

APPENDIX G

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

COMMENTS AND RESPONSES

This section contains comments on the Draft EA and responses to those comments. Written comments were received from federal, state, and local agencies; American Indian governments; private organizations; and the general public. The comment period began on November 8, 2000 and closed on December 7, 2000. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), public and agency comments were reviewed and addressed in the EA. These public and agency comments will be used by the decisionmaker in determining whether or not to implement the Proposed Action.

COMMENT AND RESPONSE PROCESS

Comments on the Draft EA were generated through written correspondence during the public comment period. The following process was used for reviewing and responding to these comments:

- All comment letters were reviewed and assigned a unique number.
- Within each comment letter, substantive comments were identified and bracketed. These bracketed comments were then reviewed by appropriate staff or resource specialists and provided an individual response. Three guidelines were used for determining substantive comments.
 1. The proposed action, alternatives, or other components of the proposal were questioned.
 2. The methodology of the analysis or results were questioned.
 3. The use, adequacy, and/or accuracy of data were questioned.
- The individual bracketed comments were assigned a response code corresponding to a specific response. These responses (and codes) were organized in numerical order. The responses to comments appear in the Response section of this volume.
- Due to their similarity, some comments were assigned the same response.

An alphabetical directory of commentor's names, with their associated comment, was also generated and is provided following this introduction.

LOCATING YOUR COMMENT LETTER

Locate your name in the directory of commentors alphabetized by last name. After locating your name, note the number in the third column. This number was assigned to your comment letter and is found on the upper right-hand corner of the letter. The comment letters are printed in numerical order.

LOCATING RESPONSES TO COMMENTS

All comment letters were given a response number. Response numbers are printed next to one or more bracketed areas in the left margin of the comment letters. Because of the limited number of comments, responses were not grouped by resource area. Comments are found in the section following the responses.

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA

DIRECTORY OF COMMENTORS

Last Name	First name	Comment Letter #
Association of Central Oklahoma Governments		000013
California EPA	Department of Toxic Substances Control	000012
City of Rapid City, South Dakota		000020
Daschle	Thomas, Senator	000010
Department of Transportation	District 9, Bishop California	000021
Douglas School District 51-1		000008
Dow	Edwin	000004/ 000017
Governor's Office of Planning and Research	California State Clearing House	000006/ 000014/ 000015
Kern County Planning Department		000018
Ohio Department of Natural Resources		000005
Ohio EPA	Southwest District	000016
Oklahoma Historical Society		000009
Rapid City Area Chamber of Commerce		000011
San Manuel Band of Mission Indians		000007
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Ventura, California	000002
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Reynoldsburg, Ohio	000003
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service	Sacramento, California	000019
Yuba-Sutter Economic Development		000001

RESPONSES

Comment/Letter #	Response #	Response
000001 000013 000002 000014 000003 000015 000004 000016 000005 000017 000006 000018 000007 000019 000008 000021 000009 000010 000011 000012	TY	Thank you for your comment during the public comment period on the Draft Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. Public and agency involvement is an important part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process. All comments received during this comment period have become part of the project record and will contribute to the decision-making process. Specific responses to substantive comments are presented below.
00001	R-1	The affected area for the socioeconomic analysis included Yuba, Sutter, Nevada, and Placer Counties as shown in Figure 3.4-1 of the Final EA. In order to use comparable information for all of the bases, socioeconomic data was analyzed from the county level. These data were derived from the U.S. Census and the U.S. Bureau of Economic Analysis. Although, as in the case of Beale AFB, general economic data from large, diverse counties may be include. However, this does not affect the results of the analysis – that locating the Global Hawk main operating base at Beale AFB would generate over \$40,000,000 in earnings to the local area and would not have a negative effect on schools, housing, employment, or social services.
00001	R-2	The information on the preparation of a maintenance plan has been added to the Beale AFB discussion.

00001	R-3	The analysis assumed a 30-mile commute from Marysville to Beale AFB in order to evaluate the potential affects on air quality from transportation. Although some personnel may travel from areas closer to the base, if a commute of all additional personnel from Marysville would not exceed the <i>de minimis</i> threshold, then emissions with personnel traveling less than 30 miles would not exceed <i>de minimis</i> levels or be regionally significant.
00001	R-4	According to the latest information from the U.S. Coast Guard, Beale AFB is an alternative location for the air station (Susan Boyle, personal communication, December 2000).
00001	R-5	The draft EA included letters from federal, state, and local government agencies in Appendix F. Information from these letters was used, as appropriate, in the Draft EA.
00002	R-6	Mountain plover has been added to the list in Appendix D.
00002	R-7	Populations of these plants only occur in habitats located away from the section of the base where ground disturbance would occur, therefore they were not included in Table 3.6-1.
00003	R-8	No potential bat habitat consisting of dead trees or snags would be impacted during construction.

00004	R-9	Although the 1,248 airfield operations from the Global Hawk are relatively few, the aircraft is unmanned and requires primary radar coverage from ARTCC for traveling in airspace from 10,000 to 18,000 feet MSL because it lacks see-and-avoid capabilities.
00004	R-10	In the event of a Global Hawk mishap, safety procedures used for all other aircraft would be employed. All bases have sufficient existing crash and fire response equipment and personnel to support the Global Hawk.
00004	R-11	While such changes are common at bases, the EA must consider current baseline conditions.
00009	R-12	Thank you, formal consultation would take place once a base is selected. If Tinker AFB is chosen, then the information you requested would be provided as part of the Section 106 process.

00012	R-13	<p>Site contamination would not affect the selected base since all possible measures would be taken to place construction sites away from ERP sites. As part of standard base protocol all activities that involve soil movement would include coordination with the ERP manager and, if necessary, soil testing prior to construction. Groundwater contaminants also would not affect the selected base since construction activities would not go deep enough to tap into groundwater sources. However, if water were encountered during construction, it would be tested and treated appropriately. If any construction activities disturbed known or previously unknown contaminated soils areas, these soils would be disposed of in an appropriate manner, according to federal, state and base regulations.</p>
000016	R-14	<p>Contaminated groundwater should not be an issue at Operable Unit 10. The unit is a deep plume site, with contaminated water 80 feet below the surface. Shallow wells at the site show no contaminants, making problems during construction of Global Hawk facilities unlikely. However, if water were encountered during construction it would be tested and treated appropriately.</p>

000016	R-15	<p>There is a possibility that soil in the proposed area of construction may contain small amounts of contamination, although no sites are known in the area. As part of standard protocol all soils would be tested during construction. If any contaminated sites were located, soil would be disposed of in an appropriate manner.</p>
000019	R-16	<p>All Federal and State listed species and Species of Concern that were known to occur on base were analyzed in Section 3.6. The species list for Beale AFB was compiled using data for Yuba County from the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database and known occurrences listed in base reports. All Federal and State listed species and Species of Concern known to occur on base and potentially impacted by construction are listed and analyzed in Section 3.6. However, only those animal species listed by the California Department of Fish and Game Natural Diversity Database as Federally or State Threatened or Endangered were included in Appendix D. Species of Concern potentially found outside of the base were not included in this appendix, as analysis shows that there are no noise impacts expected from the overflights.</p> <p>Additional Federal or State Threatened or Endangered species included on the FWS list for Yuba County were added to Appendix D</p>



CORPORATION

HQ ACC/CEVP
129 Andrews St., Ste 102
Langley Air Force Base, VA 23665-2769
ATTN: Ms. Sheryl Parker

TY Dear Ms. Parker:

The purpose of this letter is to respond to the Global Hawk Environment Assessment. Enclosed please find our response.

R-1

First, the EA does not define the area that is included in the demographic data on Beale (page 3-19). However, from the population, employment, and median household income figures included in the EA, we assume that Nevada and Placer counties have been included in the study. This does a disservice to Beale's competitiveness. These counties, especially Placer county, possess booming population centers which completely skew the numbers. Further, Placer county extends all the way to Lake Tahoe. Be assured, Lake Tahoe's economy has absolutely no effect on the area surrounding Beale.

We therefore wish to underscore simply the demographics of Yuba county, in which an overwhelming majority of Beale's service members live. The county's population is 60,700. Its annual unemployment rate is 12.5%. Its per capita income is \$16,405, and its median family income is \$24,364. The average price for a home is \$112,000, and the county's ten-year growth rate is 4%, not 8% as listed in the EA. These figures combine with the area's top-rated schools and unparalleled recreational opportunities to provide service members with an area in which they can afford to live well. As a reminder, the average price of a home near Beale Air Force Base is less than half that of the average price for all of California.

R-2

We would like to further clarify the information on the area's air quality, presented on page 3-30. Beale is listed as being in a maintenance area. However, the EA does not mention the fact that the area surrounding Beale has not exceeded the federal ozone standards within the past 15 years. Further, the Feather River Air Quality Management District is working with the California Air Resources Board and the US EPA to enact a maintenance plan which will place the area surrounding Beale in an attainment zone by Fall, 2001.

R-3

On page 4-14 the EA states that Beale requires a 30-mile roundtrip commute without defining the area from which it measures. While the 30-mile figure is accurate for the Marysville area, it ignores the city of Wheatland, which is only six miles away from Beale. In addition, the Wheatland school districts have plenty of underutilized capacity, so they will be able to easily

SERVING THE CITIES IN AND COUNTIES OF YUBA AND SUTTER, CALIFORNIA

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000001

November 22, 2000

Page 2 of 2

000001

absorb any increase in the number of students resulting from beddown of the Global Hawk at Beale.

