Final

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER (AFRC)
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS
BRAC 2005

Prepared for:

Philip L. Hanrahan
Brigadier General, USAR
Commanding

Prepared by:

U.S Army Corps of Engineers
Mobile District
P.O. Box 2288
Mobile, AL 36628

January 2009

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER (AFRC)
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS
BRAC 2005

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) Commission, in response to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990, as amended, recommended closing the U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and relocation to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, if the Army is able to acquire suitable land for the construction of the facilities.

Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508) implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), 42 U.S. Code Section 4321 et seq., as amended; 32 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 651 (Environmental Analysis of Army Actions), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI), which addresses the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC in Round Rock, Texas.

Proposed Action

The Proposed Action is to establish a new 1,000-member AFRC at a site in northeast Round Rock to accommodate the units to be relocated from the existing USARC. A new 141,900-square foot (SF) building; 30,888 SF Vehicle Maintenance Shop; 12,237 SF Organization Storage Unit ; and 42,702 SF parking lot would be constructed. The new facility would provide administrative, assembly, educational, storage, storage vault, weapons simulators and physical fitness training facilities to accommodate five U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) and up to eight Texas Army National Guard (ARNG) units from Austin and Taylor, Texas, and the Texas ARNG Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, Texas, should the state decide to relocate these units. The new AFRC is proposed to be constructed on a 15-acre parcel on North Red Bud Lane, approximately 1 mile north of U.S. Highway 79.

Alternatives Considered

General siting criteria include consideration of compatibility between the functions to be performed and the land use designation for the site, adequacy of the site for the function required, proximity to related activities, distance from incompatible activities, availability and capacity of roads, efficient use of property, development density, potential future mission requirements, and special site characteristics. Specific criteria require that the site is a minimum size of 12 acres, rectangular-shaped parcel and has minimum side lengths of 500 feet. The latter is required to ensure sufficient size to comply with anti-terrorism/force protection (AT/FP) requirements for 200-foot wide setbacks.

One other alternative site was identified, which satisfied these criteria, through an independent Available Site Identification and Validation (ASIV) study. This site is located approximately 1 mile east of the preferred site. Similar conditions exist at this site; however, this alternative site will not be carried forward for detailed evaluation because acquisition of the site would cost approximately six times more than the cost of the preferred site. Five other sites were

evaluated during the ASIV field investigation, but were eliminated from consideration for various reasons including shape of the parcel, engineering constraints, additional costs for relocation of tenants/occupants or demolition of existing structures.

No other action alternatives were considered during the preparation of this EA. Other schedules, expansion of the existing facility, and leasing of commercial or private facilities were considered, but eliminated from detailed analyses.

The No Action Alternative has also been carried forward throughout the EA to serve as a baseline for comparison to the other alternatives.

Factors Considered In Determining That No Environmental Impact Statement is Required

Implementation of the Proposed Action at the preferred location would result in minor, permanent effects on vegetation, wildlife, soils, aesthetics, and land use. The Proposed Action would cause the permanent conversion of up to 12 acres of cropland to hard surfaces and buildings and remove this land from further biological productivity and other uses. Because the preferred location has been disturbed by past and current agricultural activities, and, thus, provides limited wildlife habitat, the loss of 12 acres would be considered insignificant. In addition, the remaining 5 acres would be removed from potential private development or agricultural production. There are currently no plans for these additional acres, so the existing natural conditions would remain the same in the foreseeable future. The soils at the preferred site are considered prime and unique farmland soils; the loss of 12 acres would not be a significant impact, given the vast amount of acreage containing the same soil type found within the project region.

Temporary increases of vehicle traffic would be expected during the construction period, particularly along U.S. Highway 79, North Red Bud Lane and Old Settler's Boulevard, as construction crews commute to the project site. Permanent increases in traffic would occur along these roads during the operation of the AFRC; however, most of these increases would occur during training activities, which would be scheduled primarily on weekends. Daily increases in vehicle traffic would be expected to be less than 15 vehicle trips per weekday and up to 100 vehicle trips on the training weekends. Therefore, the operation of the AFRC would result in minor long-term increases in traffic.

In addition, temporary and insignificant adverse effects on air quality, noise, soil erosion/sedimentation, and utilities would occur during the construction period. No violations of the region's air or water quality standards would be expected. Emissions expected to be generated during construction are well below the *de minimis* thresholds, even though Williamson County is considered in attainment for all priority pollutants. Best management practices would be implemented to ensure stormwater during and after construction is controlled and downstream sedimentation is either eliminated or is negligible.

No impacts would occur on Federal or state protected species, cultural resources, water quality or supply, or hazardous waste facilities.

Slight benefits for local and regional employment and personal income would be expected during the construction period; however, since the majority of the realigned units would come from less than 5 miles away, no long-term significant adverse impacts on the region's economy would be expected to occur.

The cumulative effects of the Proposed Action and other planned or reasonably foreseeable projects in the project region would also be considered insignificant. The City of Round Rock currently has no plans for development or improvements at the preferred site or surrounding area. Local expenditures required by the proposed AFRC and other construction projects would result in moderate beneficial impacts in the project region within the next 3 years. The City of Round Rock would easily accommodate the additional employment, sales volumes, income and taxes generated by these activities.

Conclusions

Based on information gathered and presented in the EA, it has been determined that the Proposed Action would have no significant direct, indirect or cumulative impacts on the quality of the natural and human environment. Consequently, an Environmental Impact Statement is not required and will not be prepared.

Public Comment

Interested parties were invited to review and comment on the EA and draft FNSI for a period of 30 days beginning on 22 November 2008. A Notice of Availability was published in the *Round Rock Leader* and *Austin American Statesman* newspapers. Copies of the EA and draft FNSI were made available for review at the following public library and on the internet at http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/env_ea_review.htm.

Robert G. and Helen Griffith Library
216 E. Main Street
Round Rock, Texas 78664

Philip L. Hanrahan, Brigadier General
U.S. Army Reserve, Commanding

25 January 2009
Date Signed

FINAL

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER (AFRC)
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS
BRAC 2005

Prepared by:

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
MOBILE DISTRICT

BYRON G. JORNS
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Commanding

Approved by:

PHILIP L. HANRAHAN
Brigadier General, USAR
Commanding

LEAD AGENCY: Mobile District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

TITLE OF PROPOSED ACTION ALTERNATIVE: Establishment of an Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC), Round Rock, Texas, BRAC 2005

AFFECTED JURISDICTION: Williamson County, Texas

PREPARED BY: Byron G. Jorns, Colonel, Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, Commanding

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE FROM: Gulf South Research Corporation

APPROVED BY: Philip L. Hanrahan, Brigadier General, U.S. Army Reserve, Commanding

ABSTRACT: This Environmental Assessment (EA) addresses the potential effects of the proposed establishment of a new AFRC in Round Rock, Texas, as directed by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission's recommendation. The existing U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) would be closed and the units would be relocated to the new AFRC. The Proposed Action Alternative would accommodate up to 1,000 military and civilian personnel at the new AFRC during training activities if all U.S. Army Reserve (USAR) units assigned to the AFRC conduct training exercise simultaneously. To accommodate the proposed AFRC, a new 141,900-square foot building is proposed to be constructed. In addition, barracks, multi-use classrooms, parking, vehicle and equipment maintenance, stormwater retention ponds and storage facilities would also be constructed. The total building space proposed for construction at the AFRC is 185,025 square feet. The construction would permanently convert up to 12 acres of disturbed grassland (pasture) to hard surfaces. No long-term or significant impacts on protected species, cultural resources, water quality, or socioeconomic resources would occur as a result of the Proposed Action Alternative. Temporary and negligible impacts on air quality and noise would occur during construction activities. Alteration of 12 acres of Austin silty clay soils would be considered a negligible, but long-term impact on prime and unique farmland soils. Traffic patterns at the new site would be slightly altered by the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC. No other viable sites or alternatives were identified during the preparation of the EA.

REVIEW PERIOD: The EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) were made available for public review for a period of 30 days, beginning on 22 November 2008. A Notice of Availability was published in the *Round Rock Leader* and *Austin American Statesman* newspapers. Copies of the EA and draft FNSI were available for review via the internet at the following URL: http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/env_ea_review.htm. and at the Robert G. and Helen Griffith Library, 216 E. Main Street, Round Rock, Texas 78664. No written comments were received during the 30-day public review period.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ESTABLISHMENT OF AN
ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER (AFRC)
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS
BRAC 2005

Introduction: In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA), the United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District has prepared this Environmental Assessment (EA) for the establishment of an Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas. The new AFRC will accommodate troops to be relocated from the existing U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC), which is scheduled to be closed. This EA discusses the potential environmental effects of the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC on the human and natural environment at and surrounding the preferred site in Round Rock.

Background/Setting: The existing USARC was constructed in 1960 and contains approximately 41,400 square feet of training and maintenance space within a leased facility. The existing USARC is located in southwest Round Rock, adjacent to Interstate 35 and is surrounded by commercial development on all four sides, leaving limited room for expansion. The preferred site for the establishment of a new AFRC is located approximately 5 miles northeast of the existing USARC. This site is currently used for crop production (corn and cotton). Surrounding development includes private warehouses, residential areas, pasture/agricultural fields, and a City of Round Rock recreational park (Old Settlers Park).

Proposed Action Alternative: The establishment of a new AFRC in Round Rock, Texas is required by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (BRAC), as amended, and the recommendations made by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission of 2005 (BRAC Commission). The BRAC Commission recommended the closure of the existing USARC. Seven sites were evaluated for the establishment of the AFRC in Round Rock, Texas, but only one was identified as viable and, thus, it is the preferred site. Establishment of the AFRC at this preferred site would require the purchase of up to 17 acres from private ownership.

The new AFRC would comprise approximately 185,025 square feet of total building space, including barracks, multi-use classrooms, and maintenance and storage facilities. An additional 42,702 square feet would be developed into parking lots. The entire facility would require up to 12 acres; stormwater retention ponds would also be constructed within these 12 acres. No additional expansion to or demands on training areas or airspace would be required for the Proposed Action Alternative. No additional weapons systems would be associated with the establishment or operation of the AFRC.

Alternatives: General siting criteria include consideration of compatibility between the functions to be performed and the land use designation for the site, adequacy of the site for the function required, proximity to related activities, distance from incompatible activities, availability and capacity of roads, efficient use of property, development density, potential future mission requirements, and special site characteristics. Specific criteria require that the site is a minimum size of 12 acres, a rectangular-shaped parcel and has a minimum side length of 500 feet. The latter is required to ensure sufficient size to comply with anti-terrorism/force protection (AT/FP) requirements of 200-foot wide setbacks.

Other alternatives relative to scheduling, using other existing facilities, or leasing space from commercial/private entities are not considered viable and, thus, were not addressed in the EA. Use of off-site leased space to meet the AFRC's requirements would involve several major drawbacks. AT/FP policies specify certain facilities characteristics, such as physical security features. Use of leased space in the private sector would be expected to hinder these protection policies, and would adversely affect command and control functions, result in higher operational costs, and impair efficient use of resources. The existing facility is 48 years old and is a leased facility, with the lease scheduled to expire in 2008.

Six other sites were evaluated, but were eliminated from further consideration for various reasons including, but not limited to: (1) the site became unavailable, (2) the site would not satisfy AT/FP criteria, (3) demolition of existing structures, (4) development of an access road would be required, (5) relocation of occupants/tenants would be necessary, and (6) the site contained topographic features that caused engineering or safety concerns.

Environmental Consequences: Construction of the AFRC facility at the preferred site would permanently convert up to 12 acres of agricultural cropland to impervious surfaces. Construction would cause temporary and negligible increases of noise and air emissions. Ambient conditions would return upon completion of the construction activities. Traffic would be slightly increased on surface streets in and around the preferred site. The daily increase is expected to be less than 0.01 percent; however; weekend traffic could increase by about 1 percent over the average daily vehicle trips. The loss of productivity on 12 acres of farmland soils would be a permanent, but negligible, impact, since the Austin silty clay soils are common throughout Williamson County, and the impacted area is designated for urban use. Socioeconomic resources would experience beneficial, but negligible, long-term impacts due to the expenditures associated with the construction and operation of the AFRC. There would be a negligible of real estate tax revenues due to the acquisition of the land by the Federal Government. No impacts would occur on cultural resources, protected species, or water quality and supply. Negligible impacts on wildlife habitat and populations, aesthetic and visual resources, and utilities would occur as a result of the establishment of the AFRC at the proposed site.

Best Management Practices: All temporarily disturbed sites would be re-seeded as soon as practicable after completion of the construction activities to control erosion and sedimentation. For those areas that will not be landscaped or routinely maintained, native vegetation seeds would be used for re-seeding activities to the extent practicable. A Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Notice of Intent will need to be prepared and submitted prior to construction. The SWPPP will identify best management practices (BMP) to be implemented for erosion and sedimentation control during construction. If straw bales are used, weed seed-free straw would be used to avoid introduction or expansion of invasive or noxious weeds, to the extent practicable. In compliance with Executive Order 13148, the construction will comply with LEED Silver standards for energy conservation. In addition, USAR would incorporate sustainability and greening practices in daily operations through cost-effective waste reduction, recycling of reusable materials and purchase of items produced using recovered materials.

Wetting solutions, including water, would be applied to disturbed soils within the construction site to control fugitive dust. All construction equipment and material would be properly maintained and stored to reduce air emissions and avoid potential spills of hazardous materials.

If the breeding/nesting season for migratory birds can not be avoided during the initial grubbing and clearing of the site, breeding bird pairs and nests would need to be identified and avoided, in accordance with the Migratory Bird Treaty Act.

Conclusion: The data presented in the EA documents that the best available site for the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC is at the preferred site and that development of this site would result in negligible adverse impacts on the area's human and natural environment.

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SECTION 1.0
PURPOSE, NEED, AND SCOPE

Environmental Assessment
Establishment of an Armed Forces Reserve Center
(AFRC)
Round Rock, Texas
BRAC 2005

1.0 Purpose, Need, and Scope

1.1 Introduction

On September 8, 2005, the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission) recommended that certain actions occur at Round Rock United States Army Reserve Center (USARC), Round Rock, Texas. These recommendations were approved by the President on September 23, 2005, and forwarded to Congress. The Congress did not alter any of the BRAC Commission's recommendations, and on November 9, 2005, the recommendations became law. The BRAC Commission recommendations must now be implemented as provided for in the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended (BRAC 2005).

The BRAC Commission recommended the closure of the Round Rock USARC in Round Rock, Texas and relocation to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Texas. To enable implementation of this recommendation, the Army proposes to provide necessary facilities to support the changes in force structure. This environmental assessment (EA) analyzes and documents environmental effects associated with the Army's Proposed Action in Round Rock, Texas. Details on the Proposed Action are presented later in Section 2.

1.2 Purpose and Need

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to implement the BRAC Commission's recommendation pertaining to the closure of the Round Rock USARC and relocation of the units to the new AFRC in Round Rock, Texas.

These actions are required to implement the BRAC Commission recommendations to realign and transform Reserve Component facilities in Round Rock, Texas. The Army is legally bound to defend the United States and its territories, support National policies and objectives, and defeat nations responsible for aggression that endangers the peace and security of the United States. To carry out these tasks, the Army must adapt to changing world conditions, and must improve its capabilities to respond to a variety of circumstances across the full spectrum of military operations.

In previous rounds of BRAC, the explicit goal was to save money and downsize the military in order to reap a "peace dividend." In the 2005 BRAC round, Department of Defense (DoD) sought to reorganize its installation infrastructure to most efficiently support its forces, increase operational readiness and facilitate new ways of doing business. Thus, BRAC represents more than cost savings. It supports advancing the goals of transformation, improving military capabilities, and enhancing military value. The Army needs to carry out the BRAC recommendations at Round Rock to achieve the objectives for which Congress established the BRAC process.

1.3 Scope

This EA has been developed in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and implementing regulations issued by the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) and the Army. Its purpose is to inform decision makers and the public of the likely environmental consequences of the Proposed Action and alternatives.

This EA identifies, documents, and evaluates environmental effects of the establishment of a new AFRC in Round Rock, Texas to accommodate the proposed relocation of units from the existing Round Rock USARC (Figure 1-1), which will be closed in accordance with BRAC 2005. The site is located in the northeastern portion of the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), in south central Texas. An interdisciplinary team of environmental scientists, biologists, planners, economists, engineers, archaeologists, historians, and military technicians has analyzed the Proposed Action and alternatives in light of existing conditions at the proposed site and has identified relevant beneficial and adverse effects associated with the action. The Proposed Action is described in Section 2, and alternatives, including the No Action Alternative, are described in Section 3.0. Conditions existing as of 2008, considered to be the "baseline" conditions, are described in Section 4.0, Affected Environment and Environmental Consequences of the EA. The expected effects of the Proposed Action, also described in Section 4.0, are presented immediately following the description of baseline conditions for each environmental resource addressed in the EA. Section 4.0 also addresses the potential for cumulative effects, and mitigation measures are identified, where appropriate.

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 specifies that the NEPA does not apply to actions of the President, the Commission, or the DoD, except "(i) during the process of property disposal, and (ii) during the process of relocating functions from a military installation being closed or realigned to another military installation after the receiving installation has been selected but before the functions are relocated" (Sec. 2905(c)(2)(A), Public Law 101-510, as amended). The law further specifies that in applying the provisions of NEPA to the process, the Secretary of Defense and the secretaries of the military departments concerned do not have to consider "(i) the need for closing or realigning the military installation which has been recommended for closure or realignment by the Commission, (ii) the need for transferring functions to any military installation which has been selected as the receiving installation, or (iii) military installations alternative to those recommended or selected" (Sec. 2905(c)(2)(B)). The Commission's deliberation and decision, as well as the need for closing or realigning a military installation, are exempt from NEPA.

1.4 Public Involvement

The Army invites public participation in the NEPA process. Consideration of the views and information of all interested persons promotes open communication and enables better decision-making. All agencies, organizations, and members of the public having a potential interest in the Proposed Action, including minority, low-income, disadvantaged, and Native American groups, are urged to participate in the decision-making process.

Public participation opportunities with respect to this EA and decision-making on the Proposed Action are guided by 32 CFR Part 651. The EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) were made available to the public for 30 days beginning 22 November 2008. A Notice of Availability was published in the *Round Rock Leader* and *Austin American Statesman* newspapers. Proof of publication is contained in Appendix C. Copies of the EA and draft FNSI were sent to affected state, local and Federal agencies and were made available for review at

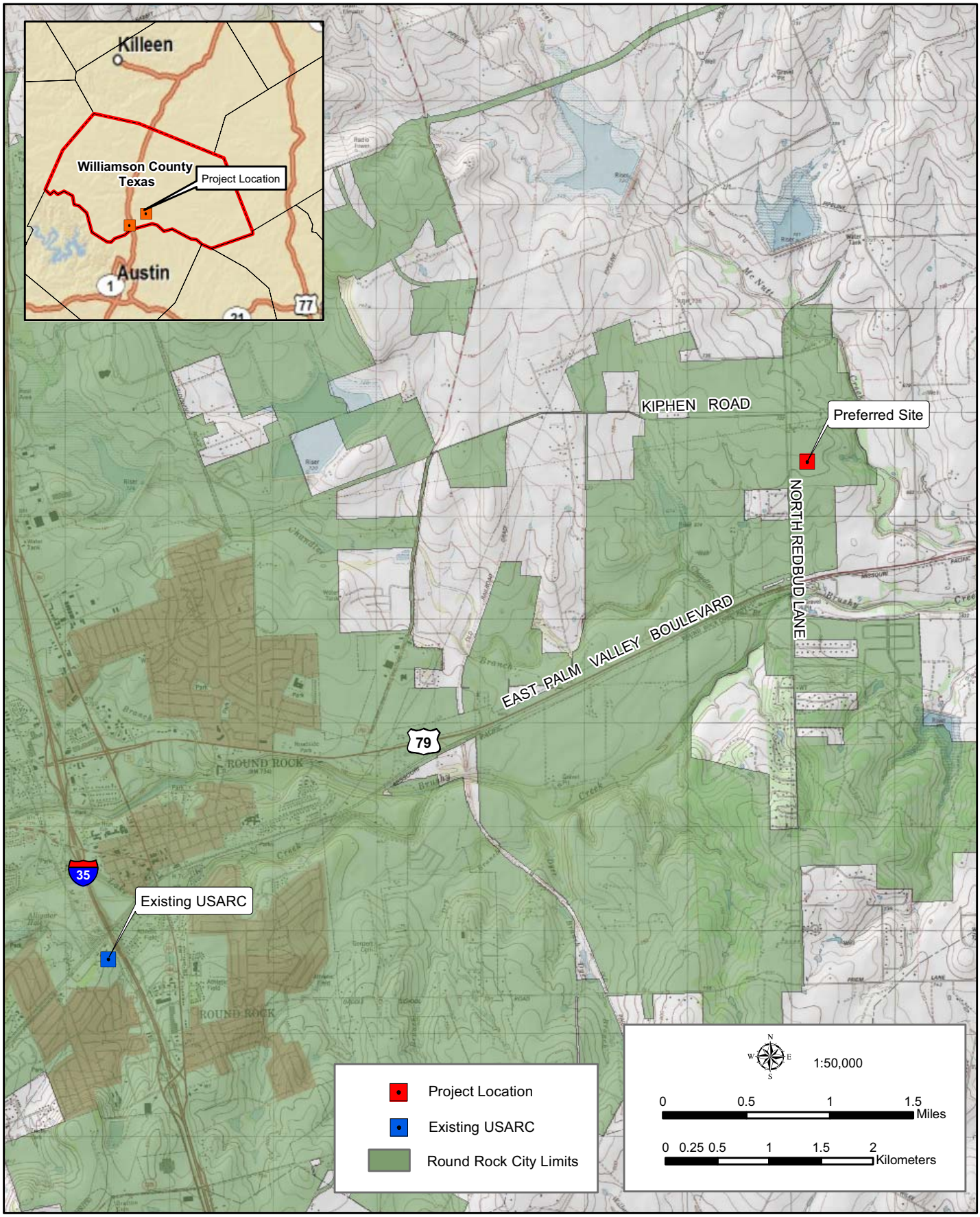

Figure 1-1: Vicinity Map

GSRC

September 2008

local, public library and at a public website. No comments were received during the public comment period. As appropriate, the Army may execute the FNSI and proceed with implementation of the Proposed Action.

