects to cultural resources that may be esteemed by your tribe.

MISSION REQUIREMENTS

Pilot training is the primary operational role of NASCC and METS represents the latest critical evolution in aviation training. NASCC serves as the primary training facility for multi-engine aircraft and the failure to accommodate the METS program jeopardizes Navy, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard pilot instruction as well as Navy readiness throughout the globe. The METS program will replace the T-44C Pegasus aircraft currently operated by Training Air Wing Four at NASCC with the Beechcraft King 260, a new multi-engine turboprop aircraft. The transition to the new training platform will occur in late 2024.

Airfield space at NASCC is limited and predominated by World War II (WWII) hangars 51, 55, 56, 57, and 58 and small support buildings 51A, 56A, 56B, 57A, 57B, and 58A. Given the optimal airfield location of Hangars 57 and 58, the Navy proposes to demolish or recapitalize these facilities in service to the METS program.

PROPOSED ACTION AND POTENTIAL EFFECTS

The Navy is currently evaluating whether to demolish or recapitalize Hangars 57 and 58. Both construction actions incur an adverse effect under 36 CFR 800.5(a)(2)(i) in that they involve the "physical destruction of or damage to all or part" of the facilities.

Demolition as well as new construction can incur potential effects on prehistoric and historic

archaeological resources that may be located underfoot. Documentary evidence confirms that the NASCC airfield was significantly remodeled through grading and major filling during its original construction in 1941. Numerous archaeological investigations conducted at NASCC over many years have identified no archaeological sites. A large-scale Section 110 survey of the remaining undeveloped parcels at NASCC was conducted in late 2021. This survey also failed to identify archaeological resources. The Navy received concurrence from the Texas SHPO that the installation "in its entirety has been sufficiently surveyed...and that no further Phase I archaeological surveys will need to be undertaken at NASCC."

Given known disturbances on the airfield, the Navy has concluded that the METS action is unlikely to encounter archaeological resources in the course of construction. In the remote event that prehistoric archaeological resources are identified, the Navy will contact your tribe and implement inadvertent discovery provisions under 36 CFR 800.13 as stipulated in the NASCC Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan. In similar regard, the Navy will follow the provisions of the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (25 U.S.C. 3001 et seq.) and contact your tribe in the remote event that cultural items are inadvertently discovered in the course of construction.

As of this writing, the tribes with cultural affinity to the region have identified no sacred sites or Traditional Cultural Properties at NASCC, Please let us know if the Delaware Nation is in possession of contrary information so that we can improve the management of cultural resources at NASCC.

SUMMARY

We have concluded that the proposed METS project will not incur effects on Native American cultural resources at NASCC. Please contact me or Staff Archaeologist Dr. John Calabrese at lohn.a.calabrese4.civ@us.navy.mil if you develop questions or require clarification on any aspect of this proposal.

We would appreciate your email response to this proposed action no later than 19 May 2023.

Thank you for supporting the Navy mission in Texas.

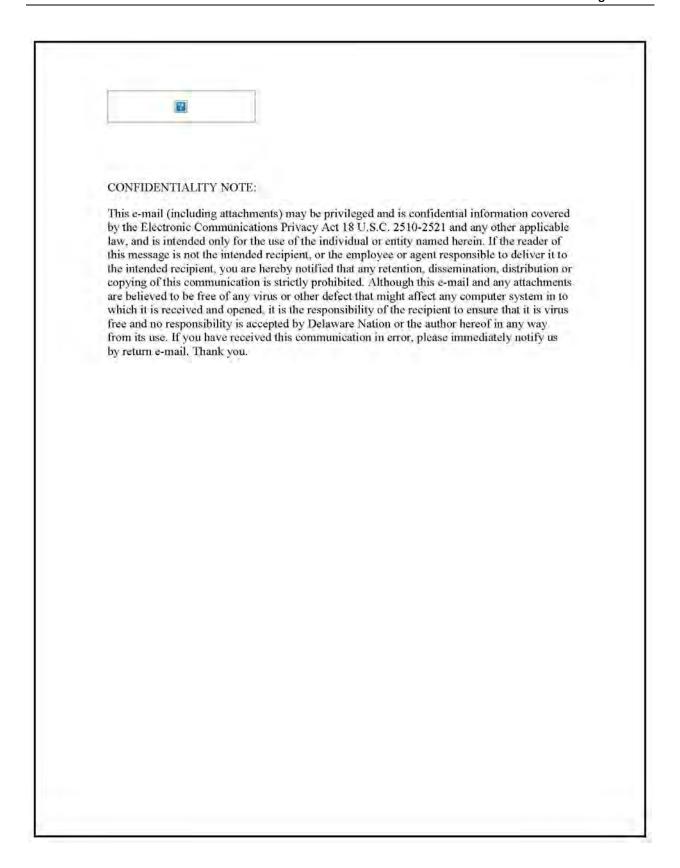
Sincerely,

Len Winter
Historic Preservation Officer
Cultural Resources Section Head
NAVY REGION SOUTHEAST/NAVFAC SOUTHEAST
BOX 30/BLDG 135N
NAS Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL 32212

Email: leonard.e.winter2.civ@us.navv.mil



CELL: (904) 814-3199



Appendix E Coastal Consistency Determination

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TEXAS GENERAL LAND OFFICE COMMISSIONER DAWN BUCKINGHAM, M.D.

July 28, 2023

NASCC PW EV 8851 Ocean Dr. Bldg. 19 Corpus Christi, TX 78419 ATTN: Biji Pandisseril

Re: Replace aircraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training program, includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi (NASCC)

NASCC, Naval Outlying Landing Field Cabaniss; international, regional, and publicly owned municipal airfields; and Federal Aviation Administration's National Airspace System throughout South Texas Texas CMP#: 23-1251-F2

Dear Mr. Pandisseril:

Based on information provided to the Texas Coastal Management Program (TCMP) on the above referenced project, it has been determined that the project will likely not have adverse impacts on coastal natural resource areas (CNRAs) in the coastal zone and is consistent with the goals and policies of the TCMP. However, siting and construction should avoid and minimize impacts to CNRAs.

Please note that this letter does not authorize the use of Coastal Public Land. No work may be conducted, or structures placed on State-owned land until all necessary authorizations have been obtained, including any that are required by the Texas General Land Office and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. If a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers permit is required, it will be subject to consistency review under the Texas Coastal Management Program.

Please forward this letter to applicable parties. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact me at (512) 463-7497 or at federal.consistency@glo.texas.gov.

Sincerely,

Leslie Koza

Federal Consistency Coordinator

Texas General Land Office

Leslie Koza

1700 North Congress Avenue, Austin, Texas 78701-1495
 P.O. Box 12873, Austin, Texas 78711-2873
 512-463-5001 glo.texas.gov

Country US Email biji.a.pandisseril.civ@us.navy.mil Fax The Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) coordinates state, local, and the management of Texas coastal resources. Activities within the CMP boundary must compolicies of the Texas Coastal Management Program and be conducted in a manner control boundary definition is contained in the CMP rules (31 TAC §27.1). To determine whether your proposed activity lies within the CMP boundary, please of Consistency Staff at federal.consistency@glo.texas.gov PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Is the proposed activity at a waterfront site or within coastal, tidal, or navigable waters? Is the proposed activity water dependent? Yes No (31 TAC §26.3(a)(14)) https://tinyurl.com/TXCMPdefinitions Please briefly describe the project and all possible effects on coastal resources: The Navy proposes to replace the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training properated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four (TRAWING 4), located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. The 54 T-44 new T-54A aircraft. The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T in the number of operations. The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christi in Texas and its associated training Landing Field (NOLF) Cabaniss, at International, regional, and municipal airfields; and in the Federal Aviation Administration's (1900).		FOR USACE USE OF PERMIT # PROJECT MGR:	RCES-FEDERAL CONSISTENCY GRESS AVENUE, ROOM 330 8701-1495 glo.texas.gov	WITH APPLICAT AS GENERAL L STAL RESOUR NORTH CONGI TIN, TEXAS 787 al.consistency@g	TEXAS (COASTA 1700 NO AUSTIN federal.co
Mailing Address NAS Corpus Christi, 8851 Ocean Dr., Bldg 19 Work 36 City Corpus Christi State TX Zip Code 78419 Mobile Country US Email biji.a.pandisseril.civ@us.navy.mil Fax The Texas Coastal Management Program (CMP) coordinates state, local, and management of Texas coastal resources. Activities within the CMP boundary must copolicies of the Texas Coastal Management Program and be conducted in a manner con The boundary definition is contained in the CMP rules (31 TAC §27.1). To determine whether your proposed activity lies within the CMP boundary, please of Consistency Staff at federal.consistency@glo.texas.gov PROJECT DESCRIPTION: Is the proposed activity at a waterfront site or within coastal, tidal, or navigable waters? Yes If Yes, name affected coastal, tidal, or navigable waters: Is the proposed activity water dependent? Yes No (31 TAC §26.3(a)(14)) https://tinyurl.com/TXCMPdefinitions Please briefly describe the project and all possible effects on coastal resources: The Navy proposes to replace the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus airoraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training properated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four (TRAWING 4), located at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi. The 54 T-44 new T-54A aircraft. The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as In the number of operations. The Proposed Action would take place at NAS Corpus Christ in Texas and its associated training Landing Fleid (NOLF) Cabaniss; at international, regional, and municipal airfields; and in the Federal Avaition Administrations.	Sugg.	74 - 4600			-
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throughout South Texas. The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilitie Attachment 1 provides more detail of the project description, and Figures 1 through 3 show the locations. The proposed activity coastal management program and will be conduced in a manner consistent with such program.			ning Air Wing Four (TRAWING 4), located at N ircraft would conduct training operations at the		operated by Cor new T-54A aircr
Indicate area of impact: See Figures 1, 2, and 3	-44C aircraft would be replaced by 58 s T-44C aircraft but with an increase ng locations at Naval Outlying 's (FAA's) National Airspace System littles at NAS Corpus Christi.	xas and its associated training locations leral Aviation Administration's (FAA's) N rojects for Navy support facilities at NAS	is; at international, regional, and municipal airfic Proposed Action also includes short- and long- efail of the project description, and Figures 1 th	A aircraft. The new airc ber of operations. The ield (NOLF) Cabaniss; t South Texas. The Pro at 1 provides more deta	Landing Field (N throughout Soul Attachment 1 pr
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Water Quality Certification - Date application submitted: Other state/federal/local permits/authorizations required:	-44C aircraft would be replaced by 58- st-44C aircraft but with an increase ng locations at Naval Outlying 's (FAA's) National Airspace System titles at NAS Corpus Christi. Aity complies with Texas' approved	kas and its associated training locations leral Aviation Administration's (FAA's) N rojects for Navy support facilities at NAS ocations. The proposed activity complies	is, at international, regional, and municipal airflioroposed Action also includes short- and long-letail of the project description, and Figures 1 th and will be conduced in a manner consistent where the second state of the se	A aircraft. The new aircraft of operations. The leid (NOLF) Cabaniss; t South Texas. The Profit 1 provides more detanagement program area of impact: ONAL PERMITATE ASSET OF	Landing Field (httroughout Soull throughout Soull Attachment 1 proposed a manage and indicate area and a Coastal Coastal Coastal Stormy

The proposed activity must not adversely affect coastal natural resource areas (CNRAs).				
PLEASE CHECK ALL COASTAL NATURAL RESOURCE AREAS THAT MAY BE AFFECTED:				
Coastal Barriers Critical Erosion Areas Submerged Lands				
Coastal Historic Areas Gulf Beaches Submerged Aquatic Vegetation				
Coastal Preserves Hard Substrate Reefs Tidal Sand or Mud Flats				
Coastal Shore Areas Oyster Reefs Waters of Gulf of Mexico				
☐ Coastal Wetlands ☐ Special Hazard Areas ☐ Waters Under Tidal Influence				
Critical Dune Areas				
The applicant affirms that the proposed activity, its associated facilities, and their probable effects comply with the relevant enforce policies of the CMP, and that the proposed activity will be conducted in a manner consistent with such policies.	ıble			
PLEASE CHECK ALL APPLICABLE ENFORCEABLE POLICIES:				
https://tinyurl.com/TXCMPpolicies				
§26.15 Policy for Major Actions				
§26.16 Policies for Construction of Electric Generating and Transmission Facilities				
§26.17 Policies for Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Facilities				
§26.18 Policies for Discharges of Wastewater and Disposal of Waste from Oil and Gas				
Exploration and Production Activities S26 10 Policies for Construction and Operation of Solid Wests Treatment Storage and Disposel				
Facilities	§26.19 Policies for Construction and Operation of Solid Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities			
§26.20 Policies for Prevention, Response and Remediation of Oil Spills	§26.20 Policies for Prevention, Response and Remediation of Oil Spills			
§26.21 Policies for Discharge of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater to Coastal Waters				
§26.22 Policies for Nonpoint Source (NPS) Water Pollution				
§26.23 Policies for Development in Critical Areas				
§26.24 Policies for Construction of Waterfront Facilities and Other Structures on Submerged Lands				
§26.25 Policies for Dredging and Dredged Material Disposal and Placement				
§26.26 Policies for Construction in the Beach/Dune System				
§26.27 Policies for Development in Coastal Hazard Areas				
\$26.28 Policies for Development Within Coastal Barrier Resource System Units and Otherwise Protected Areas on Coastal Barriers				
§26.29 Policies for Development in State Parks, Wildlife Management Areas or Preserves				
§26.30 Policies for Alteration of Coastal Historic Areas				
§26.31 Policies for Transportation Projects				
§26.32 Policies for Emission of Air Pollutants				
§26.33 Policies for Appropriations of Water				
§26.34 Policies for Levee and Flood Control Projects				

Please explain how the proposed project is consistent with the applicable enforceable policies identified above. Please use additional sheets if necessary. For example: If you are constructing a pier with a covered boathouse, then the applicable enforceable policy is: §26.24 Policies for Construction of Waterfront Facilities and Other Structures on Submerged Lands. The project is consistent because it will not interfere with navigation, natural coastal processes, and avoids/minimizes shading.

Section 26.21 Policies for Discharge of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater to Coastal Waters

The Proposed Action (Future Project Options 1 and 2) would include land disturbance associated with demolition and construction exceeding one acre in area. The land disturbance would potentially result in discharges of stormwater runoff from the construction site to area waters. Prior to beginning land-disturbing actions, the Navy would obtain Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit TXR150000 and abide by the permit conditions. By obtaining and abiding by the permit, the Proposed Action would not impair or degrade coastal waters and would comply with water-quality-based effluent.

