

Appendix B: National Historic Preservation Act Section 106
Documentation

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From: Winter, Leonard E CIV USN NAVFAC SE JAX FL (USA) [mailto:len.winter@navy.mil]
Sent: Wednesday, June 19, 2019 12:39 PM
To: Edwards, Scott <Scott.Edwards@DOS.MyFlorida.com>
Subject: Advanced Helicopter Training System - NAS WHITING FIELD

The attachments/links in this message have been scanned by Proofpoint.

Scott,

The Navy is preparing to consult Florida SHPO in re to the establishment of the Advanced Helicopter Training System (AHTS) at NAS Whiting Field and associated Navy Outlying Landing Fields (NOLF) Spencer and Harold.

Cardno is the cultural resources and NEPA contractor and they have provided draft-letter text on the potential acoustic effects on six small utility buildings which are located in the respective APEs.

These properties, with photos attached, are described in brief with my summary recommendation re NRHP eligibility:

- 1) NASWF/BLDG 3090: a brick steam/heat building constructed in 1995; infrastructure not eligible as a Criteria Consideration G resource.
- 2) NASWF/BLDG 3149: a metal storage building erected in 2007; infrastructure not eligible as a Criteria Consideration G resource.
- 3) NASWF/BLDG 2938: a stuccoed airfield lighting vault constructed in 1965; infrastructure not eligible under standard NRHP criteria A, B, C, or D.
- 4) NOLF Spencer/BLDG 2240A: a metal emergency vehicle garage erected in 1987; infrastructure not eligible as a Criteria Consideration G resource.
- 5) NOLF Spencer/BLDG 2240B: a metal fire station storage shed erected in 2000; infrastructure not eligible as a Criteria Consideration G resource.
- 6) NOLF Harold/BLDG 3019: a block fire and rescue station constructed in 1981; infrastructure not eligible as a Criteria Consideration G resource.

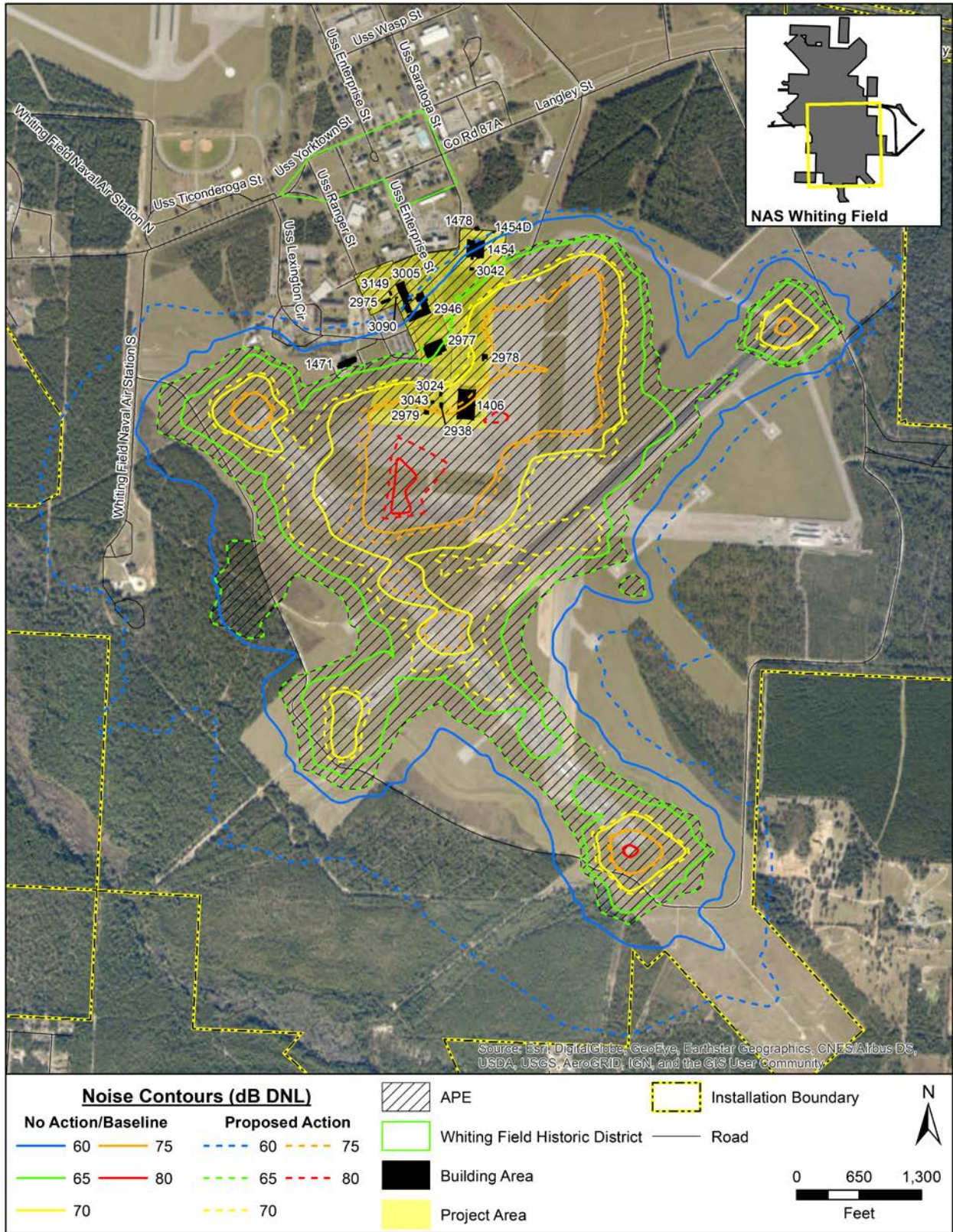
I hope you concur that NONE of these properties is eligible to the NRHP and that NONE warrant the issue of a Florida Master Site File number. Your concurrence will enable me to streamline the Cardno letter and represent the fact that there will be NO acoustic effects on historic properties.

