



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
99TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON (ACC)
NELLIS AIR FORCE BASE, NEVADA

8 APR '20 AM 7:59

99 CES/CENP
6020 Beale Ave.
Nellis AFB, NV 89191-6520

SHIPPED APR 03 2020

Andre Emme
Nevada State Clearinghouse
Nevada Division of State Lands
901 S Stewart Street
Suite 5003
Carson City, NV 89701-5246

Dear Mr. Emme:

The United States Air Force (USAF) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Proposed Expansion of Stagecoach Road on Nevada Test and Training Range (NTTR), Nevada (NV). To take into account possible environmental concerns, the USAF is engaging early with the appropriate resource and regulatory agencies as it formulates the undertaking. Accordingly, the USAF seeks consultation with your office.

Proposed Action

The EA will, as required by law and regulations, consider the potential impacts resulting from expanding Stagecoach Road and any alternatives on the NTTR South Range, NV. As an alternative to expanding the existing Stagecoach Road, the USAF is considering the construction of a frontage road between US Highway 95 (US-95) and Stagecoach Road. The frontage road is considered to be the preferred alternative because it allows safe transit from Range 63C to Box Canyon while both avoiding US-95 and remaining outside the bombing range safety limits. All other alternatives have been eliminated from further consideration using established criteria as permitted by 36 C.F.R. §989.8.

Recently, Creech Air Force Base (AFB) has been expanding to accommodate the unmanned aerial vehicle mission. Some NTTR personnel work on target fabrication and target debris processing at Box Canyon and restoring and maintaining targets at Box Canyon or Range 63. This proposed action would:

1. eliminate transit through Creech AFB;
2. alleviate traffic on the base;
3. provide a safe and secure route for transporting target debris; and
4. save an average of six miles of transit each-way for NTTR personnel.

Purpose and Need

The proposed action would meet the purpose and need for the action by providing a safe and secure road from Range 63C and Box Canyon at NTTR. The proposed action alternatives would

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allow access for NTTR personnel to their destinations without the need to travel through Creech AFB. In addition, trucks carrying ordnance and target debris from Range 63C would no longer need to travel on public highways to transit to the processing activity area at Box Canyon.

Project Location

The attached figure illustrates the proposed alternatives locations. The proposed road construction would consist of a paved two-lane road approximately 11 miles long. Stagecoach Road (Alternative 1) would begin within Range 63C with the proposed action starting from the northwest terminus of the paved target road and Frontage Road (Alternative 2) would start near the existing security gate. Both alternatives would pass on the range side of Point Bravo, continue parallel to US-95 and terminate at Box Canyon Road. The major difference between the alternatives would be that the Stagecoach Road would be constructed on the Las Vegas and Tonopah Railroad grade and Frontage Road would be a new road traversing mostly undisturbed area.

Environmental Assessment

The EA will assess the potential environmental consequences associated with the proposed action alternatives and the no action alternative. Potential impacts identified during the initial planning stages include effects on land use, air quality, traffic/transportation, biological and cultural resources, and socioeconomic conditions. In support of this process, we request your input in identifying general or specific issues or areas of concern you believe should be addressed in the EA.

We intend to provide your agency with a copy of the Draft EA once the document is completed. Please inform us if additional copies are needed or if someone else within your agency other than you should receive the Draft EA.

The USAF point of contact for Environmental Planning is Mr. Tod Oppenborn. Please send him your comments and concerns at 6020 Beale Ave, Nellis AFB, NV, 89191-6520, or by email at tod.oppenborn@us.af.mil, or by telephone at (702) 652-9366. I look forward to receiving any input you may have regarding this endeavor. Thank you in advance for your assistance in this effort.

Sincerely,

ROWLAND.CHARLES.W.JR.10734381
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CHARLES W. ROWLAND JR.
Chief, Portfolio Optimization

Attachment:
Figure 1. Project Location Map

Figure 1. Project Location Map

