

NOTICE FOR EARLY PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY WITHIN WETLANDS AND FLOODPLAINS UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

Improvements to Installation Perimeter Security at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) invites public input on practicable alternatives for proposed activity which may affect wetlands and floodplains at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson (JBER), Alaska. The Proposed Action would address matters on the JBER perimeter, including strategic placement of physical barriers to improve installation security in three locations: two locations where the installation perimeter crosses Ship Creek and a third location adjacent to the Glenn Highway and Anchorage Municipal Landfill. The Proposed Action would also implement improvements at four other areas of the JBER perimeter: Richardson Training Areas (RTAs) 424, 429, and 430; RTA 420; RTA 411; and the eastern boundary from Eagle River north to Beach Lake. Structural improvements, such as fence, are an alternative under consideration at all but the area from Eagle River to Beach Lake. The proposed project may have indirect impacts to floodplains associated with Ship Creek. The project is also likely to pass through wetland areas. In all instances, the intent is to avoid and/or minimize the potential for adverse impacts to the maximum extent practicable. Alternatives to physical barriers (fence) include non-structural measures such as cameras, alarms, etc. A complete analysis of the potential for impacts will be included and made available for public review approximately Fall 2025 in the Draft Environmental Assessment and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact/Finding of No Practicable Alternative for Improvements to Installation Perimeter Security at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska.

USAF is completing the Environmental Impact Analysis Process in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 32 CFR Part 989, the Air Force Implementing Regulations, and Air Force Manual 32-7003 for actions proposed within wetlands and floodplains. This early public notice is required by Executive Order 11990, "Protection of Wetlands", Executive Order 11988 "Floodplain Management", Executive Order 13690 "Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input". State and Federal regulatory agencies that may have the responsibility to review the action include the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Alaska Department of Fish and Game.

Written comments and inquiries can be directed to JBER Environmental Planning Office, 724 Quartermaster Road Door 5, JBER, AK 99505. Emailed comments can be submitted to 673CES.CEIEC.EnvPlanning@us.af.mil.