

**DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR
IMPLEMENTATION OF AN
INTEGRATED CULTURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN
AT JOINT BASE MYER-HENDERSON HALL, ARLINGTON, VIRGINIA AND
WASHINGTON, D.C.**

The United States Army, Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall (JBM-HH) prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) to identify and evaluate potential environmental effects of implementing an Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) at Fort Myer-Henderson Hall, Virginia and Fort McNair, Washington, D.C. JBM-HH prepared the EA in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) 42 *United States Code* (USC) § 4321 to 4370e), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of NEPA (CEQ regulations, 40 CFR Parts 1500 –1508), and *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions* (32 CFR 651).

1. Description of Proposed Action and Alternatives

Proposed Action. JBM-HH, proposes to implement the ICRMP at Fort Myer, Fort McNair and Henderson Hall during fiscal years 2010 through 2015. Department of Defense Instruction (DODI) 4715.3 *Environmental Conservation Program*, and Army Regulation (AR) 200-1, *Environmental Enhancement and Protection*, require development of an ICRMP. The ICRMP establishes explicit responsibilities, standard operating procedures, and long-range goals for managing cultural resources at JBM-HH, in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations, while ensuring the safety and efficiency of federal and state missions. Cultural resources include historic districts, buildings, structures and objects. Proposed Action is the Preferred Alternative.

Alternatives Considered. JBM-HH analyzed a No-Action Alternative. Current cultural resources management measures would remain in effect under the No-Action Alternative, but there would be no comprehensive plan to integrate mission needs with cultural resources protection. The No-Action Alternative is not viable to the JBM-HH because it does not meet the requirements of AR 200-1 and DODI 4715.3. An environmental analysis of a No-Action Alternative is required by CEQ regulations to serve as a benchmark against which the Proposed Action can be evaluated.

2. Environmental Analysis

Based upon the analysis contained in the EA, it has been determined that the known and potential impacts of the Proposed Action on the physical, cultural, and natural environment would be positive. Implementation of the ICRMP would result in the efficient management of cultural resources at Fort Myer, Henderson Hall, and Fort McNair. The goals included in the ICRMP require integration with natural resources, military training, and facility management. As a result, all cultural, natural, and human resources under JBMHH's control will receive more consideration and protection than

previously afforded. Implementation of the Proposed Action would not result in substantial adverse environmental effects.

Neither the Proposed Action nor the No-Action Alternative creates disproportionately high or adverse human health or environmental effects on children, minority or low-income populations, or communities at or surrounding Fort Myer, Henderson Hall and Fort McNair.

3. Regulations

The Proposed Action would not violate NEPA, its regulations promulgated by the CEQ, *Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*, or any other federal, state, or local environmental regulations.

4. Public Review and Comment

The draft ICRMP and EA will be made available for public review and comment. The announcement of the availability of the documents will be published in The Washington Post on June 27, 2011. Copies of these documents will be placed on the JBM-HH web site at two Arlington County libraries and one District of Columbia library. The draft public comment period will end July 29, 2011 and no comments were received.

The ICRMP, EA, and draft Finding of No Significant Impacts (FONSI) were made available for public review and comment for 30 days after publication of the notice of availability. The ICRMP, EA, and draft FONSI were available for review at locations listed in the notice of availability. Written comments will be submitted to the JBM-HH Directorate of Environmental Management Office.

5. Finding of No Significant Impact

Based on the information presented in the final EA, JBM-HH proposes to implement the Preferred Alternative. Once public comments have been addressed and if a determination is made that the Proposed Action will have no significant impact, the FONSI will be signed and the action will be implemented. The requirements of NEPA and the CEQ regulations will have been met. An Environmental Impact Statement will not be prepared, and JBM-HH will issue this Finding of No Significant Impact.

Date

Carl R. Coffman, Colonel, U.S. Army
JBM-HH Commander
