

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF A FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT: Proposed Mortar and Artillery Training at Richardson Training Area, Joint Base Elmendorf- Richardson, Alaska

ACTION: Notice of Availability (NOA)

SUMMARY: The Department of the Air Force (DAF) is issuing this notice to inform the public of the availability of the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for Proposed Mortar and Artillery Training at Richardson Training Area, Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska (JBER). The Final EIS addresses the proposal to modify the conditions under which live-fire weapons training and qualification is conducted at JBER to meet the United States Army's home station training requirements and to ensure Army elements at JBER are fully prepared for operational deployments in support of the United States' evolving Arctic Strategy. The EIS has been prepared in accordance with Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969. This notice also serves as final public notification of impacts to wetlands and floodplains in accordance with Section 2(a)(4) of Executive Order (EO) 11988, *Floodplain Management* and Section 2(b) of EO 11990, *Protection of Wetlands*.

The DAF has identified Alternative 1 as its preferred alternative in the Final EIS because it allows the Army to fully meet live-fire proficiency and certification in accordance with regulations and doctrine as well as minimizes the need to travel to other installations.

The EIS evaluates the effects of the DAF's proposal on the following resource areas: noise, air quality, sub-Arctic climate considerations, safety and occupational health, earth resources, water resources, wetlands, biological resources, wildland fire, cultural resources and subsistence, land use and recreation, transportation and circulation, socioeconomics, infrastructure and utilities, hazardous materials and waste, and forest resources. For areas where significant impacts are identified, the EIS proposes mitigation measures to reduce or eliminate those impacts. The EIS also responds to substantive comments received on the Draft EIS during the 60-day public comment period, which ended on June 24, 2025.

The EIS will be made available for public inspection for a 30-day period beginning on January 30, 2026 and ending on March 2, 2026. Electronic copies of the EIS can be downloaded from the project website at <https://JBER-PMART-EIS.com> (under "EIS Documents"). The EIS is also available for public inspection for a 30-day period beginning on January 30, 2026, at the following repositories:

- Wasilla Public Library, 500 N. Crusey Street, Wasilla, AK 99654
- Z.J. Loussac Public Library, 3600 Denali Street, Anchorage, AK 99503
- Chugiak-Eagle River Branch Library, 12001 Business Boulevard, #176, Eagle River, AK 99577
- JBER Library, 123 Chilkoot Avenue, Bldg. 7, JBER, AK 99505

AUTHORITY: This NOA is published pursuant to the provisions of NEPA (42 U.S.C. 4321, *et seq.*).

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Inquiries regarding this notice may be submitted to JBER Public Affairs, JBER.PA@US.AF.MIL, (907) 552-8151; (U.S. Post Office) JBER Public Affairs, 10480 Sijan Ave., Suite 123, JBER, AK 99506. In the subject line please include "PMART EIS."