File:15B

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO

Prepared for

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

50th Space Wing, Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado

Prepared by 50th Space Wing Environmental Flight

April 2003

	Report Docume	entation Page			Form Approved IB No. 0704-0188
maintaining the data needed, and c including suggestions for reducing	lection of information is estimated to completing and reviewing the collect this burden, to Washington Headqu uld be aware that notwithstanding ar DMB control number.	ion of information. Send comments arters Services, Directorate for Infor	regarding this burden estimate mation Operations and Reports	or any other aspect of the s, 1215 Jefferson Davis	is collection of information, Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington
1. REPORT DATE APR 2003		2. REPORT TYPE		3. DATES COVE 00-00-2003	RED 5 to 00-00-2003
4. TITLE AND SUBTITLE				5a. CONTRACT	NUMBER
	sessment for Recrea	tional Vehicle Stora	ge Lot,	5b. GRANT NUM	IBER
Schriever Air Forc	e Base, Colorado			5c. PROGRAM E	LEMENT NUMBER
6. AUTHOR(S)				5d. PROJECT NU	MBER
				5e. TASK NUMB	ER
				5f. WORK UNIT	NUMBER
	ZATION NAME(S) AND AE chriever AFB,CO,8	. ,		8. PERFORMINO REPORT NUMB	ORGANIZATION ER
9. SPONSORING/MONITO	RING AGENCY NAME(S) A	AND ADDRESS(ES)		10. SPONSOR/M	ONITOR'S ACRONYM(S)
				11. SPONSOR/M NUMBER(S)	ONITOR'S REPORT
12. DISTRIBUTION/AVAII Approved for publ	LABILITY STATEMENT ic release; distributi	ion unlimited			
13. SUPPLEMENTARY NO	OTES				
issues and potentia Schriever Air Force storage of recreation present there is no parking lot for the resource areas, ince endangered species prevention, soils, so	f the Air Force prep l impacts associated e Base, Colorado. C onal vehicles owned such facility on the storage of 76 recrea luding air quality, b s), cultural resource ocioeconomic condit ere would be no pot	with constructing a constructing a Recre by Schriever militar base. The proposed ational vehicles. Env iological resources (s, land use, noise occ ions water resource	new Recreation ational Vehicle S ry personnel, the action is to const ironmental conse vegetation wildli cupational safety s, and wetlands.	al Vehicle Sto storage Lot w ir dependents ruct a 70,000 equences were fe, and threa and health, I The resource	orage Lot at ould provide s, and retirees. At square foot gravel e analyzed for II tened and oollution analysis
15. SUBJECT TERMS					
16. SECURITY CLASSIFIC	CATION OF:		17. LIMITATION OF ABSTRACT	18. NUMBER OF PAGES	19a. NAME OF RESPONSIBLE PERSON
a. REPORT unclassified	b. ABSTRACT unclassified	c. THIS PAGE unclassified	Same as Report (SAR)	28	ALSI ONSIDLE FERSUN

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT, SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO

An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared for a proposed action and two alternatives to construct a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at Schriever Air Force Base (SAFB), Colorado. The new facility will provide a much-needed service to military personnel, their dependents, and retirees. The Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot will provide parking for approximately 100 recreational vehicles.

The EA analyzed the environmental effects from the Proposed Action of constructing a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at SAFB, Alternative 1-No Action, and Alternative 2-Off Base Storage Facilities.

The Department of the Air Force prepared this environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate environmental issues and potential impacts associated with constructing a new Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado. Constructing a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot would provide storage of recreational vehicles owned by Schriever military personnel, their dependents, and retirees. At present there is no such facility on the base. The proposed action is to construct a 70,000 square foot gravel parking lot for the storage of 76 recreational vehicles. Environmental consequences were analyzed for 11 resource areas, including air quality, biological resources (vegetation, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species), cultural resources, land use, noise, occupational safety and health, pollution prevention, soils, socioeconomic conditions, water resources, and wetlands. The resource analysis determined that there would be no potential significant impacts to these resources as a result of the proposed action.

PROPOSED ACTION CONSTRUCT A RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT ON BASE

The proposed action is to construct a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at SAFB. The facility would be located in the southern buffer zone, south of Enoch Road, near the industrial building area presently occupied by the Services activity center and Defense Reutilization Management Office warehouse. The facility would consist of a 70,000 square-foot gravel parking lot for the storage of 76 recreational vehicles. The overall size of the lot would be approximately 350 feet long and 200 feet wide.