Throughout this process, the public may obtain information on the status and progress of the Proposed Action and the EA through the United States Army Reserve (USAR) 90th Regional Readiness Command (RRC) by contacting Mr. James Wheeler, II, Chief, Environmental Division, 8000 Camp Robinson Road, North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-2205, or by telephone at (501) 771-7992.

1.5 Regulatory Framework

A decision on whether to proceed with the Proposed Action rests on numerous factors, such as mission requirements, schedule, availability of funding, and environmental considerations. In addressing environmental considerations, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Mobile District and the 90th RRC are guided by relevant statutes (and their implementing regulations) and Executive Orders (EO) that establish standards and provide guidance on environmental and natural resources management and planning. Establishment of the AFRC in Round Rock requires compliance with the Federal regulations and EOs presented below in Table 1-1. The current compliance status is also presented.

Table 1-1. Summary of Relevant Regulations Including Potential Permits or Licensing Requirements

Issue	Action Requiring Permit, Approval, or Review	Agency	Permit, License, Compliance, or Review/Status	Status of Compliance with Relevant Laws and Regulations
FEDERAL				
General	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.)	Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ)	Compliance with NEPA, in accordance with CEQ regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508)	Full compliance will be achieved upon issuance of signed FNSI (if appropriate).
	32 CFR 651 (Environmental Analysis of Army Actions)	Department of the Army	Compliance with regulations specified in 32 CFR 551	Full compliance will be achieved upon issuance of signed FNSI (if appropriate).
Sound/ Noise	Noise Control Act of 1972 (42 USC 4901 et seq.), as amended by Quiet Communities of 1978 (P.L. 95-609)	United States Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	Compliance with surface carrier noise emissions	Full compliance will be achieved upon implementation of construction activities.
Air	Clean Air Act and amendments of 1990 (42 USC 7401-7671q) 40 CFR 50, 52, 93.153(b)	EPA	Compliance with National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) and emission limits and/or reduction measures	Full compliance; emissions will be below *de minimis* thresholds.
Water	Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 USC 1342) 40 CFR 122	EPA and Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ)	Section 402(b) National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) General Permit for Stormwater Discharges for Construction Activities-Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP)	SWPPP and Notice of Intent will be prepared prior to construction. Full compliance will be achieved prior to implementation of construction activities.

Table 1-1, continued

Issue	Action Requiring Permit, Approval, or Review	Agency	Permit, License, Compliance, or Review/Status	Status of Compliance with Relevant Laws and Regulations
Water, continued	Executive Order 11988 (Floodplain Management), as amended by Executive Order 12608	Water Resources Council, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), CEQ	Compliance	Full compliance.
	Executive Order 11990 (Protection of Wetlands), as amended by Executive Order 12608	USACE and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)	Compliance	Full compliance.
	Clean Water Act of 1977 (33 USC 1341 et seq.)	USACE and TCEQ	Section 401/404 Permit	No Waters of the U.S., including wetlands are present on the site.
	Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 USC 1456[c]) Section 307	National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration	Compliance	Round Rock is not within the coastal zone.
Soils	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act of 1976 (42 USC 6901-6992k), as amended by Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments of 1984 (P.L. 98-616; 98 Stat. 3221)	EPA	Proper management to prevent soil erosion.	Full compliance.
	Comprehensive, Environmental Response, Compensation, Liability Act of 1980 (42 USC 9601-9675), as amended by Emergency Planning and Community Right-To-Know-Act of 1986 (42 USC 11001 et seq.) Release or threatened release of a hazardous substance	EPA	Development of emergency response plans, notification, and cleanup.	Full compliance.
	Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981 (7 USC 4201 et seq.) 7 CFR 657-658 Prime and unique farmlands	Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS)	NRCS determination via Form AD-1006.	NRCS Form AD-1006 submitted on 22 August.
Natural Resources	Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (16 USC 1531-1544)	USFWS	Compliance by lead agency and/or consultation to assess impacts and, if necessary, develop mitigation measures.	Full compliance since no protected species would be impacted. Concurrence has not been received to date.

Table 1-1, continued

Issue	Action Requiring Permit, Approval, or Review	Agency	Permit, License, Compliance, or Review/Status	Status of Compliance with Relevant Laws and Regulations
Natural Resources, continued	Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918	USFWS	Compliance by lead agency and/or consultation to assess impacts and, if necessary, develop mitigation measures.	Full compliance will be achieved upon implementation of construction activities. If initial grubbing and clearing can not avoid nesting season, breeding pairs and nests will be identified and avoided to the extent practicable.
	Bald and Golden Eagle Act of 1940, as amended	USFWS	Compliance by lead agency and/or consultation to assess impacts and, if necessary, obtain permit.	No effects on bald or golden eagles; full compliance.
Health and Safety	Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970	Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)	Compliance with guidelines including Material Safety Data Sheets.	Full compliance will be achieved upon implementation of construction activities.
Cultural/ Archaeological	National Historic Preservation Act of 1966	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation through State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)	Section 106 Consultation.	Full compliance; no historic properties would be affected. Concurrence from Texas Historical Commission was received on 17 November 2008.
	Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979	Affected land-managing agency	Permits to survey and excavate/remove archaeological resources on Federal lands; Native American tribes with interests in resources must be consulted prior to issue of permits.	Full compliance.
	EO 13175 (*Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*)	Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	Coordinate directly with Tribes claiming cultural affinity to project areas.	Full compliance.
	EO 13175 (*Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments*)	Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA)	Coordinate directly with Tribes claiming cultural affinity to project areas	Full compliance
	Native American Graves & Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) as amended	National Park Service (NPS)	Coordination directly with tribes claiming cultural affinity to project areas	Full Compliance
	American Indian Religious Freedom Act (AIRFA)	National Park Service (NPS)	Coordination directly with tribes claiming cultural affinity to project areas	Full Compliance
Social/ Economic	Executive Order 12898 (Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations) of 1994	EPA	Compliance.	Full compliance since no minority or low income populations would be affected.

Table 1-1, continued

Issue	Action Requiring Permit, Approval, or Review	Agency	Permit, License, Compliance, or Review/Status	Status of Compliance with Relevant Laws and Regulations
Social/ Economic, continued	EO 13045 (*Protection of Children from Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks*)	EPA	Compliance.	Full compliance since no children would be exposed to the construction activities.
	EO 13101 (*Greening the Government Through Waste Prevention, Recycling, and Federal Acquisition*)	EPA	Compliance.	Full compliance.
	EO 13123 (*Greening the Government Through Efficient Energy Management*)	EPA	Compliance.	Full compliance.
	EO 13148 (*Greening the Government Through Leadership in Environmental Management*)	EPA	Compliance.	Full compliance. All new construction must comply with LEED Silver standards. In addition, USAR would incorporate sustainability and greening practices in daily operations through cost-effective waste reduction, recycling of reusable materials and purchase of items produced using recovered materials.

These authorities are addressed in various sections throughout this EA when relevant to particular environmental resources and conditions. The full text of the laws, regulations, and EOs is available on the Defense Environmental Network & Information Exchange Web site at http://www.denix.osd.mil.

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SECTION 2.0
PROPOSED ACTION

2.0 Proposed Action

2.1 Introduction

This section describes the Army's preferred alternative for carrying out the BRAC Commission's recommendations. The BRAC Commission approved the following recommendation concerning the Round Rock USARC:

> "*Close Round Rock United States Army Reserve Center and relocate units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center with a consolidated Field Maintenance Shop in Round Rock, TX, if the Army is able to acquire land suitable for the construction of the facilities. The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard Units from the Texas ARNG Readiness Centers in Austin and Taylor, TX; and the Texas Army National Guard Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, TX if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.*"

Therefore, the Proposed Action is to construct and operate a new AFRC in the eastern region of Round Rock to accommodate the closure of the Round Rock USARC and relocate the units to the new AFRC. The preferred site, depicted in Figure 2-1, is located on North Redbud Road, adjacent to Old Settler's Park. The new 1,000-member AFRC would include administrative, assembly, educational, storage, and physical fitness training facilities to accommodate five USAR units and up to eight Texas Army National Guard (ARNG) units. The main AFRC building would be of permanent construction and approximately 141,900 square feet (SF) in size excluding storage areas, associated parking areas, sidewalks and landscaping. The action would also include construction of a vehicle maintenance facility, and storage facilities. All other associated infrastructure (e.g., plumbing; electrical systems; heating, ventilation, and air conditioning [HVAC] systems; and anti-terrorism/force protection [AT/FP] systems) would also be provided. The preferred site is approximately 17 acres; however, the total area expected to be disturbed by the Proposed Action is expected to be up 12 acres.

These inactivation and relocation actions, beginning in Fiscal Year 2008, support the Army modular force and transformation.

2.2 Force Structure

As a result of the proposed relocation, there would be no net change of active duty and civilian personnel at the AFRC, relative to the Round Rock USARC. The new site, however, would be used by 14 permanent staff and up to 100 USAR personnel during training activities (Bowers 2008).

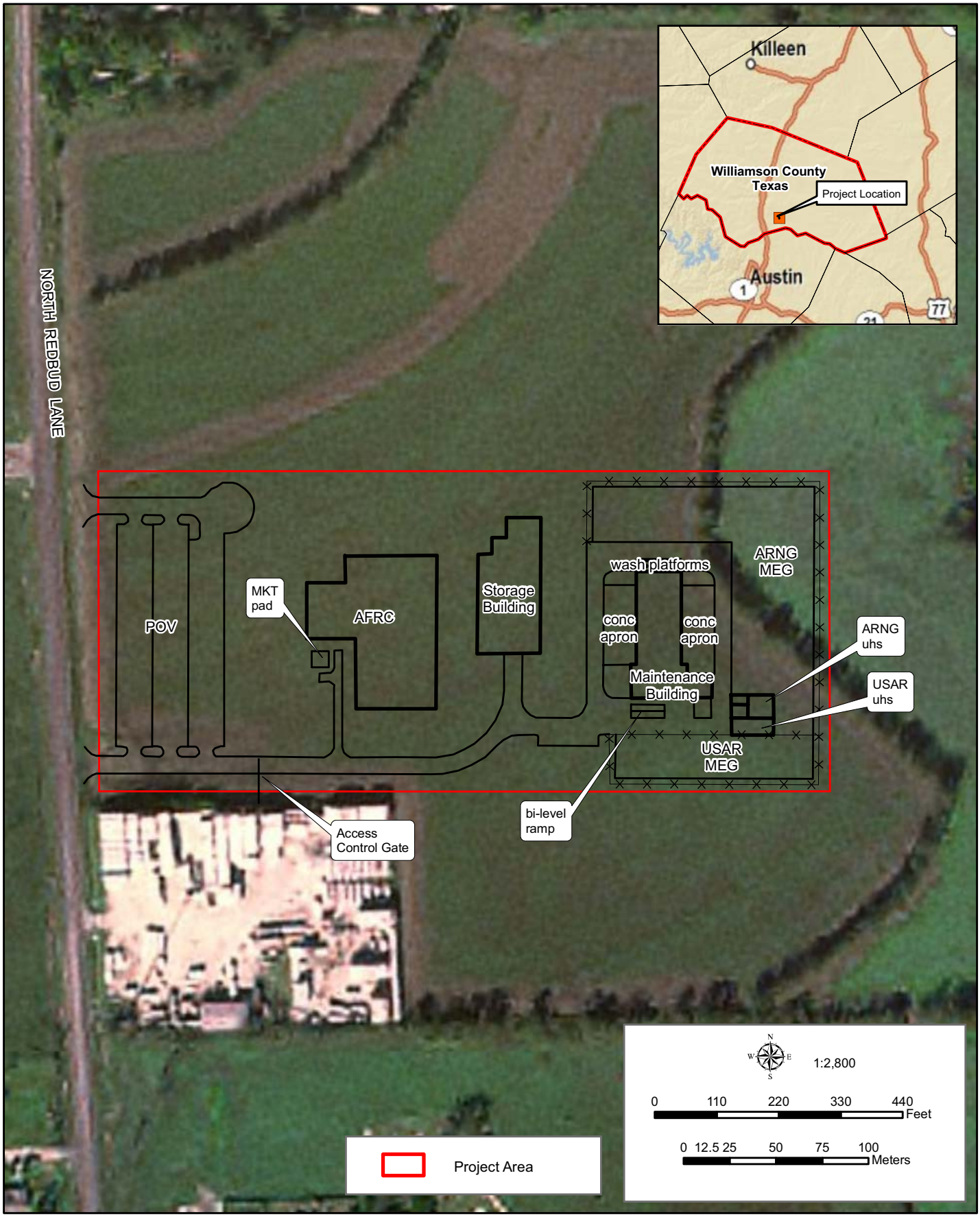

Figure 2-1: Preferred Site Map

GSRC

October 2008

2.3 Garrison Facilities

Implementation of the Proposed Action would require the construction of a 1,000-member AFRC in Round Rock that would include administrative, educational, storage, vehicle maintenance, library, and support areas. Table 2-1 identifies the proposed facilities projects. New construction projects would provide approximately 185,025 SF of building space and 42,702 SF of parking.

Table 2-1. Proposed Construction Projects

Facility	Square Feet (approximate)
Armed Forces Reserve Center	141,900
Vehicle Maintenance Shop	30,888
Organizational Unit Storage	12,237
Parking	42,702
Total	**227,727**

Since there would be no net gain of personnel (military and civilians) assigned to the Round Rock AFRC, and the new AFRC would be less than 10 miles from the existing Round Rock USARC, there would be, in effect, no change in housing needs. No demolition would be required as a result of the Proposed Action.

2.4 Training Facilities and Airspace

There would be no change to training range size or operations or airspace demands as a result of the Proposed Action. Units that use the Round Rock USARC would continue to use Fort Hood, Texas and Camp Bullis, Texas as field training sites.

2.5 Weapon Systems

There would be no weapon systems used at the Round Rock AFRC as a result of the Proposed Action.

2.6 Schedule

Under the BRAC law, the Army must have initiated all realignments not later than September 15, 2007, and complete all realignments not later than September 15, 2011. Implementation of the Proposed Action would occur over a span of nearly 3 years. Facilities construction would be synchronized to meet the needs, on a priority basis, of units being relocated from overseas. Establishment of new units would occur as facilities for their operations and support become available. Table 2-2, below, is a tentative schedule for the design and construction activities and the proposed realignment actions.

Table 2-2. Tentative Dates for Completion of Major Items Associated with Relocation of Units to Round Rock AFRC, Texas

Action	Tentative Start Date	Tentative Completion Date
Design of New Facility	February 2009	August 2009
Construction of New Facility	September 2009	September 2010
Realignment of Round Rock USARC to the new Round Rock AFRC	October 2010	September 2011

SECTION 3.0
ALTERNATIVES

3.0 Alternatives

3.1 Introduction

A basic principle of NEPA is that an agency should consider reasonable alternatives to a Proposed Action. Considering alternatives helps to avoid unnecessary impacts and allows analysis of reasonable ways to achieve the stated purpose. To warrant detailed evaluation, an alternative must be reasonable. To be considered reasonable, an alternative must be ready for decision making (any necessary preceding events having taken place), affordable, capable of implementation, and satisfactory with respect to meeting the purpose of and need for the action. The following discussion identifies alternatives considered by the Army and identifies whether they are feasible and, hence, subject to detailed evaluation in the EA.

Alternatives to the Proposed Action have been examined according to three variables: means to physically accommodate realigned units, siting of new construction, and schedule. This section presents the Army's development of alternatives and addresses alternatives available for the Proposed Action. The section also describes the no action alternative.

General siting criteria for the AFRC include consideration of compatibility between the functions to be performed and the land use designation for the site, adequacy of the site for the function required, proximity to related activities, distance from incompatible activities, availability and capacity of roads, efficient use of property, development density, potential future mission requirements, and special site characteristics, including environmental incompatibilities. These criteria are in compliance with guidelines presented in Section 5.7 of Army Regulations (AR) 140-483 (U.S. Army 2007).

Specific siting criteria include consideration of location of the workforce and efficient, streamlined management of functions. Other specific criteria require that the site is a minimum size of 12 acres, a rectangular shaped parcel and has a minimum side length of 500 feet. The latter is required to ensure sufficient size to comply with AT/FP requirements of 200-foot wide setbacks.

3.2 Development of Alternatives

3.2.1 Means to Accommodate Realigned Units

Other means or measures to relocate the USAR units in Round Rock would not be in compliance with the BRAC Commission's recommendations. Thus, other means of providing increased space requirements, including use of existing facilities, modernization or renovation of existing facilities, and leasing of off-post facilities are not considered viable and were eliminated from further consideration, as will be discussed later.

3.2.2 Siting of New Construction

The Army considers new construction of facilities when use of existing facilities, renovation, or leasing would fail to provide for adequate accommodations of realigned functions. The Army considers both general and specific siting criteria for construction of new facilities. The USACE Fort Worth District prepared the Available Site Identification and Validation (ASIV) Report for the proposed establishment of the new AFRC. The ASIV and the Site Survey Report identified two sites as viable sites for the siting of the new AFRC. The second site would cost approximately six times more than the preferred site, and thus, was eliminated from further consideration in this EA, as discussed later. A copy of the ASIV and Site Survey Report is presented in Appendix A.

The preferred site conforms to the City of Round Rock's building ordinances and adheres to the general and specific siting criteria described above. This project has been coordinated with the 90th RRC's physical security plan and all physical security measures would be included. All required AT/FP measures would also be included.

3.3 Alternatives Eliminated from Further Consideration

3.3.1 Use of Leased Facilities to Accommodate Relocated Units

Use of leased space from private or commercial entities to meet the AFRC's requirements would involve several major drawbacks. AT/FP policies specify certain facilities characteristics, such as physical security features, a 200 feet set-back from roadways, and "hardened" or reinforced construction. Implementation of these measures could substantially increase the cost of leasing and might be prohibited by lessors, further complicating the potential to use leased space. To satisfy administrative space requirements and AT/FP measures, leasing of several facilities might also be required. In addition, use of existing facilities, modernization or renovation of existing facilities, and leasing of off-post facilities would not be in compliance with the BRAC Commission's recommendations. For these reasons, use of leased space from private entities is not feasible and will not be evaluated in the EA.

3.3.2 Use of Existing USARC to Accommodate Units

Construction of new facilities is driven by the need to ensure adequate space is available for mission requirements. The existing USARC's building space is currently utilized at 79 percent of its capacity for administrative, commercial and military mission requirements. In addition, it is a leased building that provides 41,400 SF and is 48 years old. The existing USARC is surrounded by residential and commercial properties that would prohibit expansion for new building construction. It also does not satisfy the current AT/FP criteria. Accordingly, new construction at a different site is required, and the alternative to use or renovate existing facilities will not be discussed in the EA.

3.3.3 Other Construction Sites

In addition to the preferred site that was identified by the ASIV team, six other sites (ASIV Sites 1 through 6) were evaluated, but eliminated from further consideration (see Appendix A). The ASIV team also identified another potential site, ASIV Site 7 (Figure 3-1), which is located within a 135-acre parcel of land located approximately 1 mile to the east of the preferred site, along Highway 79. This site is also currently in agricultural production, with various developments (warehouse, commercial/retail stores, public transportation, residential) surrounding the site. This site meets the site selection criteria described above, but the cost of this site was approximately $12.6 million, as compared to approximate $2.6 million for the preferred site. Thus, this alternative site was eliminated from further consideration in this EA. The other six sites, which are also shown in Figure 3-1, were rejected by the ASIV team for various reasons, as noted in Table 3-1.