Thanks,

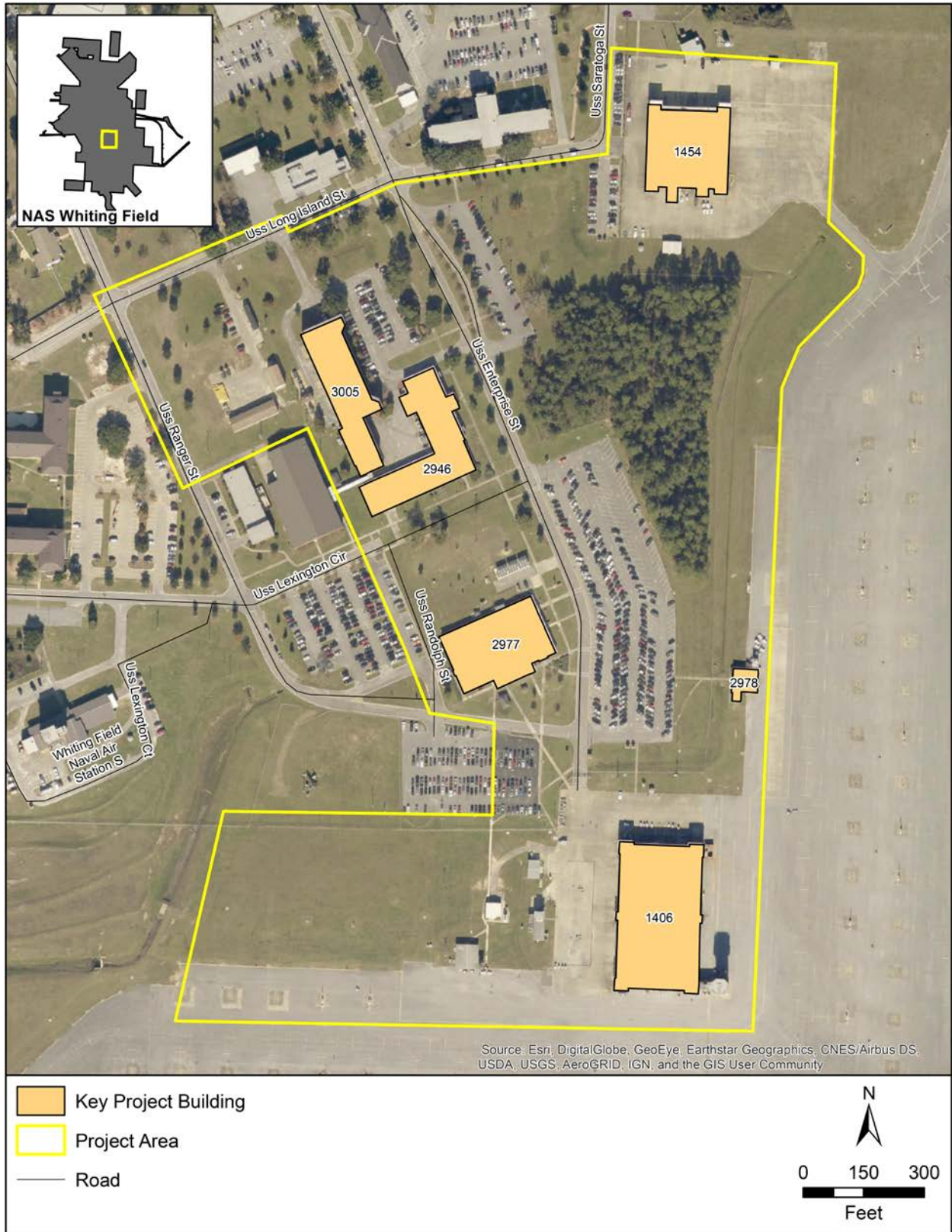
Len

Len Winter
Historic Preservation Officer
Cultural Resources Section Head
NAVFAC SE
BOX 30/BLDG 135N
NAS Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL 32212
COMM: 904-542-6861

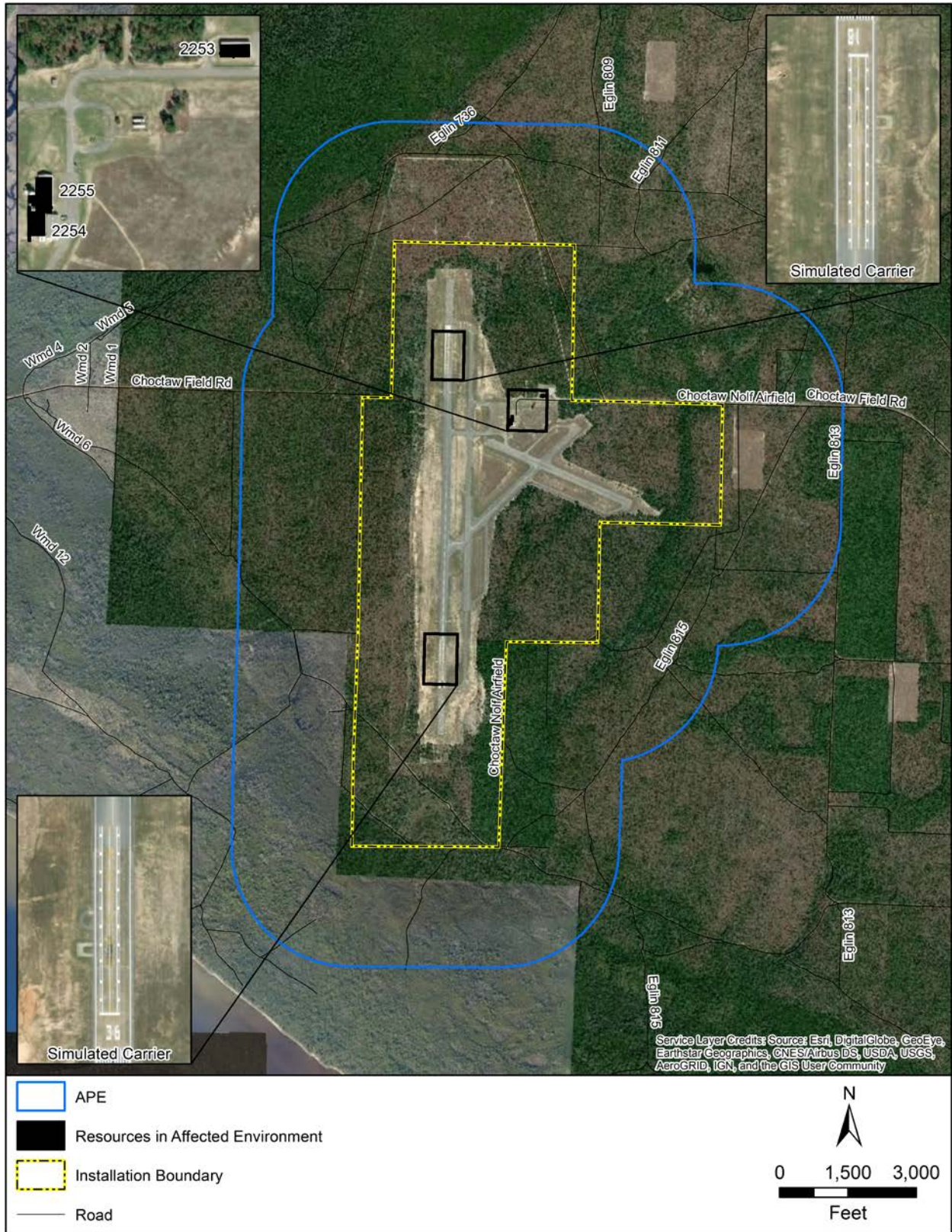
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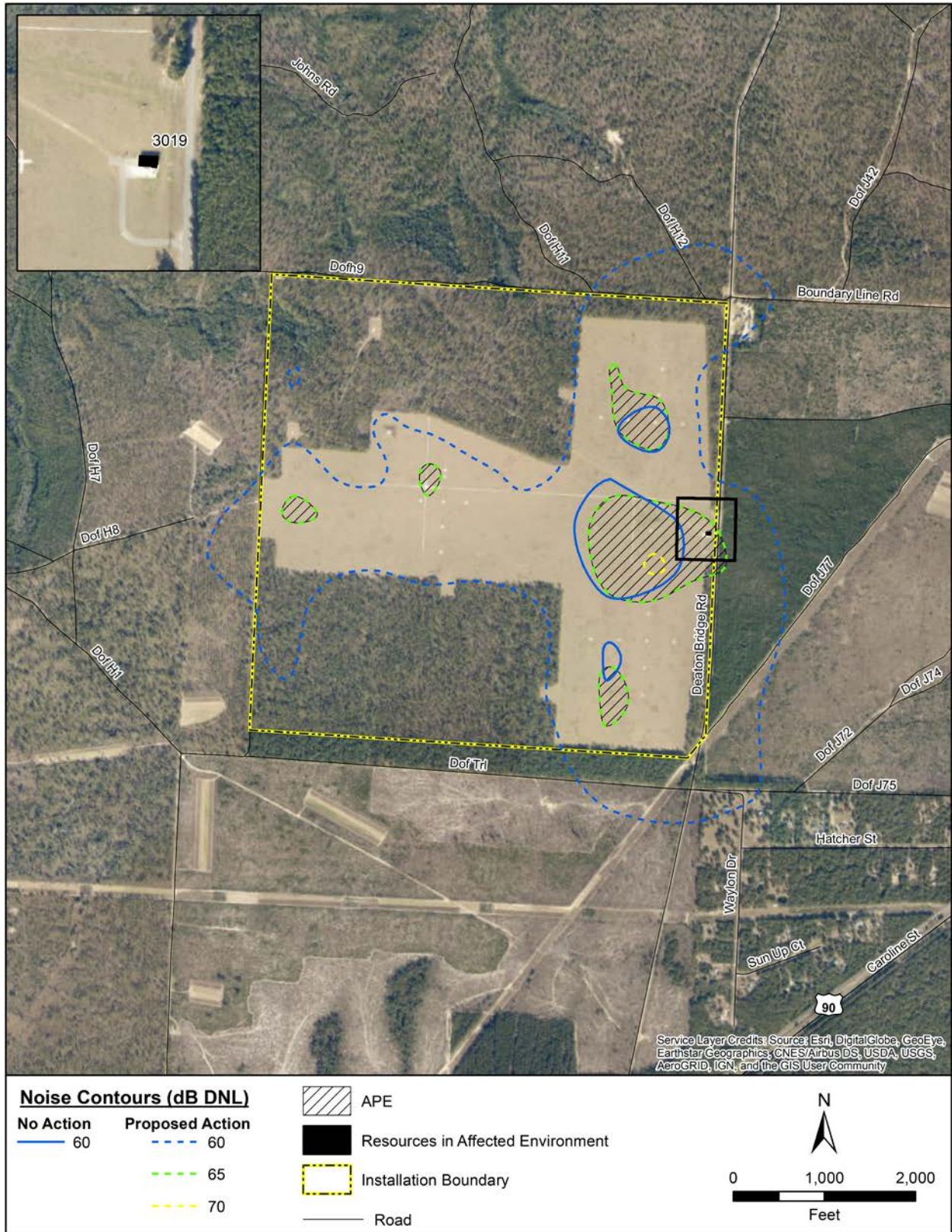
Map 1. NAS Whiting Field APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



