

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY
DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR TRAINING AREA 1
SHORELINE STABILIZATION AND EROSION PROTECTION
JOINT BASE LANGLEY- EUSTIS
NEWPORT NEWS, VIRGINIA**

Description: Interested parties are hereby notified that a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA), Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and Draft Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONPA) have been prepared for the Proposed Action described below.

Authority: This notice is being issued to all interested parties in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended (42 United States Code 4321, et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing the procedural provisions of NEPA (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and the Air Force Environmental Impact Analysis Process (32 CFR Part 989).

Proposed Action: The Department of the Air Force (Air Force) proposes to stabilize and protect the existing erosion-affected shoreline of Training Area 1 at Joint Base Langley Eustis – Eustis in the City of Newport News, Virginia. Construction would be conducted over the course of approximately one year, beginning with site preparation, including vegetation clearing and grubbing. After implementation of appropriate stabilization techniques, revegetation would occur and the appropriate marsh, shrub zones, and/or bank areas would be planted. A long-term vegetation management program would be implemented to stabilize and protect newly-planted vegetation. The Air Force is considering three alternatives towards meeting the objectives and goals of the Proposed Action: 1) Alternative A, which would utilize a non-structural stabilization approach focused on enhancing, managing, and protecting existing marshes to maximize the natural protective features of the existing ecosystem; 2) Alternative B, which would employ a living shoreline design to create a structural solution that maintains the natural functionality and connectivity of the existing ecosystem; and 3) Alternative C, which would include the construction of precast concrete walls (bulkheads) to stabilize sections of eroded shoreline. In addition to these three action alternatives, the No Action Alternative is also being considered, which provides a comparative baseline as required under the CEQ regulations.

The Draft EA evaluates the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts on the environment from implementing the Proposed Action. The evaluation concludes there would be no significant impact, either individually or cumulatively, as a result of implementing the Proposed Action, which includes routine best management practices and impact minimization measures.

Public Review: The Draft EA, Draft FONSI, and Draft FONPA will be available for a 30-day public comment period online at: <https://www.jble.af.mil/Units/Army/Eustis-Environmental/>.

Comments: The public may obtain information on the Draft EA and submit written comments during the review period, via US postal mail to 733d Mission Support Group, CED/CEIE, JLBE-Eustis, 1407 Washington Blvd, Fort Eustis, VA 2360; by email to USAF.jble.733-msg.list.ced-ee-p2-procurement@mail.mil; or by phone at (757) 878-7578.