

**FINAL**  
**Finding of No Significant Impact**  
**Environmental Assessment**  
**Proposed TSA Training Facility**  
**Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers**  
**Brunswick, Glynn County, Georgia**



US Army Corps of Engineers  
Savannah Planning Division  
Savannah, Georgia

June 2016

## **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

### **Proposed TSA Training Facility Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC)**

#### **Brunswick, Georgia**

#### **NAME OF ACTION**

The proposed new Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Training Facility at the FLETC Glynco facility in Glynn County, Georgia. The buildings will be used by the TSA to meet their training requirements.

#### **DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED ACTION**

FLETC is proposing to purchase and use approximately eight modular buildings, along with constructing a parking lot and access road for the new TSA Training Facility in Glynn County, Georgia (Appendix A; Figures 1-4). The new facility would be used by the TSA to accommodate their expanded training mission. Seven of the buildings will be used for classroom instruction and simulation labs. The 8<sup>th</sup> building (#769) is a small restroom facility (approximately 50 feet by 14 feet). Site preparation will include removal of approximately 10 trees and a small concrete pad. An access road and adjacent parking area would also be constructed. The buildings would remain indefinitely until a permanent facility is funded and constructed. Specifications of the new modular buildings are detailed in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA).

#### **ALTERNATIVES**

In the initial evaluation of alternatives, FLETC took into consideration specific selection criteria. Only those alternatives that met these criteria were considered suitable for detailed analysis. The selection criteria were:

- conformity to all Federal and state laws and regulations;
- technical feasibility;
- logistical feasibility;
- cost efficiency/budget constraints; and
- environmental compliance and conformity.

Due to the minimal amount of adverse environmental impacts identified from the proposed action, only two action alternatives were considered and assessed.

#### **ANTICIPATED ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS**

The analysis of the proposed action in the attached Environmental Assessment (EA) did not indicate any significant adverse impacts would occur to the environment. Specifically, no adverse effects are anticipated from the proposed action on threatened and endangered species, jurisdictional wetlands, or cultural resources from the proposed action.



**MITIGATION**

The attached National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) evaluation did not identify any significant adverse impacts from implementation of the proposed action. Therefore, separate mitigation measures were not warranted for this project.

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**

The EA for this project was prepared and evaluated pursuant to NEPA (Public Law 91-190, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.) and the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) Environmental Planning Program (Federal Register, Volume 71, No. 64; dated April 4, 2006). The EA concluded that the proposed action does not constitute a "major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment" when considered individually or cumulatively in the context of the referenced act including both direct and indirect impacts; therefore, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.


**PUBLIC/AGENCY COMMENT**

The EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been coordinated with appropriate parties having an interest in the project. In addition, a Public Notice of Availability (NOA) has been published in the *Brunswick News*, announcing the availability of the Draft EA. To date, there have not been any comments received that were averse to the proposed action. Coordination with all appropriate parties is detailed in Section 6.0 and Appendix C of the EA.

**POINT OF CONTACT**

Comments and inquiries for further information about this EA and FONSI should be directed to Mr. Mark Harvison, Environmental Protection Specialist, Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers, 1131 Chapel Crossing Road, Brunswick, Georgia 31524; telephone number (912) 267-3484.

Reviewed and Approved by:

  
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Date

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## List of Acronyms and Abbreviations

CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act of 1980
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
DHS	Department of Homeland Security
DERP-FUDS	Defense Environmental Restoration Program - Formerly Used Defense Sites
EA	Environmental Assessment
EO	Executive Order
EPA	United States Environmental Protection Agency
EPD	Environmental Protection Division
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FLETC	Federal Law Enforcement Training Center
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
HTRW	Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste
HAZMAT	Hazardous Material
ILEA	International Law Enforcement Academy
NAS	Naval Air Station
NAVD 88	North Atlantic Vertical Datum 1988
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
NOA	Notice of Availability
SCS	Soil Conservation Service
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Office
TSA	Transportation Security Administration
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers
USFWS	United States Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	United States Geologic Survey

# 1 Proposed Action

## 1.1 Background

The Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers (FLETC) is the nation's leading organization for interagency training of Federal law enforcement personnel. Its mission is to provide high quality, cost-effective training to Federal law enforcement officers and agents. Approximately 81 Federal agencies participate in training at FLETC, a component of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). In addition, state and local law enforcement agencies from all 50 states, U.S. Territories, and some foreign countries train and re-qualify at the FLETC facilities.

The Center is headquartered at the Glynco, Georgia facility, near the port city of Brunswick, halfway between Savannah, Georgia, and Jacksonville, Florida. In addition to the Glynco facility, FLETC operates two other residential training sites in Artesia, New Mexico, and Charleston, South Carolina. FLETC also operates an in-service re-qualification training facility in Cheltenham, Maryland, for use by agencies with large concentrations of personnel in the Washington, DC, area.

FLETC has oversight and program management responsibility for the International Law Enforcement Academy (ILEA) in Gaborone, Botswana; San Salvador, El Salvador; and Lima, Peru. FLETC also supports training at other ILEAs in Hungary and Thailand.

The DHS Strategic Plan is used to ensure coordinated actions to prepare for and prevent terrorism to protect the United States and its interests abroad. Consolidation of law enforcement training permits the Federal Government to provide training excellence in a cost-effective manner. Professional instruction and practical application provide students with the skills and knowledge necessary to meet the demanding challenges of a Federal law enforcement career. Personnel learn the responsibilities of a law enforcement officer, and, through interaction with students from other Federal agencies, also become acquainted with the missions and duties of their colleagues. This interaction within the FLETC campus provides the foundation for a more cooperative Federal law enforcement effort.

This Environmental Assessment (EA) follows the guidelines and regulations established by the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). This EA documents the analyses that were conducted of the environmental impacts that would result from implementation of the proposed action and alternatives. This EA also discusses any mitigation and permit requirements, and findings and conclusions in accordance with NEPA. Such information provides the basis for DHS to determine whether to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) or a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). The use of the term "significant" (and derivations thereof) in this EA is consistent with the definition and guidelines provided in the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations [40 Code of



Federal Regulations (CFR) 1508.27], which require consideration of both the context and intensity of impacts.

## 1.2 Description of the Proposed Action

FLETC is proposing to purchase and utilize approximately eight modular buildings; and construct an associated parking lot and access road at the Glynco facility in Glynn County, Georgia (Appendix A; Figures 1-4). The new facility would be used by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) to meet their training requirements. Seven of the buildings (709-714) would be used for classroom instruction and simulation labs. The 8<sup>th</sup> building (769) is a small restroom facility (approximately 50 feet by 14 feet). Site preparation will include removal of approximately 10 trees and a small concrete pad for each modular building. The modular buildings would remain indefinitely until a permanent facility is funded and constructed. Specifications of the new modular buildings are detailed below.

1) 8 modular buildings (7 Training Buildings 709-714) mounted on 10 by 4-foot concrete pads (6 inch depth) consisting of:

- 1 Restroom (approximately 796 square feet)
- 4 Training Buildings (approximately 11,310 square feet each)
- 3 Training Buildings (approximately 6,048 square feet each)

2) Associated parking lot constructed of Graduated Aggregate Base (GAB): 170 by 54 feet (9180 square feet permeable surface)

3) 120-foot long road constructed of recycled asphalt (6 inch depth) (1320 square feet permeable surface)

The total amount of impervious surface created from this project would be 64,180 square feet and the total amount of permeable surface created would be 10,500 square feet.

## 1.3 Need for the Proposed Action

The proposed action is needed to accommodate a significant increase in the training mission for the TSA agency. The existing facilities used for this training mission would only meet a small portion of the scheduled TSA training for 2016, 2017, and 2018. The proposed action would provide the necessary facilities for instructing TSA students in environments that include classrooms, simulation labs, and a checkpoint environment.

## 1.4 Location of the Proposed Action

The FLETC Glynco campus is located in Glynn County in southeast Georgia and consists of 1,620 acres, which was formerly part of the 4,200-acre Glynco Naval Air Station (NAS). This FLETC campus is mostly developed land consisting of student dormitories, classrooms, office and warehouse space, firing ranges, driving courses, and roads. The remaining

undeveloped portion of the campus is primarily wetlands (188 acres) and timberland (natural and planted pine plantation).

The modular buildings would be located within a highly developed section of the FLETC Glynco campus (Appendix A; Figures 2 and 3). The proposed area is bounded by Artesia Avenue to the northwest, Records Road along the northeast side, and Legislative Drive on the southeast. The location is primarily void of vegetation except for a few large trees and the topography is level at an elevation ranging from 23 to 24 feet North Atlantic Vertical Datum 1988 (NAVD 88). The site drains south into existing drainage ditches (see Appendix A; Figure 7) and is located at the following coordinates: Latitude 31 degrees, 14.4 minutes N; Longitude 81 degrees, 28.57 minutes W.



## 2 Description of the Proposed Alternatives

In the initial evaluation of alternatives, DHS considered the following specific selection criteria:

- conformity to all Federal and state laws and regulations;
- technical feasibility;
- logistical feasibility;
- cost efficiency/budget constraints; and
- environmental compliance and conformity.

Only those alternatives that met all of these criteria were considered suitable for detailed analysis. Due to a lack of adverse environmental impacts identified from the proposed action, only two action alternatives were considered and assessed.

### 2.1 No-Action Alternative

The CEQ regulations for NEPA require inclusion of a No Action Alternative as the benchmark against which proposed Federal actions are evaluated. Under the No Action Alternative, the modular buildings would not be purchased or assembled and the TSA would continue using building 811 and range E4 of building 221 for this training mission.

Under this option, the TSA would fail to provide the training required for the TSA personnel and would only meet a portion of the 2016 scheduled training. Even with TSA training personnel working double shifts, the existing facilities are inadequate and could not meet the scheduled training demands. Failing to complete the required training would mean that some TSA employees would not be able to hold certain positions for which they have been selected, while other employees would perform duties at less than optimal levels, providing a less secure environment to the traveling American public.

### 2.2 New Construction of a TSA Facility

A new TSA facility would require a large expenditure of funds (an estimated \$45 million) for siting, designing, and construction of a new permanent facility. In addition, new construction may damage or adversely impact resources such as wetlands, commercially valuable timber, vegetation, wildlife, and cultural/historic resources, etc.

The cost of a new building is currently cost prohibitive and could not be completed in time for TSA to meet their FY16 and FY 17 training requirements. Under this alternative, TSA would continue using existing training areas indefinitely until funding for new construction is received (FY17 at the earliest) and construction of the new facility is complete (FY17 at the earliest).

## **2.3 Proposed Action Modular Buildings (Preferred Alternative)**

This option consists of acquiring, installing, and using eight modular buildings at the identified site and would provide sufficient facilities to allow the TSA to accommodate their current training needs. The new facility would provide classroom spaces immediately adjacent to associated laboratories. Therefore, this location would minimize delays from students traveling between different areas on campus and would not impair traffic circulation within the FLETC campus.



## **3 Affected Environment**

This chapter describes the surrounding area associated with the alternative actions, and the condition of the existing environment at the location of the proposed action. The characterization of existing conditions provides a baseline for assessing the potential environmental impacts from activities associated with the proposed action. A general overall description is followed by information concerning significant resources that would be affected by implementing any of the alternatives. This discussion does not include information on all significant resources of the study area, since many of these would not be impacted by alternatives under consideration.

### **3.1 Physiographic Setting**

The proposed project is located in Glynn County, Georgia, one of the southernmost counties in the State. Glynn County falls within Georgia's coastal zone, and more specifically the Barrier Island Sequence physiographic district. The Barrier Island Sequence covers 1,405,533.6 hectares, or 15.1 percent of Georgia (Elliott and Sassman 1995). The area is comprised of marshes, tidal creeks, lagoons, islands, mainland coast and maritime forests. This physiographic region developed over a period of time as a result of fluctuating sea levels that created a series of shorelines. As the water level changed, a new shoreline, or terrace, formed that was lower and more easterly than the previous one. The older shorelines are visible today as sand ridges, while the younger shorelines comprise the coastal islands (USDA 1980).

Glynn County is situated within the Altamaha River watershed that is comprised of the Altamaha, Ocmulgee, Oconee, and Ochopee Rivers. The Altamaha watershed covers the largest area in the State, and its waters drain into the Atlantic Ocean.

The FLETC Glynco campus is located three miles north of Brunswick, Georgia. The climate is mild with hot humid summers and abundant yearly rainfall. Brief frost and freeze events occur in winter. Snowfall is rare, occurring on average less than once per year.