ALTERNATIVE 1-NO ACTION

Base personnel would be required to use commercial storage for their recreational vehicles.

ALTERNATIVE 2-OFF BASE STORAGE FACILITIES

Alternative site locations were evaluated on base but were not selected because they did not meet the siting criteria. Therefore, an alternative to constructing a new facility on SAFB is to use an existing storage facility located off SAFB.

CONCLUSION

No significant environmental effects were identified for construction of the Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at SAFB. The environmental impact summary (Table 4.1) provides an easy comparison of the actions and the associated consequences. The proposed action would result in the irretrievable commitment of materials, energy, fuel, and labor used during construction activities. Implementation of the proposed action will not constitute a major federal action requiring the preparation of an environmental impact statement, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. A Finding of No Significant Impact is warranted.

DAVID S. ZELENOK

Colonel, USAF Chairperson, Environmental Protection Committee Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado

har O

Date

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO

Prepared for

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

50th Space Wing, Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado

Prepared by 50th Space Wing Environmental Flight

April 2003

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT, SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO

An environmental assessment (EA) was prepared for a proposed action and two alternatives to construct a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at Schriever Air Force Base (SAFB), Colorado. The new facility will provide a much-needed service to military personnel, their dependents, and retirees. The Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot will provide parking for approximately 100 recreational vehicles.

The EA analyzed the environmental effects from the Proposed Action of constructing a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at SAFB, Alternative 1-No Action, and Alternative 2-Off Base Storage Facilities.

The Department of the Air Force prepared this environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate environmental issues and potential impacts associated with constructing a new Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado. Constructing a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot would provide storage of recreational vehicles owned by Schriever military personnel, their dependents, and retirees. At present there is no such facility on the base. The proposed action is to construct a 70,000 square foot gravel parking lot for the storage of 76 recreational vehicles. Environmental consequences were analyzed for 11 resource areas, including air quality, biological resources (vegetation, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species), cultural resources, land use, noise, occupational safety and health, pollution prevention, soils, socioeconomic conditions, water resources, and wetlands. The resource analysis determined that there would be no potential significant impacts to these resources as a result of the proposed action.

PROPOSED ACTION CONSTRUCT A RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT ON BASE

The proposed action is to construct a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at SAFB. The facility would be located in the southern buffer zone, south of Enoch Road, near the industrial building area presently occupied by the Services activity center and Defense Reutilization Management Office warehouse. The facility would consist of a 70,000 square-foot gravel parking lot for the storage of 76 recreational vehicles. The overall size of the lot would be approximately 350 feet long and 200 feet wide.

ALTERNATIVE 1-NO ACTION

Base personnel would be required to use commercial storage for their recreational vehicles.

COVER SHEET ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR RECREATIONAL VEHICLE STORAGE LOT SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE, COLORADO

RESPONSIBLE AGENCY

Department of the Air Force

REPORT DESIGNATION

Environmental Assessment for Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot, Schriever Air Force Base

ABSTRACT

The Department of the Air Force prepared this environmental assessment (EA) to evaluate environmental issues and potential impacts associated with constructing a new Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado. Constructing a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot would provide storage of recreational vehicles owned by Schriever military personnel, their dependents, and retirees. At present there is no such facility on the base. The proposed action is to construct a 70,000 square foot gravel parking lot for the storage of 76 recreational vehicles. Environmental consequences were analyzed for 11 resource areas, including air quality, biological resources (vegetation, wildlife, and threatened and endangered species), cultural resources, land use, noise, occupational safety and health, pollution prevention, soils, socioeconomic conditions, water resources, and wetlands. The resource analysis determined that there would be no potential significant impacts to these resources as a result of the proposed action.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

The Department of the Air Force encourages public participation in the EA process. Public comments on the draft EA and draft FONSI were solicited by public notice in *The Gazette-Telegraph* for the period of 26 Feb 03 through 18 Mar 03. The draft EA was distributed to the Penrose General Library, Penrose local history deck, and Colorado Springs main library. No comments were received on the draft EA or the draft Finding of No Significant Impact.

