

## Table of Contents

<b>1. Introduction.....</b>	<b>2</b>
1.1 Methodology .....	2
1.2 Issues.....	2
<b>2. Acronyms and Bibliography .....</b>	<b>3</b>
2.1 Acronyms .....	3
2.2 Bibliography .....	6
<b>3. Comments and Responses .....</b>	<b>7</b>
Comments from the General Public.....	9
Comments from Companies & Organizations .....	132
Comments from State & Local Agencies.....	203
Comments from Federal Agencies.....	222
<b>Public Hearing Transcripts</b>	
Barstow, CA - May 4, 2004 .....	248
San Diego, CA - May 5, 2004.....	261
Torrance, CA - May 6, 2004 .....	272
San Bernardino, CA - May 12, 2004.....	281
Victorville, CA - May 13, 2004.....	300
Barstow, CA - May 18, 2004 .....	311

## **1. Introduction**

On April 16, 2004, the United States Department of the Army (DA) issued the Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Addition of Maneuver Training Land at Fort Irwin, CA (referred to as the SDEIS) for review by the general public, companies, organizations, local agencies, state agencies, and federal agencies. The formal comment period lasted 60 days, ending on June 16, 2004.

As part of the comment process, DA held public hearings in Barstow, San Diego, Torrance, San Bernardino, and Victorville, California to discuss the SDEIS. Nearly 100 people attended the hearings. The DA received 144 comments from the public hearings and through letters and email. Volume III of this Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Addition of Maneuver Training Lands at Fort Irwin, CA (referred to as the SFEIS), the Public Comments and Responses Document, contains three chapters. Chapter 1 contains an introduction, a summary of the methodology used to address the comments, and a summary of issues of concern. Chapter 2 contains an acronyms list and bibliography. Chapter 3 contains the full text of the public comments on the SDEIS, all public hearing transcripts, and the DA responses to public comments; and describes how the comments affected the SFEIS.

### **1.1 Methodology**

The DA received comments regarding the SDEIS from the general public, companies, organizations, local agencies, state agencies, and federal agencies. The DA reviewed all comments to the SDEIS. Many of the comments required that text of the SDEIS be corrected, clarified, or otherwise revised prior to issuing the SFEIS. Each comment was reviewed for content and relevance to the environmental analyses and data contained in the SDEIS and was addressed accordingly. The full text of these comments and DA's responses are presented in Chapter 3.

Written and oral comments were accepted during the public hearings. A court reporter recorded oral comments from public hearings and produced a transcript. The written comments and transcripts were reviewed, and individual comments and questions were identified. Each comment or question identified is addressed in Chapter 3. The full text of the public hearing transcripts is presented at the end of Chapter 3.

Many comments provided support or opposition for the project. The DA acknowledged and considered these comments.

### **1.2 Issues**

After reviewing all of the comments, three general issues of concern were repeatedly raised. These issues were:

- Air quality
- Endangered species
- Land use and recreation

## 2. Acronyms and Bibliography

### 2.1 Acronyms

<b>AFB</b>	Air Force Base
<b>AFFTC</b>	Air Force Flight Test Center
<b>BA</b>	Biological Assessment
<b>BLM</b>	Bureau of Land Management
<b>BO</b>	Biological Opinion
<b>CA</b>	California
<b>CDFG</b>	California Department of Fish and Game
<b>CNDDDB</b>	California Natural Diversity Database
<b>CERL</b>	Construction Engineering Research Laboratory
<b>CFR</b>	Code of Federal Regulations
<b>CNPS</b>	California Native Plant Society
<b>cont.</b>	Continued
<b>DA</b>	Department of the Army
<b>DoD</b>	Department of Defense
<b>DPW</b>	Directorate of Public Works
<b>DU</b>	Depleted Uranium
<b>DWMA</b>	Desert Wildlife Management Area
<b>EEM</b>	Engineering-Environmental Management, Inc.
<b>e.g.</b>	For Example
<b>EIS</b>	Environmental Impact Statement
<b>EPA</b>	Environmental Protection Agency
<b>ESA</b>	Endangered Species Act
<b>et seq.</b>	Et Sequens (translates to: and the following)

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<b>FAA</b>	Federal Aviation Administration
<b>FR</b>	Federal Register
<b>Inc.</b>	Incorporated
<b>INRMP</b>	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
<b>ITAM</b>	Integrated Training Area Management
<b>LADWP</b>	Los Angeles Department of Water and Power
<b>LURS</b>	Land Use Requirement Study
<b>MCG</b>	Mojave Coordination Group
<b>MDAQMD</b>	Mojave Desert Air Quality Management District
<b>MGS</b>	Mohave Ground Squirrel
<b>MOA</b>	Military Operations Area
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum of Understanding
<b>NASA</b>	National Aeronautics and Space Administration
<b>NAWS</b>	Naval Air Weapons Station
<b>NEMO</b>	Northern and Eastern Mojave Proposed Plan
<b>NEPA</b>	National Environmental Policy Act
<b>NHPA</b>	National Historic Preservation Act
<b>NTC</b>	National Training Center
<b>OHV</b>	Off-Highway Vehicle
<b>PAO</b>	Public Affairs Office
<b>PILT</b>	Payments in Lieu of Taxes
<b>PM-2.5</b>	Particulate Matter (less than 2.5 microns in diameter)
<b>PM-10</b>	Particulate Matter (less than 10 microns in diameter)
<b>RF</b>	Radio Frequency
<b>SDEIS</b>	Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Addition of Maneuver

	Training Lands at Fort Irwin, CA
<b>SFEIS</b>	Supplemental Final Environmental Impact Statement for Proposed Addition of Maneuver Training Lands at Fort Irwin, CA
<b>SHPO</b>	State Historic Preservation Officer
<b>TTR</b>	Tactical Training Range
<b>URTD</b>	Upper Respiratory Tract Disease
<b>U.S.</b>	United States
<b>U.S.C.</b>	United States Code
<b>USFWS</b>	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
<b>USGS</b>	United States Geological Survey
<b>UTM</b>	Universal Transverse Mercator
<b>UXO</b>	Unexploded Ordnance
<b>WMP</b>	West Mojave Plan
<b>VFR</b>	Visual Flight Rules

## 2.2 Bibliography

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<http://chppm-www.apgea.army.mil/dehe/morenoise/noisemanagementprimerpage.aspx>  
(Accessed June 30, 2004).

### **3. Comments and Responses**

This chapter contains the full text of the comments received and DA's responses to the comments. Comments received from the general public are presented first; comments from companies and organizations are presented in the second section; comments from local and state agencies are presented in the third section; and comments from federal agencies are presented in the fourth section. The full text of the transcript from each public hearing is presented in the final section of this chapter.

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