### **3.2 Groundwater**

The most productive aquifers in Georgia are in the Coastal Plain Province in the southern part of the state. Coastal plain aquifers are generally confined, except near their northern limits, where they crop out or are near land surface. Aquifers in the Coastal Plain Province include the Floridan aquifer system and the Brunswick aquifer systems.

The Floridan aquifer system has been divided into the Upper and Lower Floridan Aquifers. The Upper Floridan is the aquifer of choice in the coastal area because it lies at a relatively shallow depth of 40-900 feet, has high water-yielding capabilities (1000-5000 gallons per minute), and yields water of good quality. This aquifer supplies 50 percent of the groundwater used in Georgia. Because of concerns about the high withdrawal rates, the Georgia Department of

Natural Resources has limited pumping levels from the Floridan aquifer and restricts new withdrawals from that aquifer.

The Lower Floridan Aquifer contains highly permeable zones; however use is limited by the excessive depth and poor water quality. In the southern part of Georgia, the Lower Floridan Aquifer contains an extremely permeable water-bearing zone called the Fernandina permeable zone. The Fernandina permeable zone contains highly saline water in the southern part of coastal Georgia, and is the source of saltwater contamination in the Brunswick area.

Overlying the Floridan Aquifer are the sandy upper and lower Brunswick Aquifers, which are present mostly in the Glynn County area. This aquifer, which is at a depth of 85-390 feet is not a major source of water in coastal Georgia, but considered a supplemental water supply to the Floridan Aquifer. Most wells are multi-aquifer, tapping the upper and lower Brunswick aquifers and the Upper Floridan Aquifer. The common yield range is 10-30 gallons per minute. The Brunswick aquifers supply water for irrigation, public, and some industry use.

The Surficial Aquifer, which overlies the Brunswick Aquifers, is present throughout the coastal area. The Surficial Aquifer has a common range of 11-72 feet in depth and supplies water mostly for domestic and small-scale irrigation uses. The common range for yield is 2-25 gallons per minute. Based on topographic maps, surficial and groundwater flow on the subject property appears to be directed southeast (USGS 1979 and USGS 1993; Appendix A, Figure 8).

### **3.3 Natural Resources**

The 1620-acre FLETC Glynco campus is mostly developed and consists of student dormitories, classrooms, office and warehouse space, firing ranges, driving courses and roads. The remaining undeveloped portion of the campus is primarily wetlands (198 acres) and timberland (natural and planted pine). Natural resources on the subject property are negligible as this area is in a highly developed portion of the Glynco FLETC campus (Appendix A; Figures 2 and 3).

#### **3.3.1 Jurisdictional Waters/Floodplains**

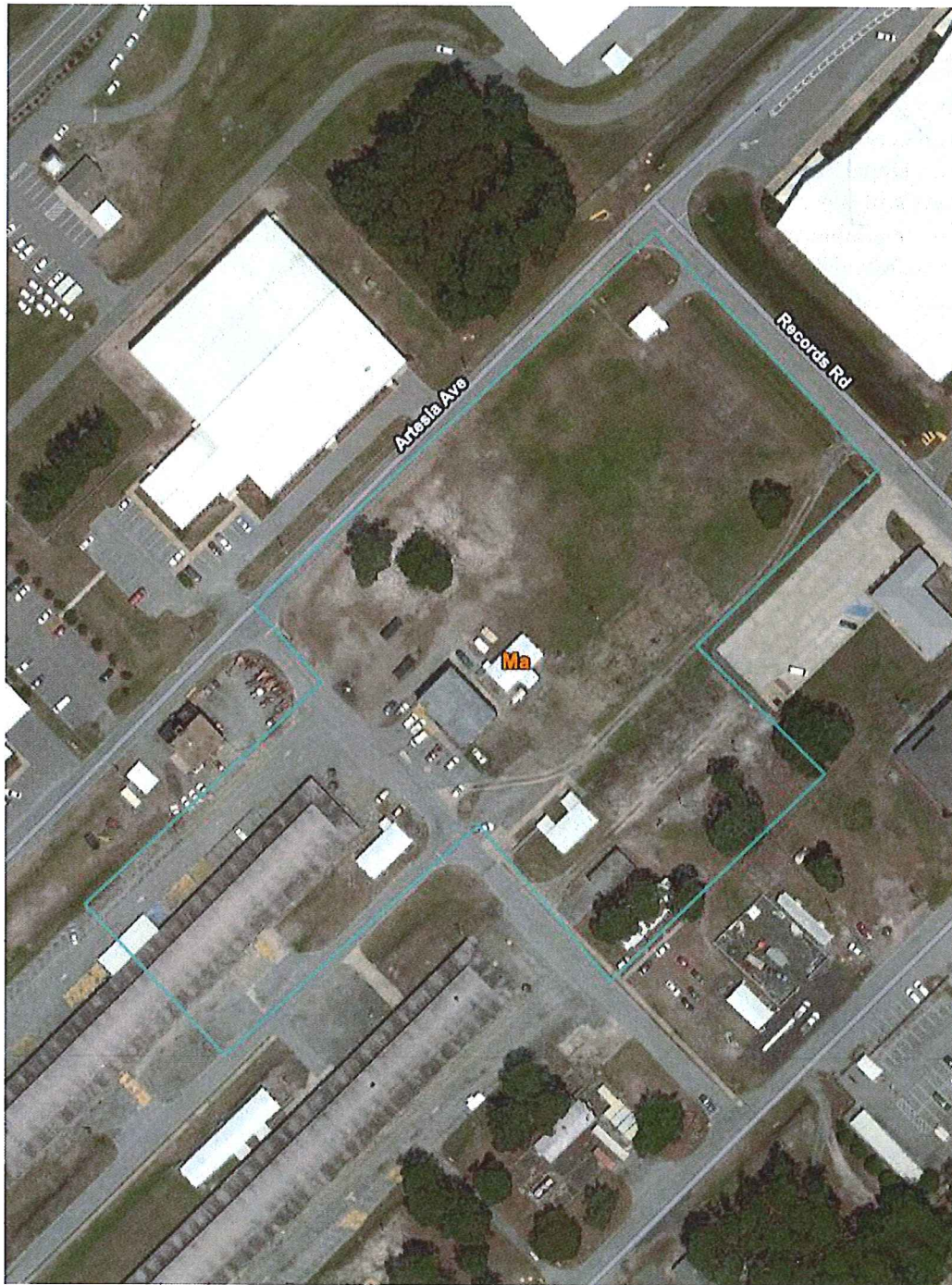
**Floodplains:** The site of the proposed action is not located within the 100-year floodplain [Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) 2006]. The subject site is relatively level ranging from elevation 23 to 24 feet NAVD 88 and contains no surface water bodies. The vicinity is gently sloped land draining to the southeast. Therefore, there is no significant potential for flooding on this site.

**Jurisdictional Waters of the United States:** There are no wetlands located on the subject property. The site has been very disturbed from past development activities and mostly consists of mowed grass with some buildings and pavement.

### **3.3.2 Soils**

Elevations on the site range from an elevation of 23 to 24 feet NAVD 88. On inspection, the property was observed to be mostly mowed grass with some pavement and relatively flat across its entire expanse. According to the Soil Survey of Camden and Glynn Counties by the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) (USDA 2016), the subject property contains only one soil type, Mandarin Fine Sand. This is a poorly drained soil with rapid permeability and low available water capacity. The water table is commonly at depths from 18 to 40 inches below land surface (BLS). A customized soil map (USDA 2016) for the subject property is below.





**Custom Soil Map**



### 3.4 Protected Species

#### Threatened and Endangered Species Surveys

In the last two decades, numerous surveys for State and Federally protected species have been conducted in the vicinity of the proposed action. In 1995, Mr. Charles Seyle, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), and Ms. Robin Goodloe (USFWS), surveyed the site and vicinity of the new Alcohol, Tobacco, and Firearms (ATF) Facility (USACE 2000b) and concluded that there was no available habitat for protected species.

Numerous other surveys within the last few years have been conducted on FLETC property by USACE staff near the site of this proposed action. Protected species surveys for the following projects have been completed in the vicinity of the proposed project site:

PROJECT NAME	PROJECT NAME	PROJECT NAME
Bureau of Prisons Building (2000)	Recycling Center (2003)	Counter Terrorism Operations Training Facility (CTOTF) (2006)
Dormitory & Office Building (2000)	Transportation, Security, and Administration (TSA) Facility (2002)	Conference Center (2006)
Chilled Water Distribution System (2000)	Driver Training Skid Pans (2003)	Motor Pool (2007)
Physical Security Training Facility (2000)	Multi-Activity Center (2003)	Technical Operations Training facility (TOTF) (2007)
Practical Exercise Campground Facility (2001)	Backgate Road Reroute (2004)	CTOTF Outdoor Tactical Complex (2007)
OC Gas Range Facility (2001)	NCIS Building (2005)	Finance Center (2007)
Mock Port of Entry and Border Patrol Station (2001)	Combined Skills Driver Training Complex (2005)	Map International Acquisition (2007)
ATF Facility (2001)	IWN Communication Tower (2006)	Slayton Property Acquisition (2008)
New Operations Building (2002)	Simulation Facility/Interview Complex (2006)	Outdoor Running Track (2008)
Situational Response Range (2008)	CTOTF Phase III Complex (2010)	Glynn County Storm Water Re-routing (2012)
Mock Port of Entry (2014)	Auditorium Facility (2015)	

These EAs have not revealed the presence of any protected species at FLETC. An investigation of this project's impact area (USACE 2016b) indicates that there is no suitable habitat for any listed protected species. Specifically, there were no gopher tortoise burrows, which are a primary habitat requirement for the indigo snake; and neither species has ever been sighted at FLETC. The project impact area is mostly paved with some cleared areas consisted of mowed grass.

On September 21, 2001, Dr. Gregg Masson (USFWS Field Supervisor), Ms. Kathleen Morgan, and Ms. Susan Shaw of FLETC discussed the programmatic exclusion of FLETC from further Section 7 coordination under NEPA. During this conference call, the above parties agreed that there was no critical habitat or protected species on FLETC, and therefore,



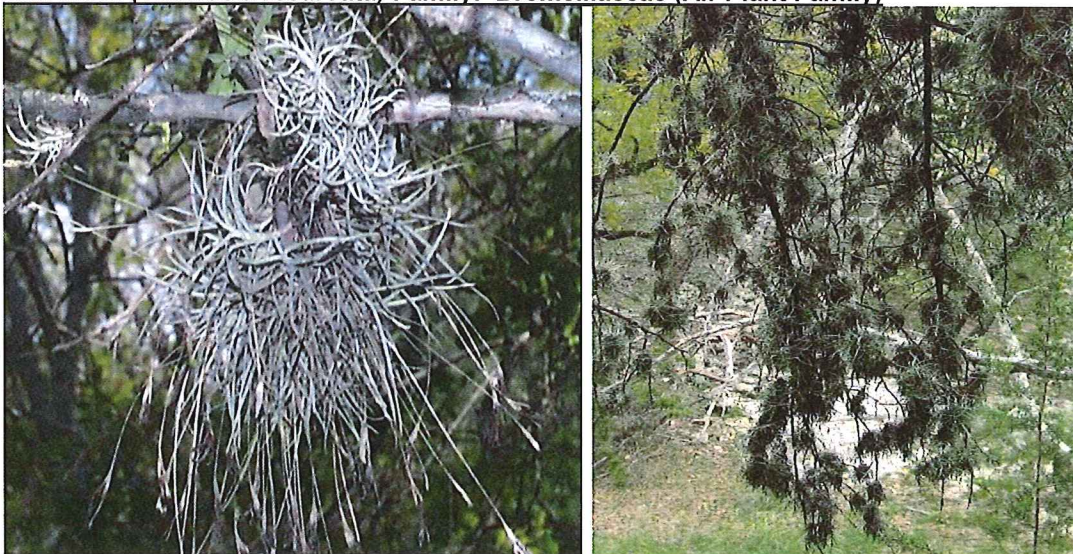
no need for coordination with the USFWS (Masson 2001) for proposed actions at FLETC. Subsequently, during a phone conversation between FLETC and USFWS staff on November 22, 2002, it was decided that the agreement should be amended to not include wood storks (*Mycteria americana*) in the exemption from further coordination.