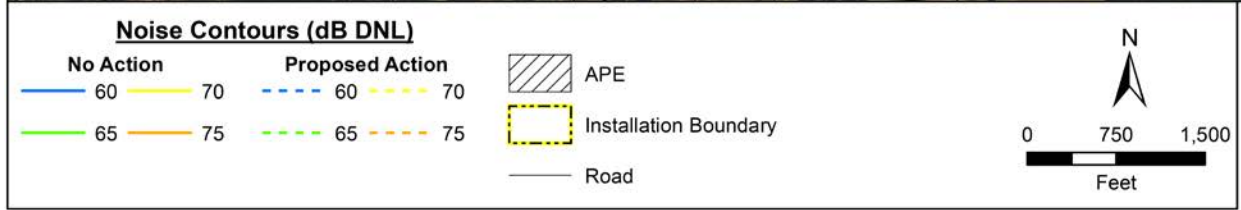
Map 2. NAS Whiting Field Project Area with Key Project Buildings



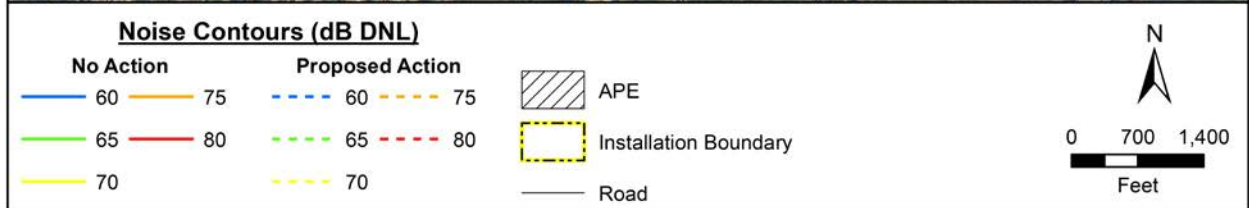
Map 3. NOLF Choctaw APE



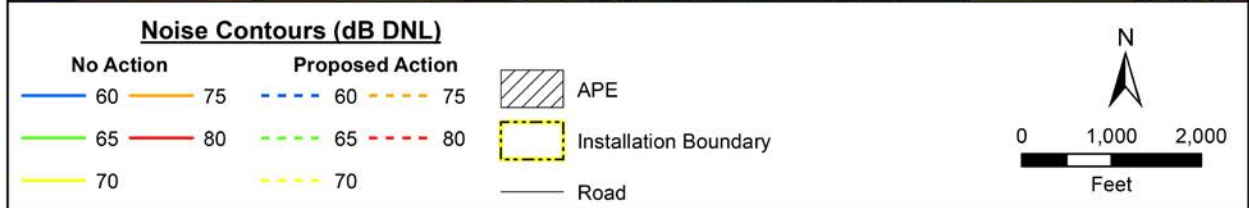
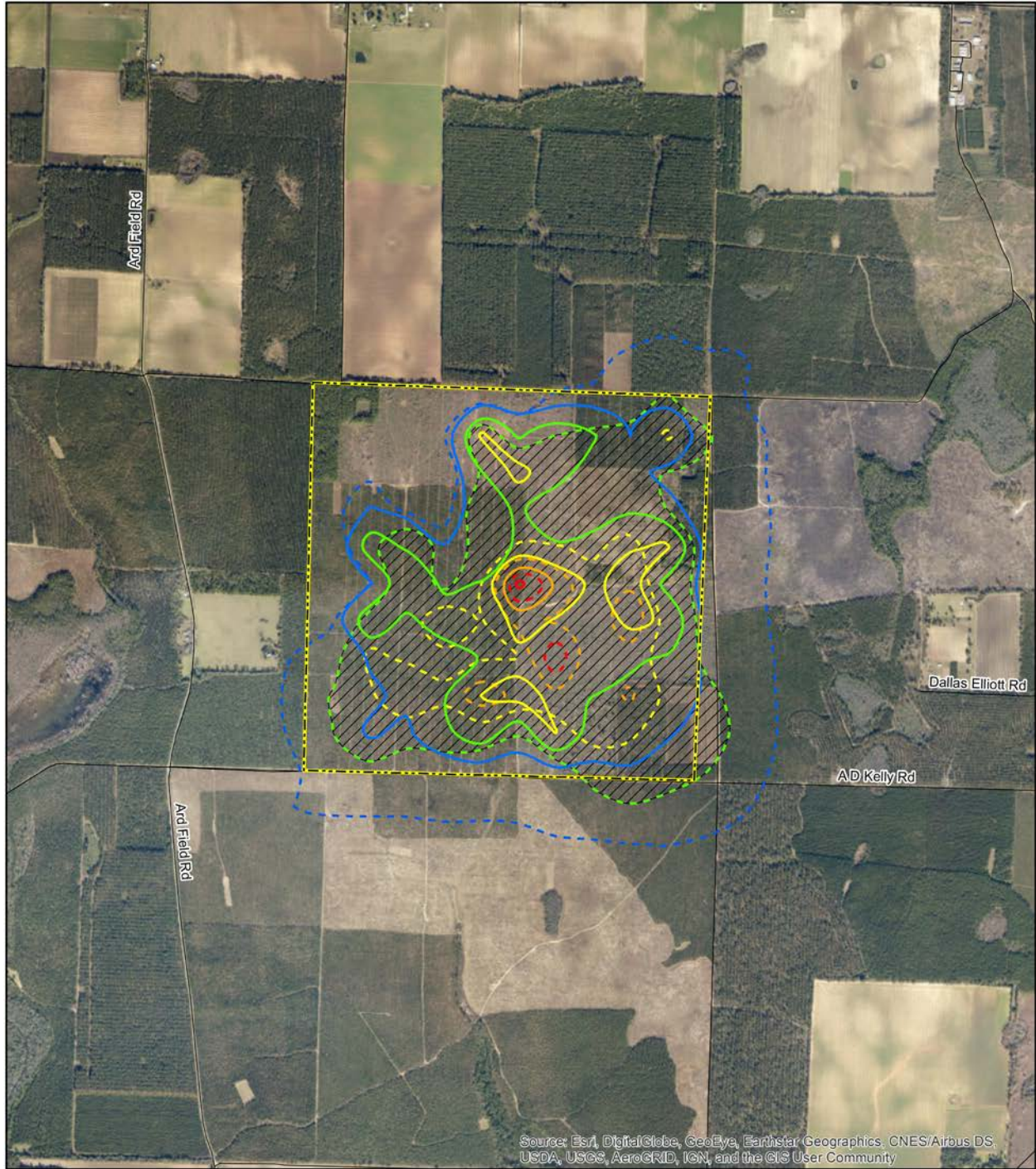
Map 4. NOLF Harold APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