Section 26.32 Policies for Emission of Air Pollutants

The Proposed Action has the potential to increase emissions of criteria pollutants associated with construction and flight operations. Counties in the region of influence within the Texas Coastal Zone include Matagorda, Calhoun, Nueces, and Cameron Counties. These counties are currently in attainment for all criteria pollutants. Construction emissions would result from proposed demolition, renovation, and new construction on NAS Corpus Christi. Emissions would be localized and temporary. With the direction of the prevailing winds, the ground-level emissions would be quickly entrained downwind to the north and west of the flightline. However, as the ambient criteria pollutant concentrations in the region are well below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), anticipated air quality changes from construction would not interfere with the attainment of NAAQS. Emissions from flight operations would increase due to the 10 percent proposed increase in operations. The region of influence is in attainment for all NAAQS, and the increase would not be considered significant. Therefore, the Proposed Action is consistent with this enforceable policy.

BY SIGNING THIS STATEMENT, THE APPLICANT IS STATING THAT THE PROPOSED ACTIVITY COMPLIES WITH THE TEXAS COASTAL MANAGEMENT PROGRAM AND WILL BE CONDUCTED IN A MANNER CONSISTENT WITH SUCH PROGRAM

Signature of Applicant/Agent

Date

Any questions regarding the Texas Coastal Management Program should be referred to:

Texas General Land Office Coastal Resources Division 1700 North Congress Avenue, Room 330 Austin, Texas 78701-1495 Phone: (512) 463-7497

Toll Free: 1-800-998-4GLO federal.consistency@glo.texas.gov

Print Form

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May 2023

Coastal Consistency Determination

Multi-Engine Training System at Naval Air Station Corpus Christi, Texas

INTRODUCTION

This document provides the state of Texas with the United States (U.S.) Department of the Navy's (Navy) Consistency Determination under section 307(c)(1) of the Coastal Zone Management Act (CZMA) of 1972, as amended, and 15 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) part 930, subpart C, for the proposed activities at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi.

This Consistency Determination addresses the Proposed Action (Preferred Alternative, Alternative 1) of the Environmental Assessment for the Multi-Engine Training System at NAS Corpus Christi, Texas. The Proposed Action would replace the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft used for the maritime flight training program. The training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four located at NAS Corpus Christi. The Proposed Action includes replacement of 54 T-44C aircraft with 58 T-54A aircraft. The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. To accommodate the new aircraft, construction and renovation of Navy support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi would be required.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to replace T-44C aircraft that are over 40 years old and require upgrades to address existing training capability gaps. The T-44C fleet is nearing the end of its service life and has outdated avionics, limited availability of parts, and increased maintenance costs. The replacement of aircraft would provide advanced instrumentation for communication, navigation, and tracking aircraft health to facilitate maintenance planning and efficiency. The need for the Proposed Action is to enable continued aviator training in furtherance of the Navy's mandate to train and equip Naval forces for the peacetime promotion of the national security interests and prosperity of the United States and prompt and sustained combat incident to operations at sea.

REGULATORY BACKGROUND INFORMATION

The CZMA of 1972, codified in 16 U.S. Code section 1451 et seq., established a comprehensive regulatory scheme for effective management, beneficial use, protection, and development of the coastal zone and its natural resources. The CZMA encourages coastal states and provides a mechanism for them to develop, obtain federal approval for, and implement a broad-based coastal management program.

CZMA section 307 provides that federal agency activities shall be carried out in a manner which is consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the enforceable policies of approved state management programs. Section 307 applies to federal agency activity in a state's coastal zone and also to federal agency activity outside the coastal zone if the activity affects a land or water use in or natural resources of the coastal zone. Federal agency activity includes activity performed by a federal agency, approved by a federal agency, or for which a federal agency provides financial assistance. Such activity, whether direct, indirect, or cumulative, must be demonstrated to be consistent with the enforceable policies of the Texas Coastal Management Program, unless full consistency is otherwise prohibited by federal law (per 15 CFR part 930.32, "consistent to the maximum extent practicable"). The Navy's Proposed Action constitutes a direct federal action.

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DESCRIPTION OF THE PROPOSED FEDERAL AGENCY ACTION

The Navy proposes to replace the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft used for the multi-engine maritime flight training program. This training program is operated by Commander, Training Air Wing Four located at NAS Corpus Christi. Fifty-four T-44C Pegasus aircraft would be replaced by 58 new T-54A aircraft. T-54A aircraft would be delivered from 2024 to 2026, and proposed construction would begin in 2024 and continue through 2027. The T-44C Pegasus and the T-54A are both twin-engine, pressurized, fixed-wing monoplane aircraft derived from the Beechcraft King Air/Super King Air line of commercial aircraft (Figure 1). Aircraft specifications are presented in Table 1.





Figure 1 T-44C Pegasus (left) and T-54A [King Air 260] (right)

Table 1 Aircraft Specifications

Aircraft Specifications	T-44C	T-54A
Length	35.5 feet	43.8 feet
Height	14.25 feet	14.83 feet
Wingspan	50.25 feet	57.91 feet
Weight (empty)	6,246 pounds	8,830 pounds
Weight (maximum takeoff)	9,650 pounds	12,500 pounds
Ceiling	31,300 feet	35,000 feet
Range	1,300 nautical miles	1,720 nautical miles
Maximum airspeed	245 knots	310 knots
Crew	3	3

Sources: (Navy, 2021; Navy, ND)

The new aircraft would conduct training operations at the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with a 10 percent increase in the number of annual operations. Approximately 7 percent of the operations would occur at night, the same percentage of operations as occurs with the T-44C. Figure 2 shows the locations of the airfields that the T-54A would utilize. Table 2 and Table 3 detail these changes.

Airfield operations include takeoffs, landings, touch-and-goes, low approaches, and simulated emergency landings. An approach and departure from an airfield are considered two airfield operations that occur with one landing. A practice approach can end in a full-stop landing, touch-and-go, or low approach (no landing). Landing requirements include the following:

- · Full-stop landing is a typical landing ending with the aircraft stopping and exiting the runway.
- Touch-and-go operations are when the student pilot lands (touches down) and then takes off again
 without coming to a stop; the "touch-and-go" is considered two operations but a single landing. As
 many as five or six aircraft may enter the landing pattern at an airfield, sequentially performing
 touch-and-go operations.

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- Low approach is a practice approach without landing followed by a go-around maneuver.
- Simulated emergency landings are performed while in the landing pattern at surrounding airfields.
 During a simulated landing, the student pilot practices landing the aircraft under a simulated emergency condition, under the instruction and direct supervision of a qualified instructor pilot.

The Proposed Action also includes short- and long-term construction projects for Navy support facilities but no changes in personnel at NAS Corpus Christi. The locations of these activities are depicted in Figure 3. Proposed construction would begin in 2024 and continue through 2027.

Table 4 shows the proposed change in number of aircraft associated with the Proposed Action. There would be no increase in the number of personnel associated with the Proposed Action.

Table 2 Current and Projected Use of Navy Airfields

Name	FAA Identifier	Baseline T-44C Aircraft Operations	Proposed Action Projected T-54A Operations
Truax Field	NGP	32,760	36,000
NOLF Cabaniss	NGW	56,012	61,600
TOTAL		88,772	97,600

Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration; NOLF = Naval Outlying Landing Field. Note: Proposed Action includes a 10 percent increase in operations.

Table 3 Current and Projected Use of Non-Navy Airfields

Name	FAA Identifier	Baseline T-44C Aircraft Operations ¹	Proposed Action Projected T-54A Operations ^{1,2}
Alice International Airport	ALI	28,200	31,000
Calhoun County Airport	PKV	3,600	3,900
Corpus Christi International Airport	CRP	20,800	22,900
Palacios Municipal Airport	PSX.	5,200	5,700
Port Isabel-Cameron County Airport	PIL	11,000	12,000
Valley International Airport	HRL	14,800	16,300
Victoria Regional Airport	VCT	4,900	5,400
Other		7,400	8,200
TOTAL		95,900	105,400

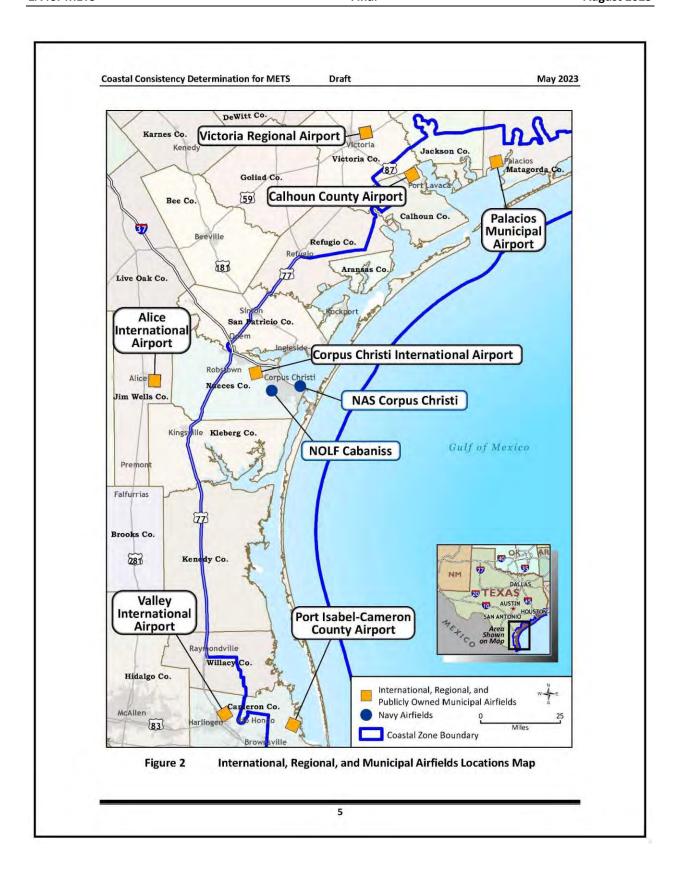
Key: FAA = Federal Aviation Administration.

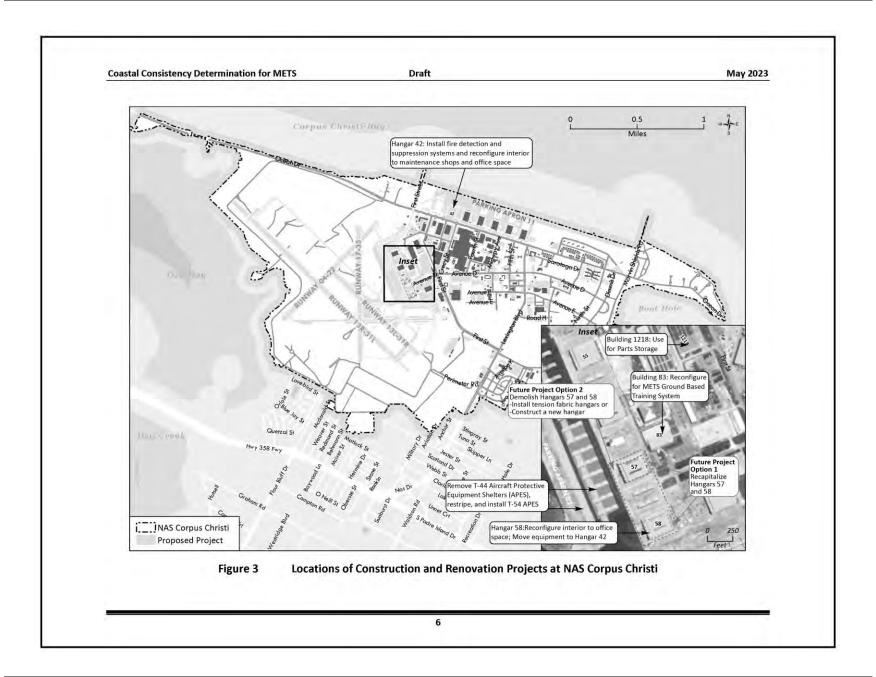
Notes:

- 1. Numbers are rounded to nearest hundred.
- 2. Proposed Action includes a 10 percent increase in operations.

Table 4 Comparison of Navy T-44C and T-54A Aircraft and Personnel

Aircraft and Personnel Numbers	Baseline (T-44C)	Proposed Action (T-54A)
Aircraft		
Number of Aircraft	54	.58
Personnel		
Students	110	110
Instructors	55	55
Maintenance	175 (Contractor)	175 (Contractor)
Total Personnel	340	340





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DETERMINATION OF POTENTIAL EFFECTS

In accordance with 15 CFR part 930 subpart C, the Navy reviewed its Proposed Action and has determined that certain activities that would be conducted as part of the Proposed Action may have an effect on a coastal use or resource of the State of Texas.

The Proposed Action would generate air emissions through the combustion of fuels from aircraft operations and construction equipment as well as from ground disturbance during construction, resulting in minor effects to coastal air quality. The Proposed Action would also generate point source water discharge from construction and demolition of Navy support facilities resulting in minor effects to coastal water quality.

ANALYSIS OF ENFORCEABLE POLICIES

Table 5 lists each of the enforceable program policies and management principles for the Texas Coastal Zone Management Program. The table describes how the activities in the Proposed Action will be consistent with each applicable policy.

CONCLUSION

The Navy has reviewed Texas' Coastal Zone Management Program and determined that two of the enforceable policies (or portions thereof) are applicable to the Proposed Action, as analyzed above.

The Navy will be consistent to the maximum extent practicable with the policies of the Texas Coastal Zone Management Program.

REFERENCES

Navy. (2021). Multi-engine Training System (METS) Concept of Operations, Corpus Christi: Chief of Naval Air Training.

Navy. (ND). T-44C Pegasus Aircraft Profile. Corpus Christi: Training Air Wing Four. Retrieved July 7, 2021, from https://www.cnatra.navy.mil/tw4/vt31/aircraft-T44C.asp.