Mr. Robert Brooks of the USFWS was contacted on July 14, 2006, (USFWS 2006) to ensure the 2002 agreement was still relevant. Mr. Brooks confirmed the agreement via e-mail (Appendix C-7) by stating further coordination is not needed if there are no endangered or threatened species using the area (USFWS 2006). The site investigation did not reveal evidence of any listed protected species or their habitat within the impact area of the project. The canals and ditches nearby could possibly be used as foraging habitat by the wood storks; however, these areas would not be impacted by the proposed action.

A complete list of endangered and threatened species for Glynn County from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) is enclosed in Appendix B. The species that have potential for occurrence at FLETC (or migration into the vicinity) are detailed below.

Species	Listing Status		Type
	Federal	State	
Ball-moss ( <i>Tillandsia recurvata</i> )	None	Threatened	Plant (Bromeliad)
Pondspice ( <i>Litsea aestivalis</i> )	None	Threatened	Flowering Plant
Eastern indigo snake ( <i>Drymarchon corais couperi</i> )	Threatened	Threatened	Reptile
Wood stork ( <i>Mycteria americana</i> )	Threatened	Threatened	Bird
Red-cockaded woodpecker ( <i>Picoides borealis</i> )	Endangered	Endangered	Bird

**Ball-moss (*Tillandsia recurvata*) Family: Bromeliaceae (Air Plant Family)**





This epiphytic perennial herb is sometimes found persisting on fallen limbs. Plants are 4-23 cm tall when in flower, with densely bunched stems, resembling loose “balls of moss”. This species is found mostly on the branches of live oak (*Quercus virginiana*) in Georgia, (especially near the coast) in urban or more natural settings (e.g. evergreen hammocks and swamp forests). There is no suitable habitat for this species on the site of the proposed action; and there is no record of this species’ occurrence at FLETC.



**Pond Spice (*Litsea aestivalis*) Family: Lauraceae (Laurel Family)**



This deciduous shrub grows up to three meters tall and is found on margins of swamps, cypress ponds, sandhill depression ponds, and in hardwood swamps. There is no suitable habitat for this species on the site of the proposed action. There is no recent record of this species’ occurrence at FLETC.

**Red-cockaded Woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*)**



The wooded portions of the FLETC campus would provide only marginal foraging habitat for this species. There is no recent record of this species' occurrence at FLETC, and the nearest colonies are on Fort Stewart (approximately 60 miles to the north) and Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge (approximately 60 miles to the southwest). No evidence for the presence of this species has been observed in the vicinity of this site.

**Eastern Indigo Snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*)**



The eastern indigo snake is a large, docile, non-poisonous snake growing to a maximum length of about eight feet. This species is currently known to occur throughout Florida and in the coastal plain of Georgia. Historically, the range also included southern Alabama, southern Mississippi, and the extreme southeastern portion of South Carolina. The indigo snake seems to be strongly associated with high, dry, well-drained sandy soils, which closely parallels the sandhill habitat preferred by the gopher tortoise (*Gopherus polyphemus*). During warmer months, indigos also frequent streams and swamps, and individuals are occasionally found in flat woods. Gopher tortoise burrows and other subterranean cavities are commonly used as dens and for egg laying.

The decline in this species is attributed to a loss of habitat due to farming, construction, forestry, pasture, etc., and to over-collecting for the pet trade. The snake's large size and docile nature have made it much sought after as a pet. The effects of rattlesnake roundups on the indigo snake are speculative. Both indigos and rattlers utilize the burrows of gopher tortoises at certain times. Rattlesnake hunters often pour gasoline down these burrows to drive out the snakes. While some indigos may be killed by this practice, the actual degree of impact on the population is unknown.

Neither this species, nor the gopher tortoise (with which this species has a communal relationship with), has ever been observed at FLETC; nor is there any suitable habitat for this species on the site of the proposed action.



**Wood Stork (*Mycteria americana*)**



**Juvenile Wood Stork**



**Adult Wood Stork**



Wood storks are the largest wading birds that breed in North America; they nest up to 60 feet off the ground (in cypress, blackgum, southern willow, and buttonbush trees) in wetland areas of Georgia, South Carolina and Florida. Only three other species in the world are similar to wood storks; two live in Southeast Asia and one in Africa. Wood storks are large, long-legged wading birds, about 50 inches tall, with a wingspan of 60 to 65 inches.

**Habitat:** Storks are birds of freshwater and brackish wetlands, primarily nesting in cypress or mangrove swamps. They feed in freshwater marshes, narrow tidal creeks, ditches, or flooded tidal pools. Particularly attractive feeding sites are depressions in marshes or swamps where fish become concentrated during periods of falling water levels. There is no suitable foraging or nesting habitat for this species on the site of the proposed action.

## 3.5 Cultural Resources

### 3.5.1 Archeological Resources

More than 58 archaeological investigations have been conducted in Glynn County. Previous research in the vicinity of FLETC Glynco shows a moderate density of cultural resources associated with the prehistoric and historic eras. The prehistoric sites that have been identified on FLETC date to the Woodland (800 B.C. – A.D. 1150) or Archaic (7500 B.C. – 1000 B.C.) period.

Several small-scale archaeological investigations have been conducted at FLETC throughout the years (Morgan 2001; Pietak 2002; Taylor Anderson Architects, et al. 1992; USACE 1997a; 1997b; 1998a; 1998b; 2000a; 2000b; 2000c; 2001). No historic properties or cultural resources were identified during those surveys.

To date, only one phase II testing project has been conducted on the FLETC campus. Four archaeological sites were tested in 2004 due to the construction of a new driver training facility (1000 feet southeast of the subject property) on FLETC (USACE 2005). None of the sites were determined eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) (Keith 2004).

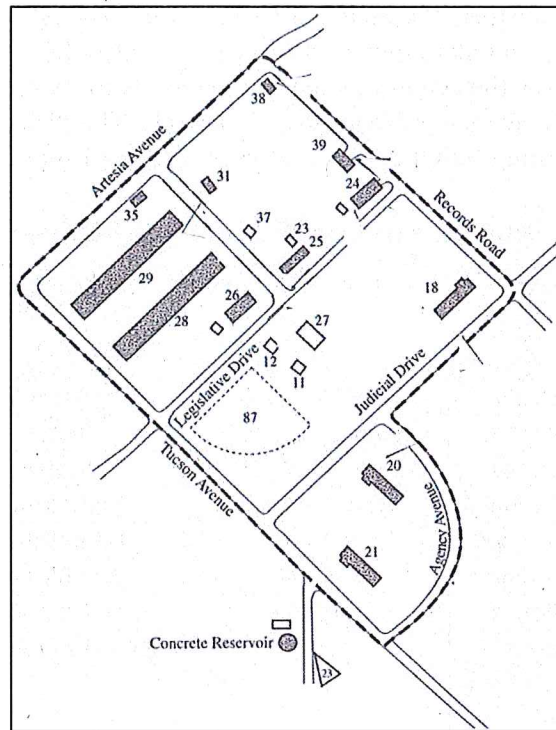
FLETC conducted a Phase I Survey of 672 acres in 2002 that investigated the remaining acreage on the facility (Repp 2003). The prehistoric sites that have been identified on FLETC date to the Woodland (800 B.C. – A.D. 1150) or Archaic (7500 B.C. – 1000 B.C.) period. Two sites, 9GN292 and 9GN293, were recommended potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places (Repp 2003). The two sites were tested and evaluated in 2004 and found not eligible for the National Register of Historic Places in consultation with the Georgia State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO) (Southern Research 2004).

**Area of Potential Effect (APE):** A survey of the historic buildings and structures at FLETC Glynco was conducted by New South Associates in 1998 (New South Associates, 1999). The survey resulted in the identification of 21 resources associated with the World War II-era Glynco Naval Air Station. The report recommended two historic districts for inclusion in the

National Register of Historic Places under Criterion A. The proposed undertaking is located within the Glynco Naval Operations District, which is also the APE. The Glynco Naval Operations District was the center of support operations for two airship hangars during World War II. The hangars were demolished in 1971. The district, as identified in 1998, contained 12 contributing buildings over 50 years of age (Table 1 below).

**Table 1 - Historic District Contributing Elements**

Building Number	Original Use	Completion Date	Status	Status of Agency Section 106 Coordination
18	Barracks #4	June 20, 1943	To be Demolished	Completed 2015
20	Barracks #2	January 1, 1943	In Use	N/A
21	Barracks #1	December 21, 1942	In Use	N/A
24	Fire Station	April 15, 1943	Demolished	Completed 2002
25	Undetermined	1942-43	Demolished	Completed 2009
26	Undetermined	1942-43	Demolished	Completed 2002
28	Storehouse	1943	To be Demolished	Completed 2011
29	Storehouse	1943	To be Demolished	Completed 2011
31	Helium Storage and Distribution?	1943?	In Use	N/A
35	Power Plant?	1943?	In Use	N/A
38	Undetermined	1943?	Extant	N/A
39	Undetermined	1943?	In Use	N/A



Historic District 1998 Showing Resources 50 Years and Older in Gray

### 3.5.2 Prehistoric Period

Georgia has a rich cultural heritage that began at around 9,000 B.C. with the arrival of humans into what is now the State of Georgia. This period, known as the Paleo-Indian period, was marked by the presence of large game such as mastodon, mammoth, giant sloths, and beavers, most of which are now extinct. Archeologists have divided coastal Georgia's prehistoric periods based on cultural adaptations. Table 2 shows a generalized cultural chronology for Georgia's coast and coastal plain. Cultural periods that are represented on FLETC and southeastern Georgia are: Archaic (8000-1000 B.C.), Woodland (1000 B.C.-A.D. 900), and Mississippian (A.D. 900- A.D. 1541).

**Table 2: Generalized Cultural Chronology for the Prehistoric Occupation of the Georgia Coast and Coastal Plain**

Adapted from Pietak 2002

PERIOD	PHASE	DATE RANGE
MISSISSIPPIAN	Pine Harbor?	A.D. 1450-1575
	Irene II	A.D. 1350-1450
	Irene I	A.D. 1300-1350
	Savannah II	A.D. 1200-1300



PERIOD	PHASE	DATE RANGE
	Savannah I	A.D. 1150-1200
LATE WOODLAND	St. Catherine's	A.D. 1000-1150
	Wilmington	A.D. 500-1000
MIDDLE WOODLAND	Deptford II	A.D. 300-500
	Deptford I	600 B.C. - A.D. 300
EARLY WOODLAND	Refuge II	800-600 B.C.
	Refuge I	1000-800 B.C.
LATE ARCHAIC	St. Simons II	1700-1000 B.C.
	St. Simons I	2200-1700 B.C.
	Unnamed Preceramic	3000-2200 B.C.
MIDDLE ARCHAIC	Undefined Benton Influence	3200-2600 B.C.
	Morrow Mountain	5750-3500 B.C.
EARLY ARCHAIC	Kirk Stemmed	6500-5750 B.C.
	Bifurcate	7000-6500 B.C.
	Palmer/Kirk	7500-7000 B.C.
	Taylor/Bolen/Big Sandy	8000-7500 B.C.
PALEOINDIAN	Dalton	8500-8000 B.C.
	Simpson/Suwannee/Quad	9000-8500 B.C.
	Clovis	Unknown-9000 B.C.

### 3.5.3 Historic Period

The Historic Period is marked by De Soto's entrance into Georgia in 1540. The Guale were among the first indigenous peoples encountered by Europeans. Many settlements were located along the banks of major rivers or along tidal creeks where flora and fauna were more abundant. With the coming of the Europeans, aboriginal cultural adaptations became closely tied to European trade and colonization. The socio-political organizations switched from chiefdoms to loose confederations of tribes. Towns were the principal settlement form, but small farmsteads were also common.

The Jesuits established the first missions on the Georgia coast in 1568, followed shortly thereafter by the Franciscans in 1573. The Spanish remained the prominent European inhabitants along the Georgia coast until 1670 when conflicts with the British erupted. The mission towns north of Cumberland Island were abandoned by 1683 as a result of increased English aggression. Skirmishes between the Spanish and English continued until the signing of the Treaty of Paris in 1763 (Thomas 1993).

Glynn County was established in 1777, and it is one of Georgia's original seven counties. After the Revolution the county became home to large rice, sugar, and cotton plantations. The City of Brunswick, founded earlier in 1771, was designated the county seat in 1797 as it grew in size and prosperity. With its natural harbor, the city soon emerged as a major shipping and commercial center. In the 1850s, the railroad replaced ships as the main form of transport.