TABLE OF CONTENTS (Continued)

•

 \bigcirc

	4.1.6	Occupational Safety and Health
	4.1.7	Pollution Prevention
	4.1.8	Socioeconomic Conditions
	4.1.9	Soils
	4.1.10	Water Resources
	4.1.11	Wetlands
		Cumulative Effects
4.2		tion
	4.2.1	Air Ouality
	4.2.2	Biological Resources
	4.2.3	Cultural Resources
	4.2.4	Land Use
	4.2.5	Noise
	4.2.6	Occupational Safety and Health
	4.2.7	Pollution Prevention
	4.2.8	Socioeconomic Conditions
	4.2.9	Soils
		Water Resources
		Wetlands
		Cumulative Effects
4.3		ative 2-Off Base Storage Facilities
4.3	4.3.1	Air Quality
	4.3.1	Biological Resources
	4.3.2	Cultural Resources
	4.3.3	
		Land Use
	4.3.5	Noise 4-7
	4.3.6	Occupational Safety and Health
	4.3.7	Pollution Prevention
	4.3.8	Socioeconomic Conditions
	4.3.9	Soils
		Water Resources
		Wetlands
		Cumulative Effects
4.4	Summ	ary
SECT	ION 5 -	AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONTACTED
5.1	Schrie	ver Air Force Base
SECT	ION 6 -	LIST OF PREPARES
or cor		DEEDENCES 71
SECT	ION / -	REFERENCES

Page

ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

•

ACHP	Advisory Council Historic Preservation
ADT	Average daily traffic
AFB	Air Force Base
AFI	Air Force Instruction
AWDT	Average weekday daily traffic
BHPO	Base Historic Preservation Officer
CAA	Clean Air Act
CAC	Community Activity Center
CDOW	Colorado Division of Wildlife
CDPHE	Colorado Department of Public Health and Environment
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERL	Corps of Engineers Research Laboratory
CES	Civil Engineer Squadron
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO	
	Carbon monoxide
CSR	Colorado State Regulations
CV	Environmental Protection Committee
CWA	Clean Water Act
CWB	Certified Wildlife Biologist
dB	decibel
dBA	A-weighted decibel to human hearing level
DoD	Department of Defense
EA	Environmental Assessment
EBS	Environmental Baseline Survey
ESA	Endangered Species Act
EIAP	Environmental Impact Analysis Process
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
FWPCA	Federal Water Pollution Control Act
gpd	Gallons per day
Hazmat	Hazardous Materials
in/hr	Inches per hour
IICEP	Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination Act for
	Environmental Planning Environmental Planning
kw	kilowatt
LOS	Level of service
	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO ₂	Nitrogen dioxide
NPDES	National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
O ₃	Ozone
°F	Degrees Fahrenheit
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration

v

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

The U.S. Air Force (USAF) prepared this environmental assessment (EA). This section describes the proposed action, need for the proposed action, related environmental documents, the decision to be made, scope of the environmental analysis process, and applicable regulatory requirements and required coordination.

1.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The 50th Space Wing (SW), Schriever Air Force Base (SAFB), Colorado, proposes to construct a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot on base to provide storage of recreational vehicles owned by Schriever military personnel, their dependents, and retirees. At present there is no such facility on the base. The proposed action is to construct a 70,000 square foot gravel parking lot for the storage of 76 recreational vehicles.

1.2 NEED FOR THE PROPOSED ACTION

A Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot is needed to support personnel assigned to SAFB. Nearby bases, Peterson Air Force Base and The Air Force Academy, have lots with waiting lists over 100 people.

1.3 RELATED ENVIRONMENTAL DOCUMENTS

The effects of base development and operations on the existing environment have been evaluated in the following environmental assessments and natural resource and cultural resource management plans. These studies cover the developed portion of the base and its associated buffer and compatible-use zones. Analysis of the proposed action references these reports and they are available in the library of the Environmental Flight 50 CES/CEV, Building 500.

- Environmental Impact Analysis for the Falcon Air Station Land Acquisition Amended to Include Analysis of Falcon Air Force Station Buffer Zone (Environmental Science and Engineering, Inc., 1987).
- Environmental Baseline Survey (EBS) for Leasing of Falcon AFB Buffer Zone for Cattle Grazing (50th Civil Engineer Squadron, 1994).
- Environmental Assessment for Four Buildings, Falcon AFB, Colorado (Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., 1997).
- Cultural Resources Management Plan (Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., 1997b)

ALTERNATIVES INCLUDING THE PROPOSED ACTION

This section names the three alternatives, describes the process used to formulate the alternatives, identifies the site selection criteria, and provides detailed descriptions of the alternatives. The three alternatives evaluated in this EA are:

- Proposed Action to construct a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot on base,
- Alternative 1: No action, and
- Alternative 2: Off-base storage facilities.