Table 5 Texas Coastal Zone Management Program Consistency Review

Policy or State Plan Section #	Policy/Requirement	Navy Response to Policy
Section 26.1	15 Policy for Major Actions	
26.15	Major Actions	The policy pertains to proposed actions requiring an environmental impact statement. The Proposed Action does not require an environmental impact statement and is being analyzed in an environmental assessment. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.1	16 Policies for Construction of Electric Generating and Tra	nsmission Facilities
26.16	Construction of Electric Generating and Transmission Facilities	The Proposed Action does not include construction of electric generating or transmission facilities. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.1	17 Policies for Construction, Operation, and Maintenance	of Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Facilities
26.17	Construction, Operation, and Maintenance of Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Facilities	The Proposed Action does not include construction, operation, or maintenance of oil and gas exploration and production facilities. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.1	18 Policies for Discharges of Wastewater and Disposal of	Waste from Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Activities
26.18	Discharges of Wastewater and Disposal of Waste from Oil and Gas Exploration and Production Activities	The Proposed Action does not include oil and gas exploration or production facilities. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.1	19 Policies for Construction and Operation of Solid Waste	Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities
26.19	Construction and Operation of Solid Waste Treatment, Storage, and Disposal Facilities	The Proposed Action does not include construction or operation of solid waste treatment, storage, and disposal facilities.
Section 26.2	20 Policies for Prevention, Response and Remediation of C	Dil Spills
26.20	Prevention, Response and Remediation of Oil Spills	The Proposed Action does not impact the prevention, response, and remediation oil spills. Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi maintains and implements a Spill Prevention and Countermeasure Plan and a Facility Response Plan to prevent and respond to oil spills. The Proposed Action is not expected to result in any changes to the management of petroleum, oil, and lubricants at NAS Corpus Christi. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.

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Table 5 Texas Coastal Zone Management Program Consistency Review

Policy or State Plan Section #	Policy/Requirement	Navy Response to Policy
Section 26.2	21 Policies for Discharge of Municipal and Industrial Was	tewater to Coastal Waters
26.21	Discharge of Municipal and Industrial Wastewater to Coastal Waters	The Proposed Action (Future Project Options 1 and 2) would include land disturbance associated with demolition and construction exceeding one acre in area. The land disturbance would potentially result in discharges of stormwater runoff from the construction site to area waters. Prior to beginning land disturbing actions, the Navy would obtain Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Construction General Permit TXR150000 and abide by the permit conditions. By obtaining and abiding by the permit, the Proposed Action would not impair or degrade coastal waters and would comply with water-quality-based effluent limits. Therefore, the Proposed Action is consistent with this enforceable policy.
Section 26.2	22 Policies for Nonpoint Source (NPS) Water Pollution	
26.22	Nonpoint Source Water Pollution	This policy is specific to agricultural and silviculture nonpoint source pollution, onsite sewage disposal systems, and underground storage tanks, which are not part of the Proposed Action. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.2	23 Policies for Development in Critical Areas	
26.23	Development in Critical Areas	The Proposed Action does not include development in Critical Areas, which include coastal wetlands, oyster reefs, hard substrate reefs, submerged aquatic vegetation, or tidal sands and mud flats. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.2	24 Policies for Construction of Waterfront Facilities and C	Other Structures on Submerged Lands
26.24	Construction of Waterfront Facilities and Other Structures on Submerged Lands	The Proposed Action does not include construction on submerged lands or elsewhere. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.2	25 Policies for Dredging and Dredged Material and Place	ment
26.25	Dredging and Dredged Material and Placement	The Proposed Action does not include dredging or dredged material placement. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.2	26 Policies for Construction in the Beach/Dune System	
26.26	Construction in the Beach/Dune System	The Proposed Action does not include construction in the beach/dune system or elsewhere. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.2	77 Policies for Development in Coastal Hazard Areas	
26.27	Development in Coastal Hazard Areas	The Proposed Action does not include development in coastal hazard areas or elsewhere. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.

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Table 5 Texas Coastal Zone Management Program Consistency Review

Policy or State Plan Section #	Policy/Requirement	Navy Response to Policy
Section 26.2	28 Policies for Development within Coastal Barrier Resou	rce System Units and Otherwise Protected Areas on Coastal Barriers
26.28	Development within Coastal Barrier Resource System Units and Otherwise Protected Areas on Coastal Barriers	The Proposed Action does not include development in coastal barrier resource system units or otherwise protected areas on coastal barriers. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.2	19 Policies for Development in State Parks, Wildlife Mand	igement Areas or Preserves
26.29	Development in State Parks, Wildlife Management Areas or Preserves	The Proposed Action does not include development in state parks, wildlife management areas, preserves, or elsewhere. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.3	80 Policies for Alteration of Coastal Historic Areas	
26.30	Alteration of Coastal Historic Areas	The Proposed Action does not include coastal development affecting coastal historic areas. Coastal historic areas are sites that are coastal in character and on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) or state archaeological landmarks. The affected buildings are not coastal in character and are not listed on the NRHP or designated state archaeological landmarks. The two hangars and ancillary facilities that are proposed for recapitalization or demolition are contributing resources to the NRHP-eligible Landplane Hangars Historic District. The Navy is undergoing National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 consultation to resolve the adverse effect. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.3	31 Policies for Transportation Projects	
26.31	Transportation Projects	This policy is specific to transportation construction and maintenance projects, which are not part of the proposed activities. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.3	32 Policies for Emission of Air Pollutants	
26.32	Emission of Air Pollutants	The Proposed Action has the potential to increase emissions of criteria pollutants associated with construction and flight operations. Counties in the Region of Influence within the Texas Coastal Zone include Matagorda, Calhoun, Nueces, and Cameron County These counties are currently in attainment for all criteria pollutants. Construction emissions would result from proposed demolition, renovation, and new construction on NAS Corpus Christi. Emissions would be localized and temporary. With the direction of the prevailing winds, the ground-level emissions would be quickly entrained downwind to the north and west of the flightline. However, as the ambient criteria pollutant concentrations in the region are well below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS), anticipated air quality changes from construction would not interfere with the

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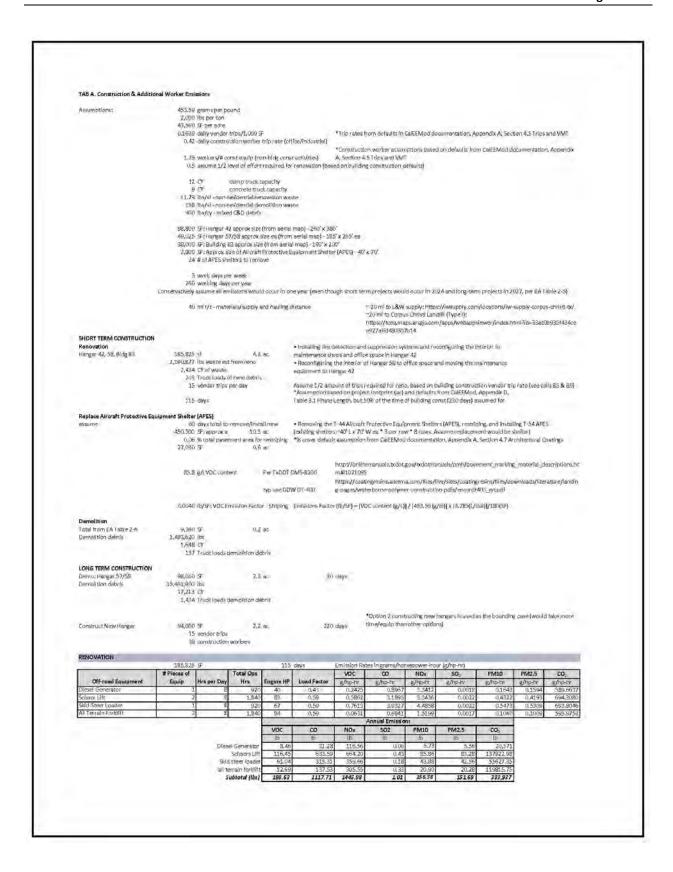
Table 5 Texas Coastal Zone Management Program Consistency Review

Policy or State Plan Section #	Policy/Requirement	Navy Response to Policy
		attainment of NAAQS. Emissions from flight operations would increase due to the 10 percent proposed increase in operations. The region of influence is in attainment for all NAAQS and the increase would not be considered significant. Therefore, the Proposed Action is consistent with this enforceable policy.
Section 26.3	3 Policies for Appropriations of Water	
26.33	Appropriations of Water	The Proposed Action does not include appropriations of waters. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.
Section 26.3	4 Policies for Levee and Flood Control Projects	
26.34	Levee and Flood Control Projects	The Proposed Action does not include levee or flood control projects. This policy is not applicable to the Proposed Action.

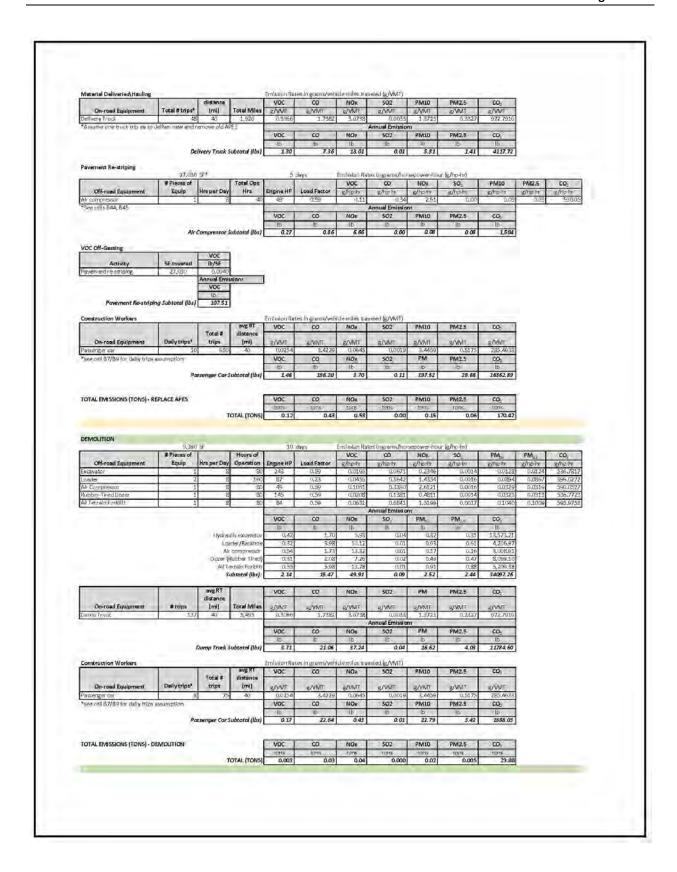
Key: # = number.

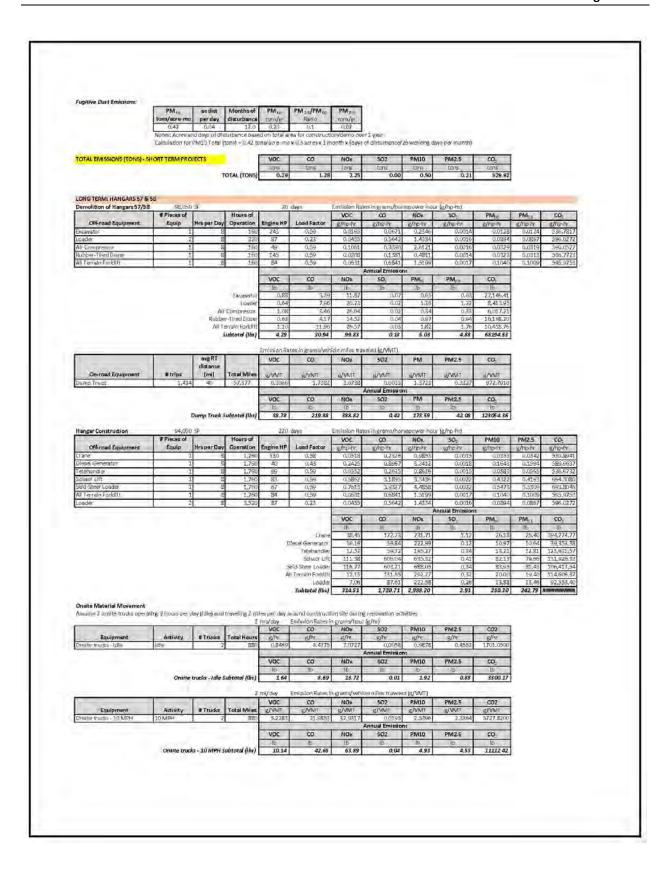
Appendix F Air Quality Methodology and Calculations

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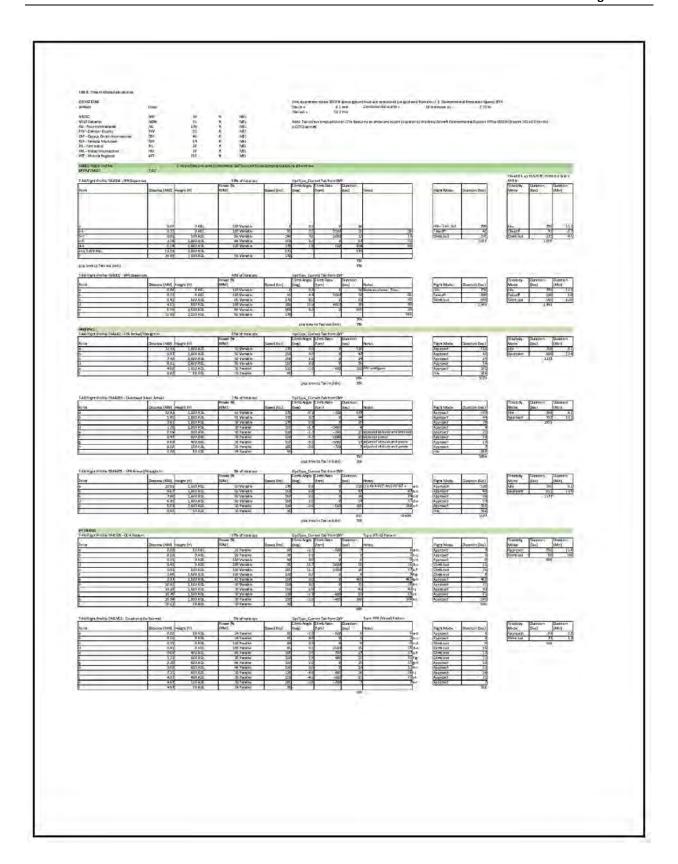


