

**Draft Finding of No Significant Impact
for runway expansion at
Robert Gray Army Airfield/Killeen–Fort Hood Regional Airport,
Fort Hood, Texas**

1.0 Name of the Action

This document is the Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the expansion of runway capability at Robert Gray Army Airfield (RGAAF), as well as to construct and operate the expanded facility.

2.0 Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

The U.S. Army, Headquarters III Corps and Fort Hood propose to construct and use a runway up to 10,000-ft long, parallel taxiway, up to six perpendicular connectors between runway and taxiway, two connector taxiways, installation and operation of navigational aids, and utilities and infrastructure. The proposed action would require rerouting Ivy Mountain Road.

Under the No Action Alternative, the second runway would not be constructed. The single runway at the airfield would continue to serve both military and civilian air operations. Regional and community growth, including any expansion of Fort Hood's military operations, would take place regardless of the alternative selected for this proposed project. Thus, the No Action Alternative would include an increase in both military and commercial air operations.

The second alternative (preferred alternative) would provide for the construction of a second runway up to 10,000-ft long that would be located 5,000 ft southwest of the existing runway. The proposed runway would include the elements as listed previously. The total area of disturbance for this alternative would be approximately 670 acres.

The third alternative would provide for the construction of a 12,000-ft second runway that would be located 5,000 ft southwest of the existing runway. This proposed

alternative would include the same elements as listed previously. The total area of disturbance for this alternative would be approximately 735 acres.

3.0 Summary of Environmental Effect of the Proposed Action

As a result of implementing the Proposed Action, no impacts are anticipated to occur to cultural resources, environmental justice, children's health and safety, and utilities. The Proposed Action is anticipated to have insignificant short- and long-term impacts to aesthetics, air quality, soils, ground water, surface water and wetlands, water quality, floodplains, vegetation, threatened and endangered species, airspace management, surface transportation, and hazardous and toxic materials. Moderate long-term impacts to land use, noise, and fish and wildlife are anticipated. Full implementation of mitigation measures and best management practices would assist in minimizing impacts resulting from the Proposed Action.

4.0 Conclusion

The public comment period will be held for 30 days beginning the date that the notice of availability is printed in the *Killeen Daily Herald*. This EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) are available for review at the Killeen Public Library located at 205 E. Church St., Killeen, TX 78544 and through the Environmental Division, Directorate of Public Works, Fort Hood, TX. The documents are also available online through the Fort Hood Directorate of Public Works website at <http://www.dpw.hood.army.mil/>.

On the basis of the findings of this EA, no significant impacts are anticipated from the Proposed Action on human health or the natural environment. A FNSI is warranted, and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

Brian L. Dosa
Director of Public Works

Date