

B-21 Main Operating Base 1 Beddown

at Dyess AFB, Texas, or
Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT



Welcome to this Public Meeting

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What is the National Environmental Policy Act?

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is our national charter for making informed decisions while considering environmental impacts. NEPA requires all federal agencies making a proposal that may significantly impact the environment to consider:

- ▶ A range of reasonable alternatives.
- ▶ Potential environmental or human health consequences.
- ▶ Public and government agency input.

NEPA Public Involvement

NEPA and Air Force regulations require tribal, government, agency, and public participation throughout the environmental impact analysis process.

Tribal, government, agency, and public participation is an integral part of the EIS process. The purpose of soliciting input is to identify interested parties and relevant issues so they can be considered in the EIS.

The first stage in the EIS process is public scoping. During scoping, the Air Force is actively seeking feedback from Federal, state and local agencies, federally recognized tribes, and the public in development of the EIS. The public scoping phase provides opportunities to learn about and comment on the project and provides the Air Force with the opportunity to identify issues of interest or concern to frame the environmental analysis and more effectively shape the range of alternatives to be considered.



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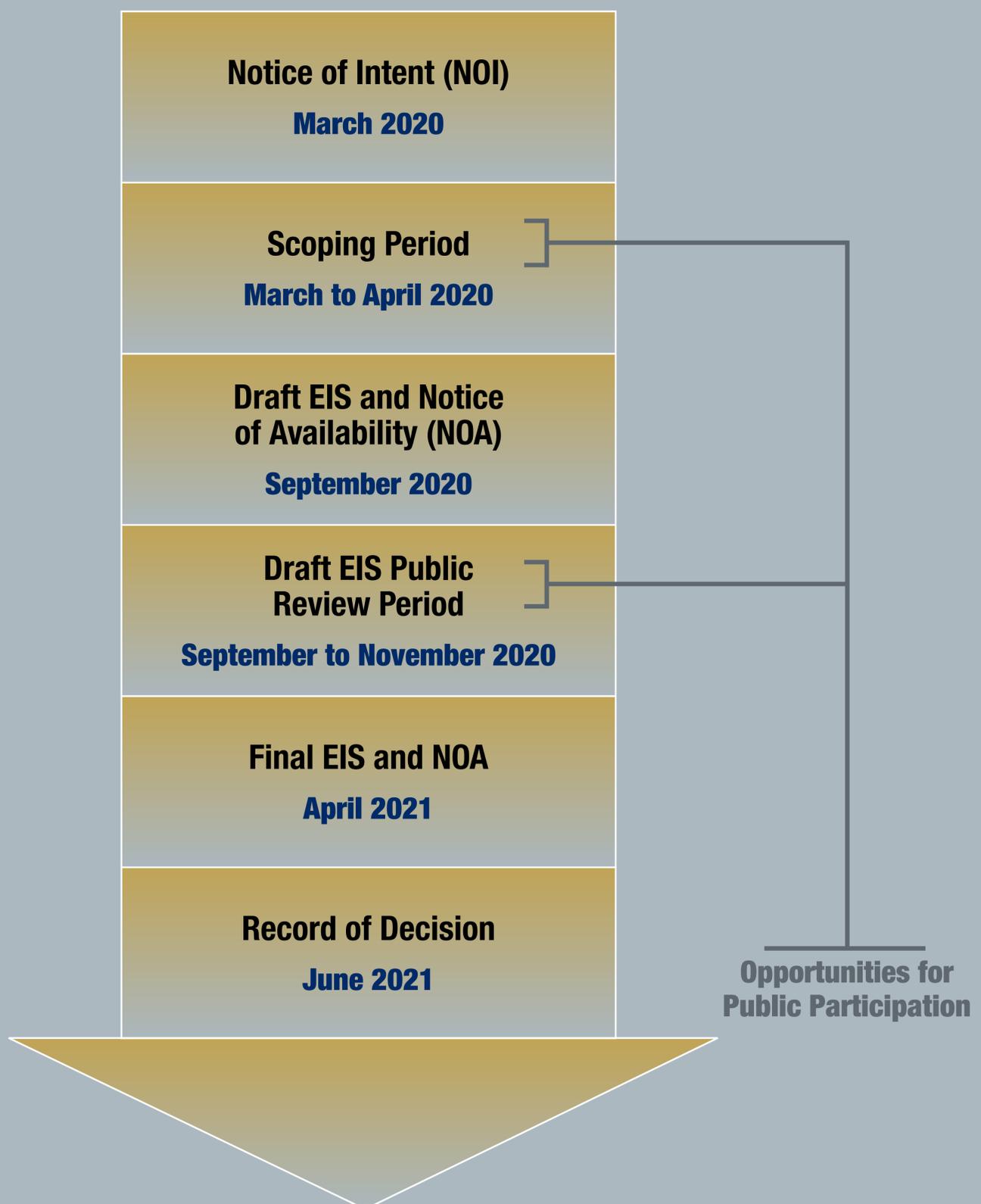
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What is the Anticipated Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) Timeline?