The harbor remained relatively inactive until after the Civil War when Glynn and surrounding counties became exporters of naval stores and lumber. With the combination of the port and railroad lines, Brunswick lured several industries into the region. Most of the industrial growth was related to the timber and paper industry.

In 1942, the Navy established Glynco Naval Air Station (NAS) in Glynn County, and after over 30 years of service, the Department of Defense decommissioned the 4,200-acre base in 1974. During these years of operation, the base served as a home to a dirigible fleet and jet aircraft. Many of the buildings that relate to the NAS were demolished in the 1970s shortly before decommissioning. Part of the former NAS was used to create a civilian airport for Glynn County and the city of Brunswick. The Government transferred the remaining 1,525.82 acres to the Department of Treasury in 1976 and 1978. Training began at FLETC in September of 1975.

A generalized cultural chronology for the historic period is presented in Table 3.

**Table 3: Generalized Cultural Chronology for the Historic Period of Georgia**

DATE RANGE	PERIOD
A.D. 1632-A.D. 1775	European Colonization
A.D. 1775-A.D. 1783	American Revolution
A.D. 1861-A.D. 1870	Civil War and Recovery
A.D. 1929-A.D. 1945	Great Depression and World War II
A.D. 1945 – present	Postwar Period

### 3.6 Hazardous Materials

The proposed project area lies within the boundary of the former 4,200-acre Glynco NAS. The NAS operated from 1942 until 1974 when the Department of Defense decommissioned the station. After the air station closed, the property was subdivided into large parcels transferred to the Department of Treasury (1525 acres), Glynn County (over 2000 acres for the current Glynco Airport), the Glynn County Development Authority (354 acres); and smaller parcels were transferred to other entities. FLETC and the Glynco Airport contain remnants of the former NAS. These two tracts, when transferred in the 1970s, contained all of the buildings and structures (landing mats, runways, etc.) of the NAS.

The Department of Treasury acquired their 1,525-acre parcel in 1976, which has since been operated as the FLETC campus and contains the site of the proposed project. Analysis of historical aerial photographs (USACE 2016a) indicates the site of the proposed action has been cleared since at least 1956, which includes the majority of time of Navy occupation (1942-1974) and the entire time since FLETC acquisition in 1976. Aside from the recent placement of modular buildings on site, there has been no additional development activities observed on historical maps and aerial photos (USACE 2016a). Review of recent historical



aerial photos reveal the presence of seven modular buildings, which first appear in 2004 aerial photos and continue until 2014, when five of them were removed.

Site investigations in 1989 and 2000 under the Defense Environmental Restoration Program - For Formerly Used Defense Sites (DERP-FUDS) (USACE 1989 and 2000d) on the former Glynco Naval Air Station did not identify any hazardous materials at the site of the proposed project.

### **3.7 Coastal Zone Management**

The State of Georgia's mission in administering the Coastal Zone Management (CZM) Program is aimed at balancing economic development in Georgia's coastal zone with preservation of natural, environmental, historic, archaeological, and recreational resources for the benefit of future residents. The CZM Program complies with the Coastal Zone Management Act (16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.) and includes Glynn County along with ten other coastal counties in Georgia.

Construction projects are also subject to consistency with the Shore Protection Act (O.C.G.A. 2-5-230, et seq.) and the Coastal Marshlands Protection Act (O.C.G.A. 12-5-280, et. seq.) if there are impacts to tidal wetlands or shoreline features. The site of the proposed action is within the jurisdiction of the Georgia CZM program, but it is not located within or adjacent to tidal waters or the shoreline.

### **3.8 Traffic Circulation/Campus Security**

Due to security concerns, all non-commercial traffic entering and exiting FLETC is restricted to two gates. In emergency evacuations, additional side gates may be opened to facilitate evacuations. Currently, there are no existing traffic circulation issues on the FLETC campus or in the vicinity of the proposed action (Fife 2015).

Day-to-day maintenance and operations conducted by FLETC are performed in accordance with Public Law (PL) 91-596, Occupational Health and Safety Act of 1970; 29 CFR Part 1960, Safety and Health Provision for Federal Employees; Executive Order (EO) 12196, Occupational Safety and Health of Federal Employees; and Homeland Security Directive 70-75, Safety Policy of the Center. FLETC has a Safety Program that addresses both safety and occupational health concerns for facilities, storage, and handling of materials and munitions, driver training activities, fire response, and firearms training.

### **3.9 Air Quality**

Air quality at any given location is a function of several factors, including the quantity and dispersion rates of pollutants, local climate, topographic and geographic features, and also windblown dust and wildfires. Air pollution can threaten the health of human beings, animals, plants, lakes; as well as damage the ozone layer and buildings, and cause haze that reduces visibility.



The Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended, has established air quality standards for the U.S. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has set six National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) that regulate six pollutants: carbon monoxide (CO), lead (Pb), nitrogen oxide (NO<sub>x</sub>), ozone (O<sub>3</sub>), sulfur dioxide (SO<sub>2</sub>), and particulate matter (PM<sub>2.5</sub> and (PM<sub>10</sub>). Geographic areas have been officially designated by EPA as being in attainment or non-attainment for air quality based on an area's compliance with the NAAQS. Brunswick is currently in attainment for the NAAQS for all criteria pollutants (GADNR EPD 2015).

### **3.10 Land Use**

The 1620-acre Glynco campus is mostly developed and consists of student dormitories, classrooms, office and warehouse space, firing ranges, driving courses and roads. The remaining undeveloped portion of the campus is primarily forested wetlands (198 acres) and timberland (natural and planted pine). Much of this undeveloped forested land lies along the perimeter of the FLETC campus and provides a buffer for adjacent residential communities from visual and noise impacts of campus training activities.

The site of the proposed action is located in a developed area that is currently maintained as mowed lawn and contains some permanent buildings. In past years, the site also contained modular buildings that were used for campus training (USACE 2016a). This site is within an area designated for "campus training", which would allow this project to be consistent with existing and future land use (Appendix A; Figure 5) as designated in the FLETC Master Plan (Parson 2010).

## **4 Environmental Impacts**

This chapter discusses the potential environmental impacts of the preferred site of the proposed action, including potential short-term or long-term impacts associated with the implementation of this alternative. A foreseeable effect is defined as possible modification in the existing environment brought about by some activity. It is also important to note that impacts may be beneficial or adverse.

### **4.1 Natural Resources**

The proposed action would require the soil disturbance of approximately 1.5 acres, which has been very disturbed from activities over the past several decades (USACE 2016a/b). Site preparation would include the removal of approximately 10 existing trees and would create an additional 64,180 square feet of impervious surface associated with the modular buildings.

Due to the lack of significant resources at the site (previously discussed in Section 3), adverse impacts to natural resources from implementation of this project are expected to be minor.

### **4.2 Floodplains/Jurisdictional Waters of the United States**

This proposed action would not impact jurisdictional wetlands or floodplains, as none are located within the project impact area. Operation and maintenance of the new facility would not involve activities that would impact wetlands that may lie outside of the property.

### **4.3 Protected Species**

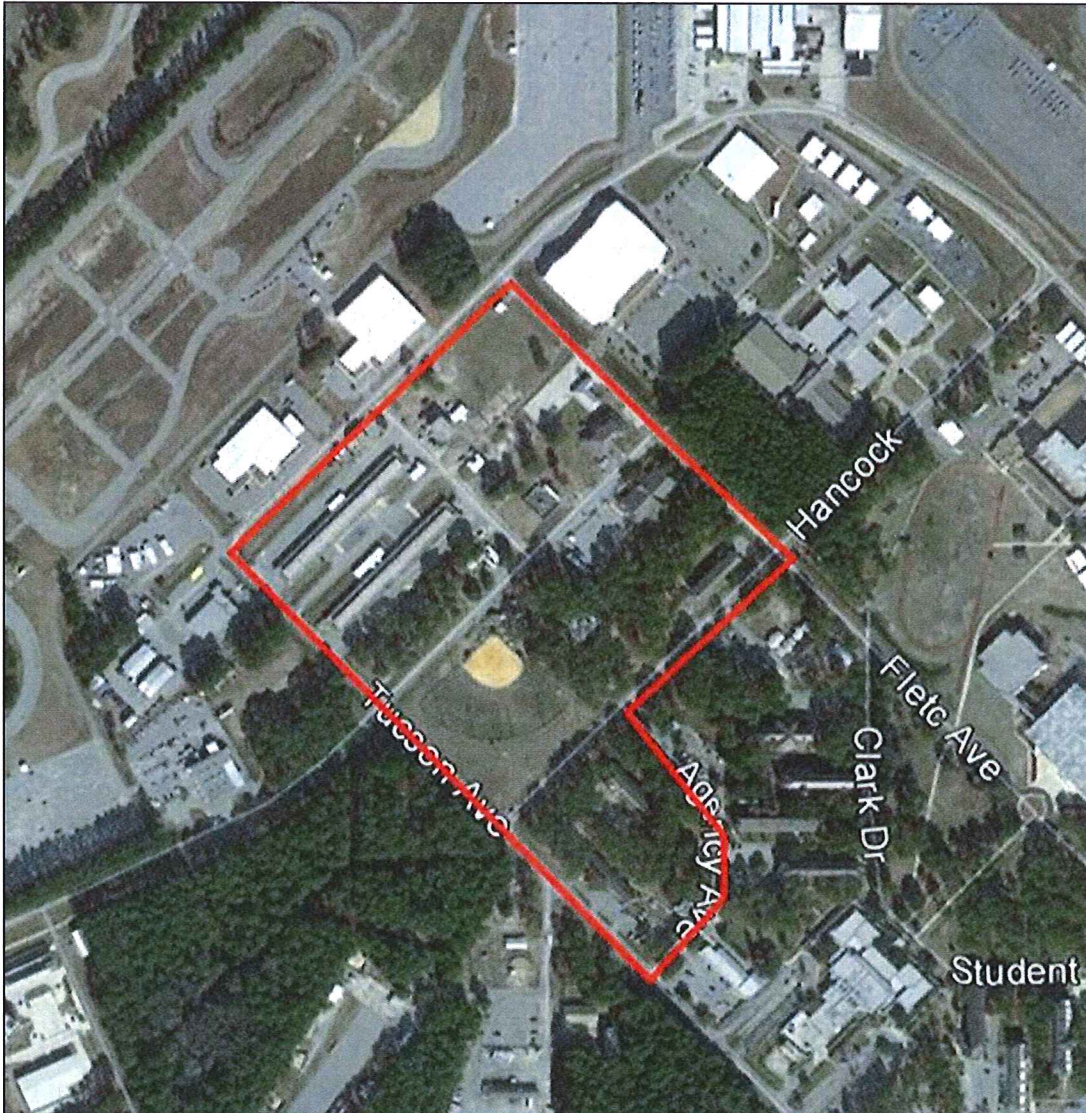
Based on the completed surveys for protected species and habitat previously described in Section 3.4, the project impact area and vicinity are not expected to contain any listed species or critical habitat. Consequently, the proposed action is not likely to adversely affect any protected species.

### **4.4 Cultural Resources**

In applying the Criteria of Adverse Effect found in 36 CFR 800, FLETC has determined that the proposed undertaking would have no adverse effect on the Glynco Naval Operations Historic District. The district originally contained 12 contributing elements and due to past and planned demolition, the number is now six. Several of the buildings within the district have been demolished due to their deteriorated conditions and health and safety hazards. FLETC has also completed Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) consultation on several standing buildings that will be demolished in the future. Additionally, FLETC has constructed several modern buildings and parking lots within the boundary of the district and within the viewshed (aerial photo below). Due to demolition of contributing elements, infill and viewshed impacts, the district no longer retains integrity and its setting and feeling have been severely diminished. FLETC has consulted with the Georgia Historic Preservation Division (HPD)



pursuant to Section 106 of the NHPA for each episode of demolition and has completed mitigation as required for each.



**Historic District 2014 (Google Earth 2014)**

Section 106 coordination with the GA SHPO has been completed by obtaining their concurrence (by letter dated April 8, 2016) with our determination of no effects to historic properties or cultural resources from the proposed action (Appendix C).

## **4.5 Hazardous Materials**

Hazardous materials including vehicle wastes (i.e. motor oil and antifreeze) generated from the construction of the proposed facility would be handled through recycling and existing SOP procedures. This would ensure that the proposed project would not result in adverse impacts to



the environment. There have not been any impacts to human health or safety identified in this study from the proposed construction and operation of the modular training buildings and associated parking lot and access road.