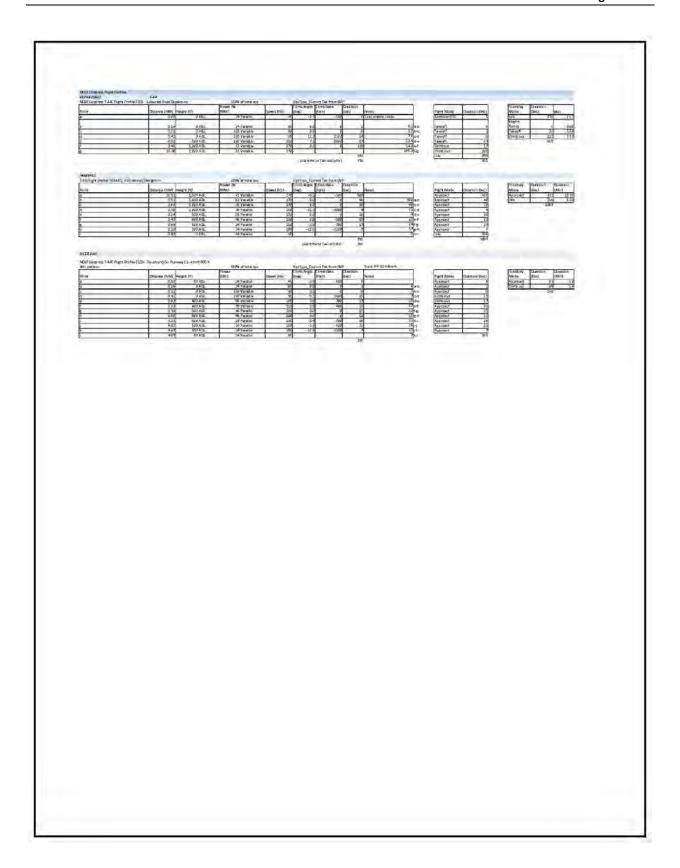
Equipment malta trucks - Idle	Activity	#Trucks	Total Hours	VOC 8/0 0.8469	uni milan Rabes in CO g/hr 4,4775	NOs g/fz 7,0727	9/hr 0,0058	PMIO 8/h: 0.9878	PM2.5 g/hr 0,4552	g/hr 1701,0500	
	Onine	trucks - idle :	Subtotal (libs)	VOC lb	CO B 4,54	NOs 15 7.17	Annual Emissio SO2 Ib 0.01	PM10 b	PM2.5	CO. lb 1725.09	
Equipment	Activity 10 MPH	# Trudes	Total Miles	VOC g/VVIII 0.2425	CO g/VMI 0.896/	NO ₈ 8/VMF 3,3412	502 g/VMI 00018	PM10 PM10 g/VM1 0,1643	PMZ.5 g/VMT 0.1594	CO2 g/VMI 589.6637	
		к- 10 МРН :	Subtord (lbr)	VOC ib: 0.25	60 60 0.91		502 16 0.00		PMZ.5. 16. 0,16	CO ₂ b 598,00	
Asterial Deliverles\Haulin		ava RT distance		Voc	cs in grans/vehi co	NOx	507	PM10	PMZ5	CO ₂	
On-road Equipment	Total # trips	(mi) 40	78,165	2/VMI 0.2425 VOC	CO E	3.3412 NOx 16	g/VIVII 0.001 R 502	0,1642 PM10	g/VM1 0.1564 PM2.5 Ib	g/VMI 589,6537 CO ₁	
Construction Workers	De	livery Truck :	avg RT	#1.79 Emission Rat VOC	154.52 es ingrami/yeh CO	575,78	031 med(g/VMT) 502	28.31	27.47 PM2.5	101613.68	i i
On-road Equipment assessed car second 87/89 for safey to	Dailytripe*	Total # trips 4,488	distance (ml) 40	2/VNIT 0.2425 VOC	g/VMT 0,8967 CO	g/VM7 3.3412 NOx	g/VMT 0.0018 502	9/VMT 0.1643 PM10	6/VMT 0.1554 PM2.5	g/VMT 589.6637 CO;	
	Po	ssenger Car	Subtotal (lbs)	95,98	354.86	1522.29	0.71	65,02	65.07	233357.72	
OTAL EMISSIONS (TONS)			TOTAL [TON5]	Voc lors 0.17	CO form	NOs tors 1.68	502 form	PM10 10/5	PM2.5 tom	00 ₂ tons	
OTAL EMISSIONS (TONS)		_	OTAL [TON5]	0.17	fors 0.82	1.68	Corts	0.13	tom 0.12	tons	
EPLACE APES OR-road Equipment	- RENOVATION	_	Total Ops. Hrs 480	60 Engine HP 330	0.82 0.82 days Load Factor 0.58	Lors L58 Emission Rat VOC g/ho-hr 0,0518	o.oo singgans/rec co g/no te	0.13 0.13 suppower how NOs g/to-sto 0.6853	tom 6.12 or (g/hp-lor) SO: g/hp-lor 0,0015	7 336 PM10 E/Fo in 0,0333	PM2.5 CO g/ho-fr g/ho-fr 0.0342 530,3941
EPLACE APES Off-road Equipment	- RENOVATION 67,200 # Pieces of	SF Hrs per Day 8 8	Total Ops. Hrs 480 490 490 960	0.17 0.17 60 Engine HP	0.82	L68 L68 Emission Rat VOC g/np-in	tons 0.00 os ingrans/iv: co g/ho te	0.13 0.13 expower how	tom 6.12 or (g/hp-hr) SO: g/hp-hr	Ons 336 PM10 g/ho hr	PIM2.5 CO
CPLACE APES Off-road Equipment dehandler lated Genesator draws IIII. did Steve Louder	#7,300 # Pleces of Equip	SF Hrs per Day 8 8 8	Total Ops. Hrs 480 480 490 480 480	60 Engine HP 3350 99 40 82 67	0.82 0.82 Load Factor 0.58 0.59 0.43 0.59	tors 1.68 Emission Kat VOC g/hp-hr 0,0518 0,0552 0,7425 0,7425 0,7425 0,7425	tons 0.00 ons lings are sheet CO g/fro +e 0.2326 0.2525 0.2527 2.1805 2.5527	0.18 0.18 NOR 9/fp.4tt 0.8553 0.8516 3.3442 3.3436 4.4858 1.5199 at	tom 6.12 or (g/rpskr) \$0_ g/hc-hr 0.0015 0.0018 0.0018 0.0022	PM10 g/Fo ir 0.0353 0.0563 0.1643 0.4437	PM2.5 CO g/ho hr g/ho hr 0,0342 520,8941 0,0565 396,67 27 0,1564 380,6627 0,4192 694,2080 0,5302 693(806
CPLACE APES Off-road Equipment dehandler lated Genesator draws IIII. did Steve Louder	#7,300 # Pleces of Equip	SF Hira per Day 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	Total Ops. Hrs 480 490 490 490 960 480 960	60 Engine HP 330 99 40 82 67 84	0.82 days Load Factor 0.59 0.42 0.59 0.59	Tors 1.68 Emission Kai VCC 8/hp-hr 0.0518 0.0552 0.7613 0.7613 0.0631	tons 0.00 In grams/her CO g/ho-he 0.2326 0.2326 0.2326 0.5841 Annual Emiss of 502	0.18 0.18 NOs 9/5540 0.8853 0.8856 3.3432 4.4858 1.5199 pM10	tom 6.12 r (u/hroin) 90- e/hc-hr 0,0015 0,0018 0,0022 0,0022 0,0027 PM2.5	PM10 E/Fig. 1st 0.0333 0.0583 0.1543 0.4377 0.5473 0.1040	PM2.5 CO g/ho hr g/ho hr 0,0342 520,8941 0,0565 396,67 27 0,1564 380,6627 0,4192 694,2080 0,5302 693(806
CONTROL OF C	#2,300 # Prece of Equip 1 1 2 2 3 3 4 4 Activity	SC Hrs per Day 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 8	Total Ops. Hrs 480 480 980 980 980 980 Stanra direction of the standard open open open open open open open open	60 Engine HP 330 99 40 82 67 84 VOC 10 12 12 54 60 12 12 54 60 15 16 60 75 54 60 75	Cos	Finitedort Fau L68 Emiredort Fau VCC g/hc-hr 0,0518 0,0552 0,7425 0,7425 0,7425 0,0531 NO 199,56 51,26 60,92 346,54 187-53 187-54 1807,24 on stirr durair in grams/hour 1800 1800	Coms 8. In grams/hou CD 12.2326 2.2326 2.2326 2.2326 2.3327 2.3327 3.	0.19 0.19 0.19 0.19 0.19 0.00 0.00 0.00	torn 6.12 r (g/mp-in) 502 g/m-in 6.0013 6.0	PM10 #/ho ir 0.0359 0.1643 0.45477 0.1040 CO ₂ 1b 107,529 33,177 20,753 71956 82 72512.55 314929.81	PM2.5 CO g/ho hr g/ho hr 0,0342 520,8941 0,0565 396,67 27 0,1564 380,6627 0,4192 694,2080 0,5302 693(806
EPLACE APES Off-road Equipment France elechandier elechandier doste filtr dos	t Activity	SF Hrs per Days 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	Total Ops. Hrs 480 480 980 980 980 980 Grander extended received a state (Saute extended received a state (Saute extended received a state (Saute extended received a state) (Saute extended received receiv	50 Engine HP 330 99 400 82 97 84 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10	0.82 Load Factor 0.58 0.59 0.59 0.59 0.59 0.59 0.59 0.59 0.59	Tons 1.68 Emission Bar VOC g/hp-l-r 0.0518 0.0552 0.7425 0.7425 0.7425 0.7632 NOa 1b 199.56 51.26 0.92 341.54 187.65 159.42 1007.24 on stir durating general hour	Core 0.00 ms.in.gr.ama/hop. CD g/frup-hc 0.2236 0.29667 0.29867 0.29867 0.29867 0.29867 0.0	0.15 0.15 0.15 0.15 0.15 0.00 0.00 0.00	tors 6.12 r (p/m/m) 502 s/ho-fe 0,0015 6,018 6,018 6,0032 6,0032 6,0032 10 7M2.5 10 43.46 2.29 10.58 83.56	PMID #Arbeit 0.0559 0.0559 0.1543 0.0559 0.1543 0.0559 0.1543 0.1543 0.1540 0.1543 0.1559 0.1	PM2.5 CO g/ho hr g/ho hr 0,0342 520,8941 0,0565 396,67 27 0,1564 380,6627 0,4192 694,2080 0,5302 693(806
CONTROL OF C	t Activity	SF Hrs per Days 8 8 8 8 8 8 8 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9 9	Total Ops. Hrs 480 480 480 980 980 Grand Relative School of the School o	50 Engine HP 330 99 -40 82 57 84 VOC III 160,754 S1,83 6,62 17,74 S4,83 6,62 17,74 VOC 2/8 0,8469 VOC 2/8 0,8469	CO Shr. 10.52 CO Shr. 4.475	Finitesion Fau L68 Emiresion Fau VOC g/hp-in/ 0,0518 0,0552 0,7425 0,7425 0,7425 0,7632 NOa ib 199,56 51,26 00,92 341,54 187,65 159,42 1007,244 on slin dural signams/hour 8/0x 2/77 7,777 NOb ib 3,74	Core 0.00 ms. In gy ama/hou g/frup he 0.2256 0.2967 0.2967 0.29867 0.29867 0.29867 0.330 0.00 0.30 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.00 0.	PMIO 22.93 PMIO 22.93 A.838 A.838	torn 6.12 r (u/m-in) 502 s/hc-hr 0,0015 6,0018 6,0018 6,0018 6,0017 PM2.5 40 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46 2.90 43.46	PM10 #/Poir 0.0352 0.0562 0.1643 0.4322 0.5473 0.1040 CO 107.532 32.173 71999.82 229072.96 3314929.61	PM2.5 CO g/ho hr g/ho hr 0,0342 520,8941 0,0565 396,67 27 0,1564 380,6627 0,4192 694,2080 0,5302 693(806