R-4

Lastly, the EA states on page 5-2 that the Coast Guard will be locating at Beale. We have been informed that the Coast Guard has decided not to do so. The Command at Beale and the Air Combat Command will forward a letter attesting to this fact. Additionally, YSEDC submitted a letter on July 21, 2000 which provided information relevant to the EA. We did not see it, or any other documents sent by local elected officials in the appendices of the EA.

R-5

Thank you for your consideration.

Respectfully,

Bill Simmons
Supervisor, Yuba County
Chairman, Yuba-Sutter Global Hawk Recruitment Task Force

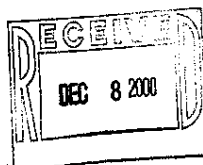


United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ventura Fish and Wildlife Office
2493 Portola Road, Suite B
Ventura, California 93003

000002



December 5, 2000

Ogden Environmental and Energy Services
Global Hawk EA
910 Main Street, Suite 352
Boise, Idaho 83702

Subject: Species List for Construction of Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown,
Edwards Air Force Base, San Bernardino County, California

TY Dear Mr. Chavis:

We have reviewed your letter, dated September 1, 2000, requesting our confirmation that your list of federally listed species for use in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed beddown of the unmanned aerial vehicle, Global Hawk, at Edwards Air Force Base is complete. The proposal involves basing 18 high-altitude, long-endurance, unmanned reconnaissance aircraft at a yet to be determined Air Force base within the contiguous United States, constructing associated facilities within developed areas of the base, and employing between 400 to 800 new personnel. With the exception of take-offs and landings, the Global Hawk's flight time would be spent above 60,000 feet Mean Sea level. Edwards Air Force base is one of five bases being considered as potential beddown locations.

R-6

The only federally listed species which is known from the vicinity of the proposed project is the federally threatened desert tortoise (*Gopherus agassizii*). The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and the peregrine falcon (*Falco peregrinus*), which you included on your list, could be observed during migration but would unlikely depend upon the habitat on Edwards Air Force base. The mountain plover (*Charadrius montanus*), which has been proposed for listing as threatened, may also occur in this area.

R-7

Only listed species receive protection under the Act. However, other species of concern should be considered in the planning process in the event they become listed or proposed for listing prior to project completion. The alkali mariposa lily (*Calochortus striatus*), desert cymopterus (*Cymopterus deserticola*), and Barstow woolly sunflower (*Eriophyllum mohavense*) are three plant species of concern with significant population occurrences on Edwards Air Force Base in the west Mojave Desert and should be considered in your analysis.

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Ogden Environmental and Energy Services

This letter fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under section 7 (c) of the Endangered Species act of 1973, as amended, (Act). The Department of Air Force, as lead Federal agency for the project, has the responsibility to review its proposed activities and determine whether any listed species may be affected. It the project is a construction project which may require an environmental document the Air Force has the responsibility to prepare a biological assessment to make a determination of the effects of the action on the listed species or critical habitat. If the Air Force determines that a listed species or critical habitat is likely to be adversely affected, it should request, in writing through our office, formal consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Act. Informal consultation may be use to exchange information and resolve conflicts with respect to threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat prior to a written request for formal consultation. During this review process, the Air Force may engage in planning efforts but may not make any irreversible commitment of resources. Such a commitment could constitute a violation of section 7(d) of the Act.

We hope that this information assists you in your preparation of the EA for this project. Should you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact Tim Thomas of my staff at (760) 255-8890.

Sincerely,

Diane K. Noda
Field Supervisor

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
6950 Americana Parkway, Suite H
Reynoldsburg, Ohio 43068-4127
(614) 469-6923
Fax: (614) 469-6919

November 27, 2000



000003

HQ ACC/CEVP
Attention: Ms. Sheryl Parker
129 Andrews St., Suite 102
Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

TY

Dear Ms. Parker:

This is in response to the Department of the Air Force's November, 2000 Draft Environmental Assessment for the Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. Eighteen of these aircraft are to be placed at a yet to be determined Air Force base within the United States. One of the proposed bases is the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, located in Montgomery and Greene Counties, Ohio. This letter is to inform you of any concerns we may have regarding Federally-listed threatened, endangered, and candidate species within the vicinity of the proposed site. The proposed beddown at this site would have minimal impacts to the surrounding environment. No wetlands would be impacted, and existing buildings would be utilized when possible. Limited construction of new facilities and modifications of existing facilities may be necessary, but will occur within previously disturbed or developed areas.

R-8

ENDANGERED SPECIES COMMENTS: The Indiana bat, a Federally-listed endangered species, is known to occur just north of an area where construction may occur. We recommend that if trees with exfoliating bark, dead trees, or snags (which could be potential roost trees) are encountered on the proposed site, they should be saved wherever possible. If they must be cut, they should not be cut between April 15 and September 15. Provided that this guideline is followed, the proposed construction is not expected to impact Indiana bats.

The eastern massasauga, a Federal candidate species, is known to occur within the boundaries of the Wright-Patterson Air Force Base, south of the proposed construction sites. The proposed project also lies within the range of the clubshell mussel, a Federally listed endangered species. Due to the project type and location, the project, as proposed, will have no effect on these species. Relative to these species, this precludes the need for further action on this project as required by the 1973 Endangered Species Act, as amended. Should the project be modified or new information become available that indicates listed or proposed species may be affected, consultation should be initiated.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has no records for the bald eagle within the vicinity of this project. Therefore, this project is not expected to impact the bald eagle.

This technical assistance letter is submitted in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.), the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, and is consistent with the intent of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Mitigation Policy.

If you have questions, or if we may be of further assistance in this matter, please contact Megan Sullivan at extension 21 in this office.

Sincerely,

Kent E. Kroonmeyer
Kent E. Kroonmeyer
Supervisor

cc: DOW, Wildlife Environmental Section, Columbus, OH

000004

30 Nov 2000

HQ ACC/CEVP
ATTN: Ms Sheryl Parker
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley AFB, Va 23665-2769

TY

SUBJECT: Draft Global Hawk Environment Assessment (EA)

1. Following are comments concerning the Subject Draft EA Assessment
2. Personal Data: I have resided within the Community Land Use Management Area defined in Fig 3.3-4, Pg 3-17 of the Subject EA Assessment for the past 34 years. By profession, I have been an Aeronautical engineer for 41 years, with a diverse engineering work background in aerodynamics, performance, structural analysis, ordnance and live fire testing.
3. Comment: Subject Draft EA Assessment, Pg 4-16

R-9

The FAA comments on the "alleged" difficulty in providing safe flight at WPAFB for the Global Hawk are considered "suspect." I believe you will find that the aircraft operational rate at WPAFB were much higher in past years when the 4950th TW, the 906 TFW and the B-52 SAC wing were stationed there. This was also during the time frame when the aircraft operations at the Dayton International Airport were also high. I don't believe the FAA said at that time that the operations rate at WPAFB were endangering flight safety operations in this area. In addition, Dayton has been actively pushing plans, with the assistance of the FAA, to greatly increase the aircraft capacity at the Dayton International Airport. Under consideration are runway extensions to the existing runways, adding at least one additional runway and building a new control tower. I believe the estimated maximum of 1248 Global Hawk operations per year is a drop in the bucket compared to the increased flight operations at the Dayton International Airport resulting from these proposed airport changes.

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4. Comment: Subject Draft EA Assessment, Pgs 4-7,8 & Fig 4.2-1.

An analytical estimate is presented to derive an equivalent potential for Class A mishaps for the Global Hawk. I worked on nearly every missile/drone program at WPAFB in my 33 years at WPAFB. Based on my experience I believe the estimated mishap rate of 6.16 per 100,000 hours is reasonable and passes the "sanity" check. I would assume that most of those mishaps would occur during take-off or landing (hostile enemy fire excluded). One item not addressed in the Subject Draft EA Assessment is the protection of the Global Hawk assets and the surrounding environment in the event of a mishap. It would seem that at least a local "First Response" cadre of personnel should be created, to be deployed immediately in the event of a mishap, to minimize any potential environmental damage.

5. Comment: Subject Draft EA Assessment, Pgs 2-5 & 2-7, Fig 2.2-2

There is a 78% increase in projected aircraft inventory for WPAFB. I'm sure this number is mathematically correct, but could be misleading. I'm sure this number accounts for the loss of the 4950th TW and the 906 TFW which departed in recent years. In prior decades the B-52 SAC wing was based at WPAFB. I believe if those B-52 aircraft numbers are viewed in a longer historical context the 78% increase would be significantly reduced. The fact that there is an excess of facilities available at WPAFB is due to those facilities having been used in the past. In addition, the estimated 3.1% increase in airfield operations for WPAFB are likewise misleading since from my personal observations the past operational rate was much higher than the current rate.

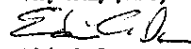
6. Conclusion: Based on my review of the Subject Draft EA Assessment and my own professional experience I believe that WPAFB offers the best location for the Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. WPAFB meets all of the five requirements identified for a viable Global Hawk beddown. It especially meets

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the initial beddown requirements because of the immediately available existing, unutilized facilities. In addition, from a strategic standpoint WPAFB is the best identified continental airbase for providing the shortest distance to the Near-East area and also for surveillance for the drug convoys from the South America area.