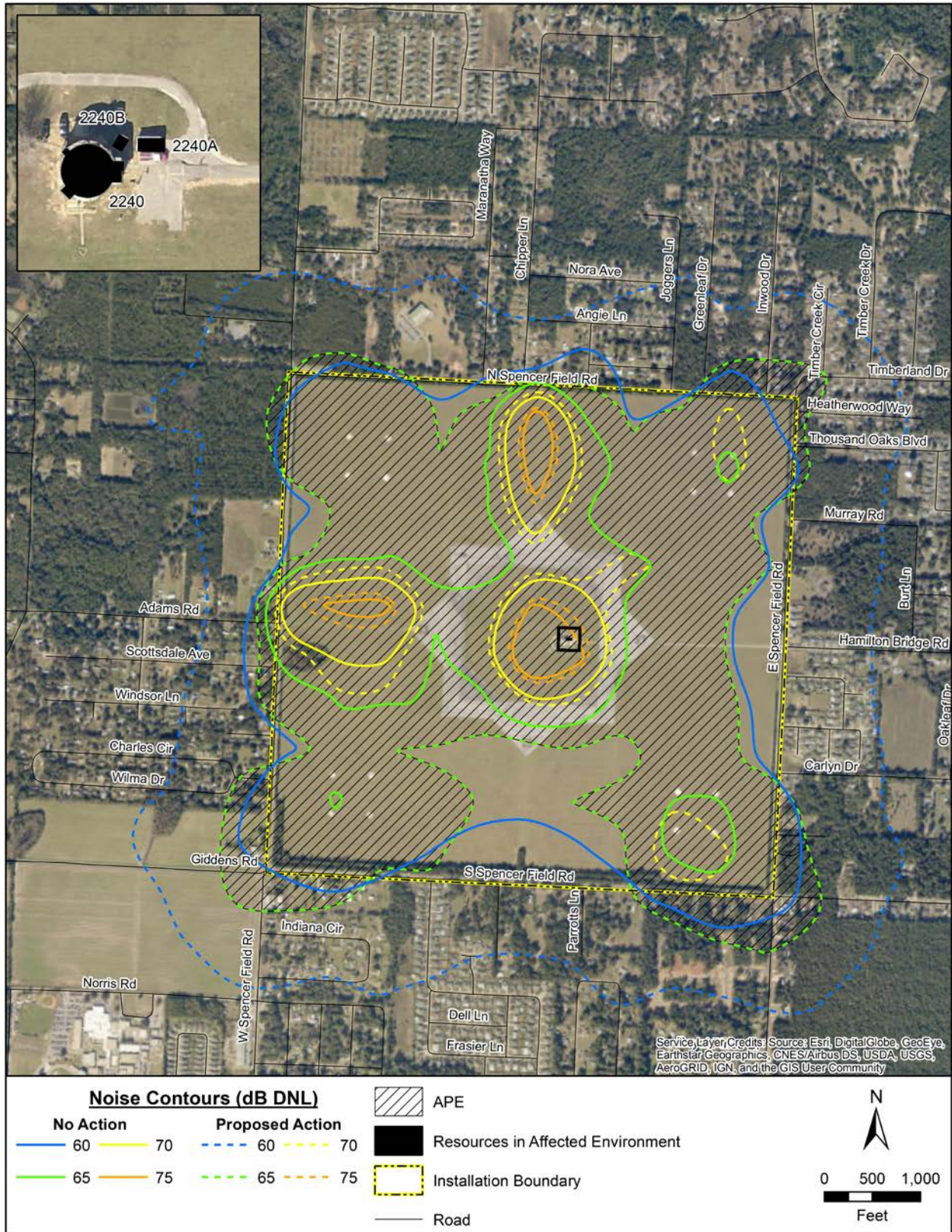
Map 5. NOLF Pace APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



Map 6. NOLF Santa Rosa APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



Map 7. NOLF Site X APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



Map 8. NOLF Spencer APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



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RON DESANTIS
Governor

LAUREL M. LEE
Secretary of State

Mr. Len Winter
Historic Preservation Officer
Naval Facilities and Engineering Command Southwest
Box 30 / Building 135N
NAS Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL 32212

June 21, 2019

RE: DHR Project File No.: 2019-3520, Received by DHR: June 19, 2019
Advanced Helicopter Training System (AHTS) at NAS Whiting Field and associated Navy Outlying Landing Fields (NOLF) Spencer and Harold – Potential Acoustic Effects on Six Utility Buildings
Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Santa Rosa County

Dear Mr. Winter:

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

Based on the information provided, this office concurs that buildings 2240A, 2240B, 2938, 3019, 3090, and 3139 do not appear to meet the criteria for listing on the *National Register*. Therefore, we concur with your finding that the referenced buildings will not be affected by this undertaking.

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

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Historical Resources
and State Historic Preservation Officer

Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building • 500 South Bronough Street • Tallahassee, Florida 32399
850.245.6300 • 850.245.6436 (Fax) • FLHeritage.com





FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RON DESANTIS
Governor

LAUREL M. LEE
Secretary of State

Mr. Len Winter
Historic Preservation Officer
Naval Facilities and Engineering Command Southwest
Box 30 / Building 135N
NAS Jacksonville
Jacksonville, FL 32212

June 26, 2019

RE: DHR Project File No.: 2019-3601, Received by DHR: June 24, 2019
Advanced Helicopter Training System (AHTS) at NAS Whiting Field and associated Navy Outlying Landing Fields (NOLF) Pace and Santa Rosa – Potential Acoustic Effects on Six Buildings
Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Santa Rosa County

Dear Mr. Winter:

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

Based on the information provided, this office concurs that buildings at NOLF Pace 3016, 3016A, and 3077 and NOLF Santa Rosa 3006, 3007, and 3031 do not appear to meet the criteria for listing on the *National Register*. Therefore, we concur with your finding that the referenced buildings will not be affected by this undertaking.

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

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Historical Resources
and State Historic Preservation Officer



DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

**COMMANDING OFFICER
NAS WHITING FIELD
7550 USS ESSEX STREET SUITE 200
MILTON, FLORIDA 32570-6155**

IN REPLY REFER TO

5700
Ser N00/8506
July 17, 2019

Jason Aldridge
Supervisor Compliance and Review
Florida Division of Historical Resources
R.A. Gray Building
500 S. Bronough Street, Room 423
Tallahassee, FL 32399-0250

Dear Mr. Aldridge:

The United States Navy (Navy) is initiating consultation in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (54 U.S.C. 306108) regarding a Proposed Undertaking to implement the Advanced Helicopter Training System (AHTS) at Naval Air Station (NAS) Whiting Field and its associated Navy Outlying Landing Fields (NOLFs) in Florida. The Navy is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) under the National Environmental Policy Act to evaluate potential environmental impacts associated with implementing the AHTS at NAS Whiting Field. The project Area of Potential Effects (APE), compliance steps and findings are outlined below. Due to the high-priority status of the project, the Navy respectfully requests your office's cooperation in expediting this consultation in accordance with 36 CFR §800.3(g).

Proposed Undertaking Description

The Navy proposes to modernize the rotary-wing and tilt-rotor integrated pilot production training program at Training Air Wing FIVE located at NAS Whiting Field and six of its 13 associated NOLFs (Spencer, Pace, Site X, Harold, Santa Rosa, and Choctaw), by implementing the AHTS. The AHTS would involve the replacement of TH-57 Sea Ranger training helicopters, replacement of existing ground based training systems (i.e., simulators), an increase in operational training tempo, changes in operational tactics based on a new curriculum, construction of new facilities, and an increase in personnel. The TH 57 would be replaced with a yet-to-be-determined commercially available helicopter, referred to as the TH-XX. A conservative representative surrogate helicopter, the Eurocopter UH-72 Lakota, is used to analyze the potential impacts from the TH-XX because the Navy has not yet selected the specific helicopter that will replace the TH-57. The Proposed Undertaking would provide a replacement of approximately 113 TH-57 helicopters with 130 TH-XX helicopters for Training Air Wing FIVE at NAS Whiting Field. Although 140 TH-57 helicopters were initially all operating at NAS Whiting Field, the number currently in operation is approximately 113 due to airframe attrition over the life of the TH-57 program. All TH-XX flight operations would be conducted at existing airfields and within airspace currently utilized by Training Air Wing FIVE.

Facility development at NAS Whiting Field would be needed for TH-XX maintenance hangars and supporting ground-based training systems. The TH-XX and flight simulators would arrive before permanent facilities would be constructed. As a result, in order to meet the transition timeline, temporary facilities would be constructed. There are four facilities projects, two permanent and two temporary. The estimated construction period for temporary facilities

would begin as soon as late 2019/early 2020 and extend through 2021. The estimated construction period of permanent facilities would begin in 2023 and continue through 2026. Two types of facilities would be required for the AHTS: TH-XX maintenance hangars and training facilities (Enclosure 1).

Definition of APE

The APE for this undertaking is defined as the areas underlying modeled noise contours ≥ 65 decibel (dB) day night average sound level (DNL), where noise from aircraft operations under the Proposed Undertaking may affect historic properties (Enclosure 2). At NAS Whiting Field, the APE also includes the project area associated with the facility and infrastructure development for AHTS maintenance hangars and supporting ground-based training systems, where existing facilities would be demolished or renovated and new ones would be constructed. For archaeological resources, potential effects would be limited to those areas within the APE at NAS Whiting Field where new project construction and ground disturbance would occur. These areas encompass approximately 47 acres.