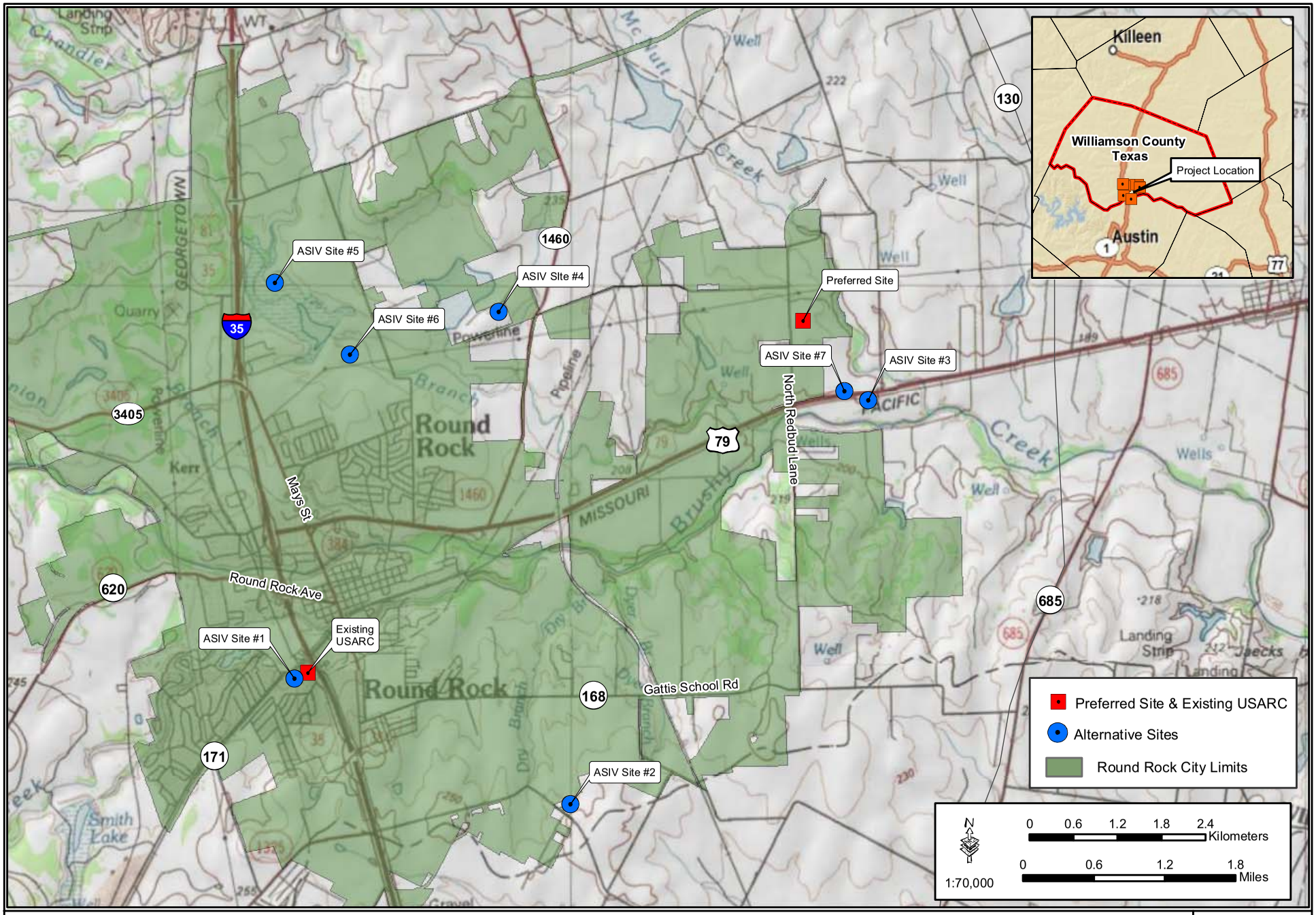

Figure 3-1: Alternative Sites Eliminated from Consideration

GSRC

September 2008

Table 3-1. List of Sites Rejected and the Reasons for Elimination

ASIV Site #	Size (Acres)	Reason for Elimination
1	24	• Would require condemnation
2	20 (in 4 tracts)	• Would require relocation of tenants / occupants. • Configuration is not compatible with AT/FP.
3	60	• Would require railroad crossing which creates safety issues and could hinder mission support • Some public utilities are not available on-site.
4	60	• Development of the site would require improvements / paving of 0.5 mile access. • Steep relief (20-30 feet) in center of site.
5	30	• Development of the site would require construction of an access road and demolition of a 240,000 SF concrete slab. • Site is in a depression about 30-40 feet below surrounding areas.
6	Not Available	• Originally identified as viable but the site is under a contract to sale.

3.3.4 Schedule

The schedule for implementation of the Proposed Action must balance facilities construction time frames, planned arrival dates of inbound units and stand-up dates of newly-established units. All of these actions need to be completed within the 6-year limitation of the BRAC law (see Section 2.6). Realignment earlier than that shown in the schedule in Section 2.6 is not feasible in light of the time required to build facilities. Shifting of schedules to accomplish realignment at a later date would unnecessarily delay realization of benefits to be gained and would disrupt mission activities. Since earlier implementation is not possible, and delay is avoidable and unnecessary, alternative schedules are not further evaluated in this EA.

3.4 No Action Alternative

CEQ regulations require inclusion of the No Action Alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, the Round Rock USARC would not be closed and the USAR units would not be relocated to a new AFRC. However, since the closure and establishment of a new AFRC has been mandated by Congress and the President, the No Action Alternative will serve as a baseline against which the impacts of the Proposed Action can be evaluated.

SECTION 4.0
AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CONSEQUENCES

4.0 Affected Environment and Consequences

4.1 Introduction

This section of the EA describes the natural and human environment that exists at and surrounding the preferred site in northeast Round Rock, and the potential effects on those resources as a result of the Proposed Action and alternatives. For the purposes of this EA, the project site is defined as the 17 acres identified as the preferred site for construction of the AFRC. The project area includes Round Rock and the lands surrounding the preferred site. The project region or vicinity is Williamson County.

Only those parameters that have the potential to be affected by the Proposed Action Alternative and alternatives are described, as per CEQ guidance (40 CFR 1501.7 [3]). Therefore, resources and items, such as climate, air space, geology, coastal zone resources, communication systems, energy sources, and solid waste are not addressed for the following reasons:

- Climate—the proposed project would not affect, nor be affected by, climate.
- Air space—the proposed project does not involve any additional aircraft training, and, thus, air space would not be affected.
- Geology—No geologic resources of any importance are present, and no impacts on surface or subsurface geology would occur as a result of the construction of an AFRC.
- Coastal zone—the project site is not located within Texas' coastal zone.
- Communication systems—the project would have negligible additional demand or other impact on local or regional communication systems.
- Energy sources—slight increases in energy consumption would occur during the construction of the AFRC facility. However, the majority of the energy demands at the preferred site would be met by the same regional grid as currently utilized at the existing USARC.
- Solid waste—the Proposed Action Alternative would not result in increased production of solid waste in the region, since the majority of the personnel would be relocated from the existing Round Rock USARC, which is approximately 10 miles away. Negligible amounts of solid waste would be generated during construction of the AFRC and licensed contractors would properly dispose of these wastes.

An impact (consequence or effect) is defined as a modification of the human or natural environment that would result from the implementation of an action. The impacts can be either beneficial or adverse, and can be either directly related to the action or indirectly caused by the action (secondary, indirect, or synergistic effects). The effects can be temporary (short-term), long lasting (long-term), or permanent. For purposes of this EA, temporary effects are defined as those that would last less than 3 years after completion of the action. Long-term impacts are defined as those that would last up to 20 years. Permanent impacts are those that may reasonably be expected to endure beyond the 20-year timeframe established for long-term impacts.

Impacts can vary in degree or magnitude from a slightly noticeable change to a total change in the environment. The significance of the impacts presented in this EA is based upon existing regulatory standards, scientific and environmental knowledge, and/or best professional opinions of the authors of the EA. The significance of the impacts on each resource will be described as significant, moderate, minimal, negligible, or no impact.

4.2 Land Use

4.2.1 Affected Environment

4.2.1.1 Regional Setting

The preferred site is located in south central Texas, in the eastern region of Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas. Round Rock is a city of 94,156 residents (U.S. Census Bureau 2006). The site is located at 901 North Redbud Lane, adjacent to Old Settler's Park.

4.2.1.2 Installation Land Use

The existing Round Rock USARC was constructed in 1960 in Round Rock, Texas. The existing 41,400 SF building is currently utilized at 79 percent of its capacity for administrative, commercial, and military mission requirements. The existing USARC is a leased facility that is scheduled for expiration in 2008 and is surrounded by residential and commercial properties that would prohibit expansion for new building construction.

4.2.1.3 Current and Planned Development

The preferred site encompasses approximately 17 acres and is currently in active agricultural production. The site is under private ownership. The surrounding land uses include residential, public utilities (i.e., power and water distribution), transportation (i.e., public roads and railroads), private warehouses, and agricultural/ranching operations. Old Settler's Park, a regional park of 570 acres, is located to the west of the preferred site.

The preferred site is located within the Round Rock city limits, but is currently not zoned (City of Round Rock 2008h). However, in the City of Round Rock's most current Master Plan, for planning purposes the preferred site is designated as a business district. Even so, there are currently no development or improvement plans for the preferred site (VonRosenberg 2008).

4.2.2 Environmental Consequences

4.2.2.1 Preferred Alternative

The Proposed Action would convert up to 12 acres of pasture land to impervious pavement and buildings; however, the entire 17 acres would be removed from agricultural production and converted to military uses. Activities at the AFRC would be limited to administrative and classroom training, as well as vehicle maintenance and repair. As previously stated, the land is currently un-zoned. However, this use is consistent with the Master Plan's designation of the site as a business district. Therefore, negligible adverse impacts on land use would occur upon implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative.

4.2.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the Round Rock USARC would not be closed and the USAR units would not be relocated to a new AFRC. Thus, no direct short-term changes in land use to the proposed construction sites would occur under the No Action Alternative.

4.3 Aesthetics and Visual Resources

4.3.1 Affected Environment

The Round Rock USARC has been developed over the past several decades such that most, if not all, of the land has been disturbed at some time. The existing USARC is located on Interstate 35 (I-35) and is surrounded by residential and commercial properties. Consequently, the USARC site has limited visual qualities.

The preferred site for the new AFRC, as can be seen from Figure 2-1 and Photograph 4-1, is agricultural crop land and has various developments surrounding the site, including private warehouses, residences and a public park. As such, aesthetics are not an issue of concern.

Photograph 4-1. Round Rock Preferred Site Looking SE from NW Corner

4.3.2 Environmental Consequences

4.3.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

Construction and operation of the AFRC at the preferred project site would eliminate up to 12 acres of agricultural land and permanently replace these acres with pavement and hard structures. Temporary construction areas that are not proposed to be included in the landscape plan of the AFRC or be subjected to long-term routine maintenance would be replanted with native vegetation to avoid additional long-term or permanent adverse effects on the area's aesthetic resources, to the maximum extent practicable. Nonetheless, because of the small amount of acreage impacted, and existing land uses surrounding the preferred site for the Round Rock AFRC, the permanent and temporary effects on the aesthetics and visual resources of the area would be considered negligible.

4.3.2.2 No Action Alternative

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would allow the USARC and preferred site to remain in the current conditions, at least for the short term. The preferred site would continue to be crop land with limited visual qualities.

4.4 Air Quality

4.4.1 Affected Environment

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) established National Ambient Air Quality Standards (NAAQS) for specific pollutants determined to be of concern with respect to the health and welfare of the general public. Ambient air quality standards are classified as either "primary" or "secondary." The major pollutants of concern, or criteria pollutants, are carbon monoxide (CO), sulfur dioxide (SO_2), nitrogen dioxide (NO_2), ozone (O_3), particulate matter less than 10 microns (PM-10), particulate matter less than 2.5 microns (PM-2.5) and lead. NAAQS represent the maximum levels of background pollution that are considered safe, with an adequate margin of safety, to protect the public health and welfare. The NAAQS are included in Table 4-1.

Table 4-1. National Ambient Air Quality Standards

POLLUTANT	STANDARD VALUE	STANDARD TYPE
Carbon Monoxide (CO)		
8-hour average	9ppm (10mg/m^3)*	P
1-hour average	35ppm (40mg/m^3)*	P
Nitrogen Dioxide (NO_2)		
Annual arithmetic mean	0.053ppm (100μ/m^3)*	P and S
Ozone (O_3)		
8-hour average	0.08ppm (157μg/m^3)*	P and S
1-hour average	0.12ppm (235μg/m^3)*	P and S
Lead (Pb)		
Quarterly average	1.5μg/m^3	P and S
Particulate<10 micrometers (PM-10)		
Annual arithmetic mean	50μg/m^3	P and S
24-hour average	150μg/m^3	P and S
Particulate<2.5 micrometers (PM-2.5)		
Annual arithmetic mean	15μg/m^3	P and S
24-hour average	65μg/m^3	P and S
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)		
Annual average mean	0.03ppm (80μg/m^3)	P
24-hour average	0.14ppm (365μg/m^3)	P
3-hour average	0.50ppm (1300μg/m^3)	S

Legend: P= Primary S= Secondary Source: EPA 2006.
ppm = parts per million
mg/m^3 = milligrams per cubic meter of air
μg/m^3 = micrograms per cubic meter of air
* Parenthetical value is an approximate equivalent concentration

Areas that do not meet these NAAQS standards are called non-attainment areas; areas that meet both primary and secondary standards are known as attainment areas. The Federal Conformity Final Rule (40 CFR Parts 51 and 93) specifies criteria or requirements for conformity determinations for Federal projects. The Federal Conformity Rule was first promulgated in 1993 by the EPA, following the passage of Amendments to the Clean Air Act in 1990. The rule mandates that a conformity analysis must be performed when a Federal action generates air pollutants in a region that has been designated a non-attainment or maintenance area for one or more NAAQS.

A conformity analysis is the process used to determine whether a Federal action meets the requirements of the General Conformity Rule. It requires the responsible Federal agency to evaluate the nature of a proposed action and associated air pollutant emissions, and calculate emissions as a result of the proposed action. If the emissions exceed established limits, known as *de minimis* thresholds, the proponent is required to implement appropriate mitigation measures. The EPA considers Williamson County as in-attainment for all NAAQS (USEPA 2008). Williamson County has never been in non-attainment for any NAAQS (Herndon 2008).

The Texas Commission on Environmental Quality (TCEQ) drafted a revision to the "State Implementation Plan (SIP) for Control of Ozone Air Pollution" for Austin and surrounding areas (including Williamson County) called the "Early Action Compact" (EAC) dated November 17, 2004 (TCEQ 2004). The SIP EAC proposes a number of air pollution control strategies for cars,

gas stations, etc. The following air emission control strategies outlined in the SIP EAC would be applicable to air emissions produced by ongoing operations at the AFRC:

- 5.3.3A2 Idling Restrictions on Heavy-Duty vehicle Engines, Chapter 114, Subchapter J: Limits idling of heavy duty vehicles (greater than 33,000 pounds) to five minutes during the spring and summer months between April 1 through October 31st.
- 5.3.A5 Degreasing Controls, Chapter 115, Subchapter E: Requires an 85 percent control efficiency for degreasers.

4.4.2 Environmental Consequences

4.4.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

Temporary and minor increases in air pollution would occur from the use of construction equipment (combustible emissions) and the disturbance of soils (fugitive dust) during construction of the AFRC. Fugitive dust emissions were calculated using the emission factor of 0.11 ton per acre per month (MRI 1996), which is a more current standard than the AP- 42 (1985) emission factor (EPA 2001).

Combustible emission calculations were made for standard construction equipment, such as bulldozers, excavators, pole trucks, front-end loaders, backhoes, cranes, and dump trucks, using emission factors from the NONROAD Model (EPA 2005), as recommended by EPA's *Procedures Document for National Emission Inventory, Criteria Air Pollutants, 1985-1999* (EPA 2001). Assumptions were made regarding the type of equipment, the total number of days each piece of equipment would be used, and the number of hours per day each type of equipment would be used.

Construction workers would temporarily increase the combustible emissions in the air shed during their commute to and from the project area. Similarly, emissions from delivery trucks contribute to the overall air emission budget.

The existing USARC site is located in the same air shed as the proposed AFRC site. The BRAC relocation would shift commuter traffic air emissions from one area in the air shed to another. The new AFRC would have approximately the same commuters driving on the weekends and 10 to 15 new fulltime staff making daily commutes in the Williamson County air shed (Bowers 2008). The air emissions from delivery trucks, construction worker commuters traveling to the job site, weekend trainees and fulltime staff were calculated using the EPA MOBILE6.2 Model (EPA 2005, 2005a, 2005b and 2005c). The construction emissions were calculated in the air emission analysis and included in the total emission estimates found in Table 4-2. Details of the analyses are presented in Appendix B.

Table 4-2. Total Air Emissions (tons/year) from Proposed AFRC Construction Activities

Pollutant	Total (tons/year)
CO	35.38
Volatile organic compounds (VOC)	6.38
NOx	38.87
PM-10	19.26
PM-2.5	6.50
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	4.51

Source: 40 CFR 51.853 and GSRC model projections

Several sources contribute to the total air impacts of the construction project. The air calculations in Table 4-2 included emissions from:

1. Combustible engines of construction equipment.
2. Construction workers commuting to and from work.
3. Supply trucks delivering materials for construction.
4. Fugitive dust from job site ground disturbances.

Calculations were also performed to determine the annual emissions created by the weekend commuters to this portion of Williamson County and 15 new fulltime staff. The calculations and assumptions are contained in Appendix B and are summarized in Table 4-3 below.

Table 4-3. Total Air Emissions (tons/year) Generated by AFRC Commuters

Pollutant	Total (tons/year)
CO	3.68
VOCs	0.39
NOx	0.28
PM-10	0.00
PM-2.5	0.00
Sulfur Dioxide (SO_2)	NA

Source: 40 CFR 51.853 and GSRC model projections

As can be seen from the tables, air emission from either the construction activities or the ongoing operations would not exceed the typical *de minimis* thresholds of 100 tons per year and, thus, would not require a Conformity Determination. As there are no violations of air quality standards and no conflicts with the state implementation plans, there would be minor, temporary impacts on air quality as a result of the Proposed Action.

During the construction of the AFRC, proper and routine maintenance of all vehicles and other construction equipment would ensure that emissions are within the design standards of the equipment. Dust suppression methods would be implemented to minimize fugitive dust. In particular, wetting solutions would be applied to construction areas to minimize the emissions of fugitive dust. By using these environmental design measures, air emissions from the Proposed Action would be temporary, and would result in minor impairments to air quality in the region.

4.4.2.2 No Action Alternative

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not create additional air emissions in the Williamson County air shed.

4.5 Noise

4.5.1 Affected Environment

Noise is generally described as unwanted sound, which can be based either on objective effects (i.e., hearing loss, damage to structures, etc.) or subjective judgments (e.g., community annoyance). Sound is usually represented on a logarithmic scale with a unit called the decibel (dB). Sound on the decibel scale is referred to as sound level. The threshold of human hearing is approximately 0 dB, and the threshold of discomfort or pain is around 120 dB.

Noise levels occurring at night generally produce a greater annoyance than do the same levels occurring during the day. It is generally agreed that people perceive intrusive noise at night as being 10 dBA (A-weighted decibel is a measure of noise at a given, maximum level or constant state level) louder than the same level of intrusive noise during the day, at least in terms of its potential for causing community annoyance. This perception is largely because background environmental sound levels at night in most areas are also about 10 dBA lower than those during the day.

Acceptable noise levels have been established by the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development (HUD) for construction activities in residential areas (HUD 1984):

> **Acceptable** (not exceeding 65 dBA) – The noise exposure may be of some concern but common building construction will make the indoor environment acceptable and the outdoor environment will be reasonably pleasant for recreation and play.
>
> **Normally Unacceptable** (above 65 but not greater than 75 dBA) – The noise exposure is significantly more severe; barriers may be necessary between the site and prominent noise sources to make the outdoor environment acceptable; special building construction may be necessary to ensure that people indoors are sufficiently protected from outdoor noise.
>
> **Unacceptable** (greater than 75 dBA) – The noise exposure at the site is so severe that the construction costs to make the indoor noise environment acceptable may be prohibitive and the outdoor environment would still be unacceptable.

As a general rule of thumb, noise generated by a stationary noise source, or “point source,” will decrease by approximately 6 dBA over hard surfaces and 9 dBA over soft surfaces for each doubling of the distance. For example, if a noise source produces a noise level of 85 dBA at a reference distance of 50 feet over a hard surface, then the noise level would be 79 dBA at a distance of 100 feet from the noise source, 73 dBA at a distance of 200 feet, and so on. To estimate the attenuation of the noise over a given distance the following relationship is utilized:

$$\text{Equation 1: } dBA_2 = dBA_1 - 20 \log^{(d2/d1)}$$

Where:

dBA_2 = dBA at distance 2 from source (predicted)

dBA_1 = dBA at distance 1 from source (measured)

d_2 = Distance to location 2 from the source

d_1 = Distance to location 1 from the source

Source: California Department of Transportation 1998

The preferred site is located in an industrial/residential area. Sensitive noise receptors are located 730 feet north of the preferred site (residences) and approximately 800 feet to the west (old Settlers Park). A commercial tracking and shipping container storage facility is located south of the site. Agricultural lands are located directly north and east of the preferred site.

4.5.2 Environmental Consequences

4.5.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

The construction of the new AFRC would require the use of common construction equipment. Table 4-4 describes noise emission levels for construction equipment which range from 76 dBA to 82 dBA at a distance of 50 feet (Federal Highway Administration 2007 [FHWA] 2007).

Table 4-4. A-Weighted (dBA) Sound Levels of Construction Equipment and Modeled Attenuation at Various Distances[1]

Noise Source	50 feet	100 feet	200 feet	500 feet	1000 feet
Backhoe	78	72	66	58	52
Crane	81	75	69	61	55
Dump truck	76	70	64	56	50
Excavator	81	75	69	61	55
Front end loader	79	73	67	59	53
Concrete mixer truck	79	73	67	59	53
Pneumatic tools	81	75	69	61	55
Bull dozer	82	76	70	62	56
Generator	81	75	69	61	55

Source: FHWA 2007 and GSRC

1. The dBA at 50 feet is a measured noise emission (FHWA 2007). The 100 to 1,000 foot results are modeled estimates.

Assuming the worst case scenario of 82 dBA, the noise model projected that noise levels of 82 dBA from a point source (i.e., bull dozer) would have to travel 370 feet before the noise would be attenuated to an acceptable level of 65 dBA. To achieve an attenuation of 82 dBA to a normally unacceptable level of 75 dBA, the distance from the noise source to the receptor is 110 feet.

Figure 4-1 depicts the 12-acre construction area within the 17 acre AFRC property boundaries and the 65 dBA noise contour. Assuming the construction activities are contained within the delineated construction area, there are no residences within 370 feet of the construction area. The nearest residence is 720 feet from the northern border of the construction site.