Very truly yours,


Edwin C. Dow



Ohio Department of Natural Resources

ROB TAFT, GOVERNOR

SAMUEL W. SPECK, DIRECTOR

000005

Division of Wildlife

Michael J. Budzik • Chief

November 29, 2000

HQ ACC/CEVP
 Attention: Ms. Sheryl Parker
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
 Langley AFB VA 23665-2769

SUBJECT: Global Hawk Environmental Assessment (EA)

TY Dear Ms. Parker:

The Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Wildlife has reviewed the draft EA for the Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. Provided there is no impact to state and federal threatened and endangered species or their habitat, the Division of Wildlife agrees with the Finding of No Significant Impact.

If you have any questions, contact Becky Jenkins of my staff at 614/265-6631.

Sincerely,

John H. Marshall

Gray Davis
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State ClearinghouseSteve Nissen
ACTING DIRECTOR

000006

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF RECEIPT

DATE: November 27, 2000
 TO: Ms. Sheryl Parker
 U.S. Air Force, HQ Air Combat Command, Civil Engineering
 HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
 Langley, VA 23665-2769
 RE: Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown
 SCH#: 2000114013

TY

This is to acknowledge that the State Clearinghouse has received your environmental document for state review. The review period assigned by the State Clearinghouse is:

Review Start Date: November 14, 2000
 Review End Date: December 28, 2000

We have distributed your document to the following agencies and departments:

Air Resources Board, Airport Projects
 Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics
 Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning
 Department of Conservation
 Department of Fish and Game, Headquarters
 Department of Parks and Recreation
 Department of Toxic Substances Control
 Native American Heritage Commission
 Office of Emergency Services
 Office of Historic Preservation
 Resources Agency
 State Lands Commission
 State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality

The State Clearinghouse will provide a closing letter with any state agency comments to your attention on the date following the close of the review period.

Thank you for your participation in the State Clearinghouse review process.

San Manuel Band of Mission Indians
Director of Governmental Operations

000007

November 17, 2000

Ms. Sheryl Parker
 Environmental Analysis Branch
 Department of the Air Force
 HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
 Langley AFB VA 23665-2769

TY Re: Archaeological studies for Edwards AFB Global Hawk Beddown project

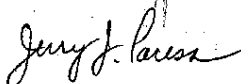
Dear Ms. Parker,

The San Manuel Band of Mission Indians wishes to thank you for informing us about the environmental studies completed for the proposed Global Hawk Beddown project.

In a letter from Mr. Alton Chavis, it was promised that we would receive a copy of the Environmental Assessment for review. May I suggest a savings of time and expense by requesting only the archaeological or cultural resource technical appendix. This would be a much smaller document and would constitute the study that we are most interested in.

Edwards Air Force Base lies within our traditional homeland, and if remains or sites of cultural significance are found, we would greatly appreciate notification so that consultation may proceed. Thank you very much.

Sincerely,



Jerry J. Paresa
 Director,
 Governmental Operations
 Ref. 539-11

1482 E. Enterprise Drive, Building #466 • San Bernardino, CA 92408-0161
 Office: (909) 382-2222 Ext. 243 • Fax: (909) 382-7966



DOUGLAS SCHOOL DISTRICT 51-1

Ellsworth Air Force Base
 400 Patriot Drive
 Box Elder, South Dakota 57719
 Phone (605) 923-1431 FAX (605) 923-6387

Dr. Joseph L. Schmitz
 Superintendent
 Mr. Kevin Kuehn
 Business Manager

November 21, 2000

000008

Headquarters ACC/CEVP
 Attn: Ms. Sheryl Parker
 129 Andrews St, Suite 102
 Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

TY

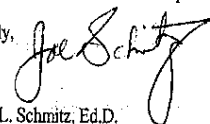
To Whom It May Concern:

The Douglas School District fully supports locating the Global Hawk program at Ellsworth Air Force Base in South Dakota. The Douglas School District and Ellsworth AFB have been in a partnership program that has as its goal to provide educational and community services to the families of base personnel. This goal was reinforced by a cooperative funding strategy involving the Department of the Air Force, State of South Dakota, and Douglas School District to build a new Middle School and renovate the High School. The district receives approximately \$8M a year in federal impact aid funds and to have the Global Hawk stationed at Ellsworth AFB would certainly enable a return for the federal government on their investment in the district.

The Douglas School District has a student population of pre-school through 12th grade of approximately 2400 students, 1700 of whom are dependent children of military personnel. Because of its reputation as a leader in education, military personnel from around the world have selected to spend their time at Ellsworth AFB. The Douglas School District has three nationally recognized science and math teachers. The school district also has one of the lowest teacher/student ratios of any school district in the United States. This ratio ranges from one to one for special needs children to one to seventeen for our all day every day kindergarten program. The Douglas School District's AFJROTC program has been nationally recognized and a number of our Douglas graduates have received appointments to the military academies. The Douglas School District has one of the most advanced technology programs of any school in the country. We often hear claims of this nature made by many people. However, the Douglas District has in place its own fiber optic network as well as its own mainframe system. It offers home computer services free of charge to all of its employees. The student to computer ratio is one to two. There is at least one full time computer teacher in each attendance center and three support technicians to administer the technology program. The Douglas School District has the capacity to absorb another 500 - 700 students.

It is for these reasons that we feel it would be in the best interests of the United States Department of Defense to assign the Global Hawk mission to Ellsworth Air Force Base. We would be more than happy to answer any questions that might arise pertaining to our support for this mission as well as the complementary educational services that we can offer.

Sincerely,



Joseph L. Schmitz, Ed.D.
 Superintendent

JLS:js

"Patriot Pride" Spirit of the Past. Foundation for the Future.
 NCA Accredited K-12

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA



Oklahoma Historical Society

Founded May 27, 1893

State Historic Preservation Office • 2704 Villa Prom • Shepherd Mall • Oklahoma City, OK 73107-2441
Telephone 405/521-6249 • Fax 405/947-2918

December 8, 2000

000009

Mr. Alton Chavis
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch
HQ ACC/CEVP
129 Andrews St., Suite 102
Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

RE: File #0553-01 (formerly 1974-00); Global Hawk Env. Assessment

TY

Dear Mr. Chavis:

We have reviewed the documentation relating to the referenced project. We have no objection to the continued processing of this program. However, when specific properties are selected, we request that documentation and photographs, for any structures in excess of 45 years of age, be submitted on Historic Preservation Resource Identification Forms. Structures less than 45 years of age do not require forms; however, documentation submitted must provide the addresses of the properties and their date of construction. If there are no impacted structures, a letter to that effect should be forwarded to this office.

When this documentation is received and reviewed, this office will issue an opinion as to the effect of the program on Oklahoma's cultural and historical resources. We appreciate your cooperation in the effort to identify and preserve the cultural heritage of Oklahoma.

R-12

Please reference the above underlined file number when responding. Thank you.

Sincerely,

Melvina Heisch

Melvina Heisch
Deputy State Historic
Preservation Officer

MH:pm

THOMAS DASCHLE
SOUTH DAKOTA

COMMITTEE
AGRICULTURE

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United States Senate

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1313 WEST MAIN STREET
P.O. Box 8188
RAPID CITY, SD 57709
(605) 348-7651

320 NORTH MAIN AVENUE, SUITE 8
P.O. Box 1274
SIOUX FALLS, SD 57107-1274
(605) 334-6696
TDD (605) 334-4832

December 7, 2000

000010

Ms. Sheryl Parker
HQ ACC/CEVP
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley AFB, Virginia 23665-2769

TY

Dear Ms. Parker:

I appreciate the opportunity to comment on the public draft of the Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. Generally, I am pleased with the draft as now written. The clear message is that the Air Force can minimize its exposure to environmental risk by basing Global Hawk at Ellsworth Air Force Base.

For a number of reasons, Ellsworth compares favorably with the other alternatives thanks to South Dakota's clean air and healthy environment. First, Ellsworth is in an attainment area for all National Ambient Air Quality Standards and would produce among the lowest levels of criteria pollutants. This would give Ellsworth a unique ability to meet forthcoming air quality regulations without compromising the Global Hawk mission. Second, Ellsworth produces the least hazardous waste of the alternatives and has a strong program to manage any additional waste produced. Finally, the lack of any threatened or endangered species at Ellsworth will ensure that the Global Hawk mission can be carried out without any threat to endangered wildlife.

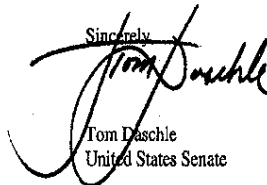
The report also reinforces a point I have been making for months about available air space around Ellsworth. Global Hawk represents a newly deployed technology with a limited flight history. In addition, Global Hawk's flight profile requires it to operate over hundreds of miles. The wide open skies around Ellsworth would provide an extra margin of safety and a greater ability for Global Hawk to operate as intended. In comparison to Ellsworth, each of the other bases is in close proximity to a major commercial airport, ranging in size from Los Angeles International Airport near Edwards to James M. Cox Dayton International Airport near Wright-Patterson. Even the Dayton airport, the smallest of these nearby airports, is considerably larger than the Rapid City Regional Airport, the only sizeable airport near Ellsworth. Dayton's airport handles six times more annual passenger traffic than Rapid City's airport.