Identification of Historic Properties - Built Environment

NAS Whiting Field has fourteen buildings located within the APE that have been determined ineligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). These include buildings 1406 [SR1569], 1454 [SR1587], 1454D [SR1607], 1471 [SR1592], 1478 [SR1594], 2946 [SR1623], 2975 [SR1628], 2977 [SR1629], 2978 [SR1630], 2979 [SR1631], 3005 [SR1643], 3024 [SR02264], 3042 [SR02271] and 3043 [SR02272]). Three buildings in the APE at NAS Whiting Field had not been evaluated for NRHP eligibility. Building 3090 is a brick steam-heat building constructed in 1995; Building 3149 is a small metal storage building erected in 2007; and Building 2938 is a stuccoed airfield lighting vault constructed in 1965 (NAS Whiting Field 2014). The SHPO has recently concurred that modern buildings 3090 and 3149 do not qualify for inclusion in the NRHP as Criteria Consideration G resources and that utility Building 2938 does not qualify for the NRHP under standard criteria A - D for facilities that exceed 50 years of age.

The APE at NOLF Choctaw has four architectural resources determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP (Buildings 2253 [SR02279], 2254 [SR02280], 2255 [SR02281] and 202834 [SR02282]).

An architectural survey at NOLF Spencer determined that Building 2240 [SR02286] located within the APE was ineligible for listing in the NRHP. Two buildings in the APE at NOLF Spencer had not been previously evaluated for NRHP eligibility. Building 2240A is a metal emergency vehicle garage that was erected in 1987 and Building 2240B is a metal fire station storage shed that was erected in 2000. The SHPO has recently concurred that modern buildings 2240A and 2240B do not qualify for inclusion in the NRHP as Criteria Consideration G resources.

At NOLF Harold, there is one architectural resource within the APE that had not been surveyed. Building 3019 is a fire and rescue station constructed in 1981. The SHPO has

recently concurred that modern building 3019 does not qualify for inclusion in the NRHP as a Criteria Consideration G resource.

At NOLF Pace, there are three architectural resources within the APE that had not been previously surveyed. Building 3016 is a fire and rescue station constructed in 1981; Building 3016A is a small associated metal storage shed erected in 2000; and Building 3077 is a similar metal storage shed erected in 1993. The SHPO has recently concurred that modern buildings 3016, 3016A and 3077 do not qualify for inclusion in the NRHP as Criteria Consideration G resources.

At NOLF Santa Rosa, there are three architectural resources within the APE that had not been previously surveyed. Building 3031 is a fire and rescue station constructed in 1986; Building 3006 is an airfield lighting vault constructed in 1977; and Building 3007 is an observation tower erected in 1977. The SHPO has recently concurred that modern buildings 3031, 3006 and 3007 do not qualify for inclusion in the NRHP as Criteria Consideration G resources.

Site X, which was recently obtained by the Navy as part of a land exchange with Escambia County, has not yet been surveyed. A review of the Florida Master Site Files (FMSF) indicates that there are no historic properties currently identified within the APE. NAVFAC SE has determined that the few post-1990 resources on the property do not qualify for inclusion in the NRHP as Criteria Consideration G resources.

Identification of Historic Properties – Archaeological Sites

A search of the FMSF concluded that no archaeological survey has been conducted within the project APE at NAS Whiting Field where new construction will be undertaken. According to the Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP), the development of NAS Whiting Field over the past 75 years has incurred significant ground impacts and the discovery of intact archaeological resources in the course of AHTS project construction is not anticipated.

Determination of Effects

Projected DNL contours under the Proposed Undertaking and the No Action Alternative are shown in the figures in Enclosure 2. Under the No Action Alternative, the Navy would not implement the AHTS at NAS Whiting Field and its associated NOLFs. However, the No Action Alternative reflects the recent completion (January 2019) of the land exchange for Site X. As a result, the No Action Alternative includes changes in the distribution of training operations (the total number of annual operations would remain the same as are currently conducted) to account for the new use of NOLF Site X for helicopter operations.

The Proposed Undertaking at NAS Whiting Field would potentially involve the demolition of buildings 1406, 1454, 2977, 2978 and 3005, and the partial renovation of Building 2946. All six buildings have been determined ineligible for listing in the NRHP. As a result, demolition or alteration of these facilities will not incur effects on historic properties.

The 19 buildings previously found ineligible to the NRHP, as well as the 12 modern buildings that were recently determined ineligible to the NRHP, will be used and maintained in the course of the AHTS program. Current and projected AHTS acoustic levels will not exceed 75dB DNL and will not incur effects on these facilities.

Summary


In summary, there are no historic property buildings within the APE at NAS Whiting Field and NOLFs Pace, Site X, Santa Rosa, Choctaw, Harold and Spencer. All of the buildings currently located at the NOLFs will be maintained and used during the AHTS program. The noise levels at the NOLFs would remain within the range of current noise contours and not exceed 75 dB DNL.

Because of ground disturbance associated with installation development over the past 75 years, it is unlikely that intact archaeological deposits are located within the project APE at NAS Whiting Field. As a safeguard, NAS Whiting Field will implement the inadvertent discovery response plan stipulated in the ICRMP in the unlikely event that archaeological resources are identified in the course of construction. This process includes stopping work and evaluating the discovery for NRHP eligibility in consultation with the SHPO and other interested parties pursuant to the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. In similar regard, NAS Whiting Field will respond pursuant to regulations found at 43 CFR 10 supporting the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990 in the unlikely event that "cultural items" are discovered in the course of construction.

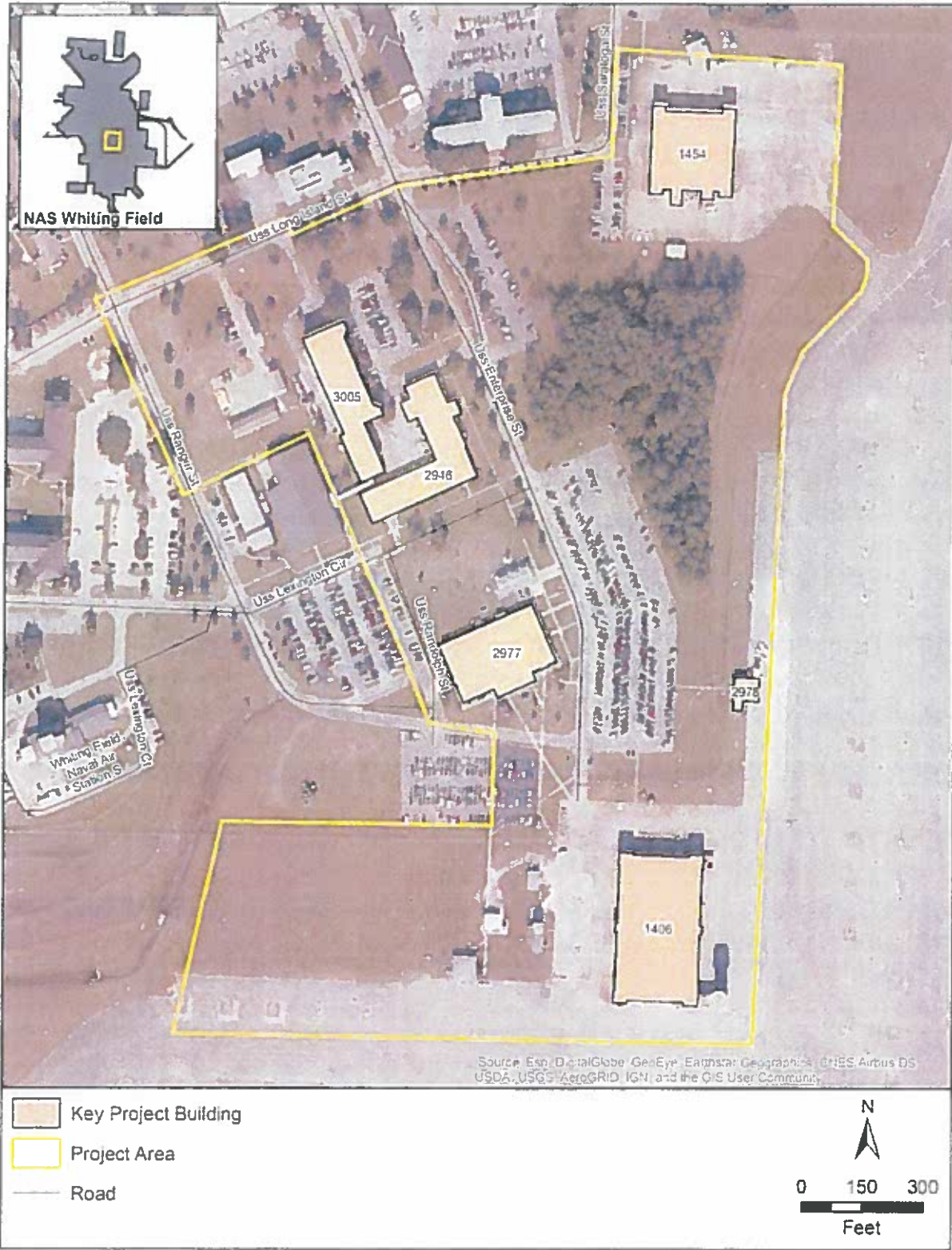
The Navy has concluded that the AHTS program at NAS Whiting Field and NOLFs Spencer, Pace, Harold, Santa Rosa, Choctaw and Site X warrants a finding of No Historic Properties Affected. We request your comment and/or concurrence on this finding. If we do not receive your comments and/or concurrence within the required 30 days, we will assume concurrence and proceed with the undertaking as described.