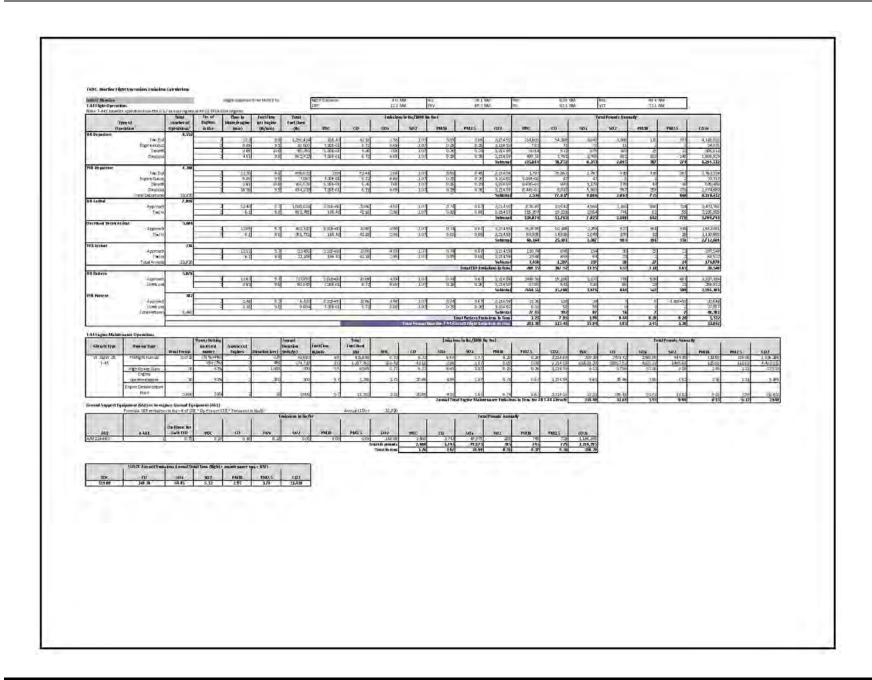


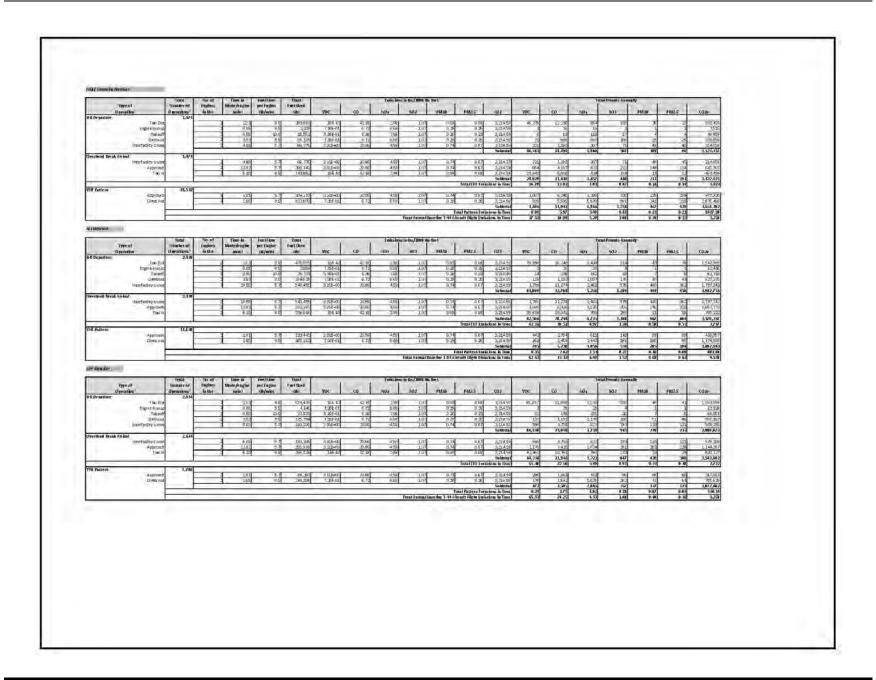


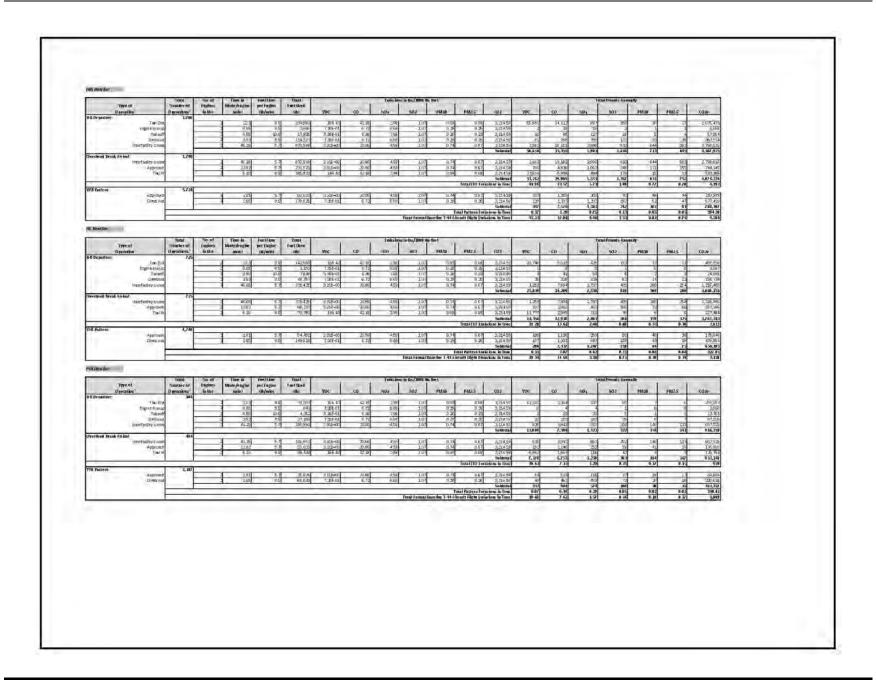
Material Deliveries\Hauling	1	avgRT		VOC VOC	co co	NOx NOx	reled (g/VMT) 502	PM10	PM2.5	00.	
On-road Equipment	Total # trips	xlistance (mi)	Total Miles	E/VMT	g/VNT	s/vMT	E/VIVIT	RAMIT	g/VMT	R/VMT	
Delivery Irvok	1,389	40	125,578	0,3066 Voc	1,7382 CO		0.0033	1.3723 PM10	0.3327 PM2.5	972,7910 CO ₂	
	4.0		S. W. OLANGE	1b	E	Ib I	1b	15	Ib.	liz	
S	Die	ivery I ruck	Subtetal (Ibs)	91.54	519.56		0.99	410.17	99.44	290767.29	
Construction Workers		SATE	avg RT	VOC VOC	tes in grems/yel-	NOx.	502	PM10	PM2.5	CO ₂	
On-road Equipment	Dailytrips*	Total # trips	distance (mi)	H/VMT	g/VMT	AVVIAT	H/VIVIT	N/V/NT	p/VIVIT	g/VMT	
Passenger car	36	9,475	40	0.0254 VOC	3,4279	0.0645 NOx	0,0019 5 02	3,4459 PM10	0.5175 PM2.5	285,4622	
		rename Car	Subtotal (lbs)	1b 21.22	2860,06	1b 53.88	1b 1.58	18	1b 482.42	15 238525.66	
Fugitive Dust Emissions:	,	annyar cur.	Souther Inny	11.11	2000,00	33.00	2.00	10/2.10		230323.00	
Topine Isan Commission	PM _{to}	ac dist	Months of	PMan	PM _{2,5} /PM ₁₀	PM _{5.5}					
	tons/acre mo	0.02	disturbance 12.0	1,000 0,000	Rello U.1	Tons/yr 0.01					
	Calculation for	PMID fotal	tisna) = 0.42 t	ed on total ar sos/acre-mo	es for construct × 0.3 acres × 1 m	an/demp ave	of disturbences	26 working d	laysper month)		
TOTAL EMISSIONS (TONS) - L	ONG TERM PROJE	crs		Voc	co	NO#	502	PMIG	PM2.5	co.	
			FOTAL (TONS)	tions-	10hls 2,70	tom	tons 0.00	tohs	fons 0,42	toris 867,86	
Additional Worker POV emiss	alons - Alt 2 only			voc	co	NO _x	502	PM10	PM2.5	CO.	
On-road Equipment Passenger cor	# vehicles	# days 260	mi/day 40	g/VMT 0,0254	g/VMII 3,4229	g/VMT	g/VM1 0.0019	g/VMT 3,4459	g/VIVI1 0.5175	g/VM1 285,4633	
*Assumes 20 mf and way bip,		14/4/34	. 14	VOC	CO	NOa 16:	502	PM10	PM25	CO ₅	
			Subtotal (lbs)	19	2590 1.29	49	1b 0.00	2607	392 0.20	215990 108.00	
	Additional W	forker Grant	Total in Tone					1.30			
	Additional W	forker Grand	t Total in Tone	0.01	450						
	Additional W	Forker Grant	t Total in Tone	0.01							
	Additional W	forker Grant	Total in Ton	001							
	Additional W	Vorker Grant	Total in Ton	001							
	Additional W	Vorker Grant	Total in Ton	0.01							
	Additional W	Vorker Grant	Total in Ton	001							
	Additional W	forker Grant	Total in Ton	0001							