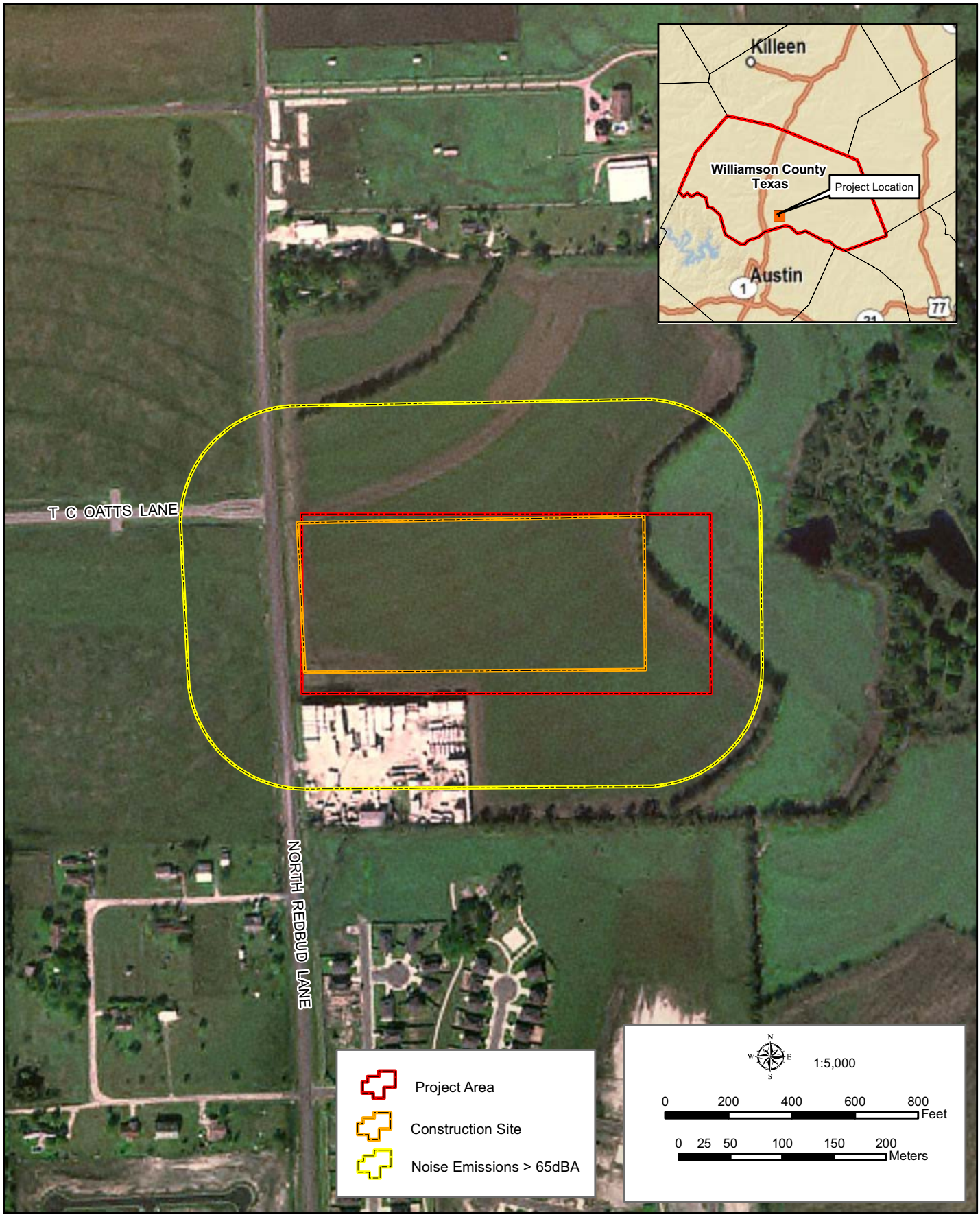

Figure 4-1: Preferred Site with 65dBA Construction Noise Contour

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Old Settlers Park is located immediately across North Redbud Lane from the preferred site. However, park facilities that would be used by visitors are greater than 800 feet from North Redbud Lane. The sensitive noise receptors in the area would be exposed to noise emissions that are considered normally acceptable (less than 65 dBA). Noise generated by the construction of the AFRC would be intermittent and last for 1 year, after which, noise levels would return to ambient levels. Therefore, the noise impacts from construction activities would be considered negligible.

4.5.2.2 No Action Alternative

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not increase ambient noise levels in the region.

4.6 Soils

4.6.1 Affected Environment

The soil present on the surface of the preferred site consists of Austin silty clay at 1 to 3 percent slopes (Figure 4-2). This soil is the predominant soil in the upland areas around the project site. According to the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS 2008), Austin silty clay is considered prime farmland soil; however, conversion of this soil at the project site would not require completion of a Farmland Conversion Impact Rating assessment and consultation with the local NRCS office, since the preferred site is classified as a designated urban development area by virtue of its inclusion within the city limits of Round Rock on the current USGS topographic quadrangle map. The Preferred Alternative site is currently a tilled agricultural field planted in corn. Surrounding agricultural fields are maintained for hay production.

4.6.2 Environmental Consequences

4.6.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

The preferred site would impact up to 12 acres of Austin silty clay through conversion from undeveloped, tilled agricultural land to developed land with extensive impermeable surfaces, with indirect impacts on an additional 5 acres due to denied access. Best management practices (BMPs) to prevent soil erosion, would be implemented to prevent soil migration off-site due to wind or rain activity, and a Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (TPDES) permit for development would be obtained. Austin silty clay is common in the Round Rock area, so the conversion of potential agricultural production capacity for 12 acres would not be considered a significant impact. The Proposed Action is in compliance with the Farmland Protection Policy Act (7 CFR 4201-4209 Part 658.2).

4.6.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action alternative, there would be no conversion of farmland soils, since no new AFRC would be constructed.

4.7 Water Resources

4.7.1 Affected Environment

4.7.1.1 Surface Water

The preferred site is within the Brazos River Basin, the primary surface water source for Williamson County. Lake Granger and Lake Georgetown are reservoirs found within the Brazos River Basin in Williamson County. Lake Stillhouse Hollow is also an important reservoir that provides water supplies to Williamson County via the Williamson County Raw Waterline into

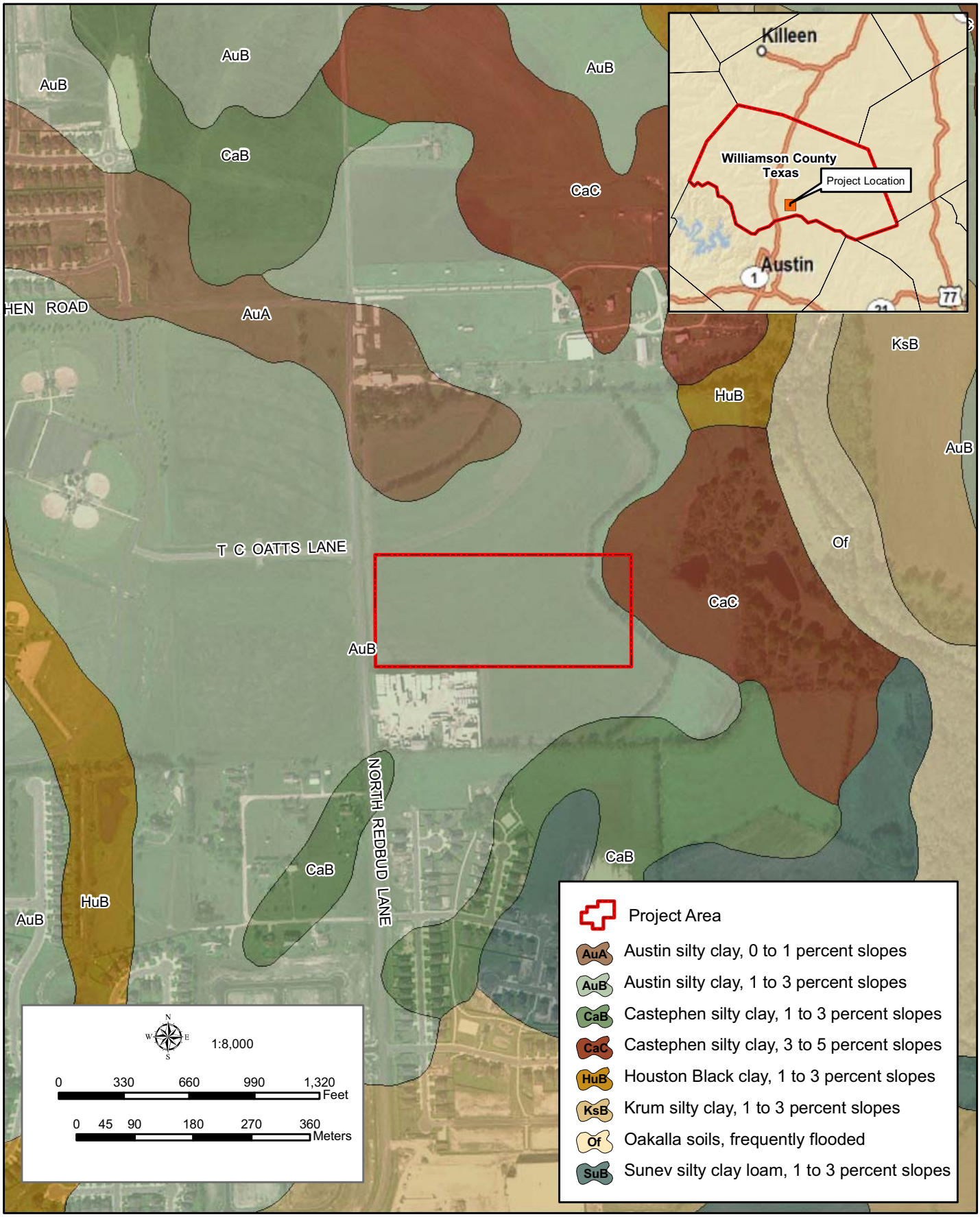

Figure 4-2: Preferred Site Soils Map

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Lake Georgetown. The total amount of surface water available for Williamson County from the Brazos River Basin is 113,556 acre-feet (Berehe 2005).

The City of Round Rock purchases Lake Georgetown and Lake Stillhouse water from the Brazos River Authority (BRA). The city also uses water from the Edwards aquifer, and the estimated reliable water supply is about 921 acre-feet per year (Berehe 2005). In addition, the city implements wastewater reuse projects. The current water supply is sufficient to meet the city's needs until about 2015. However, Round Rock is expected to have a shortage of 12,157 acre-feet per year in 2030, increasing to 21,543 acre-feet per year in 2050 (Berehe 2005).

Surface waters within the vicinity of the project are illustrated in Figure 4-3. The major surface waters located near the preferred site are Old Settlers Pond (Bright Lake), McNutt Creek, and Brushy Creek. Other named and unnamed streams and drainages are also located near the preferred site. None of these streams have state approved designated uses. Brushy Creek is currently listed as Clean Water Act (CWA) of 1972, Section 303(d) impaired waters (TCEQ 2008).

Texas requires the completion of a Stormwater Discharge Permit for construction site erosion control, which is issued by TCEQ, prior to initiation of construction. In addition, any party that plans to build on the recharge, transition, or contributing zones of the Edwards Aquifer must first have an application including construction plans approved by TCEQ. Through the permitting process, the Army would develop methods to minimize erosion and control stormwater runoff both during and after construction by utilizing BMPs and meeting performance standards established by the TCEQ. The Army would develop a site specific Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan (SWPPP) and Erosion Control Plan describing the BMPs that would be used on-site for erosion control.

4.7.1.2 Hydrogeology/Groundwater

The Round Rock USARC and the proposed AFRC overlies the Edwards (Balcones Fault Zone) aquifer. The Edwards Aquifer is the primary groundwater source in Williamson County, Texas. The groundwater quality in the Edwards Aquifer is generally good; however, the aquifer is highly vulnerable to surface contamination. The quality of water in the aquifer is directly affected by the total environment of the water. That is, from its origin as rainfall to its ultimate discharge from wells and springs in the aquifer. Most of the dissolved matter in the groundwater is from the solution of substances in the rocks that compose the aquifer.

The Edwards Aquifer consists of the Cretaceous-aged Georgetown Formation, Edwards Group, and Comanche Peak Formation. The Edwards Group, composed of limestone and dolostones, contains most of the aquifer. Honeycomb textures, caverns, and voids in collapse breccias account for most of the aquifer porosity. Recharge in the Edwards Aquifer occurs in tributaries and infiltration from precipitation on the out crop. It consists of gently rolling terrain to steeper and highly dissected terrain. Surface runoff and precipitation infiltrates the aquifer through faults, fractures, sinkholes, and caves. These features have dissolved out, which allows rapid infiltration, as well as rapid movement of groundwater within the aquifer.

Water levels in wells in the Edwards Aquifer fluctuate over a wide range. Due to its highly permeable nature, the Edwards Aquifer responds quickly to changes and extreme stresses placed upon the system (Turner, Collie, and Braden Inc. et al. 2000). Water levels are generally low in low rainfall years and recover in wet years. The water levels in the mid-1950s were considered record lows, but with increased pumpage during the late 1970s, the water levels

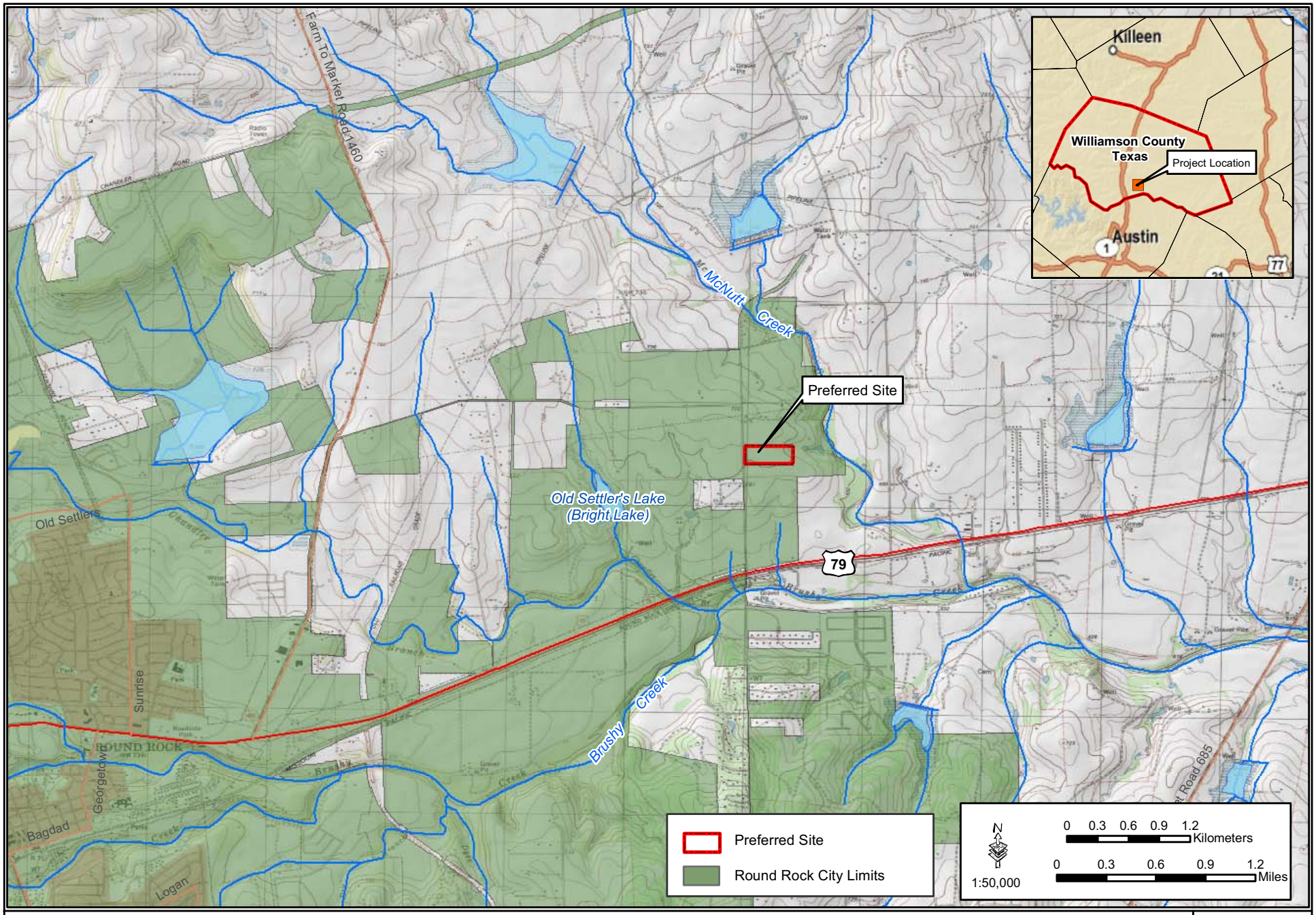

Figure 4-3: Major Streams near the Preferred Site

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have equaled or have been lower than those of the 1950s (Duffin and Musick 1991). A noticeable decrease in water levels was observed during the severe droughts of the 1980s and 1990s (Ridgeway and Petrini 1999).

The amount of groundwater used in Williamson County has not varied much over the past few decades (Berehe 2005). Municipal water demand accounts for more than 84 percent of the total water demands in the county, while mining and livestock water demands account for most of the remaining demands. However, the City of Round Rock is projected to have water shortages within the next 30 years (Berehe 2005).

The potential for groundwater contamination in the Edwards aquifer is a major concern. The cavernous, highly permeable nature of the aquifer and thin soil characteristics of the recharge zone pose a significant potential for contamination of the aquifer from surface sources of pollutants. There have been localized instances of groundwater contamination from nitrate, fecal colliform, and leaking petroleum storage tanks within the aquifer (Berehe 2005). The threat of saline-water intrusion into the freshwater artesian zone of the aquifer during drought conditions is a perennial concern, particularly as pumping from the artesian zone increases.

Currently, the quality of water in the Edwards Aquifer is “excellent” according to the Edwards Aquifer Authority (EAA), the state agency charged with managing, conserving, preserving, and protecting the aquifer. Comprehensive analyses of water samples from 88 wells in the Edwards Aquifer in urban, agricultural, and rangeland areas of the recharge and confined zones support this characterization. However, some water samples did contain detectable concentrations of pesticides and volatile organic compounds (VOCs), even though the levels were well below allowable maximums in drinking water (Esquilin 1999).

4.7.1.3 Floodplain

EO 11988 (*Floodplain Management*) directs Federal agencies to avoid developments within floodplains. The 100-year floodplain is simply defined as lands that have a 1 percent chance of becoming inundated by peak flows during any given year. There is currently no mapped FEMA floodplain within or near the preferred sites. It can therefore be assumed that the preferred site is above the 100-year floodplain.

4.7.2 Environmental Consequences

4.7.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would not result in significant impacts to water resources. A SWPPP would be prepared and implemented to prevent impacts to surface water bodies and BMPs would be utilized, as appropriate. Since there would be no net gain in personnel at the new AFRC, water demand would likely be the same or slightly less due to new water conservation measures that would be incorporated to the AFRC’s design and construction. The preferred site is above the 100-year floodplain; thus, the Proposed Action Alternative would be in compliance with EO 11988.

4.7.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no new development would occur. Baseline conditions for surface and ground waters as described above would remain unchanged.

4.8 Biological Resources

4.8.1 Affected Environment

4.8.1.1 Vegetation

The Texas Parks and Wildlife Department's (TPWD) report entitled *The Vegetation Types of Texas* indicates the project site is located within the Edwards Plateau Area. Edwards Plateau is delineated along a physiographic province, not a biological unit; therefore, there is less botanical unity in the Edwards Plateau range types and sites (Tarleton State University 2008). The mapped vegetation type of the project site falls within the Crop type (TPWD 1984). Croplands are cultivated cover crops or row crops and providing either food or fiber to man or domestic animals (TPWD 1984).

A survey of the project site was conducted in August 2008. The project site is located in a cropland area; thus, the vegetation is sparse and consists primarily of corn (*Zea mays*) crops (Photograph 4-2) with hay meadow (Photograph 4-3) on the northeastern edge of the parcel. Several surrounding parcels are also in crop production. There were also remnant cotton plants (*Gossypium* sp.), around the site. Figure 2-1, shown previously, illustrates the lack of native vegetation on the project site.

Photograph 4-2. Corn Crops at the Preferred Site

Photograph 4-3. Hay Meadow on Northeastern Edge of Preferred Site

Along the eastern and southern border of the project site, there was limited native vegetation. The shallow drainage ditch running parallel to the project site along North Redbud Lane was dominated by grass and herbaceous species. Sunflower (*Helianthus* sp.), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), and sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*) were observed in the ditch. Along the southern edge of the project site, blackberry (*Rubus* spp.), false willow (*Baccharis neglecta*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), and Arundo cane (*Arundo donax*) were observed.

A strip of vegetation with few tree and shrub species running north-south exists in the northeastern portion of the project site (Photograph 4-4). During the August survey, sugarberry (*Celtis laevigata*) and mustang grape (*Vitus mustangensis*) were observed in this area of the preferred site.

Photograph 4-4. Vegetated Strip on the Northeastern Portion of the Preferred Site

4.8.1.2 Wildlife

Mammal species likely to occur in Williamson County include, but are not limited to, nutria (*Myocastor coypus*), Eastern pipstrelle (*Pipistrellus subflavus*), Eastern mole (*Scalopus aquaticus*) and Eastern cottontail (*Sylvilagus floridanus*). Other wildlife species likely to occur in Williamson County include the American woodcock (*Scolopax minor*), belted kingfisher (*Megaceryle alcyon*), Texas spotted whiptail (*Cnemidophorus gularis*), and Couch's spade foot toad (*Scaphiopus couchii*). However, since the project area also falls within a cropland area, the species assemblage may differ substantially. Additional species not associated with croplands, such as rock pigeon (*Columba livia*) and common raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), may be present due to their ability to tolerate human disturbances. Only two species of wildlife were observed during the survey of the project corridor, conducted in August 2008. Within the project area, a brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) was seen flying above the corn field. Along the southern border, three mourning doves (*Zenaida macroura*) were also observed.

4.8.1.3 Sensitive Species

4.8.1.3.1 Federal

The USFWS is the primary agency responsible for implementing the Endangered Species Act (ESA), and is responsible for birds and other terrestrial and freshwater species. The USFWS has identified species that are listed as threatened or endangered, as well as candidates for listing as a result of identified threats to their continued existence. Although not protected by the ESA, candidate species may be protected under other Federal or state laws. Six Federally endangered species and two candidate species inhabit Williamson County, Texas (Table 4-5) (USFWS 2008). No Critical Habitat has been designated for these species. No suitable habitat for these species was observed on the project site. Forage habitat for the whooping crane could exist on the project site.