For more information, visit the project website at: <https://www.B21EIS.com>

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What Environmental Resources will be Studied in the EIS?

Air Quality Analysis will focus on air emissions from the proposed action and alternatives and the potential impacts to local and regional air quality.

Airspace Use and Management Analysis will address current and proposed use of airspace and potential impacts to airspace use and aviation.

Biological Resources The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will address potential impacts to plant and animal species associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

Cultural Resources Analysis will focus on potential impacts to Native American, archaeological, and historic resources associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

Earth Resources The EIS will analyze impacts (such as erosion) to soils and geology associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

Hazardous Materials and Solid Wastes Analysis will focus on characterizing the types of hazardous and solid materials and wastes utilized and/or produced as a result of the proposed action and alternatives and the potential impacts to the environment.

Health and Safety The EIS will address potential impacts to the health and safety of military members and the public from the proposed action and alternatives.

Land Use Analysis will address potential impacts to current and planned future land uses associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

Noise The EIS will analyze the potential impacts to the public and biological resources from noise generating activities associated with the proposed action and alternatives.

Socioeconomics Analysis will focus on the economic impacts of the proposed action and alternatives, to include potential environmental justice impacts to low-income and minority groups.

Water Resources The EIS will identify potential impacts to surface and groundwater resources (such as streams, springs, wetlands, floodplains, and aquifers) associated with the proposed action and alternatives.



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What is the Background of the Project?

On October 27, 2015, the U.S. Air Force (USAF) announced that Northrop Grumman Corporation was awarded the contract for Engineering and Manufacturing Development and early production for the Long Range Strike Bomber.

The Secretary of the Air Force announced that the new bomber would be called the B-21 “Raider,” in honor of the Doolittle Raiders of World War II.

The B-21 will operate under the direction of the USAF Global Strike Command. The B-21 will have both conventional and nuclear roles and will be capable of penetrating and surviving in advanced air defense environments.

The B-21 Raider will eventually replace existing B-1 and B-2 bomber aircraft. The beddown of the B-21 will take place through a series of three Main Operating Bases (MOB), referred to as MOB 1, MOB 2, and MOB 3. The Air Force proposes to beddown MOB 1, which includes B-21 Operational Squadrons, a B-21 Formal Training Unit, and a Weapons Generation Facility in this EIS. The additional two MOB locations (MOB 2 and MOB 3) would be evaluated in future NEPA analyses, after the location for MOB 1 is chosen.

The Environmental Impact Statement will consider two beddown locations for MOB 1, where B-21 Raider training and operational activities would take place: Dyess Air Force Base (AFB), Texas and Ellsworth AFB, South Dakota.