## **4.6 Social and Economic Issues**

The proposed action would save much of the expense of the alternative of constructing a new facility, which is estimated at \$45 million. This project would enable FLETC to provide the necessary training facilities required to meet the present and future demands for the TSA training mission. Therefore, this project is expected to benefit the mission of the TSA, which is to protect the nation's transportation systems to ensure freedom of movement for people and commerce. Ancillary benefits may also occur to border security, illegal immigration, and anti-terrorism.

## **4.7 Coastal Zone Management**

Since the impacts of this project would not be within or adjacent to tidal waters or the shoreline, there are no likely impacts to coastal resources. Therefore, this proposed action would be consistent with Georgia's CZM policies.

## **4.8 Traffic Circulation**

The new facility would provide additional classroom spaces immediately adjacent to associated laboratories. This location would minimize delays from having students travel between different areas on campus and not adversely impact traffic circulation within the FLETC campus. Therefore, the proposed action would result in some beneficial impacts to traffic circulation within the vicinity. Minor increases in traffic volumes would occur during the construction period, but those increases would be of relatively short duration.

## **4.9 Air Quality**

There would be minor temporary dust generation from vehicles driving over unpaved areas during the construction of the proposed action; and there would be minimal temporary impacts from vehicle emissions during the construction of this project. However, there are no more than minor impacts anticipated from these activities and they would be of relatively short duration. Implementation of this project would follow all Federal, state, local regulations and applicable policies for road and building construction. Vehicles used for training would be maintained according to FLETC standards.

Brunswick is currently in attainment for the NAAQS for all criteria pollutants (GADNR-EPD 2015). Operation of the proposed facility would not be expected to contribute to a change in this designation.

## **4.10 Land Use**

The site of the proposed action is in a developed area currently maintained as mowed lawn. The project area is within an area designated for “campus training”, which includes the type of training associated with the proposed action. As a result, this project would be consistent with existing and future land use (Appendix A; Figure 5) as designated in the FLETC Master Plan (Parson 2010). Therefore, this project would be consistent with the overall land use at the FLETC Glynco campus and the surrounding vicinity.

## **4.11 Noise/Aesthetic Impacts**

Construction activities associated with installation of the modular buildings and related utilities would generate some negligible short term noise but would not be significantly disruptive to nearby land uses, which are primarily buildings used for campus training. The new facility would not be expected to generate significant noise during its operation, since it would be used mainly for indoor classroom training. Therefore, no adverse impacts to noise or aesthetics are expected on campus or off-campus (residential areas) from this project.

## **4.12 Environmental Justice - Executive Order 12898**

Since the impacts of the proposed action would occur within an existing Federal training facility, minority and low-income populations would not be expected to be disproportionately affected by either of the alternatives under consideration. Therefore, the preferred alternative would be in compliance with Executive Order 12898 on Environmental Justice.

## **4.13 Environmental Health and Safety of Children - Executive Order 12045**

Children would not be expected to be in the vicinity of the proposed action, since it is a high security area with limited and controlled access. The proposed action would be expected to have no effect on the environmental health and safety of children and is in compliance with this Executive Order.

## **4.14 Storm Water Management**

Under Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007, Federal agencies are required to reduce stormwater runoff from Federal development and redevelopment projects to protect water resources. Federal agencies can comply using a variety of stormwater management practices often referred to as “Green Infrastructure” or “Low Impact Development (LID)” practices. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features and minimizing effective imperviousness to create functional and appealing site drainage that treat stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product. Applied on a broad scale, LID can maintain or restore a watershed’s hydrologic and ecological functions.



The proposed action would require the soil disturbance of approximately 1.5 acres, which has been very disturbed from activities over the past several decades (USACE 2016a/b). Implementation of this project would create an additional 64,180 square feet of impervious surface associated with the modular buildings. Permeable surface development has been integrated into the project design of the associated parking lot and access road, which adds 10,500 square feet of pervious surface to the project impact. Therefore, adverse impacts from increased storm water runoff associated with this project would be expected to be minor.

#### **4.15 Mitigation**

The environmental impacts of the proposed action were minimized through decisions made in the project siting and design process. Due to the lack of environmental impacts expected from implementation of the proposed action, no separate mitigation measures are warranted.

#### **4.16 Cumulative Impacts**

CEQ regulations stipulate that the cumulative effects analysis consider the potential environmental impacts resulting from “the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable future actions regardless of what agency (Federal or non-Federal) or person undertakes such other actions.” CEQ guidance in considering cumulative effects involves defining the scope of the other actions and their interrelationships with the preferred alternative.

**Stormwater:** Implementation of this project would create an unavoidable additional increase in impervious surface (64,180 square feet) associated with the dimensions of the modular buildings. To avoid additional impacts, permeable surfaces (10,500 square feet) have been integrated into the project design of the associated parking lot and access road. Therefore, the cumulative adverse impacts from increased storm water runoff associated with this project would be expected to be negligible.

FLETC implements a variety of stormwater management practices including Green Infrastructure and LID. LID employs principles such as preserving and recreating natural landscape features and minimizing effective imperviousness to create functional and appealing site drainage that treat stormwater as a resource rather than a waste product. Implementation of these practices allow FLETC to plan future projects in a manner that will prevent unavoidable future impacts to this resource.

No other significant cumulative impacts associated with the proposed action and other past, present, and foreseeable actions have been identified during this assessment.

**Table 4: Summary of Impacts of Proposed Action**

FACTORS	NO EFFECT	NEGLIGIBLE	UNDETERMINED	BENEFICIAL		ADVERSE	
				SIGNIFICANT	MINOR	SIGNIFICANT	MINOR
Natural Resources		X (Adverse)					
Water Resources	X						
Jurisdictional Waters/Floodplains	X						
Protected Species	X						
Historical/Archaeological/Architectural	X						
Hazardous Materials	X						
Social and Economic					X		
Coastal Zone Management	X						
Traffic Circulation and Campus Security					X		
Air Quality		X (Adverse)					
Land Use	X						
Aesthetics/Noise		X (Adverse)					
Environmental Justice	X						
Environmental Health and Safety of Children	X						
Storm Water Management							X
Cumulative Impacts		X (Adverse)					



## 5 Compliance with State/Federal Authorities

Table 5 below summarizes status of compliance of proposed action with applicable Federal/State laws.

**Table 5: Relationship of project to environmental requirements**

FEDERAL POLICIES	SELECTED ALTERNATIVE
Anadromous Fish Conservation Act, 16 U.S.C. 757, et seq.	Not applicable.
Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 312501, et seq.	In compliance
Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 7401-7671q, et seq.	In compliance
Clean Water Act, as amended (Federal Water Pollution Control Act) 33 U.S.C. 1251, et seq.	In compliance
Coastal Barrier Resources Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 3501, et seq.	Not applicable.
Coastal Zone Management Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1451 et seq.	In compliance
Endangered Species Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531, et seq.	In compliance
Environmental Health and Safety of Children; E.O. 13045	In compliance
Environmental Justice; E.O. 12898	In compliance
Estuary Protection Act, 16 U.S.C. 1221, et. seq.	Not applicable
Federal Water Project Recreation Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 4601-12, et seq.	Not applicable
Fishery Conservation and Management Act of 1976, Public Law 99-659.	In compliance
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 661, et seq.	Not applicable
Floodplain Management; E.O. 11988	In compliance.
Georgia Hazardous Waste Management Act (OCGA 12-8-60)	In compliance
Georgia Rules for Hazardous Waste Management; (391-3-11)	In compliance
Magnuson-Stevens Act, as amended, Public Law 104-297.	Not applicable
Marine Mammal Protection Act, 15 U.S.C. 1361, et seq.	Not applicable
Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act of 1972, 33 U.S.C. 1401, et. seq.	Not applicable
Migratory Bird Conservation Act of 1929, 16 U.S.C. 715	Not applicable
Migratory Bird Treaty Act of July 3, 1918, as amended.	Not applicable.
National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321, et seq.	In compliance
National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, 15 U.S.C. 300101, et seq.	In compliance
Protection of Wetlands; E.O. 11990	In compliance
Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 U.S.C. 401 et seq.	Not applicable

## 6 Consultation and Coordination

NEPA regulations require that Federal, state, and local agencies with jurisdiction or special expertise regarding environmental impacts be consulted and involved in the NEPA process. The Draft EA has been made available for review by appropriate parties. A Public Notice of Availability (NOA) was published in the *Brunswick News* on April 27, 2016, announcing the availability of the Draft EA. To date, there have not been any comments received that were averse to the proposed action.

### U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service:

On September 21, 2001, Dr. Gregg Masson (USFWS Field Supervisor), Ms. Kathleen Morgan, and Ms. Susan Shaw of FLETC discussed the programmatic exclusion of FLETC from further Section 7 coordination under NEPA. This discussion concluded with an agreement that there was no critical habitat or protected species on the FLETC Glynco campus. Therefore, there is no need for further coordination with the USFWS on endangered species issues (Masson 2001). Subsequently, during a phone conversation between FLETC and USFWS staff on November 22, 2002, it was decided that the agreement should be amended to not include wood storks (*Mycteria americana*) in the exemption from further coordination.

Mr. Robert Brooks of the USFWS was contacted on July 14, 2006 (USFWS 2006) to ensure the 2002 agreement was still valid. Mr. Brooks confirmed the agreement by stating further coordination is not needed if there are no endangered or threatened species using the area (USFWS 2006). In addition, Ms. Gail Martinez was contacted in regard to specific habitat requirements for protected species that have the potential for occurrence at FLETC (USFWS 2016).

**Georgia State Historic Preservation Office (GA SHPO):** Section 106 coordination with the GA SHPO has been completed by obtaining their concurrence (by letter dated April 8, 2016) with our determination of no effects to historic properties or cultural resources from the proposed action (Appendix C).

**General:** The individuals/agencies listed below were consulted during preparation of this study:

Name	Role/Office	Organization/Contact info
Mr. Keith Saltrick	Environmental Risk Analyst; Veracheck Inc.	(336) 499-3281
Mr. John Baden	DERP-FUDS Program Manager; Wilmington District	(910) 251-4754
Mr. Mark Harvison	FLETC Environmental and Safety Division	(912) 267-3484
Ms. Jennifer Dixon	Program Manager Environmental Preservation Planning	Historic Preservation Division
Mr. Robert Brooks	Biologist USFWS	(912) 265-9336 Extension 25
Ms. Gail Martinez	Biologist USFWS Coastal Georgia Office	(912) 832-8739 Extension 7



## 7 List of Preparers

The FLETC point of contact associated with the preparation of this EA is:

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The following individuals contributed to the preparation of this EA:

Name	Role	Project Responsibility
Keith Thomas	Project Manager	Project/Fiscal Management
David Walker	NEPA Program Manager	NEPA document preparation/coordination; manage NEPA process.
William Bailey	Planning Division Chief	Quality Control; NEPA document review
Julie Morgan	Archeologist; Section 106 Specialist	Cultural Resources; SHPO Coordination

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USACE, Savannah District, Planning Division. Final Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Construction of Alterations and Additions to Buildings 95, 96, and 97 at FLETC in Glynco, Georgia. 2000b.