Table 4-5. Federally Listed Species Potentially Occurring Within Williamson County, Texas

Common/Scientific Name	Federal Status	Habitat	Potential to occur within Project Site
BIRDS			
black-capped Vireo (*Vireo atricapilla)*	Endangered	Oak-juniper woodlands with a distinctive, two-layered aspect, shrub and tree layer with open grassy spaces.	No – the site lacks multi-story canopies and foraging not likely due to lack of nesting sites and food sources.
golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*)	Endangered	Ashe-juniper or cedar bark necessary for nest building.	No – not likely due to lack of materials for nest construction and food sources.
whooping crane (*Grus americana*)	Endangered, EXPN	High plains, shortgrass prairies, and bare, dirt fields.	Yes – could forage but not likely due to lack of nesting sites and food sources.
AMPHIBIANS			
Georgetown salamander (*Eurycea naufragia*)	Candidate	Known from springs and waters in and around the town of Georgetown in Williamson County.	No – no springs or waters at or near the project site.
Jollyville Plateaus Salamander (*Eurycea tonkawae*)	Candidate	Known from springs and waters of some caves north of the Colorado River.	No – not likely due to the lack of caves.
ARACHNIDS			
Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesil*)	Endangered	Caves under large rocks under moist floors.	No – not likely due the lack of caves or large rocks at the project site.
INSECTS			
Coffin Cave mold beetle (*Batrisodes texanus*)	Endangered	Small Edwards Limestone caves.	No – no caves in or near the project site.
Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*)	Endangered	Small Edwards Limestone caves.	No – no caves in or near the project site.

Source: USFWS 2008.

4.8.1.3.2 State

The TPWD maintains the list of Rare, Threatened, and Endangered Species in Texas. This list includes fauna whose occurrence in Texas is or may be in jeopardy, or with known or perceived threats or population declines (TPWD 2007). These species are not necessarily the same as those protected by the Federal government under the ESA. Of the 38 rare, threatened, and endangered species known to occur in Williamson County, three have the potential to occur within the project area (Table 4-6). However, none of these species were observed during the site survey and, due to the high levels of disturbance, it is very unlikely that any of these species occur within the project area.

Table 4-6. State Listed Species Potentially Occurring Within Project Area in Williamson County, Texas

Common/Scientific Name	State Status	Habitat	Potential to occur within Project Site
MAMMALS			
Plains spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius interrupta*)	Rare, but with no regulatory listing status	Open fields, prairies, cropland, fence rows, forest edges, and woodlands.	Yes – could forage but unlikely due to the high levels of disturbance.
REPTILES			
Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*)	Threatened	Open, arid and semi-arid regions with sparse vegetation, including grass.	No – vegetation too dense.
Timber/Canebrake rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*)	Threatened	Abandoned farmland with dense ground cover.	Yes – could utilize dense cropland for foraging habitat.

Source: TPWD 2007.

4.8.1.4 Wetlands

Section 404 of the CWA of 1977 (PL 95-217) authorizes the Secretary of the Army, acting through the USACE, to issue permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material into Waters of the U.S., including wetlands. Wetlands are those areas inundated or saturated by surface or groundwater at a frequency and duration sufficient to support, and under normal circumstances do support, a prevalence of vegetation typically adapted for life in saturated soil conditions (Environmental Laboratory 1987). No potential jurisdictional wetlands were observed at the project site during the field surveys.

4.8.2 Environmental Consequences

4.8.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

The implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative would have permanent, but minimal, impacts on biological resources. Because the site consists of a disturbed field, there would be no direct impacts to natural vegetation communities and direct impacts to wildlife populations would be unlikely. There is no suitable habitat to support Federally threatened or endangered species at the project site; therefore, there would be no impacts to Federally-listed species. Three state listed species have the potential to be encountered within the project area; however, it is highly unlikely that any of these species occur at the project site. A concurrence letter was submitted to USFWS and TPWD (Appendix C). Responses have not been received to date. There would be no impacts to wetlands because no wetlands exist on the project site.

4.8.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative there would be no direct impacts to vegetation, wildlife, sensitive species, or wetlands. The existing USARC is located in a developed area and there are no sensitive species or vegetation communities nearby.

4.9 Cultural Resources

4.9.1 Affected Environment

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, requires Federal agencies to identify and assess the effects of their undertakings on cultural properties included in or eligible for inclusion in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), and to afford the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (ACHP) a reasonable opportunity to

comment on such undertakings. Federal agencies must consult with the appropriate state and local officials, including the State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO), Indian tribes, applicants for Federal assistance, and members of the public, and consider their views and concerns about historic preservation issues. The ACHP is authorized to promulgate such rules and regulations as it deems necessary to govern the implementation of Section 106 in its entirety. Those regulations are contained at 36 CFR Part 800, "Protection of Historic Properties".

4.9.1.1 Cultural Overview

Brockington and Associates performed a Phase I Cultural Resources Survey of the preferred site from June 23 to June 27, 2008. Prior to the field investigation, an archaeological assessment was conducted of the project site using the Texas Archaeological Site Atlas (TASA). The TASA indicated that no previous surveys or previously recorded cultural resources are present at the preferred site.

4.9.2 Environmental Consequences

4.9.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

No cultural resources were identified during the pedestrian survey or subsurface testing of the preferred site. In addition, a pedestrian reconnaissance was performed of the viewshed of the preferred site. No structures or buildings that meet the 50 year age minimum for historic structures were recorded. As a result, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated from the implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative. No traditional cultural properties, resource procurement area, tribal resources, tribal rights, or sacred sites were identified during the recent investigations and past tribal consultations. Due to the lack of any identified properties and extensive site disturbance, it is highly unlikely that any buried deposits are present within the preferred site that would be considered significant to Native American or other traditional communities.

Native American tribes claiming a cultural affinity with the project area were identified using the Native American Consultation Database (NACD) and the Indian Lands Cessions 1784-1894 located online at the National Park Service's website along with records housed at the USACE and the tribes listed in the U.S. Army Reserve Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP), 90th RRC, Texas. As a result, consultation letters were sent to the Apache Tribe of Oklahoma, the Mescalero Apache Tribe, the Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma, the Comanche Nation, and the Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma. To date, no tribes have expressed interest in the proposed project and no traditional cultural properties, resource procurement areas, tribal resources, tribal rights, or sacred sites were identified during the recent investigations and past tribal consultations. Due to the lack of any identified properties, extensive site disturbance, and prior development of the project site, it is highly unlikely that any buried deposits are present within the project site that would be considered significant to Native American or other traditional communities.

A letter was also submitted to the Texas Historical Commission (THC, which is the SHPO) on 8 October 2008 requesting THC's concurrence of the Army's determination of no historic properties affected by the proposed project as per 36CFR800.4(d)(1). A letter of concurrence was received on 17 November 2008.

Prior to construction, the Army would brief the construction crews on procedures to follow in case of an unexpected discovery of cultural resources. If any cultural resources are uncovered during construction, the Army and the THC would be notified, and all construction activities would stop until a qualified archaeologist could assess the significance of the cultural remains. If human remains are encountered, the local coroner and law enforcement agency would be

contacted. If the remains are of Native American origin, compliance with the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act regulations would be required.

4.9.2.2 No Action Alternative

No adverse impacts on historical or cultural resources are anticipated from the implementation of the No Action Alternative, since no construction would occur.

4.10 Socioeconomic Resources

4.10.1 Affected Environment

4.10.1.1 Population

Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties are considered the Region of Influence (ROI) for the Proposed Action relative to socioeconomic effects. These counties comprise the Austin-Round Rock MSA, previously known as the Austin-San Marcos MSA. The ROI's population is presented in Table 4-7. At present, census data for Caldwell County is only available for the year 2000. As can be seen, the racial mix of the ROI consists predominantly of Caucasians, African Americans or some other race. The remainder is divided among Asians, and people claiming to be two or more races, and Native Americans. Persons claiming Hispanic or Latino origins varies from 20 to 40 percent across the ROI (U.S. Census Bureau 2000, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d, and 2006e).

Table 4-7. Population and Race

Geographic Region	Total Population	Race							
		White (%)	African American (%)	Native American (%)	Asian (%)	Native Hawaiian or other Pacific Islander (%)	Some Other Race (5)	Two or more Races (%)	Hispanic or Latino Origin of any Race (%)
Texas	23,507,783	69.8	11.6	0.5	3.3	0.1	13.0	1.8	35.7
Bastrop County	64,544	80.7	10.0	0.2	0.8	0.0	6.0	2.3	22.3
Caldwell County (2000)	31,312	70.1	8.5	0.6	0.3	0.0	17.7	2.7	40.4
Hays County	130,325	69.4	4.1	0.5	1.2	0.0	22.7	2.1	31.7
Travis County	921,006	62.2	8.6	0.4	5.5	0.0	21.2	2.2	32.5
Williamson County	353,830	79.8	5.7	0.8	3.8	0.0	7.1	2.9	20.1

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000, 2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d, and 2006e

4.10.1.2 Income and Employment

As shown in Table 4-8, in 2006 the counties in the ROI had a lower per capita personal income (PCPI) than the state and the Nation, with the exception of Travis County. Travis County PCPI ranked 8th in the state and was 113 percent of the state average ($35,166) and 108 percent of the National average ($36,714). The 2006 PCPIs increased an average of 4.1 percent from 1996, which is less than both the average annual growth rate for the state (4.7 percent) and Nation (4.3 percent).

Table 4-8. 2006 Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI)

	Per Capita Personal Income	Rank	Percent State Average	Percent National Average	Average Annual Growth Rate 1996-2006 (%)
Nation (Average)	$36,714	NA	NA	100	4.3
Texas (Average)	$35,166	21	100	96	4.7
Bastrop County	$25,830	157	73	70	4.1
Caldwell County	$23,659	198	67	64	4.0
Hays County	$27,860	114	79	76	4.0
Travis County	$39,781	8	113	108	4.8
Williamson County	$33,691	31	96	92	3.8

NA=Not Applicable
Source: BEA 2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d, 2006e, and 2006f

Total personal income (TPI) includes net earnings by place of residence; dividends, interest, and rent; and personal current transfer receipts received by the residents within the ROI. In 2006, the TPI across the ROI varied from $858 million to $37.5 billion and together accounted for 6.8 percent of the state total (Table 4-9). The 1996-2006 average annual growth rate of the TPI across the ROI was well above both the TPI for the state and the Nation, with the exception of Caldwell County (6.2 percent). The average annual growth rate for the state was 6.8 percent (BEA 2006a).

Table 4-9. Total Personal Income

Geographic Region	Total Personal Income		2006 State Rank	Percent State Total	Average Annual Growth Rate 1996-2006 (%)
	1996	2006			
Texas	$427,810,267,000	$823,159,415,000	NA	100	6.8
Bastrop County	$845,994,000	$1,818,307,000	51	0.2	8.0
Caldwell County	$471,060,000	$858,315,000	85	0.1	6.2
Hays County	$1,536,547,000	$3,709,570,000	30	0.5	9.2
Travis County	$17,908,568,000	$37,457,092,000	5	4.6	9.2
Williamson County	$4,524,499,000	$11,821,315,000	12	1.4	10.1

NA=Not Applicable
Source: BEA 2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d, 2006e, and 2006f

The total number of jobs in the ROI was over 970,000 in 2006 (Table 4-10). The number of jobs is up slightly from the number of jobs in 2001 for the ROI. The largest employer classification was government and government enterprises in all counties in the ROI except in Williamson County, where the retail trade sector employed the largest number of persons (BEA 2006g). The unemployment rate in the ROI was lower than the unemployment rate for Texas in 2000 and the same or lower than the unemployment rate for Texas in 2006.

Table 4-10. Total Number of Jobs and Employment

Geographic Area	Total Number of Jobs			Unemployment Rate	
	2001	2006	% Change	2000 (%)	2006 (%)
Texas	12,356,260	13,514,130	9.37	4.4	4.9
Bastrop County	20,647	24,598	19.1	3.4	4.6
Caldwell County	11,549	12,266	6.2	4.1	4.9
Hays County	52,804	66,755	26.4	3.3	4.2
Travis County	676,304	723,675	7.0	3.0	4.1
Williamson County	106,580	143,625	34.7	2.8	4.2

Source: BEA 2001 and 2006, Real Estate Center 2008a, 2008b, 2008c, 2008d, and 2008e and Tracer 2008

In 2005, the percentage of all people in poverty in the ROI averaged 13 percent (Table 4-11). This percentage is significantly less than the percentage of people below the poverty level for the State of Texas (17.5 percent) and the U.S. (13.3 percent). Caldwell County, when considered alone, has a higher percentage of people in poverty than the state or Nation. Median household income within the ROI is higher than the median household income for the state of Texas, with the exception of Caldwell County, which is $3,169 lower than the median household income for the state.

Table 4-11. 2005 Poverty and Median Income for the Nation, State of Texas, and Across the ROI

Geographic Location	Number in Poverty of All Ages	Percentage in Poverty	Median Income
Nation	38,231,474	13.3	$46,242
Texas	3,886,632	17.5	$42,165
Bastrop County	7,916	11.7	$46,501
Caldwell County	6,585	19.0	$38,996
Hays County	15,057	13.1	$45,060
Travis County	133,414	15.5	$48,199
Williamson County	19,633	6.0	$63,397

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2005

4.10.1.3 Housing

The total number of housing units in the four counties with data available for 2006 was over 328,000 in 2006 (Table 4-12), of which over 91 percent were occupied. Approximately 60 percent of the housing units were owner-occupied. Comparatively, the owner-occupied houses for the state were estimated at 57 percent (U.S. Census Bureau 2006a). In 2000, Caldwell County had 11,901 housing units, of which over 90 percent were occupied, and over 69 percent were owner-occupied.

Table 4-12. Housing Units

Location	Total Housing Units	Status		
		Occupied		Vacant
		Owner	Rented	
Texas	9,224,920	5,291,045	2,818,343	1,115,532
Bastrop County	24,504	17,530	4,678	2,296
Caldwell County (2000)	11,901	7,535	3,281	1,085
Hays County	46,987	27,106	15,444	4,437
Travis County	404,835	198,701	168,083	38,051
Williamson County	124,017	85,588	31,435	6,994

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000, 2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d and 2006e

4.10.1.4 Environmental Justice

EO 12898 (*Environmental Justice*) requires all Federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse effect of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. As indicated previously, the majority of the population in the ROI claims to be Caucasians, between 20 and 40 percent claim Hispanic origin and 4 to 10 percent (across the five counties) claim to be African American. Additionally, between 6 and 19 percent of the ROI population is considered to live below the poverty level. There are no known populations living within the immediate vicinity of the preferred site that would be considered to be minority or low-income populations. Consequently, there is little potential for the BRAC actions to encounter environmental justice issues within the ROI.

4.10.1.5 Protection of Children

EO 13045 (*Protection of Children*) requires each Federal agency "to identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect children"; and "ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health risks or safety risks." In the ROI, between 5 and 8 percent of the population is 5 years old or less and between 23 and 28 percent are younger than 18 years (Table 4-13; U.S. Census Bureau 2000, 2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d, and 2006e). Potential protection of children issues arise when an action is near residential areas or schools; there are no schools or residences in the immediate vicinity of the preferred site. However, since the preferred site is located adjacent to the Old Settler's Park, there is a potential for children to be in the immediate vicinity of the proposed AFRC.

Table 4-13. Population of Persons Younger than Eighteen Years Old

Location	5 Years Old or Less (Percent)	Less than 18 Years Old (Percent)
Texas	8.2	27.7
Bastrop County	5.9	24.8
Caldwell County (2000)	7.4	28.3
Hays County	6.9	23.6
Travis County	8.1	24.8
Williamson County	7.9	27.7

Source: U.S. Census Bureau 2000, 2006a, 2006b, 2006c, 2006d and 2006e

4.10.2 Environmental Consequences

4.10.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

The proposed establishment of the AFRC and the relocation of units from the Round Rock USARC would not result in a gain of military or civilian personnel. The Proposed Action Alternative would not adversely affect local income, employment rates, or poverty levels. There are no concentrations of minority populations or children near the Proposed Action Alternative. No displacements of residences or businesses would be required and the construction area would be restricted to authorized personnel. Therefore, no disproportionate impacts to minority or low-income families or effects to children would occur as a result of the proposed action or alternatives and the project would be in compliance with EO 12898 and EO 13045. However, construction safety zones, strict speed limits and other measures to reduce potential of impacts to children would need to be implemented during construction activities to ensure that children visiting the Old Settlers' Park are not impacted.

Any materials or services purchased locally and any local hiring during construction would result in short-term negligible socioeconomic benefits. The Proposed Action Alternative would have no adverse effect on the socioeconomic conditions within the ROI. To further document the potential effects, a model of economic effects was run using the Economic Impact Forecast System (EIFS). The EIFS results indicated no net change in the long-term economy within the ROI. A copy of the EIFS results is presented in Appendix D.

4.10.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, socioeconomic conditions would remain status quo.

4.11 Transportation

4.11.1 Affected Environment

Numerous modes of transportation are available to serve the Round Rock–Austin MSA, including air and highway access. The Austin Bergstrom International Airport located in Austin, approximately 23 miles south of Round Rock provides cargo shipment services and passenger flights to many U.S. destinations as well as international cities. The Capitol Area Rapid Transit System (CARTS), which provides passenger commuter bus services to 169 communities and nine counties in southeast central Texas, is operated from the Round Rock Station located 4.5 miles west of the preferred site.

The preferred site is located on the east side of North Redbud Lane and is served by many state and local roads (Figure 4-4). I-35 is located 4.5 miles west of the preferred site, and is a main north-south thoroughfare connecting Round Rock to Austin and San Antonio to the south and Dallas/Fort Worth to the north. Highway 79 is situated less than 1 mile south of the preferred site and is a major east-west vehicular artery through Round Rock and provides direct access to I-35 east of the preferred site. Highway 130 is a newly constructed north-south oriented, 4-lane highway, located 2 miles east of the preferred site and provides access to north and southeastern portions of Round Rock. Major arteries and surface streets providing access to the Round Rock business district include Round Rock Avenue, Mays Street, Old Settlers Boulevard and McNeil Road. The most direct route of access to the project site is North Redbud Lane off of State Route 79. The City of Round Rock has proposed the extension and widening of Old Settlers Boulevard which would connect I-35 to North Redbud Lane at an intersection off of Old Setters Boulevard less that 0.25 mile from the proposed AFRC site (City of Round Rock 2008a and 2008b). Traffic flow patterns show that most vehicles traveling on major transportation arteries within the city limits of Round Rock are primarily concentrated along I-35 and Highway 79 (Texas Department of Transportation [TxDOT] 2007a). According to TxDOT 2006 traffic data an average of 77,000 vehicles per day utilize I-35 near Highway 79, which is the highest traffic count for the Round Rock area. Approximately 27,000 vehicles per day utilize Highway 79 near North Redbud Lane, while 5,600 vehicles travel through the Highway 79/North Redbud Lane intersection every day (TxDOT 2007b).

4.11.2 Environmental Consequences

4.11.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

Construction of the AFRC would have no effect on regional air service. Vehicle traffic at the preferred site would be increased by approximately 44 vehicles per day during the construction period, primarily along I-35, Highway 79, and North Redbud Lane. If the proposed expansion and extension of Old Settlers Boulevard occur prior to the completion of the proposed Round Rock AFRC, construction traffic volumes may increase slightly on this road as well. In addition, if weekend construction is required and it coincides with weekend baseball/softball programs at Old Settler's Park, additional congestion would be experienced. Increases in daily construction traffic volume would consist of four delivery trucks and approximately 40 construction personnel passenger vehicles.

Operation of the AFRC would also create occasional moderate increases on these same streets. Congestion would occur primarily along I-35, Highway 79, Old Settlers Boulevard and North Redbud Lane. As mentioned previously, approximately 14 additional vehicles would be expected to access the site 240 days per year, as a result of the implementation of the Proposed Action Alternative. This relatively low number of vehicles represents less than a 0.01 percent addition to the traffic volume in this area. The majority of the increased traffic would occur during two weekends per month, particularly when Reserve units are conducting training activities. During training periods, it is anticipated that daily traffic volumes would increase by approximately 100 vehicles, which accounts for less than 1 percent of the average daily traffic volume on highways and surface streets near the preferred site. Therefore, construction and operation of the AFRC would result in minimal adverse impacts on the traffic around the new Round Rock AFRC.

4.11.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no effect on vehicle traffic at or around the proposed construction site of the Round Rock AFRC. Regional air service would also be maintained at status quo.