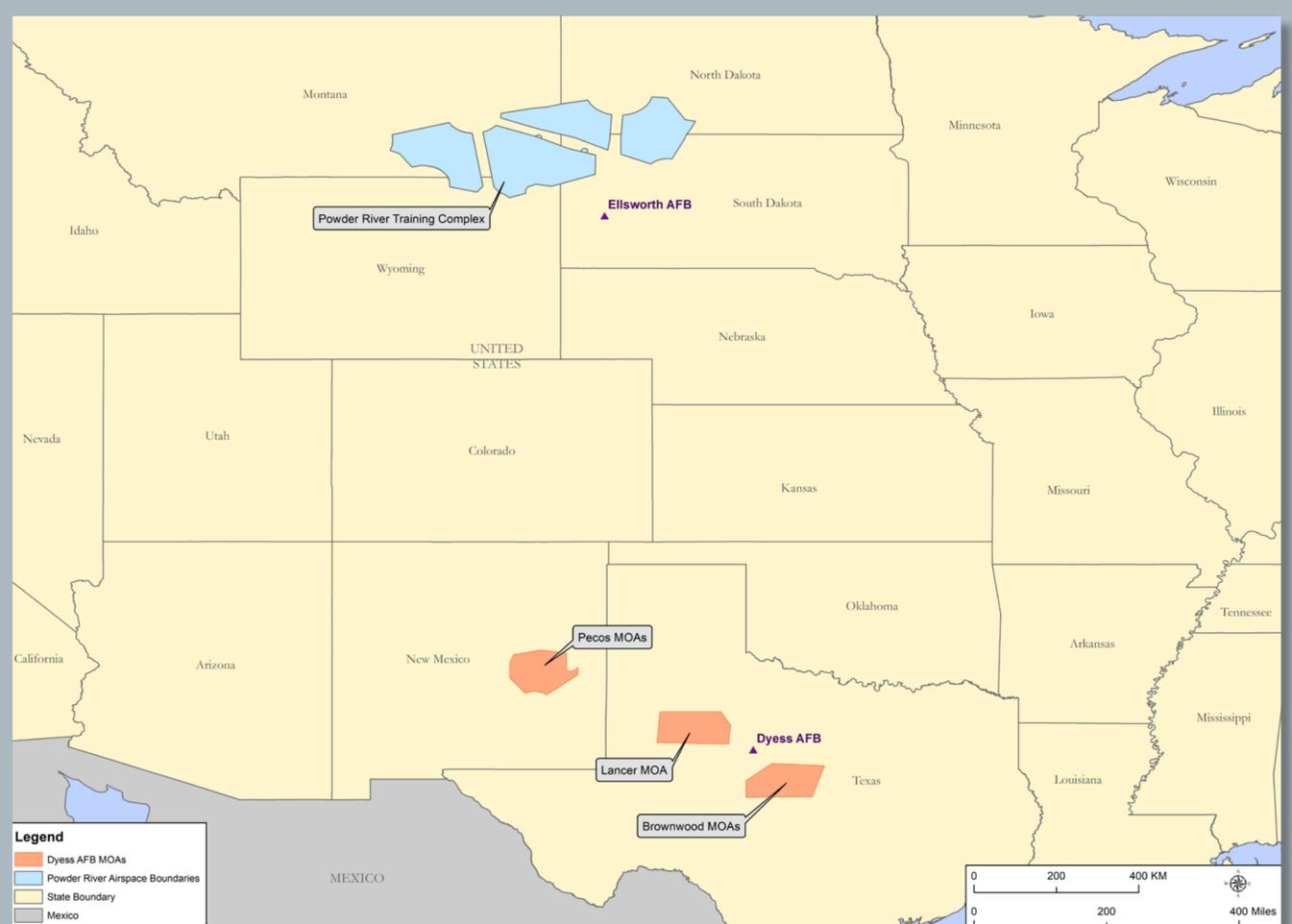
The map shows the airspace the USAF may utilize depending on the beddown location.

For Dyess AFB, the Following Airspace Might Be Utilized:

- ▶ Powder River Training Complex
- ▶ Brownwood Military Operating Area (MOA)
- ▶ Lancer MOA
- ▶ Pecos MOA

For Ellsworth AFB, the Following Airspace Might Be Utilized:

- ▶ Powder River Training Complex



This map shows the airspace the U.S. Air Force may utilize depending on the beddown location.

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What are the Elements of the B-21 MOB 1 Beddown?

Personnel

- ▶ Personnel associated with the B-21 mission will include military personnel, contractors, and dependents at the chosen basing location
- ▶ The B-21 mission would include initial training, transition/conversion training, refresher/qualification training, and instructor training
- ▶ Students entering the B-21 program would be graduates of undergraduate aviator and maintainer training programs
- ▶ Pilots and maintainers entering the program from another aircraft platform would go through a transitional training program, which would provide the requisite skills to meet the mission-qualified pilot or mission-qualified maintainer graduation criteria
- ▶ MOB 1 Force Structure will consist of 2 Operational Squadrons and the B-21 Formal Training Unit

Facilities and Infrastructure

- ▶ Existing facilities and infrastructure would be leveraged to maximize facility reuse and minimize cost
- ▶ Requirements would differ depending on the basing location
- ▶ Construction would allow both initial operational flying and flight training activities associated with both the Operations and Formal Training Unit squadrons

Air Operations

- ▶ Both the Operations and Formal Training Unit squadrons would conduct air operations
- ▶ Air operations would occur primarily during the day, with some operations at night

Airspace and Range Utilization

- ▶ No changes to any existing airspace would occur
- ▶ The Powder River Training Complex would be the primary training area for aircraft operations for either basing location
- ▶ Dyess AFB would utilize additional airspace within the Brownwood Military Operating Area (MOA), Lancer MOA, and the Pecos MOA
- ▶ The B-21 engine noise is expected to be quieter than the B-1B and about the same or quieter than the B-2
- ▶ The B-21 is not expected to use low altitude training routes

Weapons Generation Facility

- ▶ A facility that is unique to the B-21 mission, which would require new construction at the selected base
- ▶ Provides safer and more secure location for the storage of Air Force nuclear munitions
- ▶ Provides a consolidated facility with a single, controlled site that accommodates maintenance, storage, and support functions under one roof to provide enhanced operations and security measures for the entire mission
- ▶ Munitions Storage Areas for each of the basing locations have adequate capacity for conventional Air Force assets