I also note that Ellsworth would require the least new construction among the basing options, which reduces costs, allows Ellsworth to be fully operational in less time and reduces the potential for unforeseen archaeological, cultural or environmental difficulties.

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Finally, Ellsworth would provide superior protection against risks not anticipated in the draft report. Although the report concludes that none of the five bases considered would require a formal environmental impact statement, environmental assessment is an inexact process. Two obvious factors not considered here are the tendency of environmental regulations to tighten over time and proposals within the Air Force to expand the number of operational Global Hawk vehicles beyond levels considered in this report. Ellsworth could adapt easily to such changing requirements.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

 Tom Daschle
 United States Senate

cc: Major General T. Michael Moseley
 Director, ACC Legislative Liaison

TAD/cah

rapid city area



chamber of commerce

000011

P.O. Box 747, Rapid City, South Dakota 57709-0747
 Phone: 605/343-1744 • FAX: 605/343-6550

December 4, 2000

HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Ste 102
 Langley, AFB, VA 23665-2769
 ATTN: Ms. Sheryl Parker

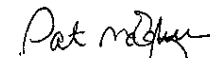
Dear Ms. Parker:

TY Thank you for providing an opportunity to comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. As we have been advocating for Ellsworth AFB to be selected as the beddown base for the Global Hawk Program for the past several years, we are pleased that it has been so favorably considered in the recently released evaluation.

Without reservation, we believe the operational airspace, quality environment, infrastructure capacity, beddown cost, and least intrusive disturbance of the environment are the highlights of Ellsworth's internal considerations. From the perspective of our community, we have been host to Ellsworth's military missions and personnel for nearly sixty years and provide a rare set of circumstances that offer a supportive quality of life unique to contemporary American life.

Accordingly, we fully endorse Ellsworth AFB as the beddown location for the Global Hawk Program.

Sincerely,


 Pat McElgunn, Director
 Military Affairs



Offices Located in Rushmore Plaza Civic Center



Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary
California Environmental
Protection Agency

Department of Toxic Substances Control

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
10151 Croydon Way, Suite 3
Sacramento, California 95827-2106



Gray Davis
Governor

000012

December 13, 2000

TY

U.S. Air Force
HQ Air Combat Command
HQ ACC/CEVP
Attn: Ms. Sheryl Parker
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia 23665-2769

COMMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR GLOBAL HAWK MAIN OPERATING BASE BEDDOWN - SCH #2000114013

Dear Ms. Parker:

The Federal Facilities Unit has completed a review of the subject document as it refers to Beale Air Force Base, Yuba County, California and Edwards Air Force Base, Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, California. Comments focus on Chapter 3.0, Affected Environment as noted in the following discussion.

Chapter 3.0, Affected Environment

Section 3.5, Physical Resources, Hazardous Materials and Waste, (Pages 3-39 through 3-43)

This section lacks a detailed discussion of the location of Environmental Restoration Programs sites (ERP) in relation to use of existing structures and proposed new structures for the project. The discussion should include all ERP sites within 500 feet of project construction, including surface soil, the vadose zone, and groundwater which have been impacted by contamination. A figure showing these relationships should also be included.

R-13

The current discussion says that if ERP sites were to occur within the construction sites, then appropriate measures would be taken to mitigate any impacts. The Federal Facilities Unit believes it is critical that all ERP sites which are potentially affected by the proposed project be first identified before the implementation of this project. In the event that "new" ERP sites are found during project construction, a contingency work

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Ms. Sheryl Parker
December 13, 2000
Page 2

R-13

plan should be developed to address any "new" or "unforeseen" contamination. Unforeseen contamination requiring clean up must also meet applicable federal and state environmental regulatory requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3591.

Sincerely,

Randy Adams
Hazardous Substances Engineering Geologist
Federal Facilities Unit

cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

ACOG**ASSOCIATION OF
CENTRAL
OKLAHOMA
GOVERNMENTS****000013**

21 E. Main Street, Suite 100 Oklahoma City, OK 73104-2405
(405) 234-2264 FAX: (405) 234-2200 TDD: (405) 234-2217
 www.acogok.org e-mail: acog@acogok.org

December 15, 2000

Sheryl Parker
 HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
 Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

Dear Ms. Parker:

TY RE: ID#K14001; DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE
 Global Hawk Environmental Assessment (EA)

The Association of Central Oklahoma Governments has completed its Regional Clearinghouse Review of the above referenced proposal recently submitted by your office. Any future communication regarding this proposal should be accompanied by the ID number listed above.

As a result of our review process and the comments received, the proposed project, as of this date, does not appear to be inconsistent with areawide goals and objectives.

Please notify this office of any subsequent modifications, supplements, or amendments to this proposal, if such occurs. At that point we will conduct an additional regional review of the modified proposal as necessary. You are also requested to notify this office of the official action taken on this proposal by the agency from which you are requesting assistance.

Please be advised that this letter is not a commitment of funds for your proposal from any funding source, but allows you to proceed with your application to the Department of Defense for funding consideration.

We appreciate this opportunity for review and comment on your proposal.

Sincerely,

Zach D. Taylor
 Zach D. Taylor
 Executive Director

Chairman Bob Thompson
 Mayor, Norman

Vice-Chairman Eddie Reed
 Mayor, Midwest City

Secretary-Treasurer Steve Knox
 Councilmember, Edmond

Executive Director
 Zach D. Taylor



Gray Davis
 GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

Governor's Office of Planning and Research
 State Clearinghouse



Steve Nissen
 ACTING DIRECTOR

December 15, 2000

000014**TY**

Ms. Sheryl Parker
 U.S. Air Force, HQ Air Combat Command, Civil Engineering
 HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
 Langley, VA 23665-2769

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown
 SCH#: 2000114013

Dear Ms. Sheryl Parker:

The State Clearinghouse submitted the above named Joint Document to selected state agencies for review. The review period closed on December 13, 2000, and no state agencies submitted comments by that date. This letter acknowledges that you have complied with the State Clearinghouse review requirements for draft environmental documents, pursuant to the California Environmental Quality Act.

Please call the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions regarding the environmental review process. If you have a question about the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts
 Terry Roberts
 Senior Planner, State Clearinghouse

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95812-3044
 916-445-0613 FAX 916-323-3018 WWW.OPR.CA.GOV/CLEARINGHOUSE.HTML

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA

**Document Details Report
State Clearinghouse Data Base**

SCH# 2000114013 **000014**
Project Title Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown
Lead Agency U.S. Air Force

Type JD Joint Document
Description An Environmental Assessment for the Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown has been completed by the U.S. Air Force, HQ ACC/CEVP. The EA analyzes the potential impacts to the environment from establishing and operating a main operating base for the Global Hawk, an unmanned aerial vehicle, at one of five Air Force bases within the contiguous United States. The proposal involves locating 18 high-altitude, long endurance unmanned aerial vehicles, associated equipment, and approximately 400 to 850 personnel at an Air Force base. The beddown would start with an initial beddown of four aircraft in 2001, with two additional aircraft delivered each year through 2008. The proposal includes constructing support facilities and using existing airspace around the base.

Lead Agency Contact

Name Ms. Sheryl Parker
Agency U.S. Air Force, HQ Air Combat Command, Civil Engineering
Phone (757) 764-9334 **Fax**
email
Address HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
City Langley **State** VA **Zip** 23865-2769

Project Location

County Kern, Los Angeles, San Bernardino, Yuba
City Lancaster, Yuba City
Region

Cross Streets
Parcel No.
Township **Range** **Section** **Base**

Proximity to:

Highways
Airports
Railways
Waterways
Schools
Land Use On-base comprehensive or general plans.

Project Issues Air Quality; Archaeologic-Historic; Economics/Jobs; Public Services; Noise; Soil Erosion/Compaction/Grading; Toxic/Hazardous; Traffic/Circulation; Vegetation; Water Quality; Wetland/Riparian; Wildlife; Landuse; Cumulative Effects; Population/Housing Balance

Reviewing Agencies Resources Agency; Department of Conservation; Department of Fish and Game, Headquarters; Office of Historic Preservation; Department of Parks and Recreation; Office of Emergency Services; Caltrans, Division of Aeronautics; Caltrans, Division of Transportation Planning; Air Resources Board, Airport Projects; State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Water Quality; Department of Toxic Substances Control; Native American Heritage Commission; State Lands Commission

Date Received 11/14/2000 **Start of Review** 11/14/2000 **End of Review** 12/13/2000

Note: Blanks in data fields result from insufficient information provided by lead agency.



Gray Davis
GOVERNOR

STATE OF CALIFORNIA

**Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse**



Steve Nissen
ACTING DIRECTOR

December 15, 2000

000015

Ms. Sheryl Parker
 U.S. Air Force, HQ Air Combat Command, Civil Engineering
 HQ ACC/CEVP
 129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
 Langley, VA 23665-2769

TY

Subject: Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown
 SCH#: 2000114013

Dear Ms. Sheryl Parker:

The enclosed comment (s) on your Joint Document was (were) received by the State Clearinghouse after the end of the state review period, which closed on December 13, 2000. We are forwarding these comments to you because they provide information or raise issues that should be addressed in your final environmental document.

