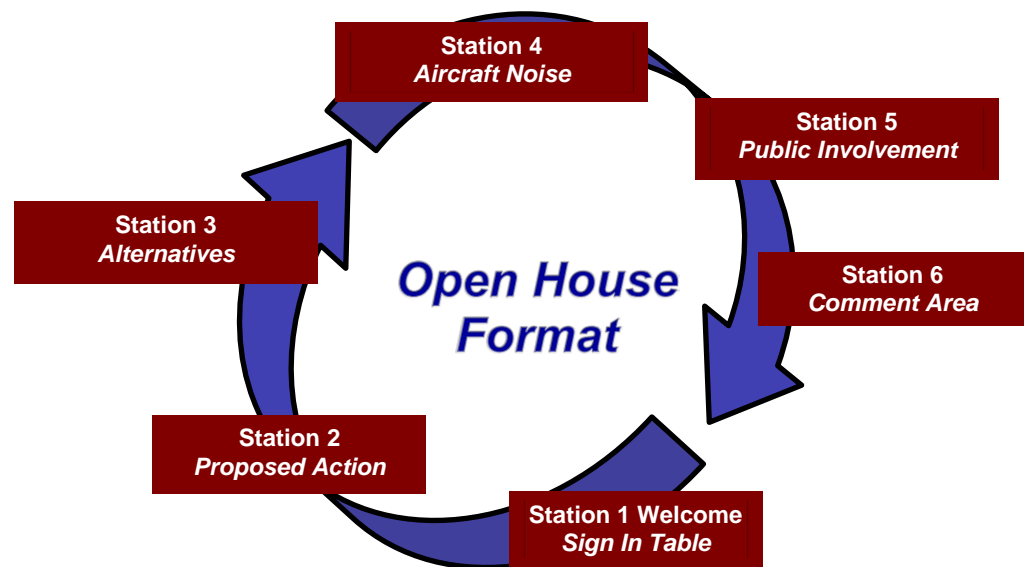




Environmental Impact Statement for Special Use Airspace Optimization at Holloman Air Force Base, New Mexico

The United States (U.S.) Air Force is proposing optimization of special use airspace for Initial Qualification Training of F-16 pilots at Holloman Air Force Base (AFB). To solicit public comments on the proposal, the U.S. Air Force is conducting open house meetings. Attending these meetings and providing comments enables the public to identify issues and concerns for the U.S. Air Force to use in defining the scope of environmental analysis. The meetings, conducted in an open house format without formal presentations, offer poster stations set up throughout the room with pertinent information related to the proposal and alternatives. You are invited and encouraged to speak with any of the U.S. Air Force representatives, ask questions about any concerns, and provide your comments during the open house any time between 6:00 and 8:00 p.m.



The Environmental Impact Analysis Process

On August 25, 2017, the U.S. Air Force initiated scoping by publishing a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the Federal Register. Comments received during the scoping period, along with agency coordination and tribal consultation, will guide analysis and various studies; all of which contribute to preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Once completed, the Draft EIS is published with its availability announced in the Federal Register and local newspapers. This initiates the official 45-day public comment period for the Draft EIS. At that time, copies of the Draft EIS are sent to federal, state, and local agencies, American Indian Tribes and Pueblos, and to those individuals who have requested a copy. The Draft EIS is also made available at local libraries and on the internet at the project website at: www.HollomanAFBAirspaceEIS.com. Approximately 3 weeks following the Draft EIS publication, the U.S. Air Force will hold hearings where the public will have another opportunity to provide comments and express any concerns about the analyses and findings presented in the document.