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**APPENDIX A**

**FIGURES AND PHOTOS**

I-A



Figure 1: Vicinity Map





6/23/2015 12:36:33 pm  
12:36 pm 1:28 pm

**TSA Modular Buildings**

**Figure 2 - Project Impact Area**

© 2016 Google

Google earth

1988

Latitude: 33° 17' 21.11" N Longitude: 111° 43' 18" W elev 23 ft eye alt 2261 ft





6/23/2015 12:36:33 pm

12:36 pm

1:28 pm

**TSA Modular Buildings**

Legislative Dr

Mc Cord St

Bunker Ln

Judicial Dr

Agency Ave

Tucson Ave

Clark Dr

Fletch Ave

Student Cir

District Dr

Artesia Ave

© 2016 Google

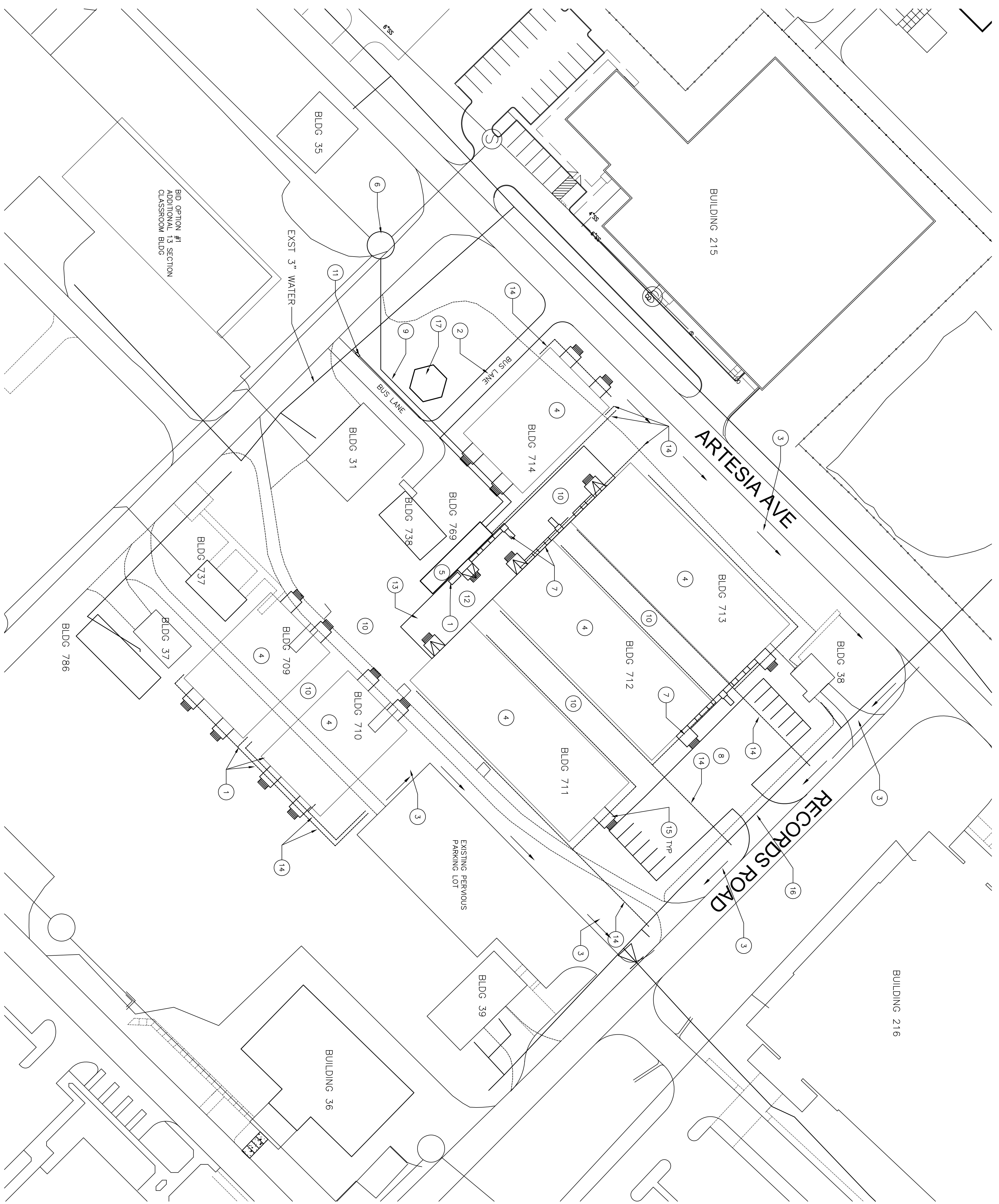
Google earth

**Figure 3 - Aerial View of Project Vicinity**

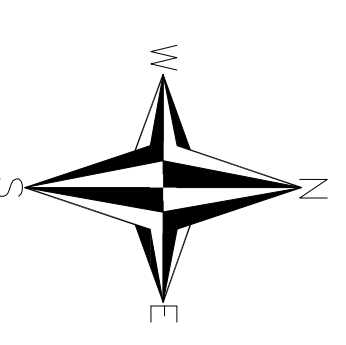
Inventory Date: 01/20/14 30.1.65 131° 28' 7" W elev 33 ft eye alt 5566 ft



# Figure 4 - Project Design




SITE PLAN  
SCALE: 1"=40'-0"



**DRAWING NOTES**

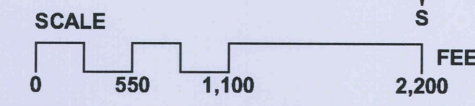
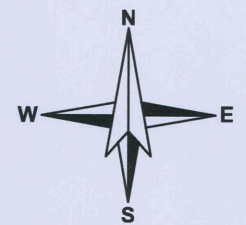
1. PROVIDE 10'x4'x6" 3000 PSI CONCRETE PAD.
  2. PROVIDE 6" THICK RECYCLED ASPHALT ROAD WITH CULVERT SIZED AS REQUIRED. COORDINATE CORNER REQUIREMENT WITH FLETC BUS TURNING RADIIUS.
  3. PROVIDE SLIT FENCE AS REQUIRED AND ENSURE SWALE IS RE-SEEDED AFTER RESETTling INVERTS.
  4. PROVIDE MODULAR BUILDINGS WITH GUTTERS AND SKIRTING AS INDICATED. REFERENCE THE SOW AND THE FLETC SOW FOR THE MODULAR BUILDING REQUIREMENTS. PROVIDE 12"x12" FRAMING (16" O/C) ALONG WITH 2"x6" DECKING. COLUMNS SHALL BE 4"x4" ON 6' CENTERS. PROVIDE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE RAMP AND LANDINGS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY FROM GROUND LEVEL TO APPROX 32" HIGH RAMP SECTIONS SHALL BE NO MORE THAN 1:12 AND 6' FEET LONG. LANDINGS WITH CHANGE OF DIRECTION SHALL BE MINIMUM 5'x3'. PROVIDE ALL AREAS WITH RAILINGS. SUBMIT CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS.
  5. PROVIDE 6" GRADUATED AGGREGATE BASE (GAB) PARKING LOT AND ENTRANCE DRIVE. PROVIDE CURB STOPS TO DELINEATE PARKING SPACES AND MINIMUM 18" CULVERT PIPE.
  6. PROVIDE PRE-MANUFACTURED RESTROOM FACILITY. SEE SOW AND SUBSEQUENT DRAWINGS FOR INFORMATION.
  7. PROVIDE CONCRETE MANHOLE. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR FIELD VERIFYING AND MATCHING INVERTS OF EXISTING MANHOLE. ENSURE MANHOLE RISE ELEVATION MATCHES EXISTING. PROVIDE MANHOLE WITH INLETS AND OUTLETS AS REQUIRED. ENSURE WEIRS ARE GROUNDED AND SLOPED TOWARDS CHANNELS.
  8. PROVIDE 12"x12" FRAMING (16" O/C) ALONG WITH 2"x6" DECKING. COLUMNS SHALL BE 4"x4" ON 6' CENTERS. PROVIDE WHEELCHAIR ACCESSIBLE RAMP AND LANDINGS TO ENSURE ACCESSIBILITY FROM GROUND LEVEL TO APPROX 32" HIGH RAMP SECTIONS SHALL BE NO MORE THAN 1:12 AND 6' FEET LONG. LANDINGS WITH CHANGE OF DIRECTION SHALL BE MINIMUM 5'x3'. PROVIDE ALL AREAS WITH RAILINGS. SUBMIT CONSTRUCTION DRAWINGS.
  9. PROVIDE 6" PVC SEWER PIPING.
  10. CHANGE THE SITE TOPOGRAPHY AS REQUIRED TO ENSURE NO WATER PONDS ADJACENT TO OR UNDER THE BUILDINGS.
  11. PROVIDE BACKFLOW PREVENTER AND WATER METER ASSEMBLY. PROVIDE 2 1/2" PVC PRESSURE WATER PIPING.
  12. PROVIDE 7 STANDARD SIZE (60" L x 53" W) PICNIC TABLES.
  13. PROVIDE A COMPLETE 200'x35' COVERED ROOF OR CANOPY SYSTEM WITH GUTTERS. SUBMIT PRODUCT DATA AND CALCULATIONS FOR APPROVAL BEFORE ORDERING. SEE SHEET A4 FOR ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.
  14. PROVIDE 8" PVC PIPING TO ROUTE CUTTER DRAINS TO SWALE. BRING END OF PIPING BY DOWNSPOUTS UP TO 2' ABOVE GRADE.
  15. PROVIDE 12"x12" LANDING WITH 8" WIDE STAIRS (11") AND RAILINGS ON BOTH SIDES. USE 2"x8" FRAMING (16" O/C) ALONG WITH 2"x6" DECKING. COLUMNS SHALL BE 4"x4" ON 6' CENTERS.
  16. PROVIDE AND MAINTAIN A CONSTRUCTION ENTRANCE.
  17. PROVIDE A WOOD OR ALTERNATE MATERIAL GAZEBO ROOF (~600 SQFT) SYSTEM INCLUDING FOOTERS OVER A GAB BASE TO ACT AS A BUS WAITING AREA. CONSTRUCTION CAN BE STICK BUILT OR PRE-MANUFACTURED MATCHED TO EXISTING FLETC STYLE. SEE SOW FOR PHOTO. SYSTEM SHALL COME COMPLETE WITH 5 STANDARD PARK BENCHES, LIGHTS (4) AND CEILING FANS (4). SUBMIT DRAWINGS FOR APPROVAL.
- GENERAL NOTES**
1. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR COORDINATING ALL WATER AND SEWER WORK WITH JOINT WATER SEWER COMMISSION. ALL OUTAGES WILL BE COORDINATED WITH JWSC AND FLETC. ANY ASSOCIATED TAP FEES OR CONNECTION CHARGES WILL BE PAID FOR BY THE CONTRACTOR. ENSURE ALL MATERIALS ARE COORDINATED AND ACCEPTABLE TO JWSC.
  2. THE CONTRACTOR IS RESPONSIBLE FOR ENSURING THE BUILDINGS ARE WEATHERTIGHT DURING THE CONSTRUCTION PERIOD.
  3. THE CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE A REMOVABLE PRESSURE TREATED OR METAL RAMP ASSOCIATED WITH THE ENTRANCE STAIRS IN ORDER TO MOVE EQUIPMENT TO AND FROM THE BUILDING. AFTER THE CONSTRUCTION IS COMPLETE THE RAMP SHALL BE LEFT ON SITE. THE INTENTION OF THIS RAMP IS TO USE IT AT ALL BUILDINGS.
  4. NO LATER THAN 10 DAYS AFTER NOTICE OF AWARD THE CONTRACTOR SHALL COORDINATE AND HOLD A MEETING BETWEEN THE GOVERNMENT, THE CONTRACTOR'S APPROVED PROJECT MANAGER AND SUPERINTENDENT, TSA REPRESENTATIVES, AND THE MODULAR MANUFACTURER TO DISCUSS ALL OF THE OPTIONS AVAILABLE REGARDING THE CONSTRUCTION AND TIMELINES OF THE MODULARS.
  5. THE ROOF SEAMS OF ALL MODULARS MUST BE FLOOD TESTED BEFORE ANY INTERIOR WORK CAN BEGIN. FLOOD TESTING TYPICALLY INVOLVES SIGNIFICANTLY MORE WATER THAN A GARDEN HOSE.
  6. THE CONTRACTOR WILL BE RESPONSIBLE FOR MEETING THE PROJECT DEADLINE WHICH MAY NECESSITATE USING MULTIPLE MODULAR MANUFACTURERS TO MEET PROJECT DELIVERY SCHEDULE. COMPLETE STRUCTURES MUST BE THE SAME MANUFACTURER.
  7. PROVIDE BUILDING SIGNS ON EACH END OF THE BUILDING. MATCH SIGNS WITH ADJACENT BUILDINGS.