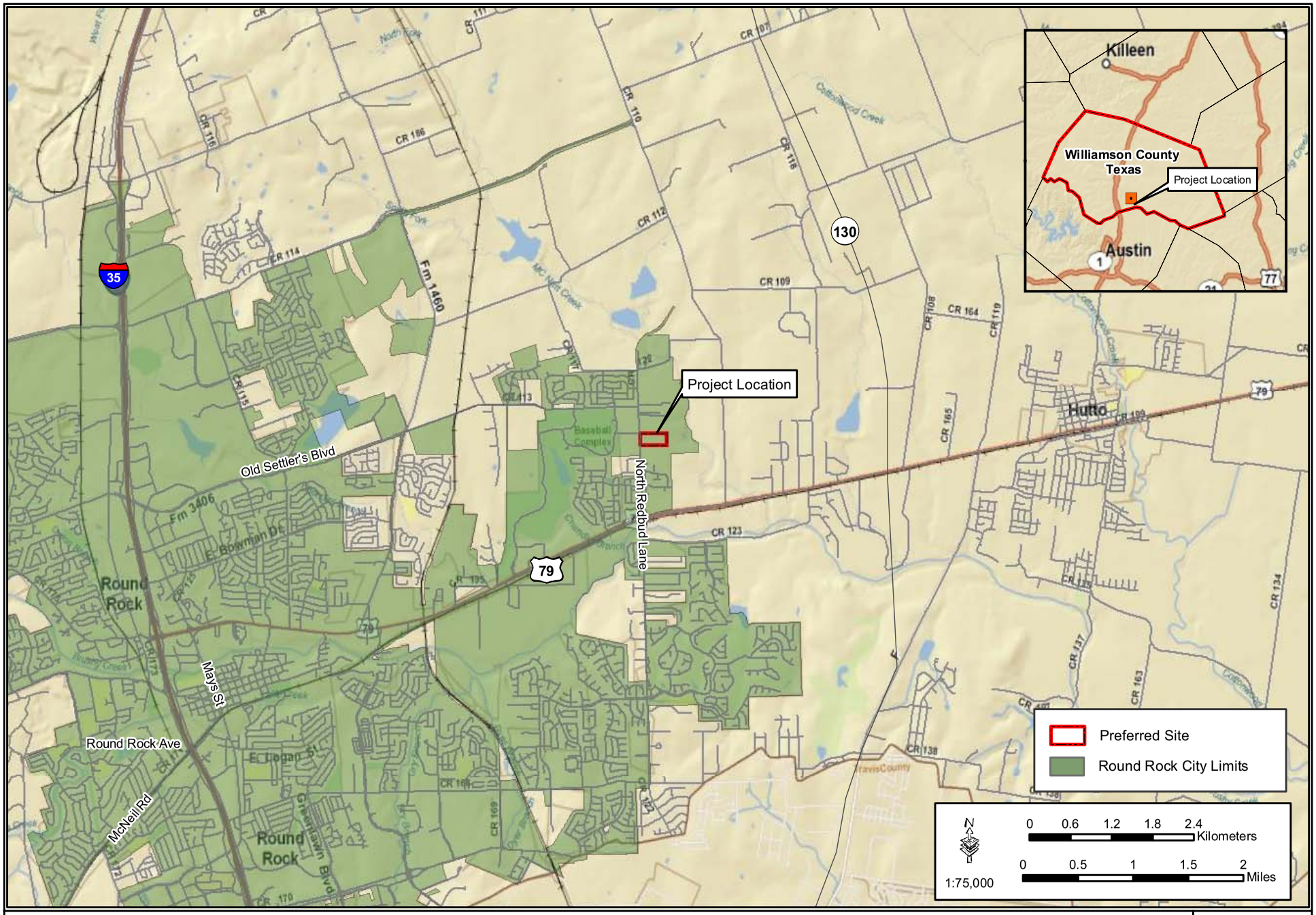

Figure 4-4: Transportation Map

GSRC

September 2008

4.12 Utilities

4.12.1 Affected Environment

4.12.1.1 Potable Water Supply

Round Rock receives its drinking water supply from Lake Georgetown located approximately 11 miles northwest of the proposed AFRC. Lake Georgetown was impounded by the USACE in 1980 to supply potable water to Round Rock, Georgetown, and Brushy Creek Municipal Utility District (City of Round Rock 2008c). The Round Rock Water Treatment Plant supplies the City of Round Rock with approximately 30 million gallons of water per day and is designed for an operating capacity of 48 to 52 million gallons per day (MGD) (City of Round Rock 2008c, 2008e). As discussed in the Site Survey Report, an operable water main is available for use at the preferred site, but is not currently connected (USACE 2008). This pipe is a 16-inch potable water main and is located on the west side of North Redbud Lane.

4.12.1.2 Wastewater System

Wastewater services for the City of Round Rock are provided by the BRA, the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA), and the Brushy Creek Wastewater Treatment Plant (BCWWTP), the latter of which would provide service to the preferred site (City of Round Rock 2008f). Following treatment, most of the wastewater is released into the Brazos River via the San Gabriel River and Brushy Creek while a small percentage is available for irrigation purposes (City of Round Rock 2008g). BCWWTP is located west of the intersection of U.S. Highway 79 and Redbud Lane, 1 mile southwest of the proposed AFRC site and is operating at approximately 65 percent of the 21 MGD maximum capacity (City of Round Rock 2008e). Therefore, the BCWWTP facility has more than sufficient capacity to treat the additional wastewater required by the proposed AFRC (City of Round Rock 2008e). Wastewater collection utilities are available for use at the preferred site; however, they are not currently connected (USACE 2008).

Wastewater utilities at or near the preferred site include an 8-inch stubbed out collection pipe approximately 400 feet to the south along North Redbud Lane, and a 48-inch collection line located approximately 1,600 feet to the east. These two pipes are available for service connection to provide wastewater services to the proposed AFRC.

4.12.1.3 Stormwater System

A stormwater discharge permit from the TCEQ has not previously been issued for the subject property and no water management infrastructure has been established on-site (USACE 2008). The preferred site is not currently authorized for stormwater discharges. Plans for the stormwater system are not available at this time, but they will be included in the SWPPP.

4.12.1.4 Electrical Power

Electric power utilities are available for service to the preferred site, but are not currently connected (USACE 2008). Several private electrical service providers are available to serve electricity to the preferred site. Electrical mains are buried immediately adjacent and parallel to North Redbud Lane. Atmos Energy is the regional natural gas provider and would likely provide gas service to the proposed Round Rock AFRC. Gas lines are immediately adjacent to the preferred site parallel to North Redbud Lane.

4.12.2 Consequences

4.12.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

Construction and operation of the proposed AFRC facility at Round Rock would have temporary and minimal effects on the city's potable water supply, wastewater treatment system, and stormwater discharges. Construction crews would bring water on-site for their personnel, and

portable latrines would collect sanitary waste. Since the site is greater than 1 acre, a Stormwater Discharge Permit for General Construction would be required prior to construction. This permit would require that a SWPPP and Notice of Intent (NOI) be prepared and filed with the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) through the TCEQ. The SWPPP would identify BMPs that are required to be implemented to control stormwater erosion and runoff from the site and sedimentation into downstream areas. Upon completion of the construction activities, all disturbed areas that are not going to be landscaped and routinely maintained would be reseeded with native vegetation, in compliance with Section 7(a)(1) of the ESA and the 90th RRC's INRMP.

Operation of the AFRC would result in minor increases in demand on the city's drinking water supply and wastewater treatment system (City of Round Rock 2008e). As indicated above, however, there is sufficient capacity with both systems to accommodate the proposed realignment and operation of the AFRC (City of Round Rock 2008e).

4.12.2.2 No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, no construction of the AFRC facility would occur; thus, no changes would occur to the USARC's stormwater system or existing discharges. Furthermore, no additional demands, temporary or long-term, on Round Rock's water supply or wastewater treatment systems would occur under this alternative.

4.13 Hazardous and Toxic Substances

4.13.1 Affected Environment

The preferred site consists of an open agricultural field, with no visible evidence of hazardous or toxic materials present. There is a potential for residual agricultural chemicals in the soil from past use. There are no treatment, storage, or disposal facilities or special hazards located on or adjacent to the proposed action site.

4.13.2 Environmental Consequences

4.13.2.1 Proposed Action Alternative

The potential exists for minor petroleum, oils, and lubricants (POL) storage at the preferred site to maintain and fuel equipment during construction; however, these activities would include primary and secondary containment measures. Clean-up materials (*e.g.,* oil mops) would also be maintained at the site to allow immediate action in case an accidental spill occurs. Drip pans would be provided for stationary equipment to capture any POL accidentally spilled during maintenance activities or leaks from the equipment. In addition, as part of the construction contract, the contractor would follow BMPs to control leaks and spills and submit an application for a TPDES permit, as required, and all personnel would be briefed on the implementation and responsibilities for the BMPs during construction.

Solvents and cleaners could be stored at the AFRC following construction. The proposed AFRC vehicle maintenance shop would recycle parts cleaner solution, and would maintain POL in small quantities for equipment maintenance. Hazardous materials and waste generated would be disposed of through an approved contractor according to state and Federal regulations.

Therefore, the Proposed Action Alternative would result in negligible hazards to the public or the environment resulting from the transport, use, or disposal of hazardous materials.

4.13.2.2 No Action

Without the construction and operation of a new AFRC, there would be no additional potential for spills of hazardous materials during construction.

4.14 Cumulative Effects Summary

This section of the EA addresses the potential cumulative impacts associated with the implementation of the alternatives and other projects/programs that are planned for the region. The CEQ defines cumulative impacts as the incremental impact of multiple present and future actions with individually minor but collectively significant effects. Cumulative impacts can be concisely defined as the total effect of multiple land uses and developments, including their interrelationships, on the environment.

The preferred site and the lands surrounding the site have been used extensively for agricultural, residential, and light industrial purposes for decades; as such, the site is and has been disturbed. The proposed construction and operation of the AFRC would increase the developed areas in the project area by up to 12 acres, and remove another 5 acres from other potential uses. Operation of the AFRC would not result in cumulative impacts on training ranges or air space, ambient noise levels, water quality or supply, or air quality. Transportation routes and demands would be increased, primarily on the weekends when most or all of the Reserve Units would arrive. According to the City of Round Rock's Planning Department (VonRosenberg 2008), no plans for development or other improvements are known for this site and the immediate surrounding lands. However, Old Settler's Park is currently being upgraded and there are other houses being constructed within or near the project area. The establishment of the AFRC, when combined with other proposed developments, would have negligible cumulative impacts on land use or biological resources at and surrounding the preferred site.

Cumulative effects on air quality from the Proposed Action Alternative, when combined with other on-going projects, would be negligible and would remain below *de minimis* thresholds. Operation of the AFRC would add to the cumulative amount of hazardous wastes generated in the project area. However, all wastes are disposed by licensed contractors in accordance with state and Federal regulations; consequently, negligible cumulative adverse impacts would be expected.

If, at some point, USAR requires expansion of the AFRC to accommodate additional units or other mission support requirements, the remaining 5 acres could be developed. Similar impacts on the human and natural environment would occur, and would be addressed in supplemental NEPA documents, as appropriate. Still, the alteration of 17 acres of crop land would not result in significant cumulative impacts on any of the identified resources.

4.15 Best Management Practices (BMPs)

This section of the EA describes those measures that could be implemented to further reduce or eliminate potential adverse impacts on the human and natural environment. The BMPs are presented for each resource category that could be potentially affected. These proposed measures would be coordinated through the appropriate regulatory agencies.

4.15.1 Vegetation and Wildlife

Native seeds or plants, which are compatible with the enhancement of protected species, would be used to the extent feasible, as required under Section 7(a)(1) of the ESA, to reseed

temporarily disturbed areas once construction is complete. This effort would apply only to those areas that would not be expected to be part of the permanent landscaped or maintained areas of the AFRC.

The Migratory Bird Treaty Act requires that private contractors obtain a construction permit if the construction activity is scheduled during the nesting season. The nesting season for this area is typically March 15 through September 15. Active nests would need to be identified and avoided to the extent practicable. Another environmental protective measure that would be considered is to schedule all construction activities outside the nesting season.

Additional measures would include BMPs, as described previously, during construction to minimize or prevent erosion and soil loss. If straw bales are used as part of the BMPs, weed seed-free straw bales would be used to eliminate the potential of spreading invasive species.

4.15.2 Air Quality

As mentioned previously, emissions associated with construction activities would be negligible and well below *de minimis* thresholds. Proper and routine maintenance of all vehicles and other equipment would be implemented to ensure that emissions are within the design standards of all construction equipment. Dust suppression methods would be implemented to minimize fugitive dust. The following air emission control strategies outlined in the SIP EAC would be applicable to air emissions produced by ongoing operations at the AFRC:

- 5.3.3A2 Idling Restrictions on Heavy-Duty vehicle Engines, Chapter 114, Subchapter J: Limits idling of heavy duty vehicles (greater than 33,000 pounds) to five minutes during the spring and summer months between April 1 through October 31st.
- 5.3.A5 Degreasing Controls, Chapter 115, Subchapter E: Requires an 85 percent control efficiency for degreasers.

4.15.3 Water Resources

The proposed construction activities would require a SWPPP, which would be prepared and submitted to the TCEQ and EPA, as part of the TPDES permit process. The SWPPP would identify BMPs that would be implemented before, during, and after construction.

4.15.4 Cultural Resources

Prior to construction, the Army would brief the construction crews on procedures to follow in case of an unexpected discovery of cultural resources. If any cultural resources are uncovered during construction, the Army and the THC would be notified, and all construction activities would stop until a qualified archaeologist can assess the significance of the cultural remains. If human remains are encountered, the local coroner and law enforcement agency would be contacted. If the remains are of Native American origin, compliance with the Native American Graves and Repatriation Act regulations would be required.

4.15.5 Hazardous and Toxic Substances

Hazardous and toxic materials/wastes at the project site during construction would likely consist of petroleum, oils and lubricants (POL). If hazardous waste is generated, it would be disposed of according to Federal, state and local regulations, as well as existing Army regulations and procedures. No maintenance of construction equipment would be conducted on-site, minimizing the potential for spills or direct contact with POLs. Equipment and vehicles parked overnight, or left for lengthy periods on-site, would be fitted with drip pans. On-site use of

construction equipment, use of chemical products, and wastes generated during construction would comply with all Federal, state, and local regulations relating to protecting the environment from hazardous materials and containing spills. No large quantities of hazardous wastes would be stored on the site. Any hazardous wastes generated by the operation of the vehicle maintenance shop would be below reportable quantities and would be properly disposed of by licensed contractors.

In addition, USAR would incorporate sustainability and greening practices in daily operations through cost-effective waste reduction, recycling of reusable materials and purchase of items produced using recovered materials, in compliance with Executive Order 13148.

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SECTION 5.0
FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

5.0 Findings and Conclusions

5.1 Findings

5.1.1 Consequences of the Proposed Action Alternative

The Proposed Action Alternative would result in the permanent conversion of up to 12 acres of disturbed grassland to hard surfaces and buildings, and removal of another 5 acres from future crop production and other private uses. The preferred site is within the city limits, but is currently un-zoned. Therefore, this conversion is consistent with the City of Round Rock's Master Plan and does not conflict with the city's current development plans for the project area. No impacts on Federal or state protected species would occur. No violations of air or water quality standards would be expected; BMPs would be implemented to ensure stormwater, during and after construction, is controlled and downstream sedimentation is either eliminated or is negligible. Temporary increases in noise would be expected during the construction. Transportation would be slightly increased during and after construction. Approximately 14 full-time employees are expected to commute to the AFRC on a daily basis. Most of the increases in traffic associated with the AFRC would occur on weekends, however. No long-term impacts relative to utilities or hazardous waste and materials would be expected from the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC.

Some benefits for local and regional employment and personal income would be expected during the construction. However, these benefits would be negligible when compared to the Austin-Round Rock MSA. A summary of the potential effects from the Proposed Action Alternative and No Action Alternative is presented in Table 5-1 on the following page.

Table 5-1. Summary Matrix of Potential Impacts

Affected Resource	No Action Alternative	Proposed Action Alternative
Land Use	No impacts on land use are expected.	Up to 12 acres of crop land would be converted to the facility and parking areas. The facility is consistent with the City of Round Rock's Master Plan, which designates the site as a business district, and planned development.
Aesthetics	No adverse impacts are expected.	Slight degradation during construction, but no significant long-term impacts would occur on the project area's visual qualities.
Air Quality	No adverse effects are anticipated.	Negligible temporary effects on air quality during construction would occur. Pre-project conditions would return upon cessation of construction activities. All emissions would be below *de minimis* thresholds.
Noise	No adverse impacts are expected.	Negligible temporary increases in ambient noise levels during construction. Pre-project conditions would return upon cessation of construction activities. Operation of the facility would be expected to produce negligible increases in ambient noise levels.
Soils	No impacts on soils are expected.	Up to 12 acres of soil would be disturbed and permanently removed from potential biological and agricultural productivity. The loss of 12 acres of farmland soils would be negligible relative to the rest of Williamson County.
Water Resources	No adverse impacts would occur.	No significant impact on the region's water supply or water quality. No potentially jurisdictional wetlands occur on the proposed site.
Biological Resources	No impacts are expected.	Up to 12 acres of crop land would be permanently removed. No effects on threatened or endangered species would occur.
Cultural Resources	No effects are anticipated.	No impacts are expected.
Socioeconomics	No effect on the regional or local economy would be expected.	Negligible temporary, but beneficial, effects for the City of Round Rock during construction.
Transportation	No adverse impacts are expected.	Slight increase in local traffic along Highway 79 and North Redbud Lane during construction; no major congestion is expected. Traffic would be increased (by about 1 percent) on these same streets once the relocation is complete.
Utilities	No adverse impacts are expected.	Slight increase in the demands on the City of Round Rock's public systems. More than sufficient capacity is available to meet these demands.
Hazardous Materials	No adverse impacts are expected.	No impacts are expected to occur.

5.1.2 Consequences of the No Action Alternative

Under the No Action Alternative, the existing human and natural environment at the preferred site would remain status quo, at least for the short-term. Since the area is under private ownership and is currently used as rangeland, there is a possibility that the preferred site could be developed at some point in the future.

5.2 Conclusions

Based on the information presented in the previous sections, it is concluded that the best available site for the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC is at the preferred site, and that development of this site would result in negligible adverse impacts on the area's human and natural environment. Therefore, issuance of a FNSI is warranted and no additional NEPA documentation (i.e., Environmental Impact Statement) is required.

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SECTION 6.0
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SECTION 7.0
LIST OF PREPARERS

7.0 List of Preparers

The following people were primarily responsible for preparing this Environmental Assessment.

NAME	AGENCY/ORGANIZATION	DISCIPLINE/EXPERTISE	EXPERIENCE	ROLE IN PREPARING EA
Larry Olliff	USACE Mobile/Savannah District	Environmental Studies	7 years in NEPA and 18 years in environmental studies	USACE Technical Manager
Suna Adam Knaus	GSRC	Forestry/Wildlife	19 years natural resources	EA review
Chris Ingram	GSRC	Biology/Ecology	33 years NEPA and natural resources	Project Manager, DOPAA, biological resources
Eric Webb, Ph.D.	GSRC	Ecology/Wetlands	19 years natural resources and NEPA Studies	EA Technical Review
John Lindemuth	GSRC	Archaeology	16 years Professional Archaeologist/Cultural Resources	EA preparation; cultural resources
Steve Oivanki, RPG	GSRC	Geology/Soils	33 years geological and NEPA studies	EA preparation; soils
Shanna McCarty	GSRC	Ecology	2 years NEPA and natural resources	EA preparation; socioeconomics
Steve Kolian	GSRC	Environmental Studies	13 years environmental and marine science	EA preparation; air and water quality
Curt Schaeffer	GSRC	Wetlands/Biological	7 years wetlands and NEPA studies	EA preparation; utilities and hazardous waste
Carey Perry	GSRC	Biology/Ecology	1 year natural resources	EA preparation; land use, aesthetics; water resources
Ron Webster	Ray Clark Group, LLC	Socioeconomics/Civil Engineering	35 years NEPA studies and socioeconomic analyses	EIFS modeling and analysis

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SECTION 8.0
ACRONYMS AND ABBREVIATIONS

8.0 Acronyms and Abbreviations

ACHP	Advisory Council on Historic Preservation
AFRC	Armed Forces Reserve Center
ASIV	Available Site Identification and Validation
AT/FP	anti-terrorism/force protection
BEA	Bureau of Economic Analysis
BMP	best management practices
BNSF	Burlington Northern Santa Fe Railroad
BRAC Commission	Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CO	Carbon monoxide
CWA	Clean Water Act
dB	decibel
dBA	decibels A-weighted scale
DNL	Day-Night Level
DoD	Department of Defense
EA	Environmental Assessment
EAC	Early Action Compact
ECHO	Enforcement and Compliance History Online
EIFS	Economic Impact Forecast System
EO	Executive Order
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency
ESA	Endangered Species Act
ETJ	Extra-territorial Jurisdiction
FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
FHWA	Federal Highway Administration
FNSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FY	Fiscal Year
HVAC	heating, ventilation, and air conditioning
I	Interstate
INRMP	Integrated Natural Resources Management Plan
MGD	million gallons per day
MSA	Metropolitan Statistical Area
NAAQS	National Ambient Air Quality Standards
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act of 1969
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
NO_2	nitrogen dioxide
NRCS	Natural Resource Conservation Service
NRHP	National Register of Historic Places
O_3	Ozone
PCPI	per capita personal income
PM-10	particulate matter less than 10 microns
PM-2.5	particulate matter less than 2.5 microns
POL	petroleum, oils, and lubricants
ROI	region of influence
RRC	Regional Readiness Command
SF	square feet
SHPO	State Historic Preservation Officer
SIP	State Implementation Plan

SR	State Route
SWPPP	Stormwater Pollution Prevention Plan
TASA	Texas Archaeological Site Atlas
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
THC	Texas Historical Commission
TPDES	Texas Pollutant Discharge Elimination System
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
TWDB	Texas Water Development Board
TXARNG	Texas Army National Guard
TPI	total personal income
TxDOT	Texas Department of Transportation
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USAR	U.S. Army Reserve
USARC	U.S. Army Reserve Center
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
USGS	U.S. Geologic Survey
VOC	volatile organic compounds

APPENDIX A
ASIV and Site Survey Report

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT
600 ARMY PENTAGON
WASHINGTON DC 20310-2400

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

8 May 08

DAIM-OD

MEMORANDUM FOR U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District (CERE-AM), P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201-0059

SUBJECT: SUBJECT: Site Survey Report (SSR) Approval for Round Rock, Texas – FY 2009 Military Construction Army Reserve (MCAR) Project Number 64526

1. Reference Memorandum 90th Regional Readiness Command, ARRC-CAR-ENP, 2 May 2008, subject: Second Site Survey Report (SSR), Round Rock, TX, enclosed.

2. The purpose of this memorandum is to request the Corps of Engineers (COE) immediately acquire a Right-of-Entry to the southern portion of Site # 8. Approximately 17± acres of land is required for acquisition at 901 Red Bud Lane, Round Rock, Texas 78665 as identified in the Site Survey Report (SSR). Site # 8 is the recommended Primary Site by the Site Survey Team (SST) to support the FY 2009 Military Construction Army Reserve (MCAR) FY 2009 Project Number 64526. Site # 7 is the approved alternate site. Site # 8 is approximately 96.24 acres and the land owner is willing to subdivide the land. All utilities to the site are available. The asking price for Site # 8 is $152,460 per acre. The Right-of-Entry will allow the Army time to accomplish the appropriate Environmental and Engineering Feasibility studies to determine the site suitability prior to acquisition authorization. In addition, the COE is directed to prepare an appraisal and negotiate with the land owner a purchase option with the condition that the cost of the option will be deducted from the negotiated price, and that the land must prove to be environmentally unencumbered and found suitable for construction of the Army Reserve project. We require a Real Estate Planning Report and will purchase the land in fiscal year 2009.