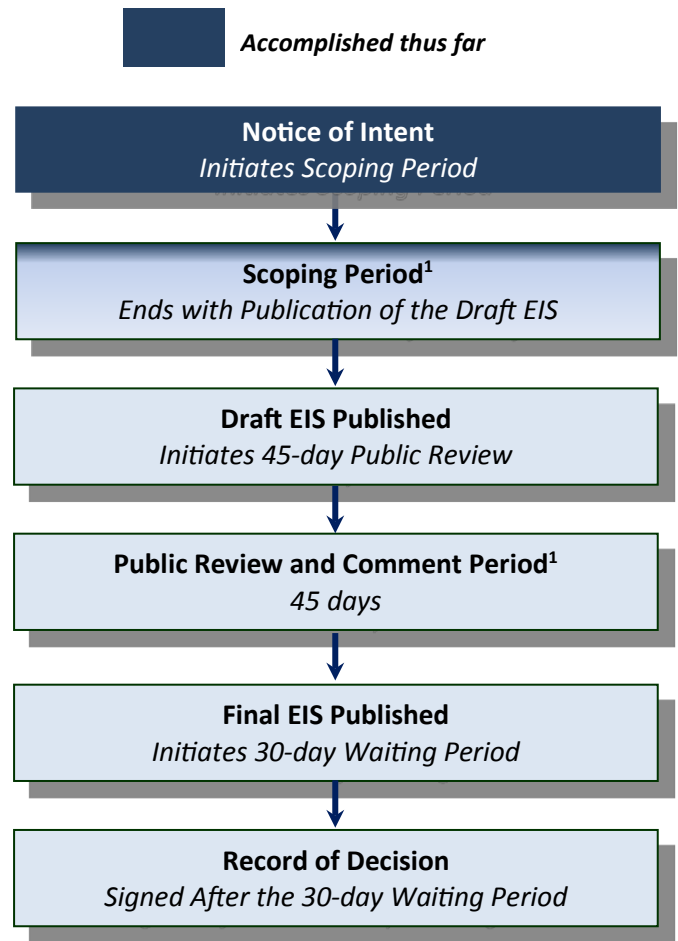
FACT SHEET

Following the 45-day public comment period, the U.S. Air Force will evaluate all substantive comments and address them in the Final EIS. Completion and availability of the Final EIS will be announced in the Federal Register and local newspapers. Copies will be distributed in the same manner as the Draft EIS. After a 30-day waiting period, the U.S. Air Force will make an informed decision on the proposal to optimize training airspace in the vicinity of Holloman AFB, New Mexico. This decision will be documented in a Record of Decision.

Why is Scoping Important?

The U.S. Air Force, like other federal agencies, uses scoping as just one of the tools to obtain public input during the environmental impact analysis process. Public input ensures the U.S. Air Force makes informed decisions about its actions that could potentially affect the environment. The substantive comments received during the scoping period help to identify issues for analysis and to guide the preparation of the Draft EIS.

Although comments are accepted throughout the environmental impact analysis process, the U.S. Air Force encourages submitting comments no later than September 25, 2017 to ensure comments are given full consideration in the Draft EIS.



¹Indicates opportunities for public involvement

Public Scoping Period

Scoping meetings are being held in Carlsbad, Truth or Consequences, and Las Cruces, New Mexico on the dates and at the locations indicated below:

Tuesday, September 12, 2017
 Carlsbad Public Library
 101 S. Halagueno Street
 Carlsbad, NM 88220

Wednesday, September 13, 2017
 Ralph Edwards Auditorium Civic Center
 400 W. 4th Avenue
 Truth or Consequences, NM 87901

Thursday, September 14, 2017
 Hilton Garden Inn Las Cruces
 2550 S. Don Roser Drive
 Las Cruces, NM 88001

The public has several ways to provide comments: by attending a scoping meeting and filling out a comment sheet, visiting the project website at: www.HollomanAFBAirspaceEIS.com and electronically submitting comments, or by sending them via U.S. Postal service to: Holloman AFB EIS, c/o Cardno, 501 Butler Farm Road, Suite H, Hampton, VA 23666. For more information, please contact Holloman AFB Public Affairs Office/Mr. Tommy Fuller at (575) 572-1831 ext. 5406; or tommy.fuller@us.af.mil.

Again, to ensure full consideration in the Draft EIS, please submit comments by September 25, 2017.