Please contact Dr. John Calabrese at john.calabrese@navy.mil or at (904) 542-6985 if you have any questions.

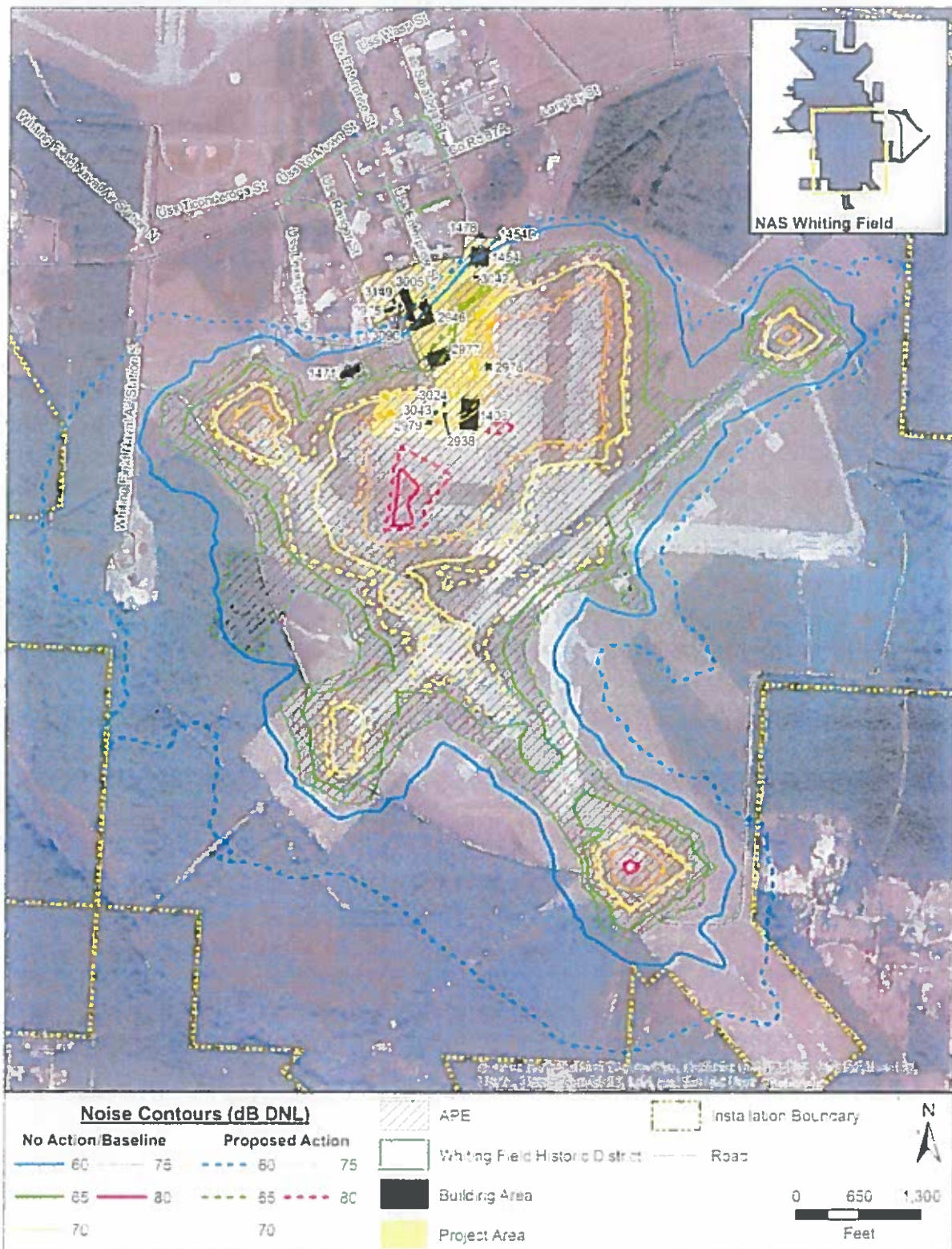
Sincerely,


PAUL D. BOWDICH
Captain, U.S. Navy
Commanding Officer

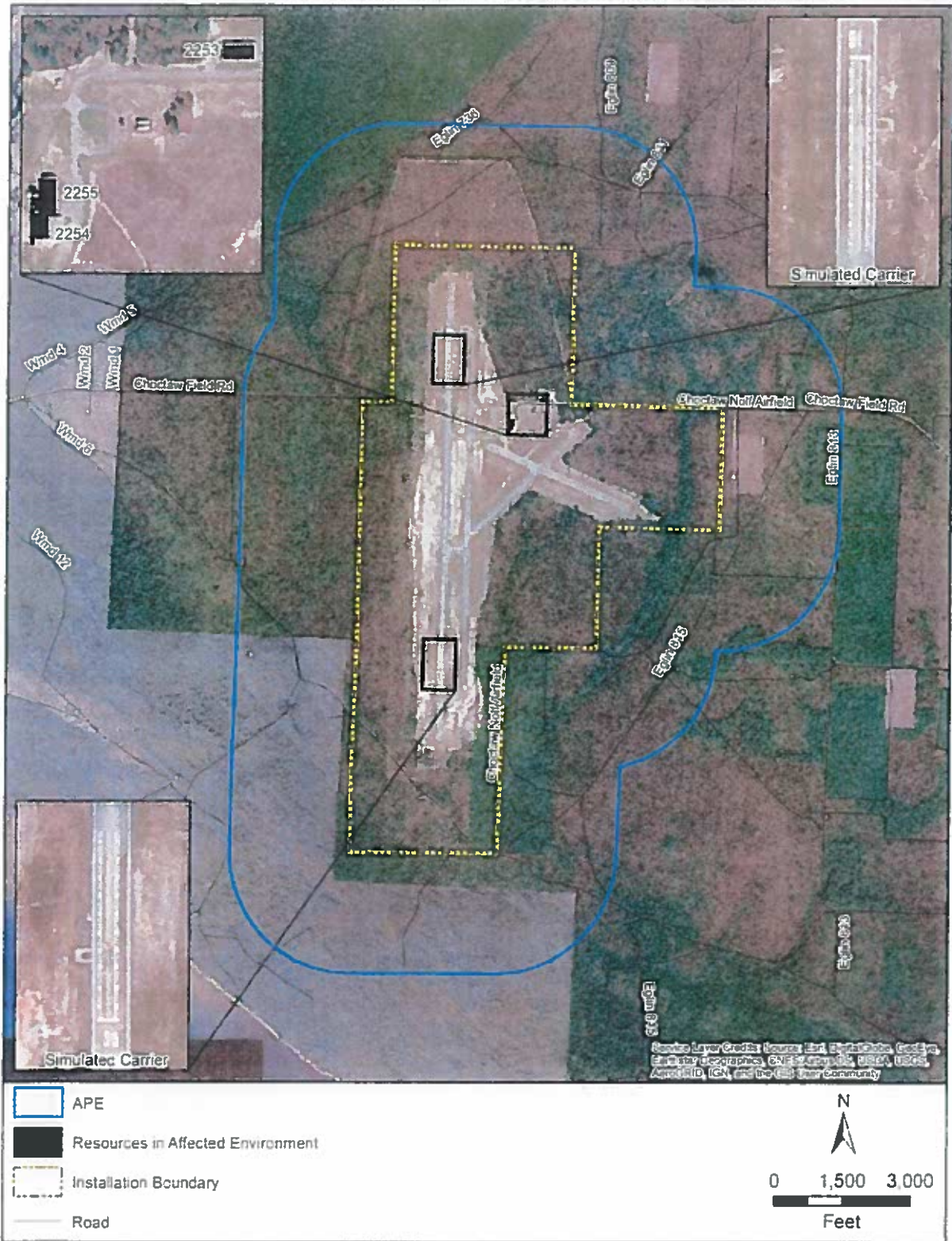
- Enclosures:
1. Project Area for AHTS Facility Development
 2. Day/Night Average Sound Level Contours and APE for Proposed AHTS at NAS Whiting Field and its NOLFs



