

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Air Force

**NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF THE DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT AND
FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT/FINDING OF NO PRACTICABLE
ALTERNATIVE FOR UNITED STATES AIR FORCE INSTALLATION
DEVELOPMENT AT EIELSON AIR FORCE BASE, ALASKA.**

AGENCY: United States Air Force

ACTION: Notice of Availability

SUMMARY: The United States Air Force (USAF) is issuing this Notice of Availability (NOA) to advise the public of the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI)/Finding of No Practicable Alternative (FONPA) evaluating the impacts associated with infrastructure construction, demolition, and renovations at Eielson Air Force Base (AFB).

DATES: Agencies and the public are encouraged to provide written comments on the Draft EA/FONSI/FONPA. The 30-day public comment period begins on March 11, 2024, and ends on April 10, 2024.

ADDRESSES: Further information, including an electronic copy of the Draft EA, may be found online at <https://www.eielson.af.mil/General-Information/Environmental/>. A hard copy of the Draft EA is also available for review at the North Pole Branch Library, 656 NPHS Blvd, North Pole, Alaska 99705. Questions or comments concerning the EA or the Proposed Action should be emailed to 354fw.pa.publicaffairs@us.af.mil or mailed to Eielson AFB Public Affairs, 354 Broadway St., Ste 15A, Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska 99702-2299 (Attn: Capt Faith Hirschmann).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

BACKGROUND: Installation development at Eielson AFB includes continuous construction of new facilities and infrastructure, demolition of redundant or obsolete facilities, and renovation of existing facilities, with the goal of maximizing long-term capabilities in a manner that best meets the ongoing mission needs and future development planning. USAF proposes to implement five individual installation development projects to provide infrastructure and functionality improvements necessary to support the mission of the 354th Fighter Wing and tenant units by addressing deficiencies of function, capability, and infrastructure.

FLOODPLAINS: The projects associated with the Proposed Action at Eielson AFB have the potential to be located in a floodplain. Consistent with the requirements and objectives of Executive Order (EO) 11988, *Floodplain Management*, as amended by EO 13690, *Establishing a Federal Flood Risk Management Standard and a Process for Further Soliciting and Considering Stakeholder Input*, state and federal regulatory agencies with special expertise in floodplains have been contacted to request comment. Consistent with EOs 11988 and 13690, an Early Public Notice was published in the *Fairbanks Daily News-Miner* on November 19, 2023, to initiate early public review of the Proposed Action and alternatives.