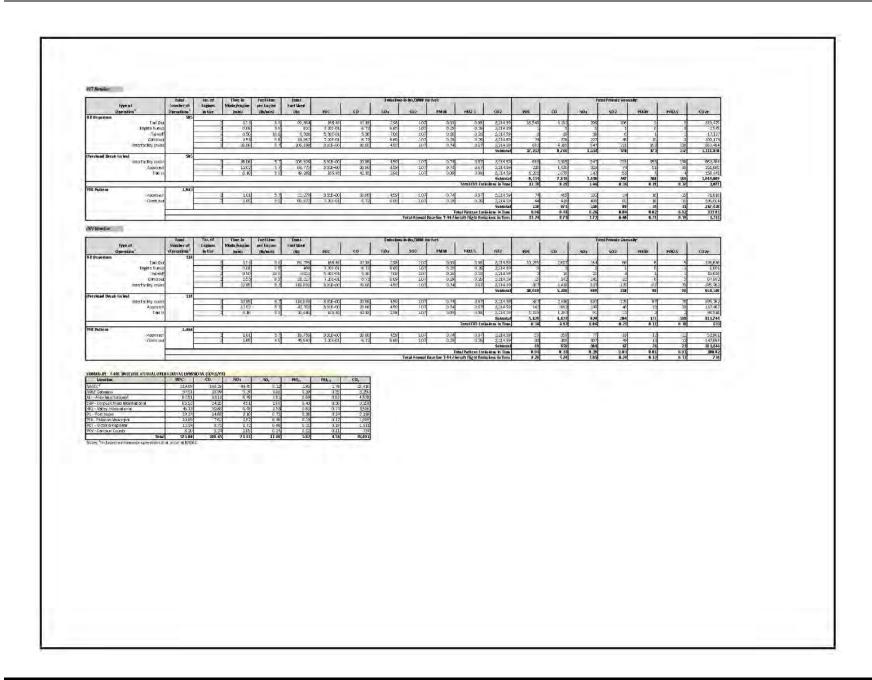


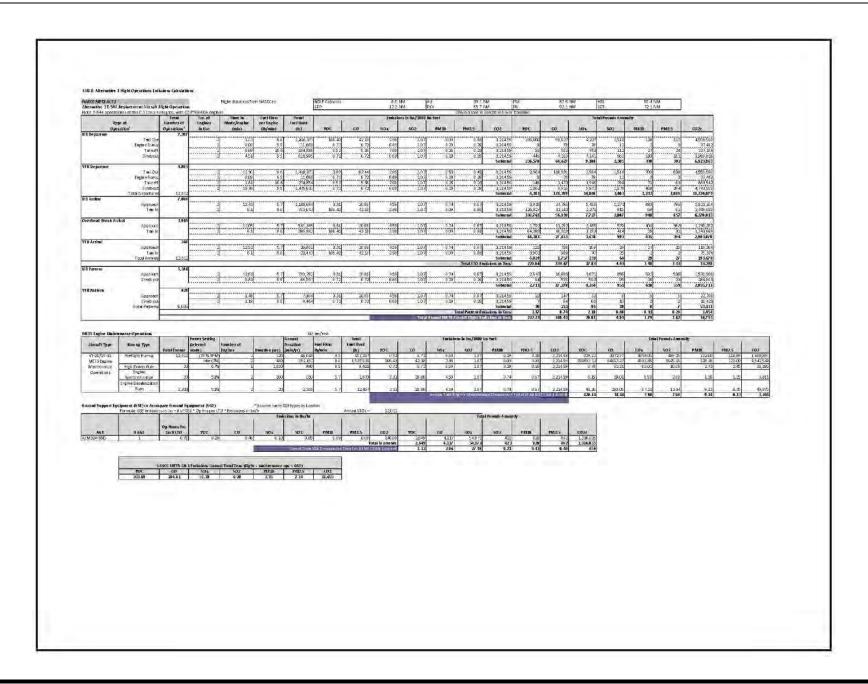


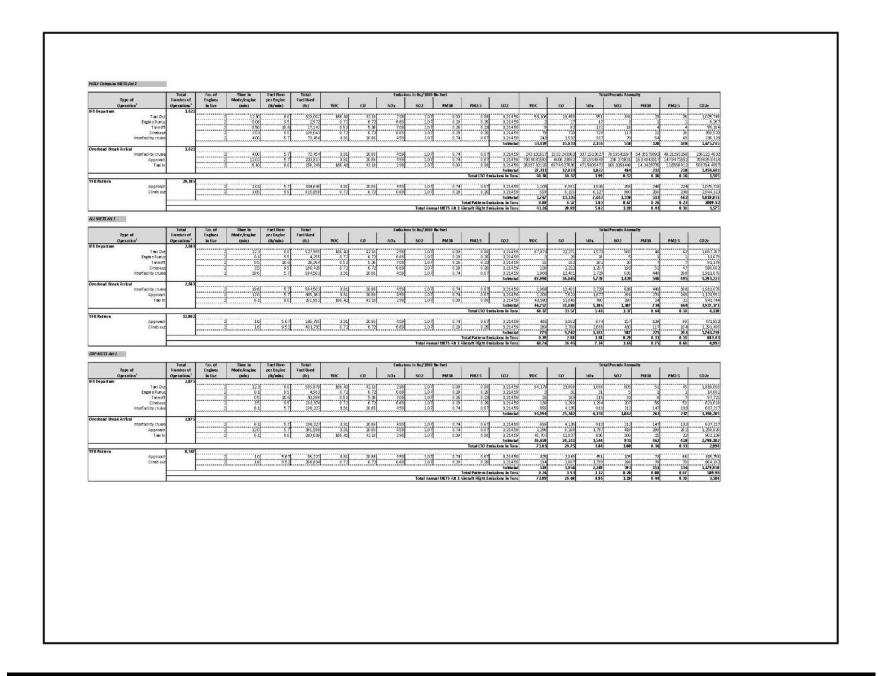


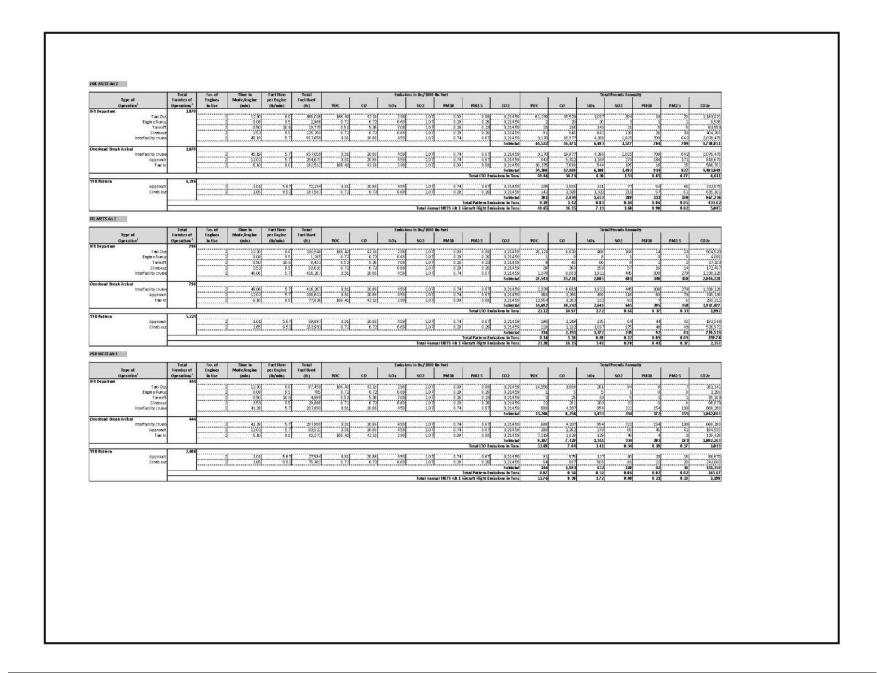


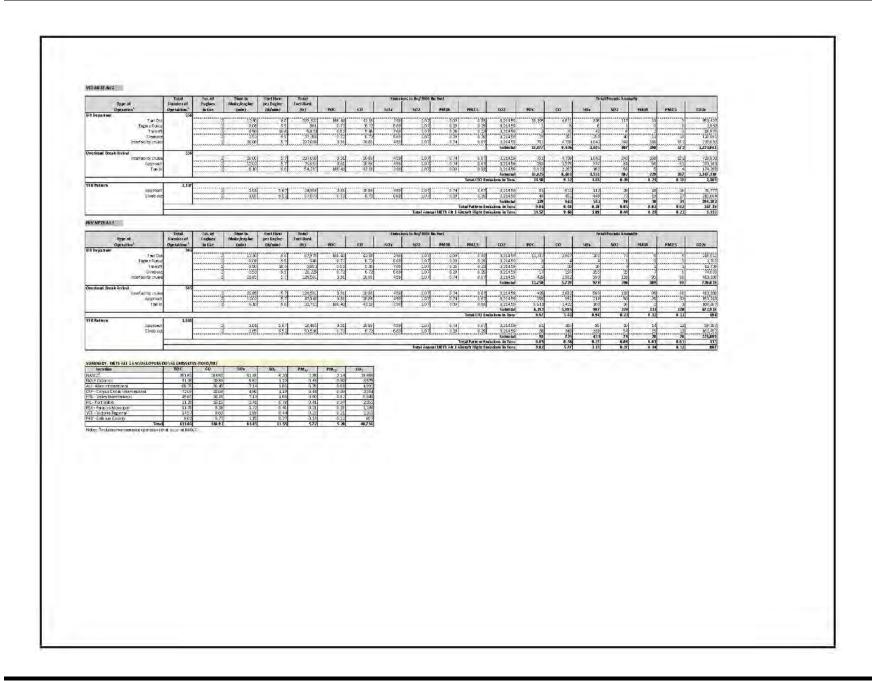


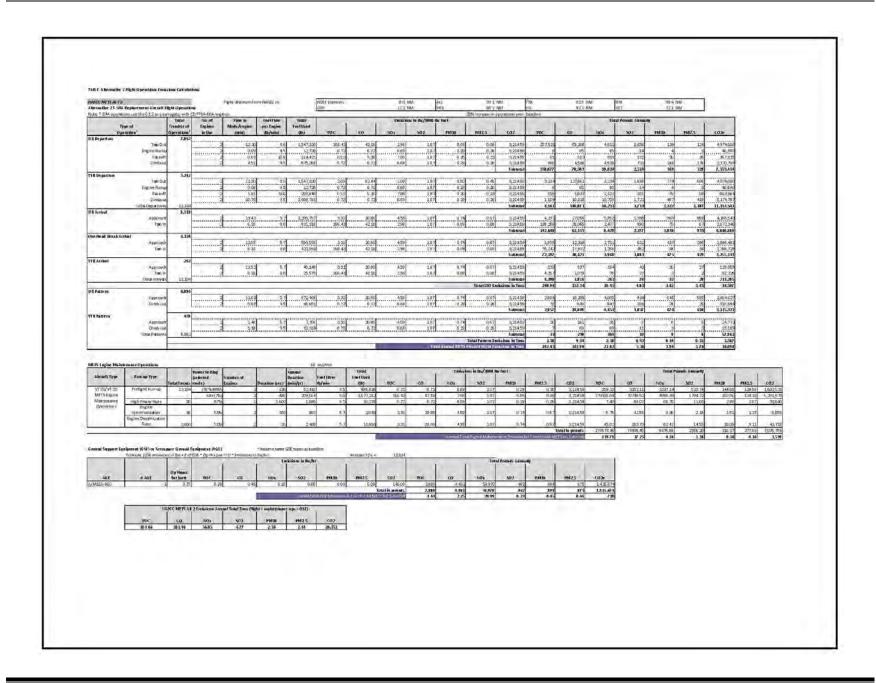






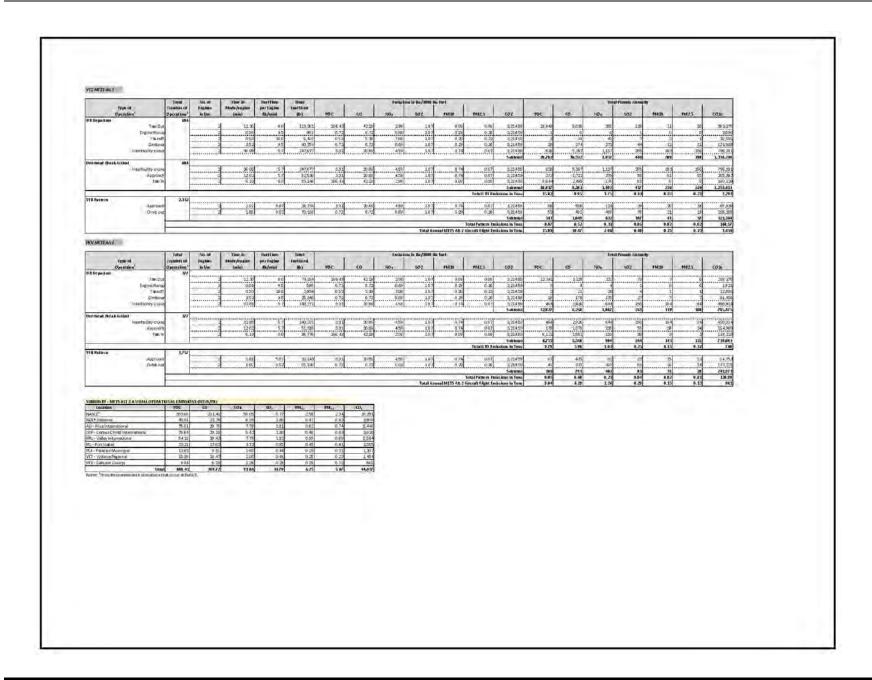






Approximate	Type of Operation ¹ If R Departuse	Total Number of Operations 1,769	No. of Engines in Use	Time in Mode/engine (min)	FuelFloor per Engine (lb/min)	Total FuelUsed (b)	10c	co	NOs		PM 30	PM2.5	coz	VOC	ш	NOs	SO2	PM 30	PM2.5	CØ2e	
Part	Engine Runu Takeofi Climbou		2 2 2 2 2 3	0.08 0.50 3.53	8.0 9.5 10.6 9.5 5.7	2,806 18,700 118,954	0.72 0.53 0.72	6.72 5.96 6.72	6.69 7.08 6.69	107 107 107	0.29 0.26 0.29	0.25 0.20 0.26	3,21459 3,21459 3,21459 3,21459	2 10 86 265	19 100 799 1,672	19 132 796 368				9,019 60,113 38 2,388 25 7,589	
Approach 1 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2 2	Interfacility cruis Approad	1769	2 2 2	12.02	5.7 5.7 8.0	240,891	3.31	20.85	459	1.07		0.67 0.08	3,21459 3,21459 Subtotal	797.3489011 28731.62308 29.794	5024.984313 7281.739238 13,978	1105.689262 514.4519424 1,988	257.7532701 184.7193216 528	178.2592709 15.5371392 253	9 161.3969075 2 13.8107904 1 229	774365.4997 554950.3589 1,586,985	
Part			3	101 165	5.7 95		3.31 0.72	20.86 6.72		107	0.20 To:	0.67 0.26 tal Pattern Emiss	3 214 59 3 214 59 Subtotal ions in Tons	1,308 719 1,928 0,96	7615 6,714 14,329 7,16	1,6% 5,684 8,368 4.18	391 1,069 1,460 0,73	270 290 560 0.28	265 260 504 0.25	1,173,511 3,211,759 4,385,270 2192,64	
Page of Column	ALI METS ALL 2	l vani		When he		***			f-shelt-			THE PART CHAP		4384	1177				0.42	2,00	
Engine Fund	Operation ⁶ If B Departure	Number of Operations ¹	Engines	Mode/engine (min)	per Engine	FuelUsed (fb)										NO ₄	502		PM2.5		
Part	Engine Runu Takeofi Climbou		2 2 2 2 2	0.1 0.5 3.5	8.0 9.5 10.6 9.5 5.7	4,642 30,943 196,831	0.72 0.53 0.72	6.72 5.36 6.72	7.08 6.69	107 107	0.26 0.29	0.26 0.23 0.26	3,21459 3,21459 3,21459 3,21459	3 16 142 2,147	31 166 1,323 13,529	31 219 1,317 2,977	5 33 211 694	52 1 8 57 480	2 46 1 7 7 51 0 435	14,929 99,468 632,730 2,084,811	
Table	Approad	2,927	2 2 2	12.0	5.7 5.7 8.0	398,598	3.31	20.86	4.59	107 107 107	0.09	0.67 0.08	3,21459 3,21459 3,21459 Sebtotal	2,147 1,319 47,542 51,869	13529 8,315 12,049 33,892	2,977 1,830 851 5,658	306 1,426	295 26 803	267 23 1 724	2,084,811 1,281,328 9 18,266 4,284,404	
Type of Vigine Total Vigine Total Vigine Total Vigine Total Vigine Total Vigine Vigin		13,966		10 16	5.67 9.52	350,129 439,254	3.31 0.72	20.86 6.72	4 50 6 60		0.74 0.29	0.67 0.26 tal Pattern Emiss	3,214.59 3,214.59 Subtotal ions in Tons	530 306 846 8.42	3,340 2,945 6,285 3,14	2,932 3,667 1.83	171 469 610 0.32	118 127 246 0.12	107 7 114 8 221 9 0.11	514,749 1,408,807 1,923,554 961,78	
Type of Copenies C	CRP METS ART 2											raft Flight Emis	ions in Tons	75.01	39.76				8 0.74	5,446	
Table	Operation ⁴	Number of Operations	Engines in Use	Mode/engine	per Engine	FuelUsed	чос	сө			1	PM2.5	CØ2	VOC	ω				PM2.5	cose	
Name	Taxi Du Engine Runa Takeofi Climbou		2	0.5 3.5	8.0 9.5 10.5 9.5 5.7	4,975 33,363 210,953	0.72 0.53 0.72	6.72 5.36 6.72	6.69 7.08 6.69	107 107 107	0.29 0.25 0.29	0.26 0.23 0.26	3,21459 3,21459 3,21459 3,21459	18 15:2 716	33 178 1,418 4,511	33 225 1,411 993	5 35 236 231	160	95	15,994 106,605 678,128 695,146	
	Approad Taxi Ir	3,19	2	6.1 12:0 6.1	5.7 5.7 8.0	427,197	3.31	20.86	4.59	107 107 107	0.74 0.74 0.09	0.67 0.08	3,214.59 3,214.59 3,214.59 Sebtotal	716 1,414 50,953 53,083	4,511 8,911 12,913 26,336	993 1,961 912 3,866	231 45.7 328 1.016	160 316 28 584	145 286 24 4 456	695,146 1,573,264 984,152 3,052,562	
	FR Pattern Approad Climb ou	9,316		10 16	5.67 9.52	107,156 293,274	3.31 0.72	20.86 6.72	459 6.69	107	To	0.67 0.26 tal Pattern Emiss	3,21459 3,21459 Subtotal ions in Tons	211 566 0.28	2,226 1,971 4,206 2.30	1,962 2,454 1.23	314 428 0.21	164 0.08	1 148	344,463 942,755 1,287,219 643,61	

If R Departure Toxi Out Engine Runup	Total No of Time in Uniform Total No of Time in Uniform Uniform Time in Uniform Un
Takeoff Climbout Interfacility cruise Overhead Break Assiral	2 0.000 9.5 3.75 0.72 6.72 6.00 10.7 0.20 0.20 0.20 3.24450 2 22 23 3 1 2 39.00 0.20 0.20 0.20 0.20 0.20 0.20 0.20
Interfacility cruise Approach Tadi In	2 62 2 5 1,044,718 5.31 2.06 4.59 1.07 0.74 0.67 3,244.59 3,848 22,79 4,76 1.131 772 70 3,558,339 1.102 5 7,742 2.11 2.08 2.09 0.01 0.01 3,245.59 5,15 5,06 5,07 2.12 2
VFR Pattern Approach Climb out	
PSE METS Act 2 Type of	Total No. of Time in FootFinar Total Tenicina in the/1998 to toel Total Pounds Annually Number of Engines Mode/Engine per Engine FootNumber of Engines Total Pounds Annually Number of Engines Total Pounds Annually Number of Engines Mode/Engine per Engine FootNumber of Engines Mode/Engine Per Engine FootNumber of Engines Number of Engin
Operation* If it Departure Taxi Oue Engine Rungs Takeoff Climbout Interactity cruses	Operation In In In In In In In
Overhead Break Assistal Interfacility cruise Approach Taol In	879
VFR Pattern Approach Climb out	Section Sect
PSX METS Are 2	Total to, of Time in Foots Total Tot
Operation* If R Departure Taid Out Engine Puring Tak-ooff Clinidout Interfacility cruise	Operations In No. Operations Operati
Overhead Break Assistal Interfacility cruise Approach Taxi in	455 2 51.26 5. 225.700 5.31 50.05 5.00 5.00 1.07 0.07 0.07 0.07 5.24555 751 5.73 1.04 265 1.05 1.05 77.2635 1.04 1.05 1.05 1.05 1.05 1.05 1.05 1.05 1.05
VFR Pattern Approach Climb out	2,528 2 1.01 5.57 20.09 3.31 20.05 4.59 1.07 0.74 0.67 3,2455 1.00 5.20 1.30 3.2 22 22 56.720 3 1.02 5.57 20.09 5.7 6.00 0.7 0.24 0.25 1.25 1.00 5.20 1.30 3.2 22 22 56.720 1.03 5.57 2.20 0.77 6.7 6.00 0.77 0.24 0.25 1.25 1.00 0.70 0.70 0.70 0.70 0.70 0.70 0.70

