NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE INTEGRATED NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PLAN FOR EDWARDS AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA, AND DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

1 MAY 2025

To all interested agencies, groups, and individuals:

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) and cooperating agencies have prepared a Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the USAF's Environmental Impact Analysis Process to evaluate the environmental impacts associated with implementing the 2020 – 2025 Edwards Air Force Base (AFB) Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan (INRMP). The purpose of the EA is to address and analyze the natural resource management projects and component plans outlined in the INRMP and their implementation under different levels of management. The Proposed Action is needed to sustain and enhance the natural environment or ecosystem at Edwards AFB using an adaptive management process while integrating the Natural Resources Program with the military mission. To view the 2020 INRMP, please visit the Edwards AFB website at https://www.edwards.af.mil/About/Environment/ and select "Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan 32-7064" under Publications.

Based on the analysis in the Draft EA, the Air Force has prepared a draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The USAF, as the NEPA lead agency, is requesting public input on the Draft EA and the Draft FONSI pursuant to NEPA, 42 United States Code § 4321, et seq.

Additionally, this Proposed Action is subject to the requirements and objectives of Executive Order (EO) 11988, *Floodplain Management*, because certain projects that could be implemented under this EA are located within the 100-year floodplain. Accordingly, a Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONPA) has been included with the Draft EA and Draft FONSI.

Electronic copies of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI will be available for review on the Edwards AFB website beginning on 1 May 2025: <u>https://www.edwards.af.mil/About/Environment/</u>. Hardcopies of the Draft EA and Draft FONSI will also be available for review at the following libraries:

- AFRL Technical Library, Edwards AFB, CA 93524
- AFTC Technical Library, 812 TSS/ENTL, Edwards AFB, CA 93524
- Boron Branch Library, 26967 Twenty Mule Team Road, Boron, CA 93516
- Edwards Base Library, Building 2665, 5 West Yeager Blvd, Edwards AFB, CA 93524
- Mojave Branch Library, 15555 O Street, Mojave, CA 93501
- Wanda Kirk Branch Library, 3611 Rosamond Blvd, Rosamond, CA 93560

The public review period will run for 30 days, from 1 May 2025 to 31 May 2025. Comments are encouraged to be sent by email to <u>412tw.pae@us.af.mil</u>. Written comments can be sent to:

ATTN: Ms. Reina Juarez

412 CEG/CEVA 120 N. Rosamond Blvd, Building 3735 Edwards Air Force Base, CA 93524-860

Comments must be received by email or postmarked by 31 May 2025 to receive consideration.

All written comments received during the comment period will be made available to the public and considered during the final EA preparation. Providing private address information with your comment is voluntary and such personal information will be kept confidential unless release is required by law.