

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A FLOODPLAIN

Pursuant to Executive Order 11988, *Floodplain Management*, the United States Department of the Navy (Navy) gives notice that the Navy is conducting an evaluation of a proposed action, which may involve activity in a floodplain to determine the potential effects that its activity in the floodplain would have on the human environment. The Navy will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988 and EO 11990.

Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, located in Escambia County, Florida, has been recovering from the effects of Hurricane Sally since landfall occurred on September 16, 2020. NAS Pensacola is preparing a project to relocate and repair the golf cart path at A.C. Read Golf Course located aboard NAS Pensacola. The golf cart path is located under the main gate bridge at NAS Pensacola and provides golf cart access to the areas of the golf course located on either side of Duncan Road. Repair of the golf cart path is necessary due to damages caused during Hurricane Sally. As required by EO 11988 and EO 11990, a more detailed description of the proposed action is available below.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative methods to serve the same project purpose and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplain can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplain and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Interested parties may submit written comments no later than 5:00 PM Central Time on April 3, 2024 by email to joelle.a.odaniel-lopez.civ@us.navy.mil or by mail postmarked no later than April 3, 2024 to:

Naval Air Station Pensacola
Joelle O'Daniel-Lopez
NEPA Program Manager
310 John Towers Road
Pensacola, FL 32508

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

Naval Air Station (NAS) Pensacola, located in Escambia County, Florida, has been recovering from the effects of Hurricane Sally since landfall occurred on September 16, 2020. NAS Pensacola is preparing a project to relocate and repair the golf cart path at A.C. Read Golf Course located aboard NAS Pensacola. The golf cart path is located under the main gate bridge at NAS Pensacola and provides golf cart access to the areas of the golf course located on either side of Duncan Road. Repair of the golf cart path is necessary due to damages caused during Hurricane Sally.

The proposed action is relocating the golf cart path and improve upon the existing golf cart path that passes under the Sam Lovelace Bridge at Pensacola Naval Air Station in Escambia County, Florida. The golf cart path services golf cart traffic for the AC Read Golf Course at Pensacola Naval Air Station. The proposed golf cart path will be designed and constructed to provide adequate width for two-way golf cart traffic. The tunnel path will have a new seawall running at the water's edge and extending under the bridge perpendicular to the roadway. The seawall is intended to protect the tunnel path from raising water in the event of inclement weather and higher tides. All required permits will be obtained prior to any field work beginning.

The Navy is proposing the action in the boundaries of the floodplain because relocating and repairing the existing cart path is the most cost-efficient and feasible for restoring safe access to the golf course holes on the east side of the main gate bridge. Currently golf carts must travel through a dirt path under the main gate bridge and adjacent to the damaged golf cart bridge to reach holes on the east side of the main gate bridge. During high tide, golf carts must travel through rising water, which causes a safety concern for golfers and degrades the golf carts. If no action is provided, additional equipment damages and erosion may occur. This will incur extra costs for repair. The relocation and repair of the existing golf cart path is the most cost-efficient, feasible, and least destructive alternative for restoring safe access to the golf course holes on the east side of the main gate bridge.

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Location Map



Site Map