The California Environmental Quality Act does not require Lead Agencies to respond to late comments. However, we encourage you to incorporate these additional comments into your final environmental document and to consider them prior to taking final action on the proposed project.

Please contact the State Clearinghouse at (916) 445-0613 if you have any questions concerning the environmental review process. If you have a question regarding the above-named project, please refer to the ten-digit State Clearinghouse number (2000114013) when contacting this office.

Sincerely,

Terry Roberts
 Terry Roberts
 Senior Planner, State Clearinghouse

Enclosures
 cc: Resources Agency

1400 TENTH STREET P.O. BOX 3044 SACRAMENTO, CALIFORNIA 95832-3044
 916-445-0613 FAX 916-323-3018 WWW.OPR.CA.GOV/CLEARINGHOUSE.HTML



Department of Toxic Substances Control

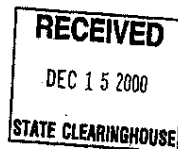
Winston H. Hickox
Agency Secretary
California Environmental
Protection Agency

Edwin F. Lowry, Director
10151 Croydon Way, Suite 3
Sacramento, California 95827-2106



Gray Davis
Governor

December 13, 2000



000015

U.S. Air Force
HQ Air Combat Command
HQ ACC/CEVP
Attn: Ms. Sheryl Parker
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley Air Force Base, Virginia 23665-2769

*Clear
12/13/00
late*

COMMENTS ON ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR GLOBAL HAWK MAIN
OPERATING BASE BEDDOWN - SCH #2000114013

Dear Ms. Parker:

The Federal Facilities Unit has completed a review of the subject document as it refers to Beale Air Force Base, Yuba County, California and Edwards Air Force Base, Kern, Los Angeles, and San Bernardino Counties, California. Comments focus on Chapter 3.0, Affected Environment as noted in the following discussion.

Chapter 3.0, Affected Environment

Section 3.5, Physical Resources, Hazardous Materials and Waste, (Pages 3-39 through 3-43)

This section lacks a detailed discussion of the location of Environmental Restoration Programs sites (ERP) in relation to use of existing structures and proposed new structures for the project. The discussion should include all ERP sites within 500 feet of project construction, including surface soil, the vadose zone, and groundwater which have been impacted by contamination. A figure showing these relationships should also be included.

R-13

The current discussion says that if ERP sites were to occur within the construction sites, then appropriate measures would be taken to mitigate any impacts. The Federal Facilities Unit believes it is critical that all ERP sites which are potentially affected by the proposed project be first identified before the implementation of this project. In the event that "new" ERP sites are found during project construction, a contingency work

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Ms. Sheryl Parker
December 13, 2000
Page 2

R-13

plan should be developed to address any "new" or "unforeseen" contamination. Unforeseen contamination requiring clean up must also meet applicable federal and state environmental regulatory requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on this Environmental Assessment. If you have any questions, please contact me at (916) 255-3591.

Sincerely,

Randy Adams

Randy Adams
Hazardous Substances Engineering Geologist
Federal Facilities Unit

cc: Governor's Office of Planning and Research
State Clearinghouse
1400 Tenth Street
Sacramento, California 95814

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA



State of Ohio Environmental Protection Agency

Southwest District Office

401 East Fifth Street
Dayton, Ohio 45402-2911

TELE: (937) 285-6357 FAX: (937) 285-6249

Bob Taft, Governor
Maureen O'Connor, Lt. Governor
Christopher Jones, Director

December 6, 2000

RE: Draft Environmental Assessment
Global Hawk Operating Base BeddownMs. Sheryl Parker
Global Hawk EA Project Manager
HQ ACC/CEVP
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

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Dear Ms. Parker:

The Ohio Environmental Protection Agency (Ohio EPA), Southwest District Office, is submitting the following comments on the "Draft Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Operating Base Beddown." The comments pertain to the Wright-Patterson AFB alternative.

R-14

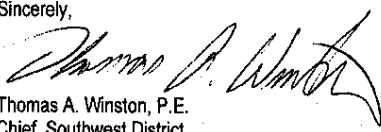
1. From Figure 2.2-7, it appears that the proposed area for fuel cell and corrosion hangars may be very close to Operable Unit 10, one of the NPL site operable units at WPAFB. Nearby monitoring wells, such as OU10-MW-11S, have shown that ground water in this area is contaminated with solvents. Any water encountered during construction activities in this area should be considered to be contaminated and must be handled appropriately.

R-15

2. The proposed area for fuel cell and corrosion hangars is located in an area that has been actively used for flight operations for many years. Although not identified as an area of concern in past environmental investigations, the environmental assessment should consider that this area, due to past activities, is a potential area of contamination. For this reason, excavated soils will need to be managed appropriately.

If you have any questions about these comments, please contact Laura Marshall at (937) 285-6458.

Sincerely,


Thomas A. Winston, P.E.
Chief, Southwest District
cc: Ronald Lester, WPAFB, 88 ABW/EM
Bonnie Buttker, OFFO

000017

30 Nov 2000

HQ ACC/CEVP
ATTN: Ms Sheryl Parker
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley AFB, Va 23665-2769

SUBJECT: Draft Global Hawk Environment Assessment (EA)

1. Following are comments concerning the Subject Draft EA Assessment
2. Personal Data: I have resided within the Community Land Use Management Area defined in Fig 3.3-4, Pg 3-17 of the Subject EA Assessment for the past 34 years. By profession, I have been an Aeronautical engineer for 41 years, with a diverse engineering work background in aerodynamics, performance, structural analysis, ordnance and live fire testing.

3. Comment: Subject Draft EA Assessment, Pg 4-~~18~~ 6 *Nov. Comments*

R-9

The FAA comments on the "alleged" difficulty in providing safe flight at WPAFB for the Global Hawk are considered "suspect." I believe you will find that the aircraft operational rate at WPAFB were much higher in past years when the 4950th TW, the 906 TFW and the B-52 SAC wing were stationed there. This was also during the time frame when the aircraft operations at the Dayton International Airport were also high. I don't believe the FAA said at that time that the operations rate at WPAFB were endangering flight safety operations in this area. In addition, Dayton has been actively pushing plans, with the assistance of the FAA, to greatly increase the aircraft capacity at the Dayton International Airport. Under consideration are runway extensions to the existing runways, adding at least one additional runway and building a new control tower. I believe the estimated maximum of 1248 Global Hawk operations per year is a drop in the bucket compared to the increased flight operations at the Dayton International Airport resulting from these proposed airport changes.

2.

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Comment: Subject Draft EA Assessment, Pgs 4-7,8 & Fig 4.2-1.

R-10 An analytical estimate is presented to derive an equivalent potential for Class A mishaps for the Global Hawk. I worked on nearly every missile/drone program at WPAFB in my 33 years at WPAFB. Based on my experience I believe the estimated mishap rate of 6.16 per 100,000 hours is reasonable and passes the "sanity" check. I would assume that most of those mishaps would occur during take-off or landing (hostile enemy fire excluded). One item not addressed in the Subject Draft EA Assessment is the protection of the Global Hawk assets and the surrounding environment in the event of a mishap. It would seem that at least a local "First Response" cadre of personnel should be created, to be deployed immediately in the event of a mishap, to minimize any potential environmental damage.

5. Comment: Subject Draft EA Assessment, Pgs 2-5 & 2-7, Fig 2.2-2

R-11 There is a 78% increase in projected aircraft inventory for WPAFB. I'm sure this number is mathematically correct, but could be misleading. I'm sure this number accounts for the loss of the 4950th TW and the 906 TFW which departed in recent years. In prior decades the B-52 SAC wing was based at WPAFB. I believe if those B-52 aircraft numbers are viewed in a longer historical context the 78% increase would be significantly reduced. The fact that there is an excess of facilities available at WPAFB is due to those facilities having been used in the past. In addition, the estimated 3.1% increase in airfield operations for WPAFB are likewise misleading since from my personal observations the past operational rate was much higher than the current rate.

6. Conclusion: Based on my review of the Subject Draft EA Assessment and my own professional experience I believe that WPAFB offers the best location for the Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown. WPAFB meets all of the five re for a viable Global Hawk beddown. It especially meets

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he initial beddown require f the immediately available existing, nutilized facilities. In addition, from a strategic standpoint WPAFB is the est identified continental airbase for providing the shortest distance to the ear-East area and also for surveillance for the drug convoys from the South merica area.

Very truly yours,

Edwin C. Dow
Edwin C. Dow

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA

PLANNING DEPARTMENT

TED JAMES, AICP, Director
2700 "M" STREET, SUITE 100
BAKERSFIELD, CA 93301-2323
Phone: (861) 862-8600
FAX: (861) 862-8601 TTY Relay 1-800-735-2921
E-Mail: planning@co.kern.ca.us
Web Address: www.co.kern.ca.us/planning/info.htm



RESOURCE MANAGEMENT AGENCY

DAVID PRICE III, RMA DIRECTOR
Community Development Program Department
Engineering & Survey Services Department
Environmental Health Services Department
Planning Department
Roads Department

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TY

HQ ACC/CEVP
Attention: Ms. Sheryl Parker
129 Andrews St., Suite 102
Langley AFB VA 23665-2769

Dec. 7, 2000

RE: Environmental Assessment for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown

Dear Ms. Parker:

Thank you for allowing the County of Kern to comment on the above referenced project. Edwards Air Base is partially within the boundaries of the County of Kern but not under that County's jurisdiction. However, the impact of project could affect the surrounding County area.