REVISIONS		APPROVED BY		FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT TRAINING CENTER	
NO.	DESCRIPTION	DATE		GMCO.	GEORGIA
1	SITE VISIT	5/5/15			
		BRANCH CHIEF FAC		<b>TSA MODULARS</b> CNIL <b>NEW WORK SITE PLAN</b>	
		PROJECT MANAGER FMO DAVE FORD			
DRAWN BY: 09		CHECKED BY:		PROJECT NO. SHEET 2 OF 18	
DATE: 10/1/15		DRAWING FILE:			



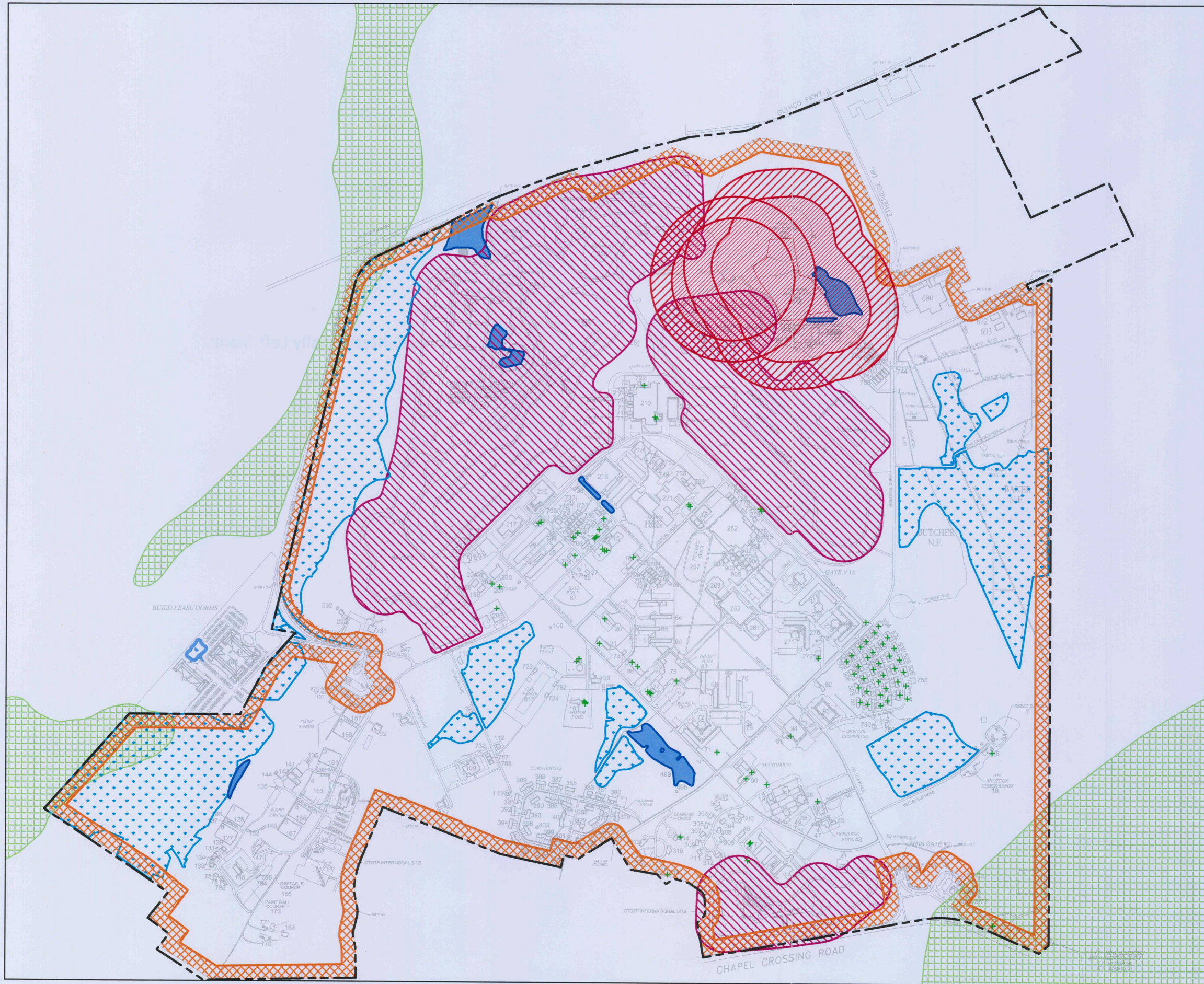




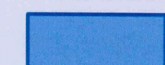


- CAMPUS TRAINING
- CAMPUS SUPPORT
- STUDENT HOUSING
- NON-CAMPUS TRAINING
- INDUSTRIAL
- ENTRY
- LAND USE UNASSIGNED

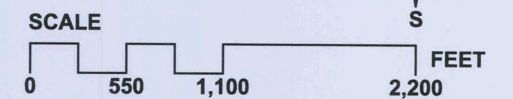
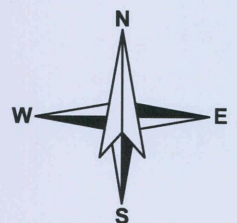


Future Land Use Figure 2.17





-  PERIMETER SETBACK
-  DRIVER TRAINING BUFFER
-  ATF EXPLOSIVE ZONES
-  WATER BODIES
-  WETLANDS
-  FEMA FLOOD ZONE AE
-  UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK

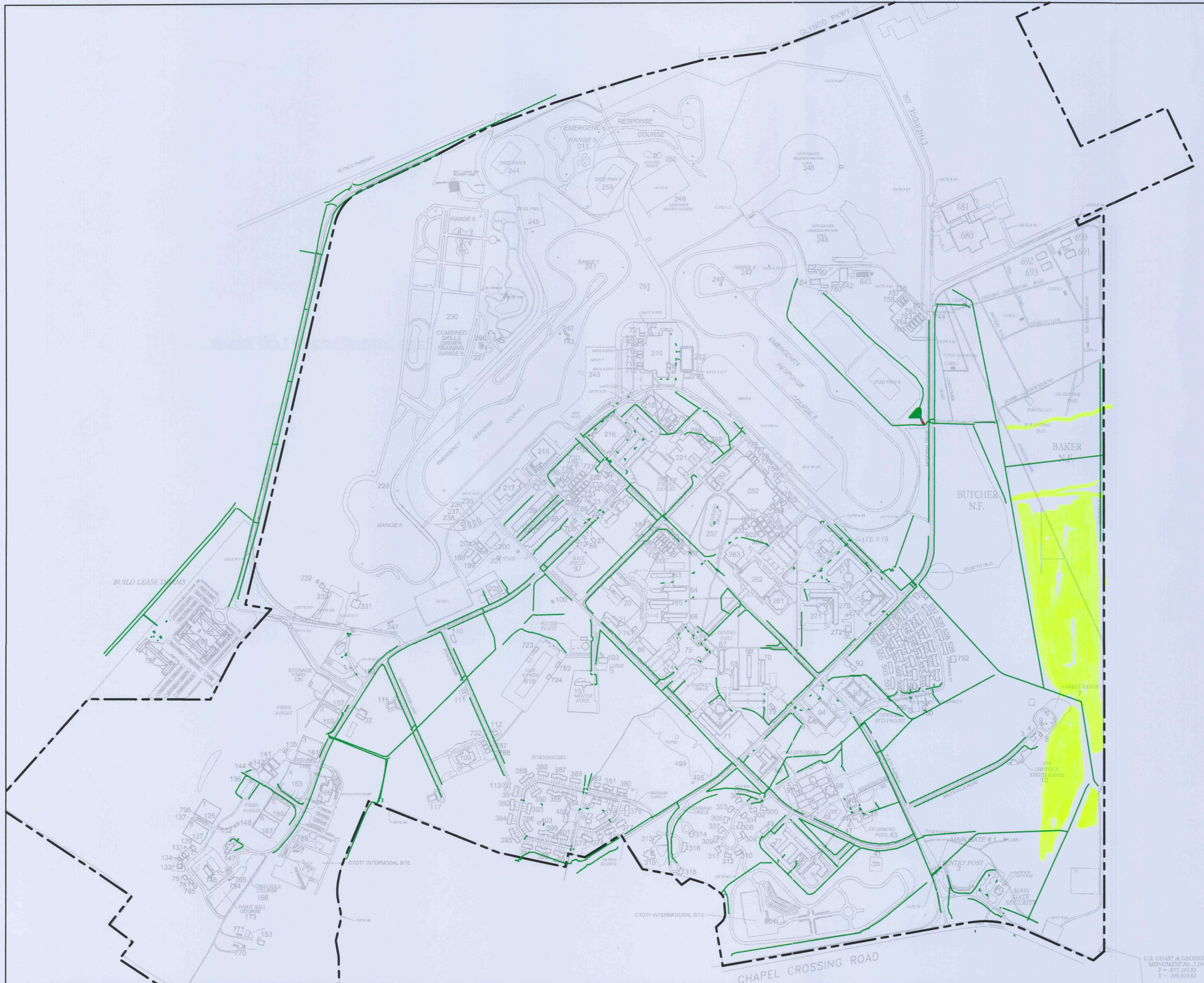


**Development Constraints Map**

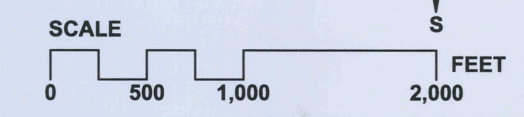
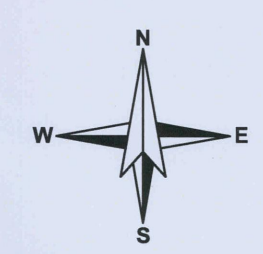
**Figure 2.15**

Figure 6 - Development Constraints<sup>2-41</sup>



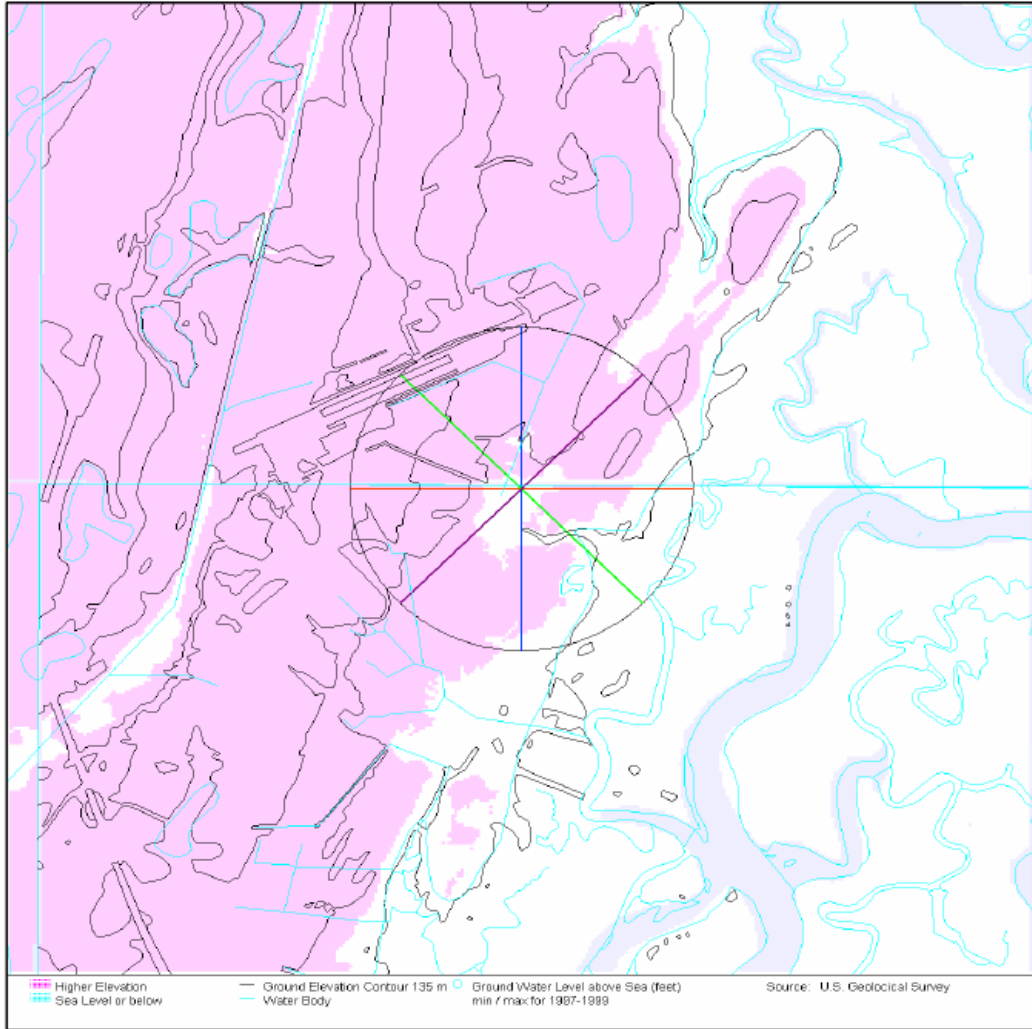


— STORM SEWER LINE

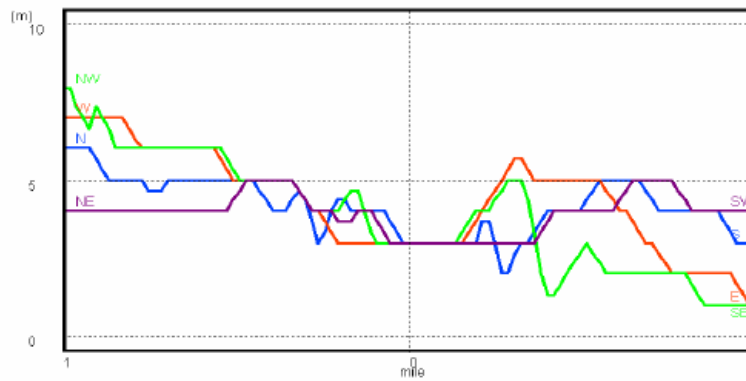


**Storm Sewer System** **Figure 2.8**





Elevation Contour overview map (6\*6 mile)