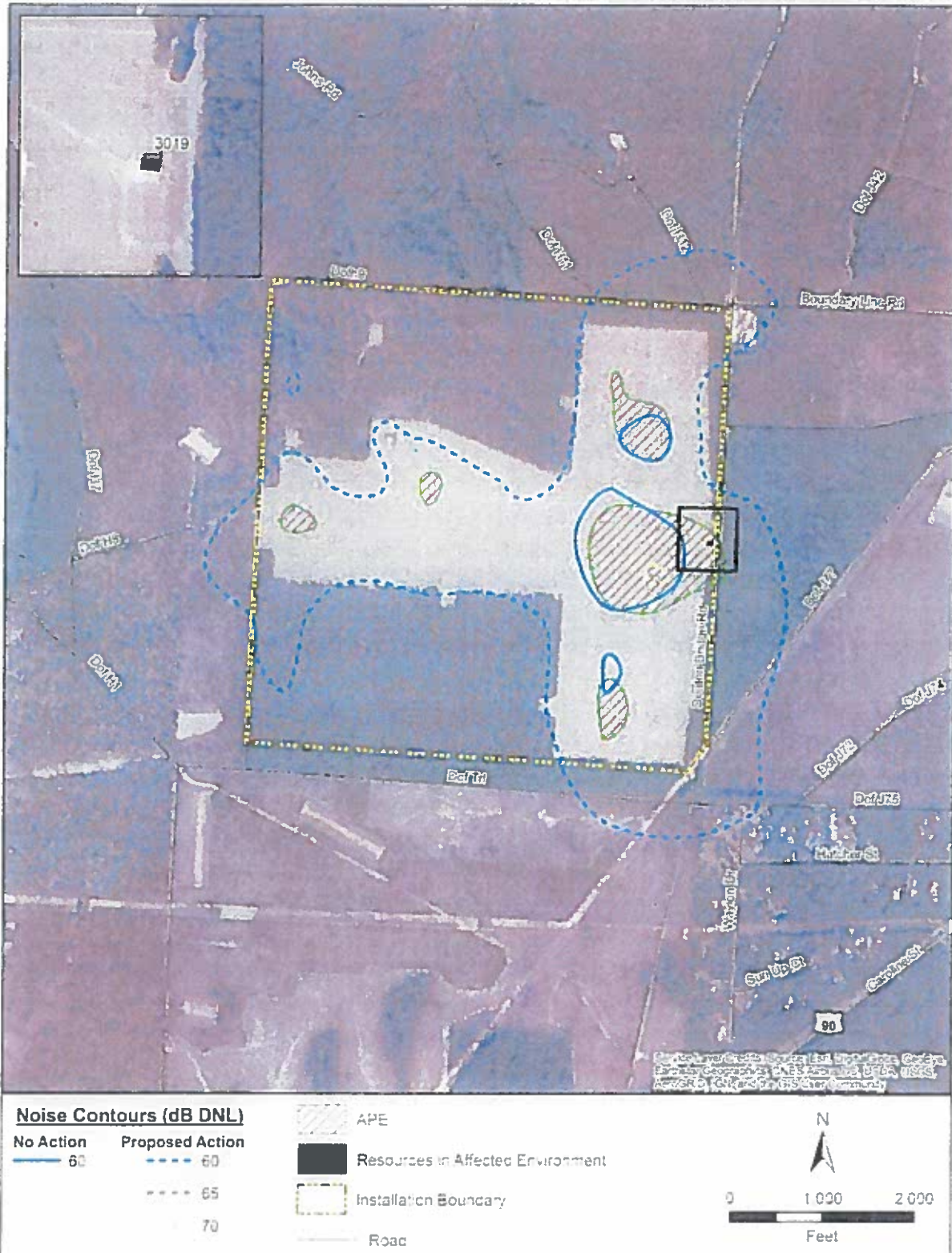
Map 2. NAS Whiting Field Project Area with Key Project Buildings



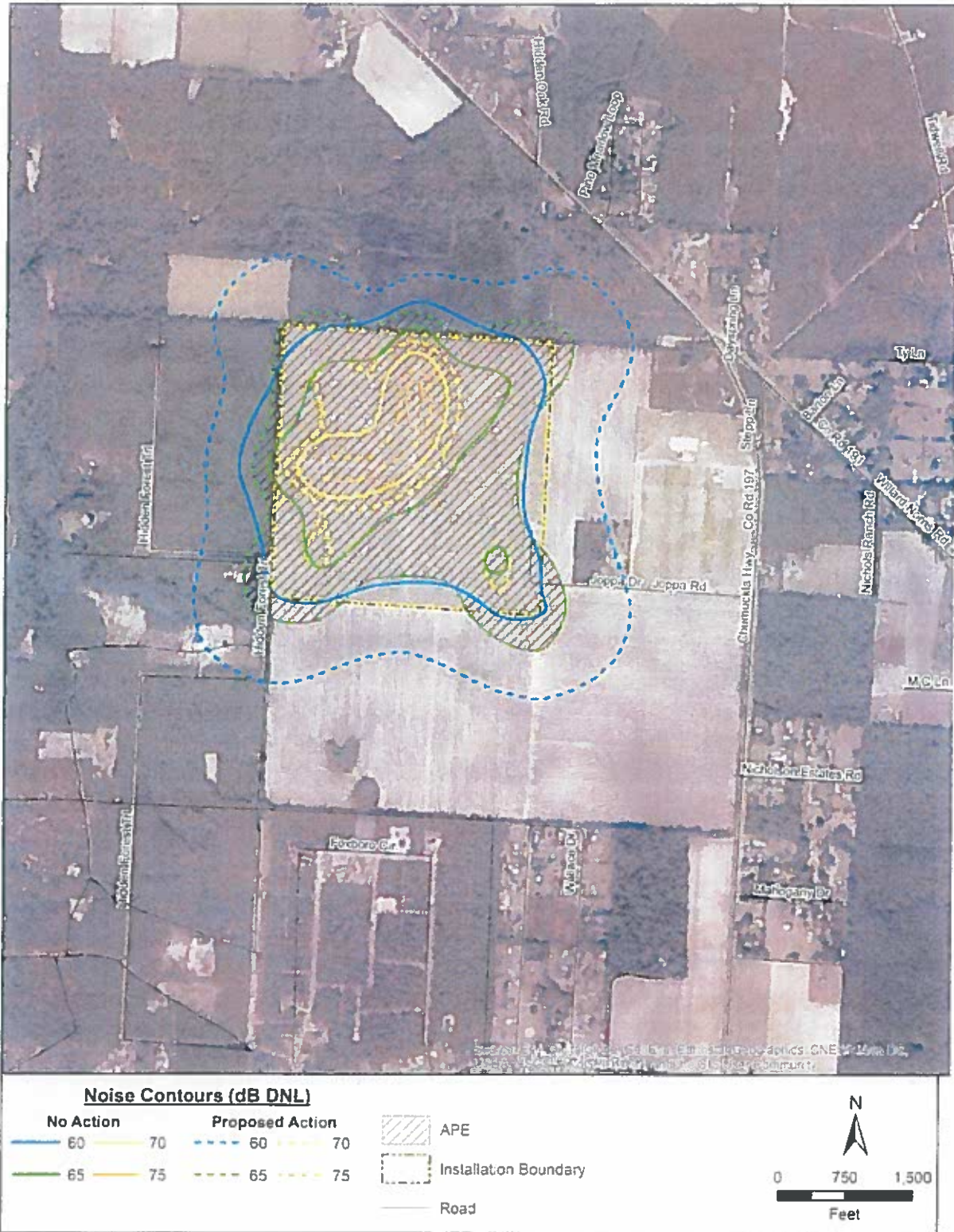
Map 1. NAS Whiting Field APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