The addition of approximately 1,123 indirect jobs would be an asset to the eastern portion of Kern County. Much of the County in the area surrounding Edwards Air Force Base has been planned for housing to accommodate additional residents, specifically the communities of Mojave and Rosamond. To date, many of these projects have not been developed due to lack of employment opportunities for the future residents. That portion of Kern County has been planned for sufficient housing to accommodate these additional jobs and the project would therefore, not negatively impact the area. Kern County has already planned for flight corridors from the existing base.

If you have any further questions, please contact Cheryl Casdorph, at (661) 862-8624.

Very truly yours,

Ted James, AICP, Director

By: Cheryl Casdorph
Senior Planner

TJ:CAC
H:\CAC\CEQAREV\globalhawk.ca.wpd



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Sacramento Fish and Wildlife Office
2800 Cottage Way, Room W2605
Sacramento, California 95825-1846

000019

IN REPLY REFER TO:
1-1-00-SP-3247

January 12, 2001

TY

Mr. Alton Chavis
Chief, Environmental Analysis Branch
HQ ACC/CEVP
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley AFB, Virginia 23665-2769

Subject: Species List for Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown, Beale AFB,
Yuba and Yolo Counties, California

Dear Mr. Alton Chavis:

R-16

We are sending the enclosed list in response to your September 1, 2000, request for information about endangered and threatened species (Enclosure A). The list covers the following U.S. Geological Survey 7½ minute quads of Smartville, Wheatland, Browns Valley, Rough and Ready, Wolf and Camp Far West.

Please read *Important Information About Your Species List* (enclosed). It explains how we made the list and describes your responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act. Please contact Harry Mossman, Biological Technician, at (916) 414-6674, if you have any questions about the attached list or your responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act. For the fastest response to species list requests, address them to the attention of Mr. Mossman at this address. You may fax requests to him at 414-6712 or 6713.

Sincerely,

Karen J. Miller
Chief, Endangered Species Division

Enclosures

Important Information About Your Species List

000019

How We Make Species Lists

We store information about endangered and threatened species lists by U.S. Geological Survey $7\frac{1}{2}$ minute *quads*. The United States is divided into these quads, which are about the size of San Francisco. If you requested your list by quad name or number, that is what we used. Otherwise, we used the information you sent us to determine which quad or quads to use.

Animals

The animals on your species list are ones that occur within, or may be affected by projects within, the quads covered by the list. Fish and other aquatic species appear on your list if they are in the same watershed as your quad or if water use in your quad might affect them.

Plants

Any plants on your list are ones that have actually been observed in the quad or quads covered by the list. We have also included either a county species list or a list of species in nearby quads. We recommend that you check your project area for these plants. Plants may exist in an area without ever having been detected there.

Surveying

Some of the species on your list may not be affected by your project. A trained biologist or botanist, familiar with the habitat requirements of the species on your list, should determine whether they or habitats suitable for them may be affected by your project. We recommend that your surveys include any proposed and candidate species on your list. For plant surveys, we recommend using the enclosed *Guidelines for Conducting and Reporting Botanical Inventories for Federally Listed, Proposed and Candidate Species*. The results of your surveys should be published in any environmental documents prepared for your project.

State-Listed Species

If a species has been listed as threatened or endangered by the State of California, but not by us nor by the National Marine Fisheries Service, it will appear on your list as a Species of Concern. However you should contact the California Department of Fish and Game for official information about these species. Call (916) 322-2493 or write Marketing Manager, California Department of Fish and Game, Natural Diversity Data Base, 1416 Ninth Street, Sacramento, California 95814.

Your Responsibilities Under the Endangered Species Act

All plants and animals identified as *listed* on Enclosure A are fully protected under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Section 9 of the Act and its implementing regulations prohibit the *take* of a federally listed wildlife species. Take is defined by the Act as "to harass, harm, pursue, hunt,

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shoot, wound, kill, trap, capture, or collect" any such animal. Take may include significant habitat modification or degradation where it actually kills or injures wildlife by significantly impairing essential behavioral patterns, including breeding, feeding, or shelter (50 CFR §17.3).

Take incidental to an otherwise lawful activity may be authorized by one of two procedures:

If a Federal agency is involved with the permitting, funding, or carrying out of a project that may result in take, then that agency must engage in a *formal consultation* with the Service. Such consultation would result in a *biological opinion* addressing the anticipated effect of the project on listed and proposed species. The opinion may authorize a limited level of incidental take.

If no Federal agency is involved with the project, and federally listed species may be taken as part of the project, then you, the applicant, should apply for an *incidental take permit*. The Service may issue such a permit if you submit a satisfactory conservation plan for the species that would be affected by your project. Should your survey determine that federally listed or proposed species occur in the area and are likely to be affected by the project, we recommend that you work with this office and the California Department of Fish and Game to develop a plan that mitigates for the project's direct and indirect impacts to listed species and compensates for project-related loss of habitat. You should include the mitigation plan in any environmental documents you file.

Critical Habitat

When a species is listed as endangered or threatened, areas of habitat considered essential to its conservation may be designated as *critical habitat*. These areas may require special management considerations or protection. They provide needed space for growth and normal behavior; food, water, air, light, other nutritional or physiological requirements; cover or shelter; and sites for breeding, reproduction, rearing of offspring, germination or seed dispersal.

Although critical habitat may be designated on private or State lands, activities on these lands are not restricted unless there is Federal involvement in the activities or direct harm to listed wildlife.

If any species has proposed or designated critical habitat within a quad, there will be a separate line for this on the species list. Maps and boundary descriptions of the critical habitat may be found in the *Federal Register*. The information is also reprinted in the *Code of Federal Regulations* (50 CFR 17.95).

Candidate Species

We recommend that you address impacts to *candidate* species. We put plants and animals on our candidate list when we have enough scientific information to eventually propose them for listing as threatened or endangered. By considering these species early in your planning process you may be able to avoid the problems that could develop if one of these candidates was listed before the end of your project.

Your list may contain a section called *Species of Concern*. This term includes former *category 2*

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candidate species and other plants and animals of concern to the Service and other Federal, State and private conservation agencies and organizations. Some of these species may become candidate species in the future.

Wetlands

If your project will impact wetlands, riparian habitat, or other jurisdictional waters as defined by section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, you will need to obtain a permit from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Impacts to wetland habitats require site specific mitigation and monitoring. For questions regarding wetlands, please contact Mark Littlefield of this office at (916) 414-6580.

Updates

Our database is constantly updated as species are proposed, listed and delisted. If you address proposed, candidate and special concern species in your planning, this should not be a problem. We also continually strive to make our information as accurate as possible. Sometimes we learn that a particular species has a different range than we thought. This should not be a problem if you consider the species on the county or surrounding-quad lists that we have enclosed. If you have a long-term project or if your project is delayed, please feel free to contact us about getting a current list. You can also find out the current status of a species by going to the Service's Internet page: www.fws.gov

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GUIDELINES FOR CONDUCTING AND REPORTING BOTANICAL INVENTORIES FOR FEDERALLY LISTED, PROPOSED AND CANDIDATE PLANTS (September 23, 1996)

These guidelines describe protocols for conducting botanical inventories for federally listed, proposed and candidate plants, and describe minimum standards for reporting results. The Service will use, in part, the information outlined below in determining whether the project under consideration may affect any listed, proposed or candidate plants, and in determining the direct, indirect, and cumulative effects.

Field inventories should be conducted in a manner that will locate listed, proposed, or candidate species (target species) that may be present. The entire project area requires a botanical inventory, except developed agricultural lands. The field investigator(s) should:

1. Conduct inventories at the appropriate times of year when target species are present and identifiable. Inventories will include all potential habitats. Multiple site visits during a field season may be necessary to make observations during the appropriate phenological stage of all target species.
2. If available, use a regional or local reference population to obtain a visual image of the target species and associated habitat(s). If access to reference populations is not available, investigators should study specimens from local herbaria.
3. List every species observed and compile a comprehensive list of vascular plants for the entire project site. Vascular plants need to be identified to a taxonomic level which allows rarity to be determined.
4. Report results of botanical field inventories that include:
 - a. a description of the biological setting, including plant community, topography, soils, potential habitat of target species, and an evaluation of environmental conditions, such as timing or quantity of rainfall, which may influence the performance and expression of target species
 - b. a map of project location showing scale, orientation, project boundaries, parcel size, and map quadrangle name
 - c. survey dates and survey methodology(ies)
 - d. if a reference population is available, provide a written narrative describing the target species reference population(s) used, and date(s) when observations were made
 - e. a comprehensive list of all vascular plants occurring on the project site for each habitat type
 - f. current and historic land uses of the habitat(s) and degree of site alteration
 - g. presence of target species off-site on adjacent parcels, if known
 - h. an assessment of the biological significance or ecological quality of the project site in a local and regional context