Alternative site locations were considered at SAFB but were not selected because they did not meet the initial siting criteria. Throughout the remainder of this document, Alternative 1 is referred to as the "No Action" alternative.

2.1 ALTERNATIVE SELECTION AND SITE SELECTION CRITERIA

The Schriever Air Force Base General Plan (United States Air Force, 1999) is the principal document guiding assessment and planning future installation growth and development at SAFB. Current SAFB policy dictates that new mission facilities or mission support facilities will be constructed within the restricted area, and all non-mission functions will be sited outside of the restricted area. The restricted area is the central portion of the base enclosed by a security fence.

The following criteria were used to develop the alternatives.

- Topography/gradient
- Visibility
- Vehicle access and proximity to base
- Prevailing winds
- Avoidance of wetlands



AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

This section describes existing conditions of the environmental resources that may be affected by the alternatives. For this analysis, the affected area is the industrial area south of Enoch Road where the proposed Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot would be constructed (Figure 2.1). The area includes the proposed site location and the area surrounding the proposed site, which includes the industrial area northeast of the proposed storage facility and open rangeland on the western and southern sides.

The affected area for Alternative 2 is a variety of Recreational Vehicle Storage Lots throughtout the Colorado Springs area. Alternative 2 does not involve any new construction or change to the existing facilities and therefore a description of the existing environment has been omitted.

During the field investigation conducted on Feb 10 2003 it was determined that most of the potentially affected resources at the proposed Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot site were addressed in either the *Environmental Assessment for Four Buildings, Falcon Air Force Base, Colorado* (Parsons Engineering Science, 1997a) or the *Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan, Schriever Air Force Base (50CES/CEV 2001).* This Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot EA summarizes the previous descriptions and updates specific resources as required to evaluate environmental effects. For a detailed description of the affected resources the reader is referred to these documents, which are on file in the library of the Environmental Flight 50 CES/CEV, Building 500, Schriever *AFB.*

SAFB is located in El Paso County approximately 10 miles east of Peterson AFB and 16 miles east of downtown Colorado Springs (Figure 3.1). The base covers approximately 6 square miles (3,840 acres).

The developed areas of the base are located within 1 square mile. The developed portion of the base is surrounded by a 3,200-acre buffer zone, 0.5 miles wide on the north, west, and south sides, and 1.5 miles wide on the east side. The proposed Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot would be located in the southern buffer zone, south of the developed area.

3.1 AIR QUALITY

The Clean Air Act (CAA) requires air pollutant emission sources to keep detailed records of emissions to aid the State in complying with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS). Criteria pollutants are those for which NAAQS have been developed by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA). Criteria pollutants of interest in this EA include CO, volatile organic compounds (VOCs), sulfur oxides (SO_x), nitrogen oxides (NO_x), and particulate matter less than or equal to 10 microns in diameter (PM₁₀) (USAF, 2002e).



GENERAL LOCATION MAP

3.3 CULTURAL RESOURCES

A cultural resource inventory was completed for the entire SAFB in 1997. There are no known archaeological or historical properties on the base eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (Parsons Engineering Science, Inc., 1997b). All areas surveyed were recommended for cultural clearance (Roybal Corporation, 1992). If subsurface cultural materials were to be found during future excavation on SAFB, the Base Cultural Resources Manager (CRM) will be notified. If the CRM determines that the materials may be significant, work in the area would be halted until cleared to resume by the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO).

3.4 LAND USE

Land use on the base is designated as developed, semi-improved and undeveloped. The land within the restricted portion of the base is designated as semi-improved or improved (640 ac.). All of the 3200 acres in the buffer zone is designated as unimproved except for the 10 acres of improved land for warehouse buildings around the SAC. SAFB leases the undeveloped portion of the buffer zone for livestock grazing while conducting its primary military mission. In January 1995, the agricultural grazing lease that covers land adjacent to the proposed Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot was modified to withdraw 10 acres of the leased land to construct the CAC and storage warehouse. An additional 190 acres of the grazing lease, including the proposed Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot site were withdrawn in April 1997. This withdrawal was for land surrounding the original 10-acre withdrawal.

3.5 NOISE

Noise is most often defined as unwanted sound. Under certain conditions, noise may cause hearing loss, interfere with human activities, affect human health and well-being in various ways, and disturb wildlife. The relative magnitude of sound is typically measured and quantified in terms of a logarithmic scale in units of decibels (dB).