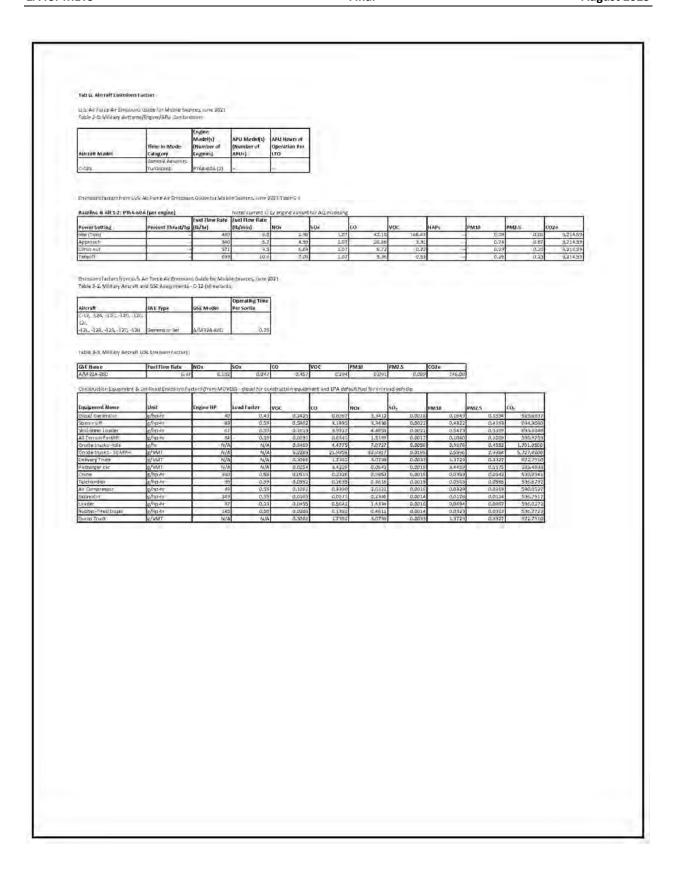


ocation	RATIONAL EMIS	NOx	VOC	co	1502	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
VASCC		44.45	319.09	148.38	5.12	1.95	1.78	15,410
NOLF Cabaniss		5.29	37.51	18.99		0.39	0.35	3,250
ALI - Alice International		6.49	62.51	33.13	1.51	0.69	0.62	4,538
PKV - Calhoun County		1.05	8.20	5.24		0.12	0.11	734
CRP - Corpus Christí International		4.51	65.53	24.25		0.40	0.36	3,258
PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel		1.57	10.69	7.62 14.68		0.19 0.38	0.17 0.34	1,089 2,138
HRL - Valley International		3.10 6.48	19.34 45.13	32.86		0.82	0.34	4,586
VCT - Victoria Regional		1.72	13.24	8.73		0.32	0.19	1,211
	Total	74.66	581.25	293.89		5.14	4.67	36,215
					-			
SUMMARY - METS ALT 1 ANNUAL OPERATION	ONALEMISSIO				į			
Location		NOx E1 30	VOC	CO 184 61	502	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
NASCC NOLF Cabaniss		51.38 5.82	351.69 41.26	184.61 20.89		2,35 0,43	2.14 0.39	18,655 3,575
ALI - Alice International		7.14	68.76	36.45		0.75	0.68	4,992
PKV - Calhoun County		1.15	9.02	5.77	0.27	0.14	0.12	807
CRP - Corpus Christi International		4.96	72.09	26.68	1.19	0.44	0.39	3,584
PSX - Palacios Municipal		1.72	11.76	8.38		0.21	0.19	1,198
PIL - Port Isabel		3.41	21.28	16.15		0.41	0.37	2,352
HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional		7,13 1,89	49.65 14.57	36.15 9.60		0.90	0,82 0.21	5,045 1,332
VC1 - VICTORIa Regional	Total	84.61	640.07	344.68		5.86	5.32	41,541
Net Change from Baseline in	Tons per Year			50.79		0.72	0.65	
WELL TO THE PROPERTY OF THE PARTY OF THE PAR								
SUMMARY - METS ALT 2 ANNUAL OPERATI	ONAL EMISSIO				Tara a			rana -
Location NASCC		NOx 56.05	VOC 383,66	201.40	SO2 6.77	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
						2.56	2.34	20,351
NOLF Cabaniss		6.35	45.01	22.79	1.30	0.47	0.43	3,900
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International				22.79 39.76	1.30 1.81			
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County _RP - Corpus Christi International		6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43	3,900 5,446 881 3,910
NOLF Cabaniss &LI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal		6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKY - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel		6.35 7.79 1.26 5,42 1.88 3.72	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County ERP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International		6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKY - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel	Total	6.35 7.79 1.26 5,42 1.88 3.72	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62	1,30 1,81 0,29 1,30 0,44 0,85 1,83 0,48	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County ERP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International		6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International FKY - Calhoun County ERP - Corpus Christi International FSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in		6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in *All in tons	Tons per Year	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International FKY - Calhoun County ERP - Corpus Christi International FSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in		6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08 3.03	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municípal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in *All in tons Activity	Tons per Year	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County ERP - Corpus Christi International PSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in FAll in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year)	No Action	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO 2	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398	22.75 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO; 1.398 108	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08 3.03	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County RP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Vallay International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in PAll in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year)	No Action	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08 3.03	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in TAII in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Elight operations (every year)	No Action	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO 2	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398	22.75 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO; 1.398 108	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08 3.03	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County RP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Vallay International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in PAll in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year)	No Action 0 0 15,410	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO 2 1.398 0 18,655	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245	22.75 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO; 1,398 108 20,351	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 1.5.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 108 4.941	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKL - Valley International PKL - Valley International PKT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in All in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Flight operations (every year) Lifetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions	No Action 0 0 15,410 385,251	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO , 1,398 0 18,655 467,774	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523	22.75 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO; 1,398 108 20,351	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 1.5.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 108 4.941	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in PAII in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Effetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions *All in metric tons	No Action 0 0 15,410 385,251 0.907185	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO , 1,398 0 18,655 467,774	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO ; 1,398 108 20,351 512,872	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 1.5.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 108 4.941	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PICV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PICSX - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel PIL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in "All in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Elight operations (every year) Effetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions "All in metric tons Activity	No Action 0 0 15,410 385,251 0.907185	6,35 7,79 1,26 5,42 1,88 3,72 7,78 2,06 92,30 17,64 Alt 1 CO , 1,398 0 18,655 467,774 metric tons Alt 1 CO ,	45.01 75.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523 per ton Alt 1 Comp to NAA	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO 2	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 1.27,621	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County RP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Palacios Municipal PIL - Port Isabel HRL - Valialey International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in PAII in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Lifetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions All in metric tons Activity Construction (1 year)	No Action 0 15,410 385,251 0.907185 No Action 0	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO 2 1,398 0 18,655 467,774 metric tons Alt 1 CO 2 1,268	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523 per ton Alt I Comp to NAA 1,268	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO; 1.398 108 20,351 512,872	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 15.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1,398 108 4,941 127,621	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in All in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Elight operations (every year) Infetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions Activity Construction (1 year) Activity Construction (1 year)	No Action 0 0 15,410 385,251 0.907185 No Action 0 0	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO , 1,398 0 18,655 467,774 metric tons Alt 1 CO , 1,268	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523 per ton Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,268 0	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO ; 1.398 108 20,351 512,872 Alt 2 CO ;	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 1.5.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 108 4.941 127,621 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1,268 98	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39 1.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80 1.13	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County RP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Calhoun County RP - Corpus Christi International PKL - Valiage International PKL - Valiage International PKL - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline In PAII in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Iffetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions PAII in metric tons Activity Construction (1 year) Additional worker commutes (every year) Idigin to perations (every year)	No Action 0 0 15,410 385,251 0.907185 No Action 0 0 13,980	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO , 1,398 0 18,655 467,774 metric tons Alt 1 CO , 1,268 0 16,924	45.01 75.01 79.84 78.64 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523 per ton Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,268 0 2,944	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO; 1.398 108 20,351 512,872 Alt 2 CO;	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 1.5.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 108 4.941 127,621 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1,268 98 4,482	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102
NOLF Cabaniss ALI - Alice International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKV - Calhoun County CRP - Corpus Christi International PKL - Port Isabel HRL - Valley International VCT - Victoria Regional Net Change from Baseline in All in tons Activity Construction (2 separate years) Additional worker commutes (every year) Elight operations (every year) Infetime (25-year) operations plus construction emissions Activity Construction (1 year) Activity Construction (1 year)	No Action 0 0 15,410 385,251 0.907185 No Action 0 0	6.35 7.79 1.26 5.42 1.88 3.72 7.78 2.06 92.30 17.64 Alt 1 CO , 1,398 0 18,655 467,774 metric tons Alt 1 CO , 1,268	45.01 75.01 9.84 78.64 12.83 23.21 54.16 15.89 698.26 117.01 Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,398 0 3,245 82,523 per ton Alt 1 Comp to NAA 1,268 0	22.79 39.76 6.29 29.10 9.15 17.62 39.43 10.47 376.02 82.12 Alt 2 CO ; 1.398 108 20,351 512,872 Alt 2 CO ;	1.30 1.81 0.29 1.30 0.44 0.85 1.83 0.48 1.5.08 3.03 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1.398 108 4.941 127,621 Alt 2 Comp to NAA 1,268 98	0.47 0.82 0.15 0.48 0.23 0.45 0.99 0.25 6.39 1.25	0.43 0.74 0.13 0.43 0.21 0.41 0.89 0.23 5.80 1.13	3,900 5,446 881 3,910 1,307 2,565 5,504 1,454 45,317 9,102

Individual Location Summaries									
Location	NOx		voc	co		502	PM10	PN2.5	co2
Baseline NASCC		14.45	319.09	CO	148.38	5.17	V 300 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100 100		
NASCC Alt 1		51.38	351.69	-	184.61	6.20	4.71.71.71		
Alt 1 Net Change (aircraft)	-	5.92	32.61	-	36.24				
NASCC Alt 2	-	56.05	383.66	-	201.40	6.77			
Alt 2 Net Change	_	11.59	64.58		53.02	1.64			4,9
Max Annual Construction Emissions (2027) Alt 1 Total @ NASCC		9.19			2.70 38,94				
Additional Worker Commute-Alt 2 Only		0.02	0.01		1.29	0.00	1,30	0,20	
Alt 2 Total @ NASCC	1	13.88			57.02				
Location	NOx		voc	co	2001	502	PM10	PIVI2.5	coz
NOLF Cabaniss Baseline		5.29	37.51		18.99	1.08			Contract Contract
NOLF Cabaniss Alt 1		5.82	41.26		20,89	1.19	0.43	0.39	3,5
Ait 1 Net Change		0.53	3.75	-	1.90	0.11	0.04	0.04	u # = 3
NOLF Cabaniss Alt 2		6.35	45.01	;	22,79	1.30	0.47	0.43	3,9
Alt 2 Net Change		1.06	7.50		3,80	0.22	0.08	0.07	
Location	INOx	-	Voc	Ico		502	IPM10	PM2.5	Ico2
ALI -Baseline	Tiac.n	6.49	62.51	-	33.13	1.53	The second second		4,5
ALI - Alt 1		7.14	68.76		36.45	1.66			
Alt 1 Net Change		0.65	6,25		3,31	0.15		144.47	
ALI - At 2	-	7.79	75.01	-	39.76	1.83			
Alt 2 Net Change	+	1.30	12.50		6,63	0.30			
Alt 2 Net Change	_	1.50	12,50	_	0,03	0,50	1 0.14	0.12	-
Location	NOx		voc	CO		502	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
PKV - Baseline		1.05	3.20		5.24	0,24	0.12	0.11	7
PKV - Alt 1		1.15	9.02		5.77	0.27	0.14	0.12	
Alt 1 Net Change	-	0.10	0.82	ľ. –	0.52	0.02	0.01	0.01	1
PKV - Alt 2		1.26	9.84		6,29	0,29	0.15	0,13	
Alt 2 Net Change	- 0	0.21	1.64		1.05	0.09	0.02	0.02	0 - 3
Location	NOx	- 1	voc	co		SO2	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
CRP - Baseline	1000	4.51	65.53	-	24.25	1.08			
CRP-Alt 1	1 -	4.96	72.09		26.68	1.19			3,5
Alt 1 Net Change	_	0.45	6.55		2.43	0.11			
CRP - Alt 2	+	5.42	78.64	-	29,10	1,30			3,9
Alt 2 Net Change		0.90	13.11	-	4.85	0.22		2.730	-
THE THE STATE OF		7357			1.45				
Location	NOx		VOC	co		502	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
PSX - Baseline		1.57	10.69		7.62	0.36			1,0
PSX - Alt I		1.72	11.76	0	8.38	0.40			
Alt 1 Net Change		0.16	1.07	+	0.76		1.1.1.	4 7 7 7 7	
PSX - Alt 2		1.88	12.83		9.15	0.44	0,23	0.21	1,3
	9	0.31	2.14		1,52	0.07	0.04	0.03	
Alt 2 Net Change							terre	Innan r	Icon
Alt 2 Net Change	NOx	- 1	voc	CO		502	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
Location	NOx	3.10	VOC 19.34		14.68	100			
Location PIL - Baseline	NOx		19.34			0.73	0.38	0.34	2,
Location PIL - Baseline PIL - Alt 1	NOx	3.41	19.34 21.28		16.15	0,78	0.38	0.34	2,1
Location PIL - Baseline	NOx		19.34 21.28 1.93			0.71 0.78 0.07	0.38 0.41 0.04	0.34 0.37 0.03	2,1

Location	NOX	VOC	CO	502	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
HRL - Baseline	6.48	45.13	32,86	1,53	0.82	0.74	4,586
HRL -Alt 1	7.13	49.65	36.15	1.58	0.90	0.82	5,045
Alt 1 Net Change	0.65	4.51	3.29	0.15	0.08	0.07	459
HRL - Alt 2	7.78	54.16	39.43	1.83	0.99	0.89	5,504
Alt 2 Net Change	1.30	9.03	6.57	0.31	0.16	0.15	917

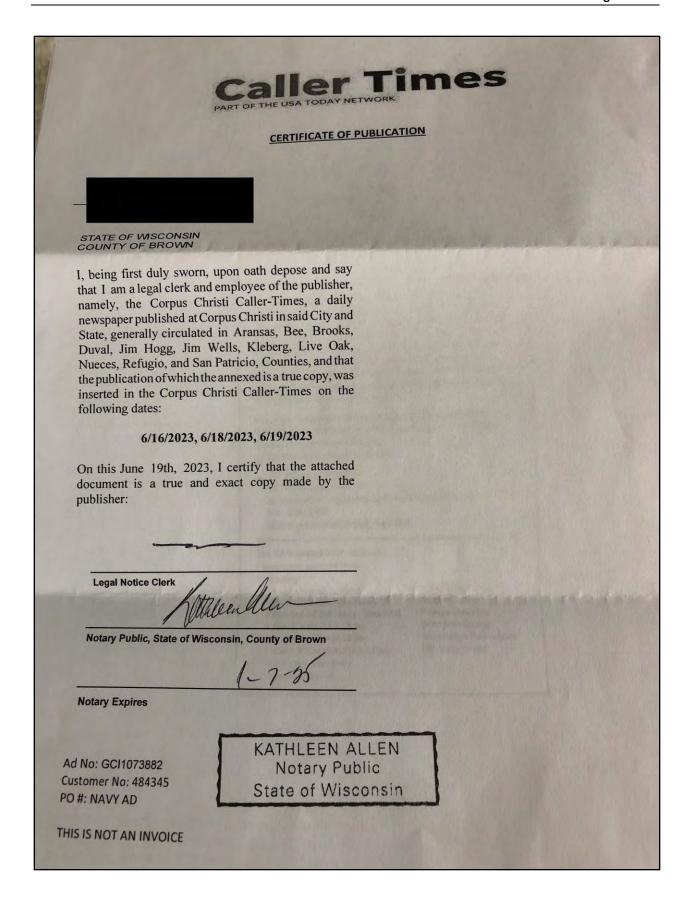
Location	NOx	VOC	CO	SO2	PM10	PM2.5	CO2
VCT - Baseline	1.72	13.24	8.73	0.40	0.21	0.19	1,211
VCT - Alt 1	1.89	14.57	9,60	0.44	0.23	0.21	1,332
Alt I Net Change	0.17	1.32	0.87	0.04	0.02	0.02	121
VCT - Alt 2	2.06	15.89	10.47	0.48	0.25	0.23	1,454
Alt 2 Net Change	0.34	2.65	1,75	0.08	0.04	0.04	



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Appendix G Newspaper Notices

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The U. S. Navy Invites Public Comments

on its Draft Environmental Assessment Multi-Engine Training System, Corpus Christi, TX

The Navy has released a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Multi-Engine Training System (METS). The METS would replace 54 of the over 40-year-old T-44C Pegasus aircraft with 58 new T-54A aircraft at Naval Air Station (NAS) Corpus Christi, Texas. The new aircraft would conduct training operations in the same locations and within the same airspace as T-44C aircraft but with an increase in the number of operations. To accommodate the new aircraft several short- and long-term construction projects for Naval support facilities at NAS Corpus Christi would be required.

