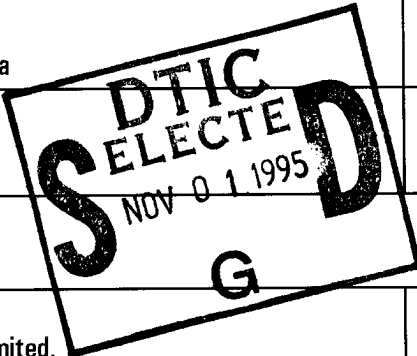


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6. AUTHOR(S) Chief of Naval Operation			8. PERFORMING ORGANIZATION REPORT NUMBER	
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12a. DISTRIBUTION/AVAILABILITY STATEMENT Approved for public release; distribution is unlimited.			12b. DISTRIBUTION CODE	
13. ABSTRACT (Maximum 200 words) <p>This is an Environmental Assessment (EA) that discusses the primary environmental issues involved with upgrading Redman Road at the Naval Security Group Activity Sabana Seca and its use as an alternative route for traveling to the Circularly Disposed Antenna Array (CDAA).</p> <p>The EA has been prepared in accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the National Environmental Policy Act, and Naval Operations Instruction 5090.1B. Its content is also consistent with the Puerto Rico Public Policy Environmental Act.</p> <p>The proposed action involves upgrading the existing Redman Road so that dependable year-round access and an uncongested emergency vehicle route are available between the South Tract and the CDAA. Upgrading of the road would involve grading and paving approximately 1.5 miles of existing road in the South Tract thereby raising the road's elevation approximately 8 inches. The North Tract portion of Redman Road (3.0 miles) would be raised an average of 2 feet in height, graded and paved, and would required that an additional 4 to 20 feet on one side of the existing road be cleared and permanently maintained as the road shoulder. A 10 foot by 30 foot turnout area would be constructed every one-quarter mile to allow vehicles to pass on the single lane road.</p>				
14. SUBJECT TERMS Environmental Assessment, National Environmental Policy Act, Naval Operations Instruction 5090.1B, Puerto Rico Public Policy Environmental Act, grading, paving, Improvement, Road			15. NUMBER OF PAGES	
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FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR REDMAN ROAD IMPROVEMENTS,
U.S. NAVAL SECURITY GROUP ACTIVITY, SABANA SECA, PUERTO RICO

Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, the Department of the Navy gives notice that an Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared and an Environmental Impact Statement is not required for the Redman Road Improvements at U.S. Naval Security Group Activity, Puerto Rico.

The proposed action involves upgrading the existing Redman Road between the South Tract and the Circular Disposed Antenna Array (CDAA) in the North Tract at the Naval Security Group Activity (NSGA), Sabana Seca, Puerto Rico. Upgrading of the road would involve grading and paving approximately 1.5 miles of existing road in the South Tract thereby raising the road's elevation approximately 8 inches. The North Tract portion of Redman Road (approximately 3.0 miles) would be raised an average of 2 feet in height, graded and paved, and would require that an additional 4 to 20 feet on one side of the existing road be cleared and permanently maintained as the road shoulder. In addition, a 10-foot by 30-foot turnout area would be constructed every one-quarter mile to allow vehicles to pass on the single lane road.

Two different roadway alignments were considered: a) Same as the proposed roadway alignment except to straighten-out the approximately 1,500 feet of the curved portion of the Redman Road within the North Tract, and b) Same as the proposed roadway alignment except to turn west at the curved portion of the Redman Road and directly connect to the CDAA. These two roadway alignments were eliminated because they would impact additional wetlands and require greater level of construction effort resulting in higher construction costs. The "No Action" alternative would continue to use the existing route to the CDAA. This alternative was eliminated because the existing route would not provide a safe and reliable emergency transportation route for Navy personnel.

The proposed road work would require clearing and filling a total of approximately 3 acres of emergent wetland (which is less than 0.2% of the 100-year floodplain areas within NSGA boundary) for widening the existing road and construction of 12 turn-out areas in the North Tract. These wetland areas are located in an active cattle pasture and have been heavily degraded by grazing.

Enclosure (2)

Mitigation measures to offset the wetland impacts may include a) replacing all existing bridges with large concrete box culverts, b) replacing all existing storm drainage pipes/culverts during construction activities, and c) installing new pipes/culverts at the natural ground contour where the raised road grade impedes the natural flow of surface water between wetland areas. A detailed mitigation plan will be submitted to the Puerto Rico District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) concurrent with the Clean Water Act (CWA) Section 404 permit application. No site work within wetlands will be conducted until the plan is approved by the USACE and a CWA Section 404 permit is granted.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has reviewed the proposed project plan and concurred that the proposed activity is not likely to have an impact on candidate, threatened, or endangered species. No further consultation is required.

The proposed project is located in an attainment area for all criteria pollutants in the Puerto Rico air quality control region. Local air quality disturbance due to construction and equipment operations will be temporary and will not cause any significant impacts. Air emissions associated with the routine operations and maintenance of the CDAA are not significant.

No hazardous materials/waste management impacts will occur from the proposed action. No impacts to either water resources or geology/soils resources will occur. There will be no significant impacts to vegetation, wildlife, sensitive habitats. The State Historic Preservation Officer has concurred that the proposed action will have no impact on historic properties.

Based on information gathered during preparation of the EA, the Navy finds that Redman Road Improvements, U.S. Naval Security Group Activity, Sabana Seca, Puerto Rico, will not significantly impact human health and the environment.

The EA addressing this action may be obtained from: Commander, Atlantic Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 1510 Gilbert Street, Norfolk, VA 23511-2699 (Attention: Mr. Ron Dudley, Code 2032RD); telephone (804) 322-4888.

17 July 1995

Date

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