Human hearing is not equally sensitive to sound at all frequencies. Therefore, a frequency-dependent adjustment called "A-weighting" has been developed so that sound can be measured in a manner similar to the way human hearing responds. The unit of the A-weighted sound level is abbreviated "dBA." An increase in the noise level by 10 dBA is judged by most people to be approximately twice as loud as the former level. Most people are unable to detect a change in level of three dBA or less. A level of 70 dBA is equivalent to a gas lawnmower at 100 feet (30 meters), and a level of 80 dBA is equivalent to a diesel truck at 50 feet (15 meters). Levels above 105 dBA are considered extremely loud. Noise from typical construction equipment varies from a 76 to 102 dBA at 25 feet (8.3 meters) (USAF, 2001c).

The State of Colorado has established maximum permissible noise levels for construction activities (USAF, 2001c). These levels are:

• Not more than 90 dBA 25 feet (8.3 meters) from the property boundary for more than 15 minutes in any one-hour period.

TABLE 3.1 THREATENED, ENDANGERED, AND SPECIAL-CONCERN SPECIES THAT MAY OCCUR IN THE VICINITY OF SAFB at

Common Name	Scientific Name	Status	Potential Occurrence
Amphibians		·····	
Northern leopard frog	Rana pipiens	sc	Unlikely, no permanent standing water on Base ¹
Birds			
Bald Eagle	Haliaeetus leucocephalus	FT, ST	Possible, especially in winter
Ferruginous Hawk	Buteo regalis	sc	Possible
Mexican Spotted Owl	Strix occidentalis lucida	FT, ST	Unlikely, suitable habitat not present on Base ²
Mountain Plover	CHARADRIUS MONTANA	PT, SC	Possible
Western Burrowing Owl	Athene cunicularia	ST	Present
Long-billed Curlew	Numenius americanus	sc	Unlikely migrant ²
Swainson's Hawk	Buteo swainsoni	sc	Possible
Mammals	1	1	
Black-footed ferret	Mustela nigripes	FE	Unlikely, no recent records of wild ferrets in Colorado ³
Black-tailed Prairie Dog	Cynomys ludovicianus	FC, SC	Present
Preble's Meadow Jumping Mouse	Zapus hudsonius preblei	FT, ST	Unlikely, suitable habitat not present on Base ⁴
Swift Fox	Vulpes velox	sc	Possible
Plants			and an integration of the
Colorado Butterfly Plant	Gaura neomexicana spp.	FT	Unlikely, suitable habitat not present on Base ⁴
Slender Moonwort	Botrychium lineare	FC	Unlikely, suitable habitat not present on Base ⁵
Ute ladies'-tresses Orchid	Spiranthes diluvialis	FT	Unlikely, suitable habitat not present on Base ⁴

Sources for species list: USFWS 2001, CNHP 2000, CDOW 2001

Status Codes: FC = Federal Candidate; FE = Federally Endangered; FT = Federally

Threatened; PT = Proposed Threatened; SE = State Endangered; ST = State Threatened; SC = State Special Concern.

Occurrence Sources:

¹ Hammerson 1999.

² Kingery 1998.
³ Fitzgerald et al. 1994.

⁴ CNHP 2000.

⁵ Spackman et al. 1997.

The Upper Black Squirrel aquifer provides domestic and potable water to SAFB. This aquifer is the primary water supply source for agricultural and municipal users in unincorporated portions of El Paso County. The shallow aquifer occurs from 25 to 100 feet below the ground surface. It was estimated there is adequate water supply available to the base from the Cherokee Metropolitan Water District to support a moderate growth rate.

3.11 WETLANDS

A jurisdictional wetland determination was performed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (US Army Engineer Research and Development Center 2001) for SAFB. Three jurisdictional wetlands (totaling about 2.3 acres.) were identified by the survey (Figure 3.2). All the jurisdictional wetlands are small and have standing water present on a temporary or seasonal basis. Functions performed by these sites appear to include water quality improvement through sediment retention, groundwater recharge, and limited habitat for some wildlife species. None of the jurisdictional wetlands are at or near the proposed Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot.



ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Potential environmental consequences of the three alternatives are described in this section. Environmental consequences are analyzed for each relevant resource area described in Section 3. Short-term and long-term effects are described during and after construction, as well as cumulative effects of the proposed action and alternatives. For each resource, a definition is provided under no action for the type and magnitude of environmental change that would be considered a major impact. All alternatives were evaluated with the same evaluation criteria. Potential impacts are identified and mitigation measures are discussed as appropriate.