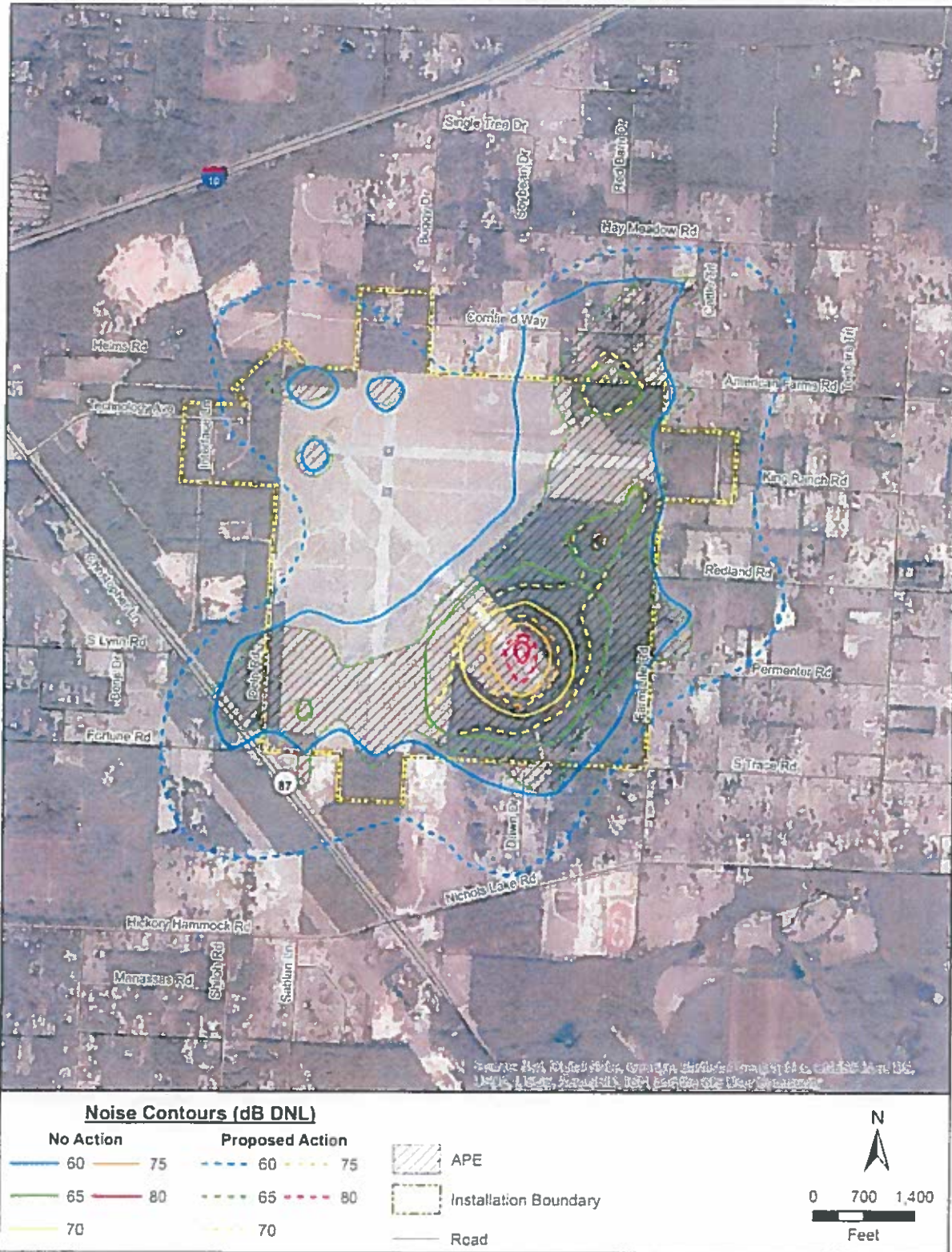
Map 3. NOLF Choctaw APE



Map 4. NOLF Harold APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



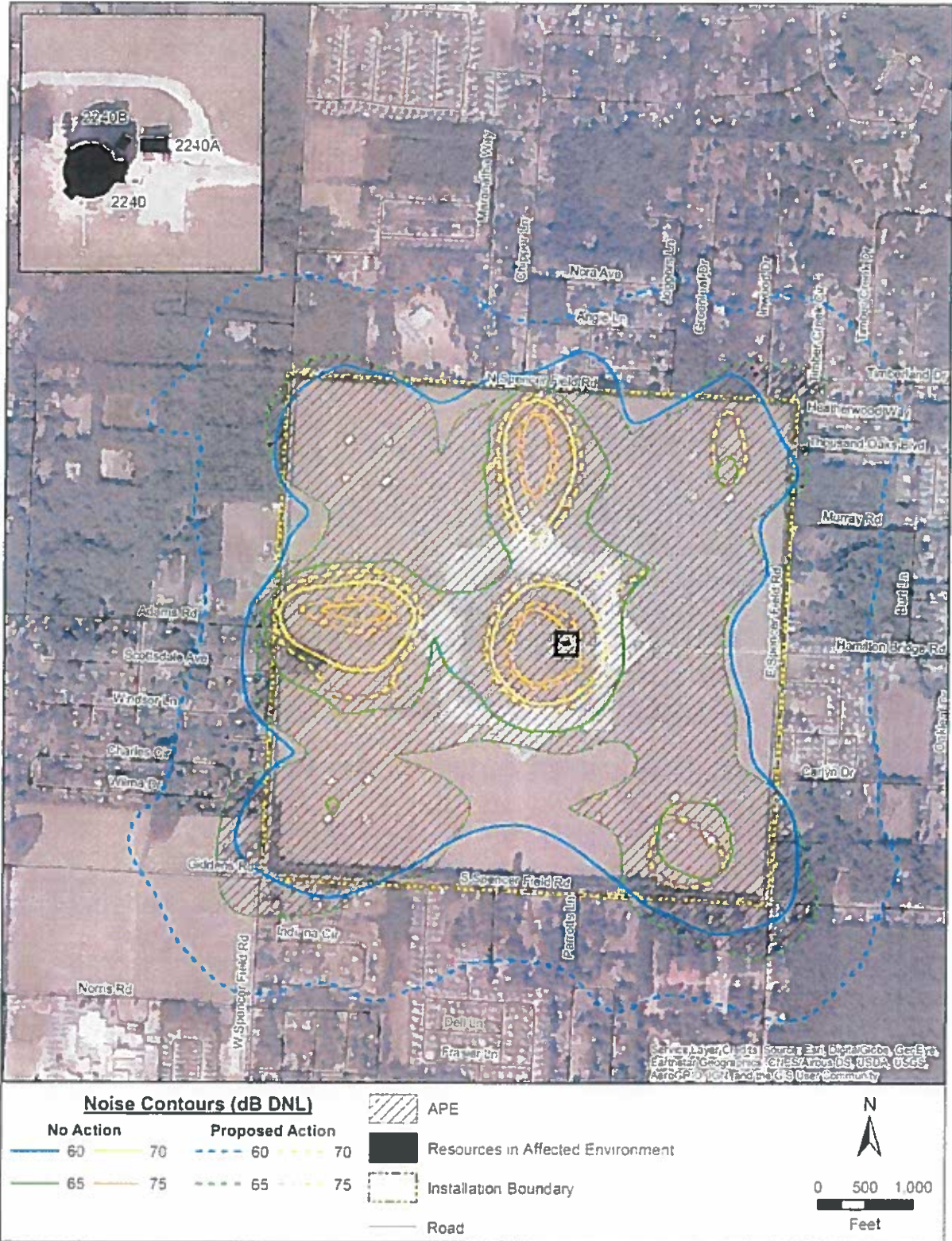
Map 5. NOLF Pace APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



Map 6. NOLF Santa Rosa APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



Map 7. NOLF Site X APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



Map 8. NOLF Spencer APE with No Action and Proposed Action Noise Contours



FLORIDA DEPARTMENT *of* STATE

RON DESANTIS
Governor

LAUREL M. LEE
Secretary of State

Captain Paul D. Bowdich
Commanding Officer
NAS Whiting Field
7550 USS Essex Street, Suite 200
Milton, Florida 32570-6155

August 20, 2019

RE: DHR Project File No.: 2019-4856
Proposed Advanced Helicopter Training System (AHTS) at Naval Air Station Whiting Field and Its Associated Navy Outlying Landing Fields (NOLF) in Florida.
Naval Air Station Whiting Field, Santa Rosa County

Dear Captain Bowdich:

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

Based on the information provided, this office concurs with your finding that the proposed undertakings at NAS Whiting Field and NOLFs Spencer, Pace, Herald, Santa Rosa, Choctaw and Site X will have no effect on the historic properties.

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

Sincerely,

Timothy A. Parsons, Ph.D.
Director, Division of Historical Resources
and State Historic Preservation Officer

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