







# United States Air Force F-35A Operational Beddown - Air National Guard Environmental Impact Statement

## What's Inside this Newsletter?

- ▶ An overview of the purpose and need of the proposed action
- ▶ An overview of the F-35A Program
- ▶ An overview of the Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP) and opportunities for public involvement
- ▶ Date and location of upcoming public scoping meetings and how to submit comments

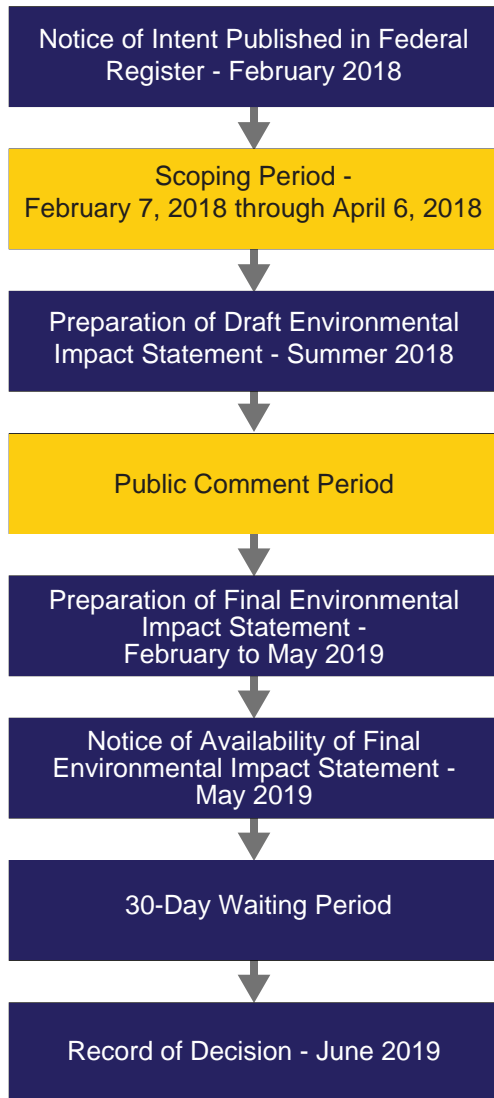
## What is the Proposed Action and Why is it Needed?

The purpose of the proposed action is to efficiently and effectively maintain combat capability and mission readiness as the U.S. Air Force (USAF) faces deployments across a spectrum of conflicts while also providing for homeland defense. Beddown and operation of the F-35A at Air National Guard (ANG) locations would represent a major step toward this goal. The National Guard Bureau (NGB) proposes to beddown two F-35A squadrons consisting of 18 aircraft and 2 backup aircraft each, thereby establishing two F-35A operations at two of five alternative ANG locations. In addition, the NGB would implement necessary construction projects to successfully beddown the aircraft at the selected installations. The five alternative locations are:

-  **115 FW at Truax Field, Madison, Wisconsin;**
-  **124 FW at Gowen Field, Boise, Idaho;**
-  **125 FW at Jacksonville International Airport, Jacksonville, Florida;**
-  **127 WG at Selfridge Air National Guard Base, Michigan; and,**
-  **187 FW at Dannelly Field, Montgomery, Alabama.**

The Secretary of the Air Force has announced Truax Field, and Dannelly Field as the two preferred alternatives, pending results of the EIS. For More Information: [www.ANGF35EIS.com](http://www.ANGF35EIS.com)

## The EIS Timeline



 Opportunities for Public Involvement

## F-35A Program

The USAF has designated the F-35A to replace aging fighter aircraft. In that regard, these new aircraft would fulfill the wide range of roles and missions currently conducted by legacy fighter aircraft. The USAF variant of the F-35 embodies critical combat capabilities to fulfill multiple mission roles and epitomizes the characteristics needed, offering a unique combination of capabilities.

## The National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is our national charter for making informed decisions based upon potential environmental consequences. NEPA requires all federal agencies to take a good-faith, hard look at potential environmental consequences of a proposal before making a decision. The NGB is preparing a detailed study that analyzes the potential environmental impacts of this proposal.

## **Public Involvement**

Public involvement is an integral part of the Environmental Impact Analysis Process, which requires full disclosure of potential environmental impacts to the public and encourages public involvement. The public has an important role in providing input during this process to help the NGB make more informed decisions about implementing this proposal. The first opportunity for public involvement is the process called "public scoping." The scoping period for this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) began with publication of the "Notice of Intent" in the Federal Register on February 7, 2018, and will formally extend through April 6, 2018.

## **Written Scoping Comments are Welcome!**

Please send written comments by the end of the public comment period, April 6, 2018, to ensure that your concerns are addressed in the Draft EIS. Nevertheless, we will welcome your comments throughout the entire environmental impact analysis process. Written comments may be submitted by:

- a) Attending the scoping meeting and providing written comments at that time
- b) By U.S. Mail to:  
Ms. Christel Johnson, Environmental Engineer  
NGB/A4AM  
Shepperd Hall  
3501 Fetchet Avenue  
Joint Base Andrews MD 20762-5157
- c) Via the project website at [www.ANGF35EIS.com](http://www.ANGF35EIS.com)

*Please note that by including your name and address on correspondence, it will be used to compile a mailing list for distributing future information regarding the EIS. Names will appear in the EIS. Phone numbers, emails, and physical addresses will not be published. By including your name and address, it will become part of the EIS administrative record.*

## **Public Scoping Meetings**

You're invited to attend the public scoping meetings to learn about the proposal, talk with NGB representatives one-on-one, and submit written comments.

### **Selfridge Air National Guard Base**

February 21, 2018 - 5 to 8 p.m.  
L'Anse Creuse Public Schools  
Wheeler Community Center  
24076 Frederick V. Pankow Blvd.  
Clinton Township, MI 48036

### **Gowen Field**

February 27, 2018 - 5 to 8 p.m.  
Wyndham Garden Boise Airport Hotel  
Convention Center  
3300 South Vista Ave.  
Boise, ID 83705

### **Dannelly Field**

March 1, 2018 - 5 to 8 p.m.  
Montgomery Regional Airport  
First Floor Rotunda and Conference Room  
4445 Selma Highway  
Montgomery, AL 36108

### **Truax Field**

March 8, 2018 - 5 to 8 p.m.  
Crowne Plaza Madison Hotel  
Three Lakes Ballroom  
4402 E. Washington Ave.  
Madison, WI 53704

### **Jacksonville International Airport**

March 13, 2018 - 5 to 8 p.m.  
DoubleTree Hotel, Jacksonville Airport  
Aviation Ballroom  
2101 Dixie Clipper Dr.  
Jacksonville, FL 32218

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