4.1 PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action would entail constructing a Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot at SAFB. The proposed location is south of Enoch Road in the southwest portion of the buffer zone and undeveloped area of the base. The area would be suitable for construction of an RV Storage Lot.

4.1.1 Air Quality

Fugitive dust would be expected in small increments as vehicles enter and exit the facility on the gravel road. Small increments of fugitive dust would also be expected as vehicles move about within the proposed gravel parking lot.

Fugitive dust would be expected for a short term from construction disturbance of approximately 1.5 acres. As estimated in the 2001 Air Emissions Inventory the uncontrolled fugitive dust from ground-disturbing activities would result in 80 pounds of PM_{10} per day (engineering-engineering Management, Inc 2001). By using mitigating measures such as surface watering, dust emission can be reduced by 50 percent or more. Fugitive dust emissions would not exceed SAFB proposed emission limits for PM_{10} .

4.1.2 Biological Resources

Construction of the Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot would result in the conversion of 1.5 acres of shortgrass prairie to a gravel access road and Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot. The acres being converted are not considered high or special interest to federal, state or public resource protection and management organizations.

Threatened, endangered, and special concern wildlife species would not be affected by environmental changes caused by these facilities. The facility location does not occur in areas known to be frequented or likely to be used by any of these species. There are no unique or special-interest biological communities present that could be affected. Therefore, it would be unlikely the proposed action would substantially change current SAFB biodiversity conditions. and short-term because the complexity of the construction project is limited and would be completed in one or two months.

4.1.9 Soils

The proposed action would result in shallow soil alterations on approximately 1.5 acres of land. Vegetation will be with gravel to control water and wind erosion.

4.1.10 Water Resources

This alternative would not cause or create changes in the existing groundwater, but there is a chance that fuel and or petroleum, oil, and lubricants (POL) may alter surface water conditions or uses at SAFB. In order to ensure that the impacts to water resources are minimal all recreational vehicles equipped with a 55-gallon or greater fuel tank must have secondary containment. Currently, there are no surface bodies present that would be degraded by practices associated with this alternative. As long as spill prevention, control, and countermeasure (SPCC) procedures are used, there should be no impacts to existing water quality standards. Groundwater consumption and use are currently well within legally authorized quantities. Thus, there would be no direct or indirect impacts to water resources from this alternative.

4.1.11 Wetlands

The proposed action would not result in any direct or indirect physical or hydrological changes to existing jurisdictional wetlands. This alternative would not produce changes in current wetland functions or hydrologic regimes. The proposed area is upgradient of existing Waters of the United States (about 3,500 feet distance) although the drainage does not support wetland vegetation. Thus, there would be no direct or indirect wetland impacts associated with this alternative.

4.1.12 Cumulative Effects

Cumulative effects are those that are caused by a Proposed Action, but may occur later in time or farther removed in distance, relative to the primary impacts of the Proposed Action. "Cumulative impacts result from the incremental impact of the Proposed Action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions" (40 CFR Section 1508.7). To assess secondary and cumulative impacts, NEPA documents must consider past, present and reasonable foreseeable short-term and long-term future actions related to the Proposed Action and project site and other relevant off-site factors.

The relevant past and present actions associated with the impacts of the Proposed Action include existing Base development and operations, plus nearby land development and infrastructure improvements such as roads, pipelines, and power transmission lines. The reasonably foreseeable future actions reflect ongoing construction projects or projects that have obtained approvals and/or funding commitments and would not be deemed speculative at this time. The reasonably foreseeable off-site improvements in the vicinity of the Base are limited to the ongoing construction of the sewer pipeline that serves the Base and future development on parcels of land in the vicinity of the Base. Development of small of residential properties and commercial uses is anticipated in the future. This development will occur under the limitations set forth by current zoning and the results of an ongoing planning process (Gorney, 2002).

4.2.4 Land Use

A change in land use would be considered an impact under any of the following conditions of change:

- Nonconformance with SAFB land use plans;
- Conversion of prime agriculture land or land of statewide importance to other uses; or
- Conflicts with environmental goals and USAF regulations.

The no action alternative would maintain the existing land use types and patterns at SAFB. Prime agricultural land and lands of statewide importance are absent from SAFB. Conflicts with current environmental and land use goals would not be created. Thus, there would be no direct or indirect land use impacts associated with the no action alternative.

4.2.5 Noise

A noise effect would be considered an impact if it:

- Caused physical damage to a human ear, or permanent hearing loss;
- Exceeded the State of Colorado maximum permissible noise levels; or
- Substantially increased the ambient noise levels for adjoining areas with noise-sensitive receptors.