3. My POCs are Major Gregory Scott, DAIM-ODR, Project Officer, 703-602-7099, e-mail: Gregory.Scott@hqda.army.mil, and for Real Estate it is Ms. Maria Chuck, DAIM-ODR, Chief of Real Estate, 703-602-3765, e-mail: maria.chuck@hqda.army.mil.

FOR THE ASSISTANT CHIEF OF STAFF FOR INSTALLATION MANAGEMENT:

for H.T. LANDWERMEYER JR. SPEYSER'24 Dep Dir
BG, USA
Director, Operations

Encl
as

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

ARRC-CAR-ENP

2 May 2008

Headquarters, Department of the Army, Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, ATTN: ACSIM-ODR (Ms. Chuck), DAIM-ODR, (TB3E22), 2530 Crystal Drive, Arlington, Virginia 22202

SUBJECT: Second Site Survey Report (SSR), Round Rock, Texas

1. Enclosed is the second Site Survey Report (SSR) pertaining to the acquisition of seventeen (17) (+or-) acres site to support an FY 2009 BRAC Construction Army (BCA) project (Project Number 64526) to construct a 1,000 Member Armed Forces Reserve Center in Round Rock, Texas, for the 90th RRC and the Texas Army National Guard. The original site selected is no longer available therefore a second site survey was conducted on 29 April 2008. The new facility will contain an AFRC building with 141,900 square feet of space, a Vehicle Maintenance Shop with 30,888 square feet, an Organizational Unit Storage with 12,237, and Organizational Parking (Military Equipment Park) with 42,702 square yards. Based on the center rating and in accordance with AR 140-483, Army Reserve Land and Facilities Management, a seventeen (17) net build able acre site will be required for the AFRC project.

2. A new Site Survey Team (SST) convened in Round Rock on 28 April 2008 to visit and evaluate contending sites identified in the second Available Site Identification and Validation (ASIV) report prepared by the Fort Worth Corps of Engineer District. As indicated in the SSR, Mr. Edwards, ACSIM-ODR Real Estate Contractor, provided a briefing the SST members at 1800 with an assist from Ms. Lisa Gilley, HQDA BRAC Division and Mr. Ronald Hancock, BRAC Transition Coordinator, 90th RRC. The SST reconvened at 0800, 29 April and visited the sites referred within the ASIV.

3. The 2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended closure of the Round Rock United States Army Reserve Center, Round Rock, Texas, and relocation of the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center with a Field Maintenance Shop in Round Rock, Texas. The BRAC commission also recommended the new AFRC have the capability to accommodate Texas Army National Guard units from Texas Army National Guard Readiness Centers in Austin and Taylor and the Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, TX, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units. Site 8, the Primary Site recommended for acquisition, will have a width of 580 feet and a length of 1,276 feet which will meet Anti-Terrorist Force Protection (ATFP) requirements. Two representatives of the Texas Army National Guard participated as members of the Site Survey Team (SST); both concur with the

ARRC-CAR-ENP
SUBJECT: Site Survey Report (SSR), Round Rock, Texas

SST recommendations to pursue Site 8 as the Primary Site and Site 7 as the Secondary Alternate Site. A list of the SST participants is attached at enclosure 1 to the Site Survey Report (SSR).

4. The 90th RRC concurs with the recommendations of the Site Survey Team (SST) that Site Number 8 be pursued as the Primary Site for acquisition. BRAC Planning and Design funds will be used to fund this project. The SST was informed by Ms. Gilley and Mr. Barton, HQDA BRAC Division, they concurred with the SST recommendations. After approval is granted to pursue Site 8, the Louisville and Fort Worth District Corps of Engineers should be informed to immediately execute a Right of Entry to the site to complete the appropriate environmental documentation and an Engineering Feasibility Study (EFS). Further, the districts should be informed to immediately acquire an appraisal and follow through with execution of a purchase option. The purchase option should stipulate the cost of the option will be deducted from the negotiated Fair Market Value purchase price and contain a provision that the land must prove not to be unencumbered with environmental conditions and be suitable to accommodate the construction project. Major Gregory Scott is the MILCON POC for this project (AC 703-602-7099). Ms. Rachel White, (AC 501-771-8927), 90th Regional Readiness Command (RRC) is the real estate POC for this action.

FOR THE DCSARIM:

Hays Kinslow

Enclosure
as

Hays L. Kinslow
Director, ARIM

CF: w/Encls
Cdr, Fort Worth District Corps of Engineers
Cdr, USACE, ATTN: CERE-AM (Ms. Mahoney)
Site Survey Team Members

ROUND ROCK, TEXAS
SITE SURVEY REPORT
1 May 2008

1. This site survey was conducted on 29 April 2008 to evaluate contending sites and to select a suitable seventeen (17) net useable acre site that will be required for the construction of the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC). A minimum width of 500 linear feet is required for any referred property to meet Anti-Terrorist Force Protection (ATFP) requirements. A site plan for the preferred site was annotated to reflect the proposed location of the acreage to be acquired. Site 8, the Primary Site recommended for acquisition by the Site Survey Team, will have a width of 580 feet and a length of 1,276 feet which will meet Anti-Terrorist Force Protection (ATFP) requirements. The site plan for Site #8, the Primary Site Selected by the SST, was transmitted electronically by Mr. Edwards to Mr. Forest Willis, the Fort Worth Corps of Engineers, all SST members and HQDA POCs. Concurrence with the proposed site plan by SST members has been received via email by Mr. Edwards. Mr. Willis, Fort Worth Corps of Engineers District Real Estate POC for the ASIV, contacted the land owners on 1 May 2008 and has received their verbal concurrence with the proposed site plan. The 90th RRC concurs with the recommendations of the Site Survey Team (SST) that Site Number 8 be pursued as the Primary Site for acquisition and the Site Number 7 be pursued as the Alternate site should acquisition of Site Number 8 prove infeasible. A list of the SST participants is attached at enclosure 1 to the SSR.

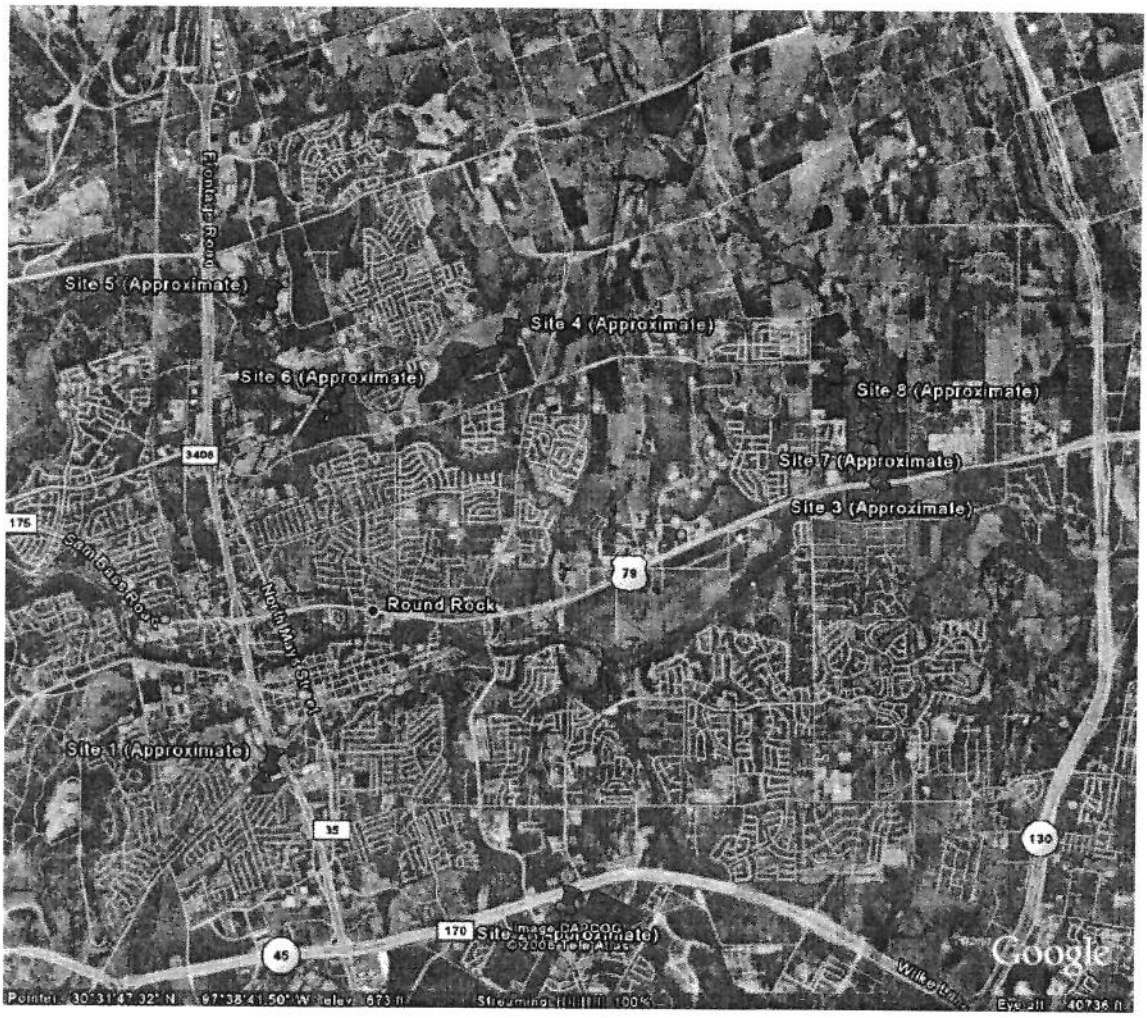
2. The 2005 Defense Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) Commission recommended closure of the Round Rock United States Army Reserve Center (leased) and relocate units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center with a consolidated Field Maintenance Shop in Round Rock, TX, if the Army is able to acquire land suitable for the construction of the facilities. The new AFRC shall have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard units from the Texas ARNG Readiness Centers in Austin and Taylor, TX, and the Texas Army National Guard Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, TX, if the state decides to relocate those National Guard units.

3. The site plan for Site 8 has been annotated to reflect a frontage of approximately 580 linear foot width along Red Bud and an approximate length that measures 1,276 linear feet. This site layout will meet Anti-Terrorist Force Protection (ATFP) requirements. The 1,000 Member Armed Forces Reserve Center in Round Rock, Texas, will accommodate both USAR Units from the 90th RRC and the Texas Army National Guard as recommended by the BRAC Commission.

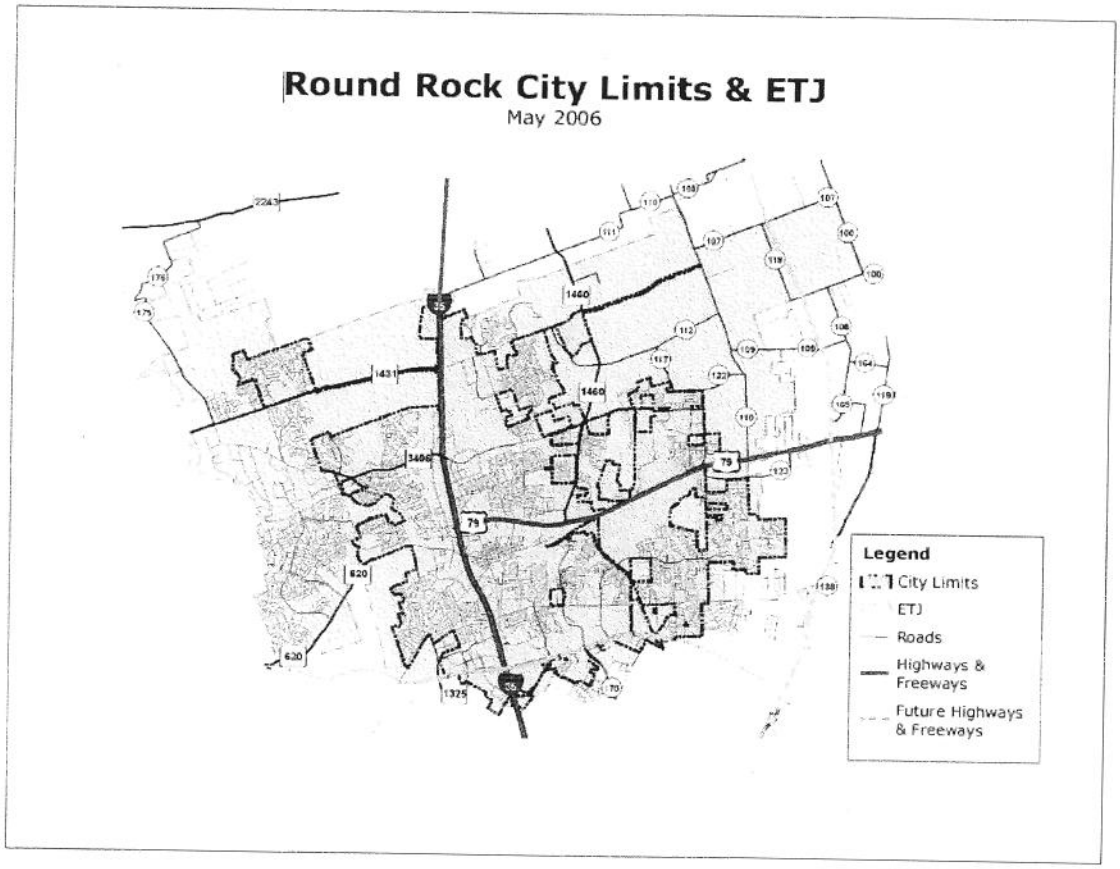
4. SST members were queried as to the acceptability of the sites contained in the ASIV to determine if any should be deleted for cause or to determine if any additional sites should be added for consideration. There were eight (8) sites investigated within the City of Round Rock, TX, and ETJ. The comparable market value range for acreage in Round Rock, Texas is $152,460.00 to $740,520.00 per acre. None of the sites were located in the 100 year flood plan. Site 1 was rejected from consideration; acquisition of this site would require condemnation to secure title; the SST decided against condemnation since other suitable sites are available for purchase. Site # 6 is already under contract for office space. After Mr. Willis spoke with the property owner's

representative about subdividing for the Army Reserves, the contact has yet to communicate any response on behalf of the property owner. The following map overview provides an aerial location of the sites investigated in the ASIV.

Property Location Map Overview



Round Rock City Limits & ETJ



5. The following comments provide a summary of observations captured by the SST for each site visited.

a. <u>The Site Survey Team unanimously identified Site 8 as the Primary Site to be pursued for acquisition</u>. This is located at 901 N Red Bud Lane, Round Rock, Texas 78665. The site has excellent visibility and access from Red Bud Lane. The topography is relatively level flat land and is currently used to grow corn. Of all the sites in the ASIV, this site is the only one that provides the best site for construction and access. The SST originally requested the 17 acres of land be located on the Northern edge of the property. We were later informed the original family farm house, which is approximately 100 to 125 years old, is located in that area and the owner is unwilling to sell that parcel. The SST likewise does not wish to acquire any structure with Cultural or Historical aspects and decided to identify a tract of land on the southern side of the property just north of, and contiguous to, an existing "concrete container" business currently out-granted under lease by the owner of Site 8 to a private individual. The owner indicated the lessee "plans to terminate the lease" and recommended we incorporate the "leased site" into our future plans for acquisition. The SST declined that proposal in view of the fact a specific date for termination of the lease could not be established. The site plan for Site 8 has been annotated to reflect a frontage of approximately 580 linear foot width along Red Bud Lane and an approximate length that measures 1,276 linear feet north of, and contiguous to, the existing "concrete container"

business currently out-granted. This site layout will meet Anti-Terrorist Force Protection (ATFP) requirements. All utilities are available on site. The asking price of $152,460.00 per acre; $2,591,820.00 for 17 acres is the best value for the site to be acquired. The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 8 Data:

Address: 901 N RED BUD LN, ROUND ROCK, TX 78665
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via N Red Bud Ln.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
NAME: Beverly Johnson Gordon
ADDRESS: 9168 CR 110, Round Rock, TX, 78665
PHONE NUMBER: 512-255-3354
Site Description: The site is approximately 96.24 acres. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 96.24 acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 2,168 feet
South: 3,277 feet
East: 2,543 feet
West: 2,040 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): other

Environmental Concerns Present:	YES	**NO**

Flood Plan Data: See flood plan image below.
Topography Aspects: See TOPO map below.
Utilities: All utilities are available on site.
Current Use:

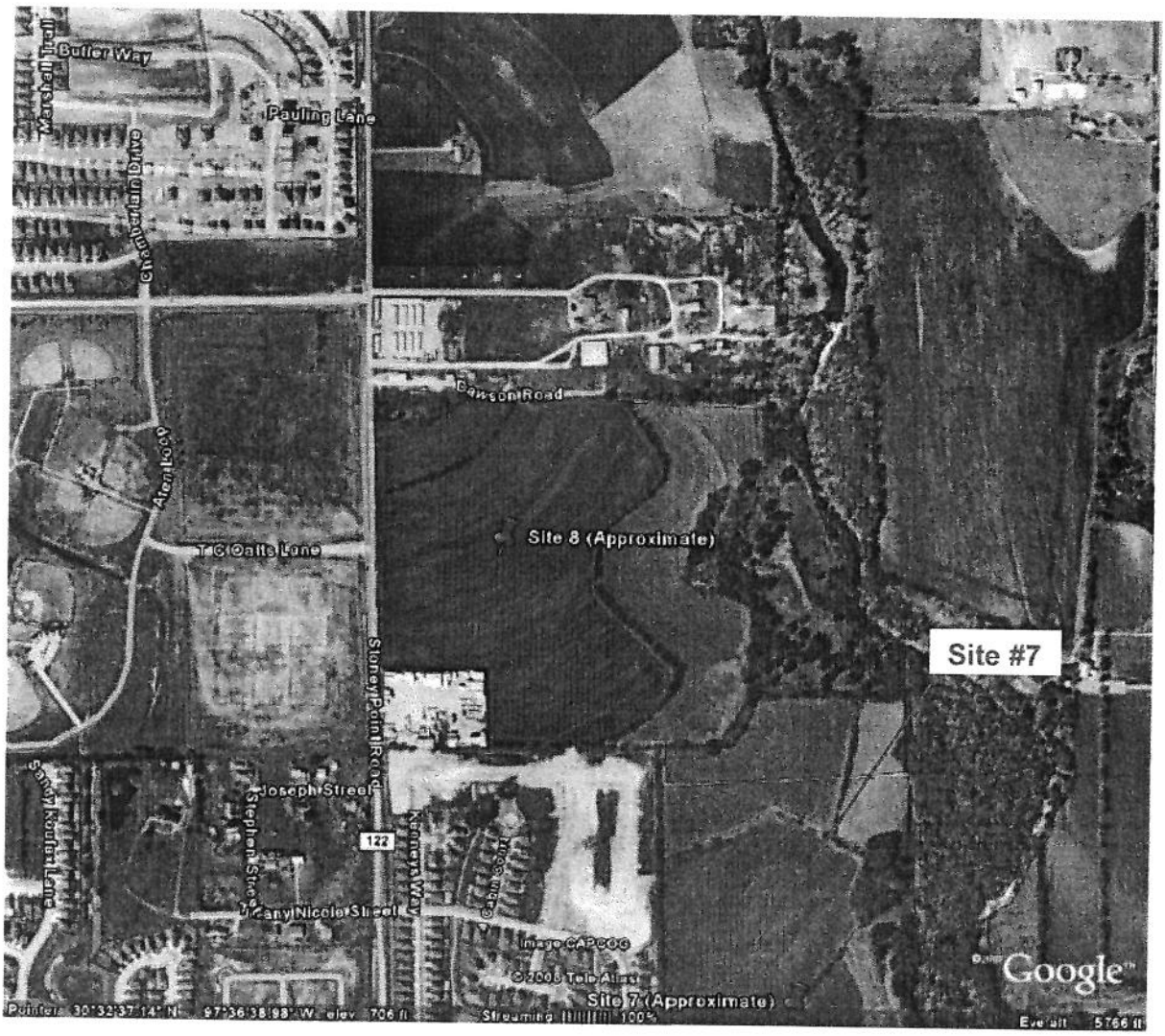
Buildings on Site:	YES	**NO**
Relocation of Current Occupants Required:	YES	**NO**
Demolition Required:	YES	**NO**
Cut and fill Requirements:	**YES**	NO
Zoning:		
Residential:	YES	**NO**
Retail:	YES	**NO**
Commercial:	YES	**NO**
Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Light Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Agricultural:	**YES**	NO
Mixed use:	YES	**NO**
Fenced:	YES	**NO**

Parking sufficient net useable land available:
Distance to nearest Fire Station: .5 miles.
Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: None in the immediate area.
Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): .5 miles.

Subject to Easements: **YES** NO
The source deed for the property has not been collected. However, after speaking with the property owner the utilities for this site are available. Therefore, it is recommended a site survey and title be acquired.
Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**
Purchase Data:
Available Date: Immediately.
Asking Price: $3.50 per square $152,460.00 per acre; $2,591,820.00 for 17 acres.
Additional Comments: Beverly Gordon is the owner of this property as well as sites 3 and 7. After speaking with her husband, Bill Gordon, he offered this site as well. There are no photos of this site, it has not been viewed.

