Scoping Process

The scoping process begins with publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register. The NOI provides basic information on the Proposed Action, possible alternatives, and the agency's proposed scoping process. The scoping process outlines potential issues, points of contact, project schedules and ways for the public to be involved. Public scoping meetings are conducted to provide the public an opportunity to learn about the proposed action and provide input into the environmental impact analysis process. Comments received during the public scoping process are considered in the preparation of the draft EIS.



Fall 2019 Spring 2020 Winter 2021 Spring 2021









Feedback

Anyone that would like to provide comments or suggestions relevant to the project and the proposed alternatives may do so at the meeting today via the comment form, on the project website www.moodyafbairspaceeis.com or via mail at:

For USPS Deliveries, mail to: AFCEC/CZN Attn: Moody AFB Comprehensive Airspace Initiative 2261 Hughes Avenue, Suite 155 JBSA Lackland, TX 78236-9853

For FedEx and UPS Deliveries, mail to: AFCEC/CZN Attn: Moody AFB Comprehensive Airspace Initiative 3515 S General McMullen San Antonio, TX 78226-9853





COMPREHENSIVE AIRSPACE INITIATIVE FOR MOODY AIR FORCE BASE

National Environmental Policy Act

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requires Federal agencies to assess the environmental effects of their Proposed Actions prior to making decisions. Actions can be defined as projects, policies, permitting, regulations and licensing. An Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is the most detailed analysis prescribed by regulations implementing NEPA.

Proposed Action

The US Air Force published a Notice of Intent in the Federal Register to prepare an EIS, pursuant to NEPA, for the Moody Air Force Base (AFB) Comprehensive Airspace Initiative. The Proposed Action for the Moody AFB Comprehensive Airspace Initiative is to configure and establish new low-altitude Military Operations Areas (MOAs) to enhance the airspace capacity within which A-10C, HH-60G, HC-130J, and A-29 aircrews can optimize their low altitude mission readiness training to specific requirements, including integration with 820 BDG personnel training. Currently, the Air Force has identified three alternatives to implement the Proposed Action.

There would be no changes in the numbers of sorties, aircraft operations, or type or quantity of defensive countermeasures used during training. This action would result in a change in the distribution of some existing training operations from the mid- to high-altitude airspaces into the low-altitude airspaces. No ordnance other than chaff would be expended in the new low-altitude MOAs. The Proposed Action would cancel the Banks Lake National Wildlife Refuge exclusion zone.

Purpose of and Need for the Proposed Action

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to: provide a more realistic and regularly accessible airspace training environment to meet the need for aircrew training in close air support (CAS) and combat search and rescue (CSAR), and configure new lowaltitude MOAs that more appropriately align with the training missions at Moody AFB.

The Proposed Action is needed to provide access for training missions operating at low altitudes from Moody AFB and to optimize the Moody Airspace Complex to enable effective training to achieve real-world combat readiness and survivability. Specifically, the low-altitude MOAs are needed to:

- Provide reliable access to low-altitude Special Use Airspace (SUA) to support aircrew proficiency training to various mission objectives
- Reduce airspace congestion in the Moody 2 North and Moody 2 South MOAs





Comprehensive Airspace Initiative for Moody Air Force Base

Environmental Impact Statement