The no action alternative would not change existing noise conditions.

4.2.6 Occupational Safety and Health

An action would be considered major if it:

• created an unsafe storage environment.

No impact to occupational safety and health would occur under this action.

4.2.7 Pollution Prevention

The pollution-prevention effects of an alternative would be considered an impact if it resulted in:

- Release of a regulated waste;
- Noncompliance with applicable Pollution Prevention Management Action Plan (P₂MAP) and HAZMAT plan; or
- Amounts of generated waste that exceeded available waste management capacities.

The no action alternative would not result in any changes to existing jurisdictional wetlands.

4.2.12 Cumulative Effects

There would be no significant cumulative effects associated with the no action alternative. .

4.3 ALTERNATIVE 2-OFF BASE STORAGE

Under Alternative 2 storage would be required at other suitable facilities off base. This action would have the same impacts as the no action alternative.

4.3.1 Air Quality

There would be no impacts to local air quality under this proposed action

4.3.2 Biological Resources

There would be no impacts to biological resources under this proposed action

4.3.3 Cultural Resources

Cultural resource inventories of SAFB have confirmed the absence of cultural resources currently listed or potentially eligible for listing on the NRHP. The Colorado SHPO has confirmed this conclusion and does not require further clearances for activities on SAFB. Thus, direct or indirect impacts to cultural resources would not occur because there would be no action taken on Schriever AFB property.

4.3.4 Land Use

This action alternative would maintain the existing land use types and patterns at SAFB. Prime agricultural land and lands of statewide importance are absent from SAFB. Conflicts with current environmental and land use goals would not be created. Thus, there would be no direct or indirect land use impacts associated with the no action alternative.

4.3.5 Noise

This action alternative would not change existing noise conditions. New construction and associated equipment would not be required.

4.3.6 Occupational Safety and Health

No impact to occupational safety and health would occur under this action.

4.3.7 Pollution Prevention

The no action alternative would continue existing operational and maintenance practices. No hazardous materials used. SAFB has developed and implemented a comprehensive suite of effective pollution prevention and control programs. These programs have contributed to the

TABLE 4.1 ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT SUMMARY

Ξų.

Resource	Proposed Action	Alternative 1 No Action	Alternative 2 Off Base Storage Facilities
Air Quality	Fugitive dust and CO emissions during construction and operation are <i>de minimis</i> .	No impact from the no action alterative	No impact from the off base storage facilities.
Biological Resources	Conversion of 1.5 acres would not effect wildlife, threatened or endangered or special concern species or plant communities. No change in biodiversity conditions.	No changes in onsite habitat and no effects to threatened or endangered species, special concern species or communities.	No change to existing conditions. No suitable habitat for wildlife.
Cultural Resources	No cultural resources are known to occur on SAFB.	No cultural resources are known to occur on SAFB.	No change to existing conditions.
Land Use	Slight increase in developed land. Conversion of land is consistent with approved land use objectives. No prime farmland or state-important farmland is present.	No change in current conditions.	No change in existing conditions.
Noise	Temporary local construction noise increases; no effect to noise sensitive receptors. Noise during construction and operation would not exceed permissible levels at property boundary.	No change in current conditions. Noise would not exceed permissible levels at property boundary.	No change in existing conditions.
Occupational Safety and Health	Potential risks would include access to the proposed facility, electrical hazards (power supplies), lighting of the area in times of darkness and spill containment (fuel from the vehicles).	No Occupational Safety and Health Impact	No Occupational Safety and Health Impact

AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONTACTED

Individuals consulted during the preparation of this EA are listed by agency or organization in the following subsections. Copies of correspondence with agencies are provided in Appendix A.