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5. If target species is(are) found, report results that additionally include:
- a map showing federally listed, proposed and candidate species distribution as they relate to the proposed project
 - if target species is (are) associated with wetlands, a description of the direction and integrity of flow of surface hydrology. If target species is (are) affected by adjacent off-site hydrological influences, describe these factors.
 - the target species phenology and microhabitat, an estimate of the number of individuals of each target species per unit area; identify areas of high, medium and low density of target species over the project site, and provide acres of occupied habitat of target species. Investigators could provide color slides, photos or color copies of photos of target species or representative habitats to support information or descriptions contained in reports.
 - the degree of impact(s), if any, of the proposed project as it relates to the potential unoccupied habitat of target habitat.
6. Document findings of target species by completing California Native Species Field Survey Form(s) and submit form(s) to the Natural Diversity Data Base. Documentation of determinations and/or voucher specimens may be useful in cases of taxonomic ambiguities, habitat or range extensions.
7. Report as an addendum to the original survey, any change in abundance and distribution of target plants in subsequent years. Project sites with inventories older than three years from the current date of project proposal submission will likely need additional survey. Investigators need to assess whether an additional survey(s) is (are) needed.
8. Adverse conditions may prevent investigator(s) from determining presence or identifying some target species in potential habitat(s) of target species. Disease, drought, predation, or herbivory may preclude the presence or identification of target species in any year. An additional botanical inventory(ies) in a subsequent year(s) may be required if adverse conditions occur in a potential habitat(s). Investigator(s) may need to discuss such conditions.
9. Guidance from California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) regarding plant and plant community surveys can be found in Guidelines for Assessing the Effects of Proposed Developments on Rare and Endangered Plants and Plant Communities, 1984. Please contact the CDFG Regional Office for questions regarding the CDFG guidelines and for assistance in determining any applicable State regulatory requirements.

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ENCLOSURE A

Endangered and Threatened Species that May Occur in or be Affected by
Projects in the Area of the Following California Counties
Reference File No. 01-SP-3247
January 12, 2001

YOLO COUNTY

Listed Species

Birds

Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)
bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)
northern spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis caurina* (T)

Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

Critical habitat, winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
Critical habitat, delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)
Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
Critical Habitat, Central Valley spring-run chinook, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

Conservancy fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta conservatio* (E)
vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)
vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)
valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Plants

palmate-bracted bird's-beak, *Cordylanthus palmatus* (E)
Solano grass, *Tuoria mucronata* (E)
Colusa grass, *Neostapfia colusana* (T)

Proposed Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (PT)

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Candidate Species

Amphibians

California tiger salamander, *Ambystoma californiense* (C)

Fish

Central Valley fall/late fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

Pacific western big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendi townsendii* (SC)greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis calloletrum* (SC)long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)greater sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis fabida* (CA)bank swallow, *Riparia riparia* (CA)American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)Black-Crowned Night Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax* (MB)grasshopper sparrow, *Ammodramus savannarum* (SC)short-eared owl, *Asio flammeus* (SC)western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypuga* (SC)American bittern, *Botaurus lentiginosus* (SC)ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)Lawrence's goldfinch, *Carduelis lawrencei* (SC)Vaux's swift, *Chaetura vauxi* (SC)black tern, *Chlidonias niger* (SC)lark sparrow, *Chondestes grammacus* (SC)olive-sided flycatcher, *Contopus cooperi* (SC)hermit warbler, *Dendroica occidentalis* (SC)white-tailed (=black shouldered) kite, *Elanus leucurus* (SC)common loon, *Gavia immer* (SC)least bittern, western, *Ixobrychus exilis hesperis* (SC)loggerhead shrike, *Lanius ludovicianus* (SC)

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Lewis' woodpecker, *Melanerpes lewis* (SC)long-billed curlew, *Numenius americanus* (SC)white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chini* (SC)rufous hummingbird, *Selasphorus rufus* (SC)red-breasted sapsucker, *Sphyrapicus ruber* (SC)Bewick's wren, *Thryomanes bewickii* (SC)California thrasher, *Toxostoma redivivum* (SC)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)southwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata pallida* (SC)San Joaquin coachwhip (=whipsnake), *Masticophis flagellum ruddocki* (SC)California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

foothill yellow-legged frog, *Rana boylei* (SC)western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)river lamprey, *Lampetra ayresii* (SC)Pacific lamprey, *Lampetra tridentata* (SC)longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

Antioch Dunes anthicid beetle, *Anthicus antiochensis* (SC)Sacramento anthicid beetle, *Anthicus sacramento* (SC)brownish dubiraphian riffle beetle, *Dubiraphia brunnescens* (SC)California linderella fairy shrimp, *Linderella occidentalis* (SC)

Plants

alkali milk-velch, *Astragalus tener* var. *tener* (SC)brittlescale, *Atriplex depressa* (SC)valley spearscale, *Atriplex joaquiniensis* (SC)Snow Mountain buckwheat, *Eriogonum nervosum* (SC)adobe lily, *Fritillaria pluriflora* (SC)drymaria dwarf-flax, *Hesperolimon drymarioides* (SC)Hall's madia, *Madia hallii* (SC)Ferris's milk-velch, *Astragalus tener* var. *ferrisiae* (SC) *Northern California black walnut, *Juglans californica* var. *hindsii* (SC) *

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YUBA COUNTY

Listed Species

Birds

- Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)
bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

- giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

- California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

- winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)
Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
Critical Habitat, Central Valley spring-run chinook, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

- vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)
vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)
valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Plants

- Hartweg's golden sunburst, *Pseudobelia bahiikila* (E)

Proposed Species

Birds

- mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Fish

- Central Valley fall/winter fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

- pale Townsend's big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii pallascens* (SC)
Pacific western big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii townsendii* (SC)
Marysville Heermann's kangaroo rat, *Dipodomys californicus eximius* (SC)
spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)
greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)

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- Sierra Nevada snowshoe hare, *Lepus americanus tahoensis* (SC)
Pacific fisher, *Martes pennanti pacifica* (SC)
small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)
long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

- Swainson's hawk, *Buteo swainsoni* (CA)
little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)
greater sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis fabida* (CA)
bank swallow, *Riparia riparia* (CA)
American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)
Black-Crowned Night Heron, *Nycticorax nycticorax* (MB)
northern goshawk, *Accipiter gentilis* (SC)
grasshopper sparrow, *Ammodramus saviannarum* (SC)
short-eared owl, *Asio flammeus* (SC)
western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypugea* (SC)
American bittern, *Botaurus lentiginosus* (SC)
ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
Lawrence's goldfinch, *Carduelis lawrencei* (SC)
Vaux's swift, *Chaetura vauxi* (SC)
black tern, *Chlidonias niger* (SC)
lerk sparrow, *Chondestes grammacus* (SC)
olive-sided flycatcher, *Contopus cooperi* (SC)
black swift, *Cypseloides niger* (SC)
hermit warbler, *Dendroica occidentalis* (SC)
loggerhead shrike, *Lanius ludovicianus* (SC)
Lewis' woodpecker, *Melanerpes lewis* (SC)
white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chihi* (SC)
rufous hummingbird, *Selasphorus rufus* (SC)
red-breasted sapsucker, *Sphyrapicus ruber* (SC)
Brewer's sparrow, *Spizella breweri* (SC)
California spotted owl, *Strix occidentalis occidentalis* (SC)
Bewick's wren, *Thryomanes bewickii* (SC)

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Reptiles

- northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)
 southwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata pallida* (SC)
 California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

- foothill yellow-legged frog, *Rana boylei* (SC)
 western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Invertebrates

- Sacramento Valley tiger beetle, *Cicindela hirticollis abrupta* (SC)
 Sagehen Creek goracean caddisfly, *Goraeoa oregona* (SC)
 California linderiella fairy shrimp, *Linderiella occidentalis* (SC)

Plants

- clustered lady's-slipper, *Cypripedium fasciculatum* (SC)
 Butte fritillary, *Fritillaria oestwoodiae* (SC)

KEY:

- (E) **Endangered** Listed (in the Federal Register) as being in danger of extinction.
 (T) **Threatened** Listed as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future.
 (P) **Proposed** Officially proposed (in the Federal Register) for listing as endangered or threatened.
 (PX) **Proposed Critical Habitat** Proposed as an area essential to the conservation of the species.
 (C) **Candidate** Candidate to become a proposed species.
 (SC) **Species of Concern** Other species of concern to the Service.
 (D) **Delisted** Delisted. Status to be monitored for 5 years.
 (CA) **State-Listed** Listed as threatened or endangered by the State of California.
 * **Extirpated** Possibly extirpated from the area.
 ** **Extinct** Possibly extinct
Critical Habitat Area essential to the conservation of a species.