Please provide comments on the analysis presented in the Draft EA by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on 17 July 2023. Comments may be submitted by:

- Website: www.nepa.navy.mil/mets
- _ U.S. Postal Service Mail:

METS EA Project Manager

Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Atlantic

Attn: Code EV22

6506 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23508

The EA is available for review at:

- www.nepa.navy.mil/mets
- · Libraries:
 - · Nueces County Law Library
 - · Owen R. Hopkins Public Library
 - · Mary and Jeff Bell Library Texas A&M
 - · Janet F. Harte Public Library
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- Harlingen Public Library (Cameron County)

CC-GCI1073882-01

- Victoria Public Library (Victoria County)
- Palacios Library Inc.
 (Matagorda County)
- Alicia Salinas Public Library (Jim Wells County)

PEOPLE

PEOPLE IN THE NEWS FROM WIRE REPORTS

Prince Harry, Markle part ways with Spotify

The production company founded by Prince Harry and his wife, Meghan, is splitting ways with Spoilfy as than a year after the debut of their podeast 'Arche-

to the base of the second seco

inning grout settents vanished.

It topped said the UK, and it wen the top podeast the UK, and it wen the top podeast of the UK, and it wen the top podeast of the UK, and it wen the top podeast of the UK people's Choice wanted last year.

Those digging my hands into the process, sitting up late at night in bod, working on the writing and creative. And I loved digging deep into meaningful construction of the UK people with the U

versation with my diverse and inspiring guests, lauping and learning with them, and with each of you
make the displan, the husbess of Sussea at the
ming." and Meighan, the husbess of Sussea at the
Might Live" star Pete Davidson with reckless driving
Friday, time mouths after authorities said he cuashed
in The Los Angeles County District Atterney's Office
mune. Six months after announcing that it would eat
of So of its global wortforce, or about 600 jobs, Spotify
said last week that it was trimming another 200 jobs.

Davidson charged with reckless driving after
Beverly Hills crash

Los Angeles prosecutors charged former "Saturday

Los Angeles County District Atterney's Office

The Los Angeles County District Atterne



Center in need of donations

gig band. "Music has saved my life," Estefan said. "Music was

"Music nas saveu in ""
my therapy."
After thanking her family with individual, intimate
shout outs, Estefan led the crowd into a high-energy
medley of songs including "Reach," "Words Get in the
Way," and "Anything for You" with her husband and IIyear-old grandson, Sasha.

THINGS TO DO AROUND TOWN

The U. S. Navy
Invites Public Comments
on th Draft Environmental Assessment
Multi-Engine Training System, Corpus Christi, TX

2023 summer swim season

**Corpus Christi Parks & Corpus Christi Parks & Parkway: noon to 8 p.m.

**Recreation Department's city pools are open for through Aug. 6. Hours and dates are subject to Change. Lap swim hours also available, schedule online. Cost: Free. Information: https:// wew.cctevas.com/detail/ recreational-swim-and-schedule. General swim

**HE-B Pool, 1520 Shely St. 2-7:30 p.m. Friday through Tuesday (closed Wednesdays)

**HE-B Pool, 1520 Shely St. 2-7:30 p.m. Friday through Tuesday (closed Wednesdays and Thurs-

Collier Pool, 3801 Harris Drive: 2-7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Sunday (closed Mondays) Corpus Christi Parks and Rec splash pads

The Coastal Bend Blood Center is in need of donations to maintain the area's blood plasma support of the area's blood plasma support of the area's blood plasma support and plasma support and plasma support and appointments are accepted at the Coastal Bend Blood Center from 8:30 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Friday at 200 N. Padre Island Drive. Mobile blood centers are also stationed around the area. Corpus Christi Parks &
Recreation Department
offers splash pads from 8
a.m. to 10 pm. Tuesdays
through Sundays at Lindale Park, 3133 Swantner
Drive, Salinas Park, 1354
Airport Road, and Bill
Witt Park, 6869 Yorktown
Blod. Each Facility offers
different interactive water features and is free to
the public. Splash pads
are normally closed for
maintenance Monday, a
but we want broider, will
be closed Tuesday). Information- https://
www.cctexas.com/corpus-christi-splash-pads.

Coastal Bend Blood

For more events check Caller.com/vivacc.

CELEBRITY BIRTHDAYS

Actor Gena Rowlands is 93. Singer Spanky McFarlane of Spanky and Our Gang is 81. Actor Phylicia Rashad is 75. Singer Ann Wilson of Heart is 73. Keyboardist Larry Dunn (Earth, Wind and Fire) is 70. Actor Kathleen Turner is 69. Country singer Doug Stone is 67. Singer Mark Warty' DeBarge of DeBarge is 64. Singer dancer Paula Abdul is 61. Actor Andy Lauer (Tocrolline in the City') is 60. Singer-quittatist Brian Vander Ark of The Verve Pipe is 59. Actor Mas Sar (Ferris Bueller's Day Off') is 56. "Good Morning America" host Lara Spencer is 54. Cultarist Brian "Head" Welch of Korn is 53. Actor Robbin Turney is 51. Actor Bumper Robbinson ("Sabrina the Tenegae Witch") is 49. Actor Poppy Montgomery ("Unforgettable," "Without a Trace") is 48. Singer-banjoist Scott Avetto of The Avett Brothers is 47. Actor Robbin Turnet ("The Walling Dead," "Soon Neil Brown Ar, ("SaEAL Team") is 31. Actor Laurer Mackiemore and Ryan Lewis is 41. 3. Actor Laurer Mackiemore and Ryan Lewis is 41. Actor Son Dano is 39. Actor Glacomo Giamnietti Cood Doctor") is 33. Actor Actor Charland Wedd ("The Middle") is 25.

REACH US

caller.com/multimedia/photos twitter.com/callerdotcom facebook.com/callertimes instagram.com/callertimes

CORRECTIONS

TODAY IN HISTORY

1775: George Washington was commissioned by the Continental Congress as commander in chief of the Continental Army.

1865: Union troops arrived in Galveston, Texas, with news that the Civil War was over, and that all remain ing slaves in Texas were free – an event celebrated to this day as "Juneteenth."

1910: The first-ever Father's Day was celebrated in Spokane, Washington. (The idea for the observance is credited to Sonora Louise Smart Dodd.)

1911: Pennsylvania became the first state to estab-lish a motion picture censorship board.

1917: During World War I, King George V ordered the British royal family to dispense with German titles and surnames; the family took the name "Windsor."

1944: During World War II, the two-day Battle of the Philippine Sea began, resulting in a decisive victory for the Americans over the Japanese. 1953: Julius Rosenberg, 35, and his wife, Ethel, 37, convicted of conspiring to pass U.S. atomic secrets to the Soviet Union, were executed at Sing Sing Prison in Ossining, New York.

1964: The Civil Rights Act of 1964 was approved the U.S. Senate, 73-27, after surviving a lengthy fillbuster.

1986: University of Maryland basketball star Len Bias, the first draft pick of the Boston Ceitics, suf-fered a fatal cocaine-induced seizure.

1987: The U.S. Supreme Court struck down a Louisi-ana law requiring any public school teaching the theory of evolution to teach creation science as well.

2014: Rep. Kevin McCarthy of California won election as House majority leader as Republicans shuffled their leadership in the wake of Rep. Eric Cantor's primary defeat in Virginia.

Caller Times

U.S. Postal Service Mail: NETS EA Project Munage: Narral Facilities Engineering Systems Com. Attr. Code EV22 6566 Hampton Blvd, Nerfols, VA 23508

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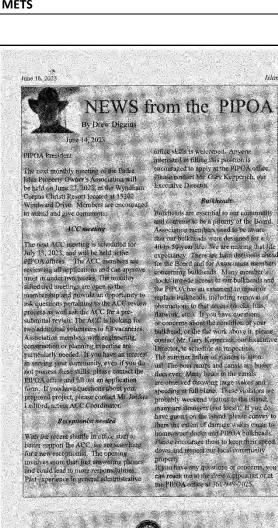
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Our goal is to premptly correct errors. Email us at accuracy@caller.com
to report a matter or call 381-886-3682. Describe the error, where you
see it, the date, page number, or the URL.

See IX, the date, Dage number, or the Life.

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The Corpus Cristic Caller Inno., Librist 448-430, (1554e 0884-3365, in published disp per used our backers) Statuday, Memorial Day, Index On, Librist Caller, Control Co

Affidavit of Publication	
STATE OF TEXAS	
COUNTY OF MURCES	
Before me, the undersigned authority, on this day personally appeared	
Scrette Occh, the poblisher of the (Name) (Title)	
The Island Moon , a newspaper having general circulation in (Name of Newspaper)	
County, Texas, who being by me duly sworn, deposes an	d
says that the foregoing attached notice was published in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:	
Subscribed and sworn to before me this the day of	
19003, to certify which witness my hand and seal of office.	
Notary Public's Signature	before me
County, Texas.	

Island Moon





The Best Offense

Why is it that offended people think their being offended gives them the green light to be offensive themselves?

And why do they think that the loudest, nastiest person was (and not necessarily the one who is right?

I wouldn't know. But I do know that quite frequently they are.

Offensive. In the worst way So when I saw this meme on Facebook the other day, I was delighted. All it said was "I wish offended people would react like fainting goats and quietly tip

Makes perfect sense to me! According to etymologime, a website that displays the history of words, the word "offend" used to mean, literally, "to attack, assail." But that's now "obsolete."

Fooled you, etymolonline. In the Star Trek: The Original Series episode "The Empath." Captain Kirk says, "The best defense is a good offense, and I intend to start offending right

Welcome to Earth, Captain Kirk. Terra Infirma.

That noted authority on all things etiquette (the art of being offensive nicely). Miss Manners says "taking offense has become a national pastime."

Who would disagree? Only those who offend, I suppose. And that's pretty much everybody.

No matter your political leaning, or how near the ground you come with it, you must agree—we live in a world where being offensive isn't just tolerated. It's celebrated!

Often it's a barely disguised comment, openly and foudly voiced with threatening motions and ugly facial expressions, and deliberately intended to offend—and to incite another offensive comment in return.

One good turn deserves another, right? Machiavelli is langhing in his grave: Told you so!"

I'm not against taking a stand. I'm doing so right now, publicly. And I'm well aware that someone(s) will be offended. But so what? Someone will be

offended if I just comment that I love my mother (which I do). If I can discuss calmly and with

reason, I can strongly present a position without offending most people without, as Miss Manners would note, being

But there are some who live to be offended and to offend.

The Greek philosopher Epictetus

wrote, "When you are offended at any person's fault, turn to yourself and study your own failings. Then you will forget your anger.

Such wisdom—on two levels. First, most often people are offended

because they are angry. That anger often nanifests in not just words, but offensive actions.

B 15

We watch with horror as offended people attack others—ofien innocents who've done nothing more offensive than being in the right place at the right time-which turned out to be the wrong place in

the wrong time. THAT is the tragedy of mass shootings, serial killings, and attacks on public buildings and the folks who work in

Someone got angry and became offensive.

But Epicietus continues, telling us to look into ourselves and study our own failings (N.B.; not "feelings") before we take umbrage with others

Why do you need to say or do the unacceptable—the rude, the violent, the deadly? Where is that coming from in

Maybe you need to tip over like that previously mentioned goat and do some self-discernment,

Maybe we all do.

I'm not familiar with the musician Syd, but I love his point: "I think too many people are offended by stuff that doesn't

I'll toast to that -- but don't give me any pulpue to do it with, thank you!

Oh my, I just used manners to soften an offensive comment! Who woulda thunk it?

Yep, "please and thank-you" are not entirely forgotten concepts. Would that we'd remember to use them more frequently to speak the truth and respect the rights of

Talk show host Ricky Gervain once noted, "Just because you're offended doesn't mean you're right."

No matter what our position, no matter the subject, we each need to remember that.

And we also need to remember that sometimes when we ARE right, we're only partially right, and we need to be truthful

about that, too.

In the meantime, instead of taking arms against a perceived sea of troubles, we don't have to faint like goats. But if that's what if takes, I'm in, as long as I can do it on the beach!

You can bring your fainting goats or other pets on a least, along with your folding chair and coffee, to Beach Worship with Island Presbyterian Church—8 s.m. at

the end of Whitecap (weather permitting).
Or join us at 10 a.m. in our
sanctuary at Gypsy and Fortuna Bay—we
have permed-in space for pets and a oursery available during the summer.

Or join us via Zoom or Facebook Livestream—check our website or FB presence for links.





The U. S. Navy Invites Public Comments on its Draft Environmental Assessment Multi-Engine Tratoing System, Corpus Christi, TX

This Navy has released a drait Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Multi-Engine Training System (METS). The METS would replace 54 of the over 40 years of 444 Pregnass around with 55 new T-SA aircraft at Neval Air Stainin (MAS) Corpus Christ. Fexas. Therefore sticraft would conduct froming uperations in the annel coordiers and within the search enspace as T-446 arricraft but with an increase in the number of operations. To accommodate the way aircraft, weard short-engine for consultation projects for Navel support facilities at NAS Corpus Christie would be required.

Please provide comments on the analysis presented in the Draft EA by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time on 17 July 2023

- Comments may be submitted by:

 Website: www.neps.navy.milmet
- U.S. Postal Service Mail:
 METS EA Project Manager
 Neval Facilities Engineering Systems Command Atlantic Attn: Code EV22 6506 Hampton Blvd, Norfolk, VA 23508
- The EA is available for review at: www.nepz.navy.ml/Friets
 - Ubvaries:
 - Nueces County Law Library
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- Mary and Jeff Bell Library -Texas A&M
- Janes F. Harte Public Library
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