Elevation Profiles (±1 mile)

**Figure 8 - Elevation/Contour Overview**



# **APPENDIX B**

## **THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES GLYNN COUNTY, GEORGIA**

## Protected Species in Glynn County

Scientific Name	Common Name	Federal Status	State Status
<b>Mammals</b>			
<i>Balaena glacialis</i>	North Atlantic Right Whale	E	E
<i>Trichechus manatus</i>	West Indian manatee	E	E
<b>Birds</b>			
<i>Charadrius melodus</i>	Piping plover	T	T
<i>Mycteria americana</i>	Wood stork	T	T
<i>Calidris canutus rufa</i>	Red Knot	T	T
<i>Picoides borealis</i>	Red-cockaded woodpecker	E	E
<b>Reptiles/Amphibians</b>			
<i>Caretta caretta</i>	Loggerhead sea turtle	T	T
<i>Chelonia mydas</i>	Green sea turtle	T	T
<i>Dermochelys coriacea</i>	Leatherback sea turtle	E	E
<i>Drymarchon corais couperi</i>	Eastern indigo snake	T	T
<i>Gopherus polyphemus</i>	Gopher tortoise	C	T
<i>Notophthalmus perstriatus</i>	Striped Newt	C	N
<b>Fish/Shellfish</b>			
<i>Acipenser brevirostrum</i>	Shortnose sturgeon	E	E
<i>Acipenser oxyrinchus oxyrinchus</i>	Atlantic sturgeon	E	E
<i>Elliptio spinosa</i>	Altamaha Spiny mussel	E	E
<b>Plants</b>			
<i>Baptisia arachnifera</i>	Hairy Rattleweed	E	N
<i>Litsea aestivalis</i>	Pondspice	N	T
<i>Sageretia minutiflora</i>	Climbing buckthorn	N	T
<i>Tillandsia recurvata</i>	Ball-moss	N	T

E - Endangered      T - Threatened      R - Rare      N - None

Source: The information in this table was obtained from the USFWS in March 2016.





**APPENDIX C**

**COORDINATION, COMMENTS,  
AND RESPONSES**





HISTORIC PRESERVATION DIVISION

MARK WILLIAMS  
COMMISSIONER

DR. DAVID CRASS  
DIVISION DIRECTOR

April 8, 2016

Mark S. Harvison  
Lead Environmental Protection Specialist/NEPA Specialist  
Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers  
U. S. Department of Homeland Security  
1131 Chapel Crossing Road  
Glynco, Georgia 31524

**RE: FLETC: Construct, Operate, and Maintain Seven (7) Buildings, Glynco  
Glynn County, Georgia  
HP-160211-003**

Dear Mr. Harvison:

The Historic Preservation Division (HPD) has received information submitted concerning the above referenced project. Our comments are offered to assist the US Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in complying with the provisions of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (NHPA).

The subject project consists of constructing, operating, and maintaining seven (7) modular buildings and an associated parking lot and access road on the FLETC campus in Glynco. Based on the information submitted, HPD concurs that no archaeological resources that are listed or eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) will be affected by this undertaking, as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.4(d)(1), due to previous disturbances. Regarding historic resources, HPD concurs that the subject project is located within the Glynco Naval Operations Historic District which was previously determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. Additionally, HPD concurs that the subject project, as proposed, will have **no adverse effect** to historic resources within its area of potential effects (APE), as defined in 36 CFR Part 800.5(d)(1), due to the district's lack of integrity of setting. HPD recommends conducting an updated historic resource survey of the FLETC Campus, including the Glynco Naval Operations Historic District, as it appears from the current information provided that the district may no longer be NRHP-eligible. However, remaining buildings may be individually eligible for listing in the NRHP.

This letter evidences consultation with our office for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA. It is important to remember that any future changes to this project as it is currently proposed may require additional consultation. HPD encourages federal agencies and project applicants to discuss such changes with our office to ensure that potential effects to historic resources are adequately considered in project planning.

Please refer to project number **HP-160211-003** in any future correspondence on this project. If we may be of further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Barbara Fisher, Environmental Review Historian, at (770) 389-7854 or [Barbara.Fisher@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Barbara.Fisher@dnr.ga.gov).

Sincerely,

Jennifer Dixon, MHP, LEED Green Associate  
Program Manager  
Environmental Review and Preservation Planning

JAD/blf

JEWETT CENTER FOR HISTORIC PRESERVATION  
2610 GA HWY 155, SW | STOCKBRIDGE, GA 30281  
770.389.7844 | FAX 770.389.7878 | [WWW.GEORGIAHPO.ORG](http://WWW.GEORGIAHPO.ORG)



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

CESAS-PD

22 JAN 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR DE

SUBJECT: Authorization for Publication of Paid Advertisement

1. In accordance with U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Acquisition Instruction 5.502-100, request your approval to publish a paid advertisement in the *Brunswick News*. The article will advertise the availability of an Environmental Assessment for the proposed construction of seven modular buildings, a parking lot and access road at the Glynco facility in Glynn County, Georgia. The buildings will be used by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for training purposes. The document must be made available for public review and comment before FLETC makes its decision about constructing the proposed project.
2. The advertisement will read as follows: *The Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) announces the availability of a Draft Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the proposed construction of seven modular buildings, a parking lot, and access road at the Glynco facility in Glynn County, Georgia. The buildings will be used by the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) for training purposes. The comment period will extend 30 days from the date of this publication. This document is available for review and may be obtained by contacting Mr. Mark Harvison, FLETC, Building 681, Glynco, GA 31524; 912-267-3484.*
3. POC for this action is David Walker (912) 652-5793.

WILLIAM G. BAILEY  
Chief, Planning Division

Approve ef/gh

Disapprove \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

  
MARVIN L. GRIEFIN, P.E.  
COL, EN  
Commanding



"Walker, David A  
SAMatSAS"  
<David.A.Walker@s  
as02.usace.army.m  
il>

07/14/2006 02:43  
PM

To  
"@exchange" <Robert\_Brooks@fws.gov>  
cc  
Subject  
FLETC protected species

Robert

I just wanted to touch base with you regarding the programmatic agreement referenced in an EA excerpt below between your office and the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC) in Brunswick. The last time I talked with you in January 2005, you said that the agreement would still be valid.

"September 21, 2001, conference call between Dr. Gregg Masson (USFWS Field Supervisor), Ms. Kathleen Morgan, and Ms. Susan Shaw of FLETC discussed the programmatic exclusion of FLETC from Section 7 coordination under NEPA. During this conference call, the above parties agreed that there was no critical habitat or protected species on FLETC and therefore, no need for coordination with the USFWS for proposed actions at FLETC. Subsequently, during a phone conversation between FLETC and USFWS staff on November 22, 2002, it was decided that the agreement should be amended to not include wood storks (*Mycteria americana*) in the exemption from further coordination ."

Please let me know if there should be any change in this agreement.  
Thanks  
David

David Walker  
Biologist  
Mobile/Savannah Planning Center  
Phone: 912-652-5793

**Walker, David A SAMatSAS**

---

**From:** Robert\_Brooks@fws.gov  
**Sent:** Wednesday, July 19, 2006 1:38 PM  
**To:** Walker, David A SAMatSAS  
**Subject:** RE: FLETC protected species

Thanks.

Robert Brooks  
USFWS, Brunswick, GA

"Walker, David A SAMatSAS" <David.A.Walker@s as02.usace.army.m il>	<Robert_Brooks@fws.gov>	To
		cc
07/19/2006 11:29 AM	RE: FLETC protected species	Subject

Thanks Robert,

I'll look over the site well to see if there are any areas the storks might be using and get back with you, if appropriate.

David Walker

Biologist

Mobile/Savannah Planning Center

Phone: 912-652-5793

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert\_Brooks@fws.gov [mailto:Robert\_Brooks@fws.gov]  
Sent: Wednesday, July 19, 2006 10:44 AM  
To: Walker, David A SAMatSAS  
Cc: Strant\_Colwell@fws.gov  
Subject: Re: FLETC protected species

David, since there are no endangered or threatened species that use the area, it would be a no effect determination - then there is no need to consult with us. However, if wood storks have been observed there, then if the project was going to impact some wet area that they have been using, then you might want to consult with us. If you have any questions, please let me know. Thanks.

Robert Brooks  
USFWS, Brunswick, GA





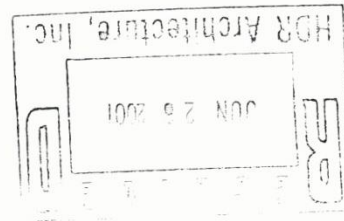
REPLY TO  
ATTENTION OF:

Planning Division

## DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

SAVANNAH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 389  
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31402-0889

June 20, 2001



Ms. Susan Anderson  
HDR Engineering, Inc.  
1101 King Street, Suite 400  
Alexandria, Virginia 22314

Dear Ms. Anderson:

Reference your facsimile transmission of May 22, 2001, (Enclosure 1) regarding the proposed Mock Port of Entry and Mock Border Patrol Station at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center (FLETC). Reference also Enclosure 2, *Listed Species in Glynn County, U.S.* Fish and Wildlife Service, Athens, Georgia. The proposed project would involve removal of approximately 5 acres of 30-50 year old, mixed pine-hardwood forest. No wetlands would be impacted.

The proposed project area is located between Bunker Land and Gunpowder Lane in the vicinity of ammunition storage bunkers dating from Navy ownership of the facility. The area is mixed pine-hardwood forest dominated by loblolly pine (*Pinus taeda*), slash pine (*Pinus elliottii*), and sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*) in the overstory. Pond cypress (*Taxodium ascendens*) is scattered throughout the overstory, relicts of past times prior to the extensive ditching and drainage of the site. The midstory/understory is extremely dense and dominated by fetterbush (*Lyonia lucida*), inkberry (*Ilex glabra*), and patches of saw palmetto (*Serenoa repens*). Soil type at the site is mapped as Rutledge loamy sand.

The entire site was traversed by Savannah District biologists in 1995 during a basewide wetlands survey and again in 1999 during a timber marking and wetland boundary-marking project.

Of the Federally listed species in Enclosure 2, the site would provide only marginally suitable foraging habitat for the red-cockaded woodpecker (*Picoides borealis*). However, this species has never been observed at FLETC and the nearest colonies are on Fort Stewart to the north and Okefenokee National Wildlife Refuge to the southwest. Thus, the proposed project is unlikely to affect the red-cockaded woodpecker.

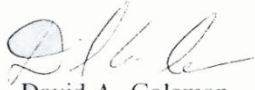
The project site could be considered suitable warm season foraging habitat for the eastern indigo snake (*Drymarchon corais couperi*). However neither this species nor the gopher tortoise with which it is intimately associated in Georgia have been observed at FLETC. This makes it highly unlikely that the indigo snake would be affected by the proposed project.

Wood storks (*Mycteria americana*) have been observed at FLETC in recent years, but not in the vicinity of the project site.

Of the remaining Federal endangered and threatened species, species of management concern, and state listed species in Enclosure 2, none have been observed at FLETC in the vicinity of the project site. As a result, the proposed project is unlikely to affect any Federal endangered and threatened species, species of management concern, or state listed species.

Please contact Mr. Win Seyle of my staff at (912)652-6017 or by e-mail at [charles.w.seyle@sas02.usace.army.mil](mailto:charles.w.seyle@sas02.usace.army.mil) if you have further questions.

Sincerely,



David A. Coleman  
Chief, Environmental  
Resources Branch

Enclosures