5.1 SCHRIEVER AIR FORCE BASE

Mr. Ralph Mitchell, 50 CES/C - (719) 567-2075

Mr. James McGrory James 50 MSG/SVRR - (719) 567-2015

LIST OF PREPARERS

Schriever Air Force Base

Ms. Melissa Trenchik

Environmental Impact Analysis Program Manager

- Parsons Engineering Science, Inc. 1997c. Hazardous Materials Emergency Response Plan. Prepared for United States Air Force, 50th Space Wing, Falcon Air Force Base, Colorado.
- Parsons Transportation Group Inc. 1998. Letter to Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments in response to Parsons Engineering Science request for traffic information on State Highway 94 and Enoch Road. Denver, Colorado.
- Pikes Peak Area Council of Governments. 1997. Draft Colorado Springs Carbon Monoxide Redesignation Request and Maintenance Plan, July 9, 1997.
- Roybal Corporation. 1992. An Archaeological and Historical Survey, Falcon Air Force Base. El Paso County, Colorado. Prepared for United States Air Force, Falcon Air Force Base, Colorado.
- Secretary of the Air Force. 1994. Interagency and Intergovernmental Coordination for Environmental Planning (IICEP). Air Force Instruction 32-7060. Headquarters U.S. Air Force, 25 March.
- Secretary of the Air Force. 1995. The Environmental Impact Analysis Process (EIAP), Air Force Instruction 32-7061. Headquarters U.S. Air Force, 24 January.
- State of Colorado. 1996. Noise Abatement. Colorado State Regulations, Title 25, Article 12, 101 through 108. Department of Health and Environment.
- United States Air Force. 1999. Schriever Air Force Base General Plan. Prepared for United States Air Force, 50th Space Wing, Schriever AFB, Colorado.
- United States Air Force. 2001. Construction Permit. Permit No. 95EP772. Schriever Air Force Base.
- United States Air Force. 2001. Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan.. Schriever Air Force Base. November
- United States Army Engineer Research and Development Center Construction Engineering Research Laboratory 2001. Wetlands Re-examination Schriever Air Force Base, Colorado. Champaign, IL.
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. 1971. Noise from Construction Equipment and Operations, Building Equipment, and Home Appliances. NTID 300.1, December.
- United States Environmental Protection Agency. 1985. Compilation of Air Pollutants Emission Factors Volume 1: Stationary Point and Area Sources (AP-42). 4th ed. Research Triangle Park, NC: Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards.
- United States Fish and Wildlife Service. 1997. Proposal to list the Preble's meadow jumping mouse as an endangered species. Federal Register 62 (57):14093-14101.

APPENDIX A

AGENCY CONSULTATION CORRESPONDENCE

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF COLORADO COUNTY OF EL PASO

SS.

Robyn M. David, being first duly sworn, deposes and says that she is the Legal Sales Representative of FREEDOM COLORADO INFORMATION, INC., a corporation, the publishers of a daily public newspaper, which is printed and published daily in whole at the city of Colorado Springs in the County of El Paso, and the State of Colorado, and which is called The Gazette; that a notice of which the annexed is an exact copy, cut from said newspaper, was published in the regular and entire editions of said newspaper 1 times, to-wit, on February 28, 2003.

That said newspaper has been published continuously and uninterruptedly in said County of El Paso for a period of at least six consecutive months next prior to the first issue thereof containing this notice; that said newspaper has a general circulation and that it has been admitted to the United States mails as second-class matter under the provisions of the Act of March 3, 1879 and any amendment thereof, and is a newspaper duly qualified for the printing of legal notices and advertisement within the meaning of the laws of the State of Colorado.

ROBYN M. DAVID Legal Sales Representative

at said City of Colorado Springe, El Paso County, Colorado.
My commission expires June (15, 2004
A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A A
Y MANNIE NUMB
- Charlow Carlos
BRANDICE RIVERA
Notary Public

Subscribed and sworn to me this 28th day of February, 2003,

The Gazette



ANNO	UNCEN	IENT
The 50tl Schriever Colo., has Environm for a protwo alterr a Recreati Storage L dependen The Rec Storage D dependen The Rec Storage D parking 100 recreasing inflata Significan offerts Significan for Significan Significan Significan Significan Significan Significan Significan Comment on Si Significan Significan Significan Comment on Si Significan Significan Significan Comment on Si Significan Significan Significan Comment on Si Significan Significan Significan Comment on Si Significan Significan Significan Comment on Si Significan Sig	Space Air For prepared ntal As sosed ac atives to onal Vehi tives to rapport ted servir, rsonnel, s, and reational ted servir rapport tional ve- environg autor Air For qualifier r a Findi timpact. ng invito on the as be avail 26 to M ence Des ry and In 50 N. Ur ibrary, 2 Penrose I Hist nog 2nd Hist Nog	Wing, ce Base, an systement tion and construct cle base. The torovide a ce to their vehicle provide provide vehicle provide the set to their vehicle provide and the set to the set the set to the set to set to the set to

The Environmental Assessment for the Recreational Vehicle Storage Lot was available for public review from 26 Feb 03 to 18 Mar 03. As of 04 Apr 03 no comments have been received.