

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

### **CABIN AND CAMPSITE IMPROVEMENTS AT WALL BEACH AT VANDENBERG AIR FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA**

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) hereby incorporates by reference and attaches hereto the Final Environmental Assessment (EA), Cabin and Campsite Improvements at Wall Beach, Vandenberg Air Force Base (VAFB), California. This EA considered all potential environmental impacts of the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative, in addition to cumulative impacts, and identified environmental protection measures to avoid and/or minimize environmental impacts.

#### **PROPOSED ACTION**

The Proposed Action (Alternative A) is a Federal project on VAFB (Federal land) that was developed based on the purpose, need, and selection criteria discussed in Chapters 1 and 2 of the attached EA. The Proposed Action is to improve a recreation area on VAFB by installing four separate, pre-fabricated cabins, and five tent camping sites at Wall Beach. These improvements, and its generated revenue, would enhance the ability of VAFB to provide recreational opportunities that are consistent with VAFB's mission and Federal policy to consider environmental impacts in decision-making for all major federal actions the "quality of the human environment". Authorized patrons would benefit from increased access to the recreational opportunities made possible by the project. Currently, Wall Beach can only be enjoyed during the day, since patrons cannot extend their visit past nightfall. The project would allow for overnight access to the area, with certain restrictions, through the installing camping facilities at Wall Beach.

#### **NO ACTION**

The Council on Environmental Quality Regulations requires assessing the No Action Alternative (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] § 1502.14). Under the No-Action Alternative (Alternative B), cabins and campsites would not be installed at Wall Beach, rendering facilities and natural resources unaffected from their current condition(s). Recreational opportunities for authorized patrons would be limited to current levels. The No-Action Alternative would not meet the Proposed Action's purpose and need.

#### **SUMMARY OF FINDINGS**

The attached EA analyzed the potential environmental consequences of activities associated with the Proposed Action and the No-Action Alternative. Based on the analysis, neither the Proposed Action nor the No-Action Alternative would result in individual or cumulatively significant impacts to any resources. However, potential adverse impacts were noted for the Proposed Action to the following resources: air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, earth resources, hazardous materials and waste management, human health and safety (noise), Coastal Zone management, solid waste management, transportation, and water resources. The No-Action Alternative would result in impacts less than the Proposed Action; however, would not meet the Proposed Action's purpose and need. Environmental protection measures that are incorporated into the Proposed Action (identified as required in the EA) would be implemented to avoid and/or

minimize the potential adverse impacts. Discretionary environmental protection measures may further reduce potential impacts of the Proposed Action.

### **PUBLIC REVIEW AND COMMENT**

The Final Draft EA and FONSI were made available for public review and comment for 30 days following the publication of the Notice of Availability (NOA) in the following newspapers: Lompoc Record and Santa Maria Times. The Final Draft EA and FONSI were also distributed per the current VAFB NEPA Distribution List, including the State Clearinghouse. Public comments were received and have been reviewed and considered. Appendix E contains a copy of the NOA, proofs of publication, proof of library deliveries, VAFB's NEPA distribution list, and public comments received, including VAFB responses.

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Based on my review of the facts and analyses contained in the attached EA conducted in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq., implementing Council on Environmental Quality Regulations, 40 CFR 1500-1508, and 32 CFR Part 989, *Environmental Impact Analysis Process*, I conclude that implementing the Proposed Action (chosen alternative), with incorporation of required environmental protection measures, will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, further analysis with an environmental impact statement is not required and a FONSI is appropriate.

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ANTHONY J. MASTALIR, Colonel, USAF  
Commander

Date

Attachment: FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT (2020)  
CABIN AND CAMPSITE IMPROVEMENTS AT WALL BEACH AT VANDENBERG AIR  
FORCE BASE, CALIFORNIA