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ENCLOSURE A

Endangered and Threatened Species that May Occur in
 or be Affected by Projects in the Selected Quads Listed Below

Reference File No. 00-SP-3247

Global Hawk Main Operating

January 12, 2001

QUAD : 542B ROUGH AND READY

Listed Species

Birds

- bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Amphibians

- California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytoni* (T)

Fish

- delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
 Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)
 winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
 Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
 Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

- valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Candidate Species

Fish

- Central Valley fall/late fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

- spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)
 greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)
 small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)
 long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
 fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
 long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
 Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
 San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

- tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)

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little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)
 American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)
 California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

foothill yellow-legged frog, *Rana boylei* (SC)
 western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
 longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

Segehen Creek gorgean caddisfly, *Goeracea oregona* (SC)

QUAD : 542C WOLF

Listed Species

Birds

bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
 Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)
 winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
 Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
 Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Candidate Species

Fish

Central Valley fall/mate fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (C)

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Species of Concern

Mammals

spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)
 greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)
 small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis californicus* (SC)
 long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
 fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
 long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
 Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
 San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)
 little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)
 American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)
 California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

foothill yellow-legged frog, *Rana boylei* (SC)
 western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
 longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

Sagehen Creek gorgean caddisfly, *Goeracea oregona* (SC)

QUAD : 543A SMARTVILLE

Listed Species

Birds

bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

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Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Species of Concern

Mammals

Pacific western big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii townsendii* (SC)Marysville Heermann's kangaroo rat, *Dipodomys californicus eximius* (SC)spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)western burrowing owl, *Athene cucularia hypuga* (SC)ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)greater sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis tabida* (CA)white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chibi* (SC)bank swallow, *Riparia riparia* (CA)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Emmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

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Amphibians

western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

Sagehen Creek goraeon caddisfly, *Goraeon oregona* (SC)California linderella fairy shrimp, *Linderella occidentalis* (SC)

QUAD : 543B BROWNS VALLEY

Listed Species

Birds

Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareia* (T)bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)

Proposed Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (PT)

Species of Concern

Mammals

Pacific western big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii townsendii* (SC)Marysville Heermann's kangaroo rat, *Dipodomys californicus eximius* (SC)

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spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)
 greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)
 small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)
 long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
 fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
 long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
 Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
 San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)
 western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypugae* (SC)
 ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
 little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)
 American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)
 greater sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis tabida* (CA)
 white-faced ibis, *Plegadis citra* (SC)
 bank swallow, *Riparia riparia* (CA)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)

Amphibians

western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
 longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

California linderiella fairy shrimp, *Linderiella occidentalis* (SC)

QUAD : 543C WHEATLAND

Listed Species

Birds

Aleutian Canada goose, *Branta canadensis leucopareis* (T)
 bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

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Reptiles

giant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytonii* (T)

Fish

delta smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
 Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)
 winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
 Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
 Critical Habitat, Central Valley spring-run chinook, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
 Sacramento splittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)
 valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)
 vernal pool tadpole shrimp, *Lepidurus packardii* (E)

Proposed Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Fish

Central Valley fall/fate fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

Pacific western big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendii townsendii* (SC)
 Marysville Heermann's kangaroo rat, *Dipodomys californicus eximius* (SC)
 spotted bat, *Euderma maculatum* (SC)
 greater western mastiff-bat, *Eumops perotis californicus* (SC)
 small-footed myotis bat, *Myotis ciliolabrum* (SC)
 long-eared myotis bat, *Myotis evotis* (SC)
 fringed myotis bat, *Myotis thysanodes* (SC)
 long-legged myotis bat, *Myotis volans* (SC)
 Yuma myotis bat, *Myotis yumanensis* (SC)
 San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

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Birds

tricolored blackbird, *Agelaius tricolor* (SC)
 western burrowing owl, *Athene cunicularia hypuga* (SC)
 ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
 little willow flycatcher, *Empidonax traillii brewsteri* (CA)
 American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)
 greater sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis fabida* (CA)
 white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chini* (SC)
 bank swallow, *Riparia riparia* (CA)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)

Amphibians

western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)
 longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

California fenderiella fairy shrimp, *Linderella occidentalis* (SC)

QUAD : S43D CAMP FAR WEST

Listed Species

Birds

bald eagle, *Haliaeetus leucocephalus* (T)

Reptiles

plant garter snake, *Thamnophis gigas* (T)

Amphibians

California red-legged frog, *Rana aurora draytoni* (T)

Fish

della smelt, *Hypomesus transpacificus* (T)
 Central Valley steelhead, *Oncorhynchus mykiss* (T)
 winter-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (E)
 Central Valley spring-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)
 Critical Habitat, Central Valley spring-run chinook, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (T)

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Sacramento spittail, *Pogonichthys macrolepidotus* (T)

Invertebrates

vernal pool fairy shrimp, *Branchinecta lynchi* (T)
 valley elderberry longhorn beetle, *Desmocerus californicus dimorphus* (T)

Proposed Species

Birds

mountain plover, *Charadrius montanus* (PT)

Candidate Species

Fish

Central Valley fallate fall-run chinook salmon, *Oncorhynchus tshawytscha* (C)

Species of Concern

Mammals

Pacific western big-eared bat, *Corynorhinus (=Plecotus) townsendi townsendi* (SC)
 Marysville Heermann's kangaroo rat, *Dipodomys californicus eximius* (SC)
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 San Joaquin pocket mouse, *Perognathus inornatus* (SC)

Birds

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 ferruginous hawk, *Buteo regalis* (SC)
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 American peregrine falcon, *Falco peregrinus anatum* (D)
 greater sandhill crane, *Grus canadensis fabida* (CA)
 white-faced ibis, *Plegadis chini* (SC)
 bank swallow, *Riparia riparia* (CA)

Reptiles

northwestern pond turtle, *Clemmys marmorata marmorata* (SC)

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California horned lizard, *Phrynosoma coronatum frontale* (SC)

Amphibians

western spadefoot toad, *Scaphiopus hammondi* (SC)

Fish

green sturgeon, *Acipenser medirostris* (SC)longfin smelt, *Spirinchus thaleichthys* (SC)

Invertebrates

Sagehen Creek goracean caddisfly, *Goracaea oregona* (SC)California Linderella fairy shrimp, *Linderella occidentalis* (SC)

KEY:

- (E) *Endangered* Listed (in the Federal Register) as being in danger of extinction.
 (T) *Threatened* Listed as likely to become endangered within the foreseeable future.
 (P) *Proposed* Officially proposed (in the Federal Register) for listing as endangered or threatened.
 (PX) *Proposed Critical Habitat* Proposed as an area essential to the conservation of the species.
 (C) *Candidate* Candidate to become a proposed species.
 (SC) *Species of Concern* May be endangered or threatened. Not enough biological information has been gathered to support listing at this time.
 (MB) *Migratory Bird* Migratory bird.
 (D) *Delisted* Delisted. Status to be monitored for 5 years.
 (CA) *State-Listed* Listed as threatened or endangered by the State of California.
 (*) *Extirpated* Possibly extirpated from this quad.
 (**) *Extinct* Possibly extinct.
Critical Habitat Area essential to the conservation of a species.



CITY OF RAPID CITY

RAPID CITY, SOUTH DAKOTA 57701-2724

Office of the Mayor

300 Sixth Street

605-394-4110

Fax: 605-394-6793

E-mail: mayor@ci.rapid-city.sd.us

000020

December 7, 2000

HQ/ACC/CEVP

129 Andrews St. Ste. 102

Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

ATTN: Ms. Cheryl Parker

TY Dear Ms. Parker:

I am writing to you in support of Ellsworth AFB being selected as the beddown base for the USAF Global Hawk mission. From what we have been able to discern in your evaluation process, we believe Ellsworth is the best choice for such a revolutionary mission. In addition to the uncongested airspace and the low-density population of our area, the opportunities Ellsworth AFB presents for training, contingency, and wartime operations are unparalleled in the continental United States.

From the perspective of a support community, Rapid City and the Greater Black Hills Area, anxiously anticipates the opportunity to host another of the continuing missions assigned to Ellsworth since its founding in 1942. As I am confident your headquarters has heard that we are known for the outstanding support we have provided to the base --- today, we stand ready to do so again.

Thanking you in advance for your attention to this most important matter, please do not hesitate to contact me regarding any support that is required to make Ellsworth AFB the first and foremost home of the Global Hawk mission.

Sincerely,

Jim Shaw, Mayor
Rapid City, South Dakota



EQUAL OPPORTUNITY EMPLOYER

Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA

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Appendix G

DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION

DISTRICT 9
500 SOUTH MAIN STREET
BISHOP, CA 93514-3423
Phone (760) 872-1492
Fax (760) 872-0678



000021

December 24, 2000

Ms. Sheryl Parker
United States Air Force
HQ ACC/CEVP
129 Andrews Street, Suite 102
Langley AFB, VA 23665-2769

File: 09- USAF
DEA
GLOBAL HAWK PROJECT.

REF: DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (DEA) ON GLOBAL HAWK
MAIN OPERATING BASE BEDDOWN PROJECT FOR UNITED STATES AIR
FORCE AIR COMBAT COMMAND (NOVEMBER 2000)

TY Dear Ms. Parker:

The California Department of Transportation (Caltrans) appreciates the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft Environmental Assessment on the Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown Project for the United States Air Force.

We have no belated comments based upon the supplied documentation. There appears to be no significant impacts to safety or operation on State highways at this time.

Please continue to forward copies of reports on this proposed project for our review, comments, and records. If you have any questions, please contact me at (760) 872-1492. We look forward to continuing to work with you in a cooperative manner.

Sincerely,


CAROLYN YEE
IGR/CEQA Coordinator

c: Jerry Gabriel

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Global Hawk Main Operating Base Beddown EA