ASIV Site # 8
901 N RED BUD LN, ROUND ROCK, TX 78665

Aerial View



b. The Site Survey Team unanimously recommended Site 7 be pursued as the Alternate site should acquisition of Site 8, the Primary Site, prove infeasible.
This site is owned by the same individual as the owner of Site 8 and Site 3; Site 7 and 8 abut one another whereas Site 3 is located across the highway from Site 7. The site is extremely good from a visibility point of view as well as for construction; it has basically the same characteristics as Site 8 except for the fact it is located on an extremely busy highway. Frontage is along Highway 79 a four lane boulevard with traffic speeds of up to 70 miles per hour. There is also a fairly low hanging electrical line along the frontage which could impede access in and out of the site. If we must acquire Site 7 should Site 8 prove infeasible for acquisition, the 17 acre tract of land should be situation on the far western side of the property. The owner lives in the house located on the far eastern side of the property. The estimated asking price for this 17 acre tract is $12.00 per square $740,520.00 per acre; $12,588,840.00 for 17 acres. The asking price for Site 7 far exceeds that of Site 8; the reason is the highest and best use of this site may prove to be for commercial/retail purposes because of the high visibility. The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 7 Data:

Address: Highway 79/8648 CR 110, Round Rock, TX, 78665
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via Old Settlers Blvd.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
See Site description
NAME: Beverly Johnson Gordon
ADDRESS: 9168 CR 110, Round Rock, TX, 78665
PHONE NUMBER: 512-255-3354

Site Description: The site is approximately 135.46 acres. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 135.46 acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 5,233 feet
South: 2,385 feet
East: 2,543 feet
West: 2,500 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): other
Environmental Concerns Present: YES **NO**
Flood Plan Data: Above the 100 year flood plain.
Topography Aspects: See TOPO map below.
Utilities: All utilities are available on site.

Current Use:

Buildings on Site:	YES	**NO**
Relocation of Current Occupants Required:	YES	**NO**
Demolition Required:	YES	**NO**
Cut and fill Requirements:	**YES**	NO
Zoning:		
Residential:	YES	**NO**
Retail:	YES	**NO**
Commercial:	YES	**NO**
Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Light Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Agricultural:	**YES**	NO
Mixed Use:	YES	**NO**
Fenced:	YES	**NO**

Parking sufficient net useable land available:
Distance to nearest Fire Station: .5 miles.
Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: None in the immediate area.
Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): .5 miles.

Subject to Easements: **YES** NO

The source deed for the property has not been collected. However, during the site inspection the following was observed: several overhead power lines, and fire hydrants within close proximity. No manhole cover or other utilities were seen in the vicinity. Additional information obtained from research indicates that public water and sewer is available and appears not to be connected. Therefore, it is recommended a site survey and title be acquired.

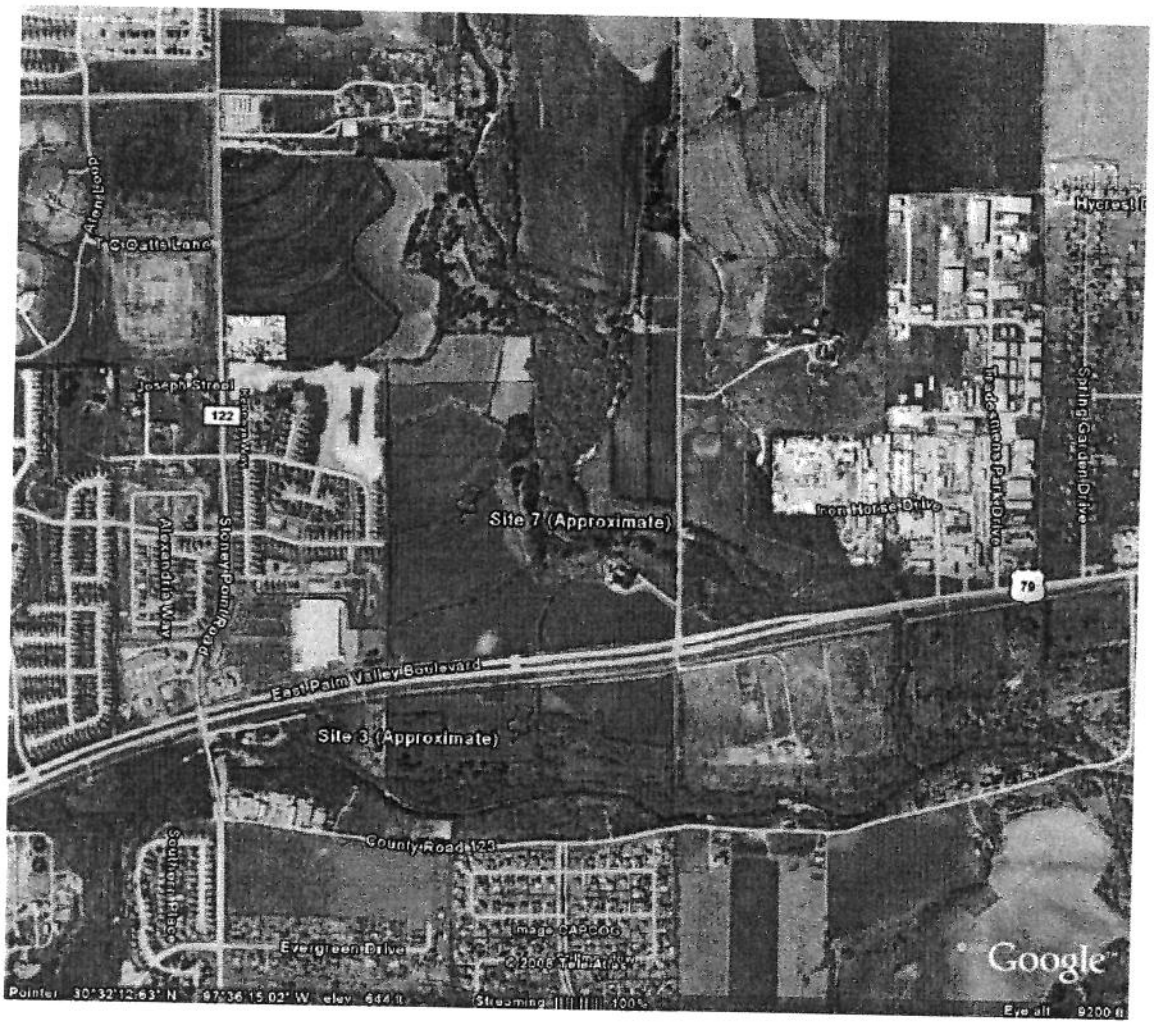
Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**

Purchase Data:

Available Date: Immediately. **Asking Price:** $12.00 per square $740,520.00 per acre; $12,588,840.00 for 17 acres.

Additional Comments: Beverly Gordon is the owner of this property as well as sites 3 and 8. Beverly Gordon selling the property is contingent on price and the nature of the proposed development.

ASIV Site # 7
8648 CR 110, Round Rock, TX, 78665
Arial View



c. The Site Survey Team unanimously rejected Site 1 from consideration.
Acquisition of this site, which is contiguous to the current leased facility, would require condemnation. This site was suggested by the Economic Development Department. His recommendation is that these tracts be condemned due to tracking down multiple owners of these properties, who are scattered across the country. In view of the fact there are other commercial real estate sites available, the SST does not wish to pursue condemnation of this site for obvious reasons.

(See comments below.)
Email received from Joe Vining concerning these tracts:
"The land behind your facility is impossible to develop without assembly to another tract with street frontage. My understanding is that this land is owned by a large extended family with heirs scattered across the country. No one has been able to assemble the tract because of the logistical nightmare. In my opinion, it will not be developed without using condemnation. Even though it might take a little longer, it might provide an excellent opportunity." The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 1 Data:

Address: 1000 IH 35 S, ROUND ROCK, TX 78681
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via IH 35 South, and/or McNeil Road.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
See Site description

NAME:
ADDRESS:
PHONE NUMBER:
FAX NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:

Site Description: This property surrounds the existing Army Reserve Center. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 24.09 acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 2,204 feet
South: 1,727 feet
East: 272 feet
West: 150 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): other

Environmental Concerns Present: YES **NO**
Flood Plan Data: This site is above the 100 year flood plan. **Topography Aspects**: See TOPO map below.
Utilities: See utilities map below.

Current Use:

Buildings on Site:	YES	**NO**
Relocation of Current Occupants Required:	YES	**NO**
Demolition Required:	YES	**NO**
Cut and fill Requirements:	**YES**	NO
Zoning		
Residential:	YES	**NO**
Retail:	YES	**NO**
Commercial:	**YES**	NO
Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Light Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Agricultural:	YES	**NO**
Mixed use:	YES	**NO**
Vacant Land:	**YES**	NO
Fenced:	YES	NO

Parking sufficient net useable land available:
Distance to nearest Fire Station: .6 miles.
Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: approximately 300 to 500 yards.
Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): 1.4 miles.
Subject to Easements: **YES** NO
The source deed for the property has been collected and indicated there are reservations for easements as described below:

(a) 20' Southwestern Bell telephone line along the east property line as shown on survey dated January 4, 1985, by Kenton J. Tunks, Registered Professional Engineer No. 30380, Registered Public Surveyor No. 3777,
(b) Above ground power line along the east property line as shown on survey dated January 4, 1985, by Kenton J. Tunks, Registered Professional Engineer No. 30380, Registered Public Surveyor No. 3777.
(c) The rights of Brushy Creek Water Control and Improvement District No. 1 to levy taxes and issue bonds as set out in information filed by said District in the records of the County Clerk of Williamson County, Texas.
(d) Limited access to road or highway abutting the herein described property on the east.
Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**
Purchase Data:
Available Date: See additional comments. **Asking Price:** See additional comments.
Additional Comments: This site was suggested by the Economic Development Department. His recommendation is that these tracts be condemned due to tracking down multiple owners of these properties, who are scattered across the country. (See comments below.)
Email received from Joe Vining concerning these tracts:

"The land behind your facility is impossible to develop without assembly to another tract with street frontage. My understanding is that this land is owned by a large extended family with heirs scattered across the country. No one has been able to assemble the tract because of the logistical nightmare. In my opinion, it will not be developed without using condemnation. Even though it might take a little longer, it might provide an excellent opportunity."

d. The Site Survey Team unanimously rejected Site 2 from consideration.
This site is composed of four (4) tracts of land and is shaped like a Tee Pee or Pyramid. Because of its configuration, and the measurements of the combined tracts of land, the entire area cannot meet ATFP Setback requirements. The tracts that compose Site 2 are occupied by a standard built house, several mobile homes. The mobile home up front on South AW Grimes Blvd is obviously in the business of selling rocks for construction purposes. This site is therefore encumbered with 10 USC PL 91-646 requirements to relocate the occupants/tenants at the expense of BRAC D; the cost of which would be in addition to the purchase price. The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 2 Data:

Address: 1 ROUNDVILLE LN, ROUND ROCK, TX 78664
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via ROUNDVILLE LN.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
See Site description
NAME: Jack W. Lee Jr.
ADDRESS: 19 Roundville, Lane, Round Rock, TX, 78664
PHONE NUMBER:
FAX NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Site Description: The site is approximately 20+ acres. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 20+ acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 1,199 feet
South: 386 feet
East: 478 feet
West: 481 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): other
Environmental Concerns Present: YES **NO**
Flood Plan Data: See flood plan image below.
Topography Aspects: See TOPO map below.

Utilities: See utilities map below.

Current Use:

Buildings on Site:	**YES**	NO
Relocation of Current Occupants Required:	**YES**	NO
Demolition Required:	**YES**	NO
Cut and fill Requirements:	YES	**NO**
Zoning:		
Residential:	YES	**NO**
Retail:	YES	**NO**
Commercial:	YES	NO
Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Light Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Agricultural:	**YES**	NO
Miixed use:	YES	**NO**
Fenced:	**YES**	NO
Parking sufficient net useable land available:		

Distance to nearest Fire Station: .7 miles.

Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: approximately 200 to 700 yards.

Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): 2.8 miles.

Subject to Easements: **YES** NO

The source deed for the property has been collected and did not indicate any reservations for easements. However, during the site inspection the following was observed: several overhead power lines within close proximity and connecting to the buildings near the property. There were three fire hydrants on Roundville Lane within close proximity of the property. No manhole cover or other utilities were seen in the vicinity. Additional information obtained from research indicates that public water and sewer is available but not connected. Therefore, it is recommended a site survey and title be acquired.

Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**

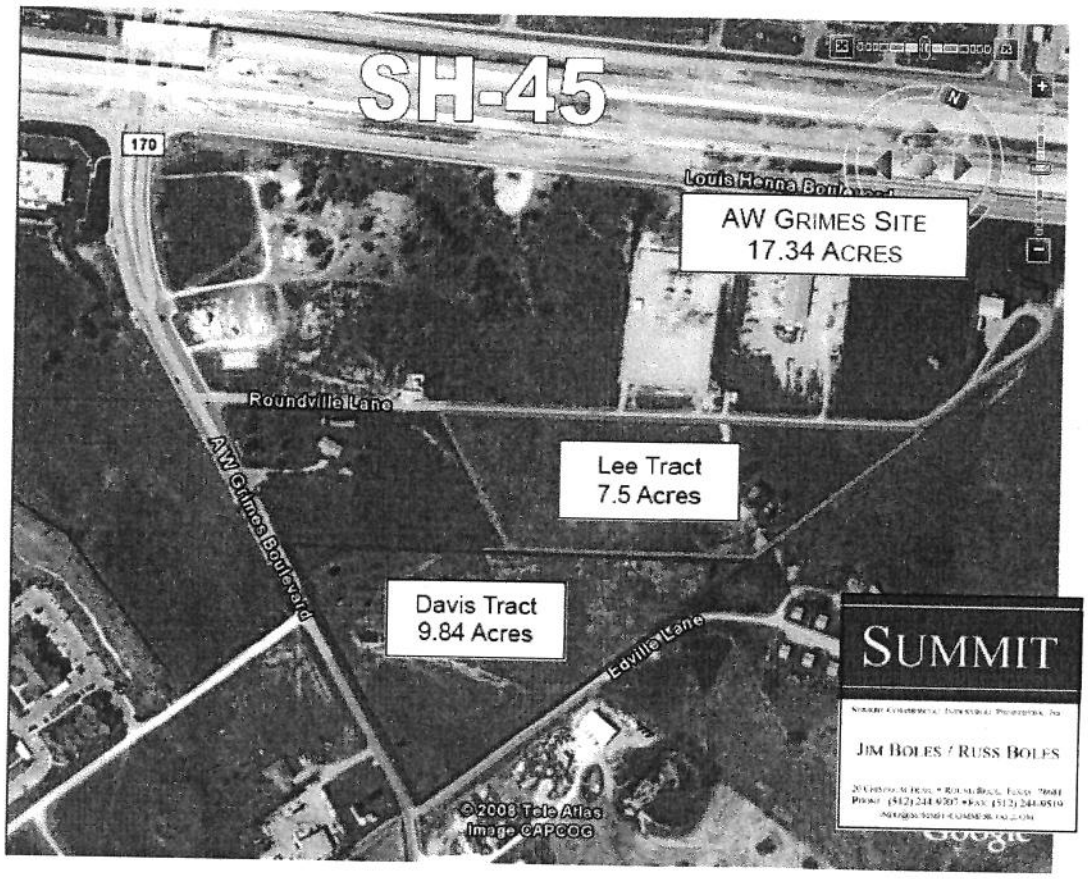
Purchase Data:

Available Date: Immediately. **Asking Price:** $3.50 per square foot; $152,460.00 per acre; $2,591,820.00 for 17 acres.

Additional Comments: This site was suggested by the Economic Development Department. There is a power station across the street. There are 2 tracts that are immediately available (aerial view 2). However, the larger tract of land to the east (aerial view 1) may be available as well but, it's contingent on price and development, which couldn't be discussed due to this ASIV being expedited.

ASIV Site # 2
1 ROUNDVILLE LN, ROUND ROCK, TX 78664

Arial View 2



e. The Site Survey Team unanimously rejected Site 3 from consideration.
This site is owned by the same individual who owns Sites 7 and 8. Site 3 is situated across the highway from Site 7. Access to this site is impeded with having to cross over an active Rail Road track. Several times during the site survey, the SST observed trains passing over the tracks. Access over the tracks is via a short narrow rough road that for all practical purposes "falls" down on the other side of the train tracks. Access in and out of this site would create an extreme safety hazard. There is no other access to this site other than over the Rail Road tracks. The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 3 Data:

Address: 8648 CR 110, Round Rock, TX, 78665
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via HWY 79.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
NAME: Beverly Johnson Gordon
ADDRESS: 9168 CR 110, Round Rock, TX, 78665
PHONE NUMBER: 512-255-3354
FAX NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Site Description: The site is approximately 60.29 acres. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 60.29 acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 2,497 feet
South: 2,677 feet
East: 1,220 feet
West: 826 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): other
Environmental Concerns Present: YES **NO**
Flood Plan Data: The site is not in the 100 year flood plan but there is a small creek along the back side of the property. **Topography Aspects**: See TOPO map below.
Utilities: All utilities are located on site.
Current Use:

Buildings on Site:	YES	**NO**
Relocation of Current Occupants Required:	YES	**NO**
	YES	**NO**
Demolition Required:	**YES**	**NO**
Cut and fill Requirements:		
	YES	**NO**
Zoning:	YES	**NO**
Residential:	YES	NO
Retail:	YES	**NO**
Commercial:	YES	**NO**
Industrial:	**YES**	NO
Light Industrial:	YES	**NO**
	YES	**NO**
Agricultural:		
Mixed use:		
Fenced:		
Parking sufficient net useable land available:		

Distance to nearest Fire Station: .5 miles.
Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: None in the immediate area.
Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): .5 miles.
Subject to Easements: **YES** NO

The source deed for the property has been collected and did not indicate any reservations for easements. However, during the site inspection the following was observed: several overhead power lines within close proximity and connecting to the building adjacent to the property. No manhole cover, fire hydrant, or other utilities were seen in the vicinity. There is a railroad track on the north edge of the property, adjacent to HWY 79 East. Additional information obtained from research indicates that public water and sewer is available but not connected. Therefore, it is recommended a site survey and title be acquired.

Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**

Purchase Data:

Available Date: See additional comments. **Asking Price:** $12.00 per square $740,520.00 per acre; $12,588,840.00 for 17 acres.

Additional Comments: This site was suggested by the Economic Development Department. Beverly Gordon is the owner, and her selling the property is contingent on price and the nature of the proposed development. The property owner's are interested in selling only the west side.

f. The Site Survey Team unanimously rejected Site 4 from consideration.

Access to this site is through a dirt road which is shared with the owner. The actual "site" is located approximately one half (1/2) mile off of Old Settlers Road. Construction of a paved entry way would not only provide access to the site but result in improvements for the owner and possibly others that occupy contiguous land. There is an extreme drop-off in elevation almost in the center of the site of between twenty (20) to thirty (30) feet. The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 4 Data:

Address: 2200 Old Settlers Road, Round Rock, TX, 78665
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via Old Settlers Blvd East.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
NAME: Ardalia E Martin
ADDRESS: PO Box 1403, Round Rock, TX, 78660
PHONE NUMBER:
FAX NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Site Description: The site is approximately 60 acres. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 60 acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 2,237 feet
South: 2,038 feet
East: 1,170 feet
West: 1,107 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): rectangular

Environmental Concerns Present: YES **NO**
Flood Plan Data: The site is above the 100 year flood plan.
Topography Aspects: See TOPO map below.
Utilities: See utilities map below.
Current Use:
Buildings on Site: YES **NO**
Relocation of Current Occupants Required: YES **NO**
Demolition Required: YES **NO**
Cut and fill Requirements: **YES** **NO**
Zoning:
Residential: YES **NO**
Retail: YES **NO**
Commercial: **YES** NO
Industrial: YES **NO**
Light Industrial: YES **NO**
Agricultural: YES **NO**
Mixed use YES **NO**
Fenced: YES **NO**

Parking sufficient net useable land available:
Distance to nearest Fire Station: 2.15 miles.
Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: None in the immediate area.
Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): 2.1 miles.
Subject to Easements: **YES** NO
The source deed for the property has not been collected. However, during the site inspection the following was observed: several overhead power lines within close proximity and connecting to the building adjacent to the property. No manhole cover, fire hydrant, or other utilities were seen in the vicinity. Additional information obtained from research indicates that public water and sewer is available but not connected. Therefore, it is recommended a site survey and title be acquired.
Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**
Purchase Data:
Available Date: Immediately. **Asking Price:** $4.00 per square foot; $174,240.00 per acre; $2,962,080.00 for 17 acres.
Additional Comments: This site was reported in the initial ASIV and is still available. FM 1460 will be upgraded to a five-lane roadway. Future road planned to bisect the property and will provide greater access and visibility to the properties.

f. The Site Survey Team unanimously rejected Site 5 from consideration.
Access to this site is through a business park. The site is situated behind and below a Simi Conductor business. The SST drove through the Cypress Simi Conductor site and "over" a curb to get access to Site 5; construction on this site would require construction of a separate road to create a drive path for ingress/egress. There is an extreme drop-off behind the Cypress Simi Conductor structure to get access to Site 5. This site is virtually located in a "bowl or pit"; thirty or forty feet below the adjacent buildings. This site is owned by Cypress Semiconductor and is located behind their current facility. Storm water runoff from the Cypress site goes downhill into Site 5 and could/would possibly create an environmental problem for whoever purchases the site. There is a

240,000 square foot concrete slab on site that would require demolition. The following additional information is provided:

ASIV Site # 5 Data:

Address: 2 Cypress CV, Round Rock, TX, 78665
Congressional District: 31
Senior Senator: Senator John Cornyn
Junior Senator: Senator Kay Bailey Hutchison
Representative: John R. Carter (R)
Site Access: Via Cypress Blvd.
Owner/Authorized Representative Contact Information:
NAME: CYPRESS SEMICONDUCTOR
ADDRESS: ROUNDROCK INC 17 CYPRESS BLVD, ROUND ROCK, TX, 78665
PHONE NUMBER:
FAX NUMBER:
EMAIL ADDRESS:
Site Description: The site is approximately 30.4 acres. (See aerial image below.)
Size: Approximately 30.4 acres.
Linear feet of site measurements (approximate):
North: 735 feet
South: 1,645 feet
East: 1,238 feet
West: 1,496 feet
Configuration (Rectangular, square, or other): other
Environmental Concerns Present: YES **NO**
Flood Plan Data: See flood plan image below.
Topography Aspects: See TOPO map below.
Utilities: See utilities map below.

Current Use:

Buildings on Site:	YES	**NO**
Relocation of Current Occupants Required:	YES	**NO**
Demolition Required:	YES	**NO**
Cut and fill Requirements:	**YES**	NO
	YES	NO

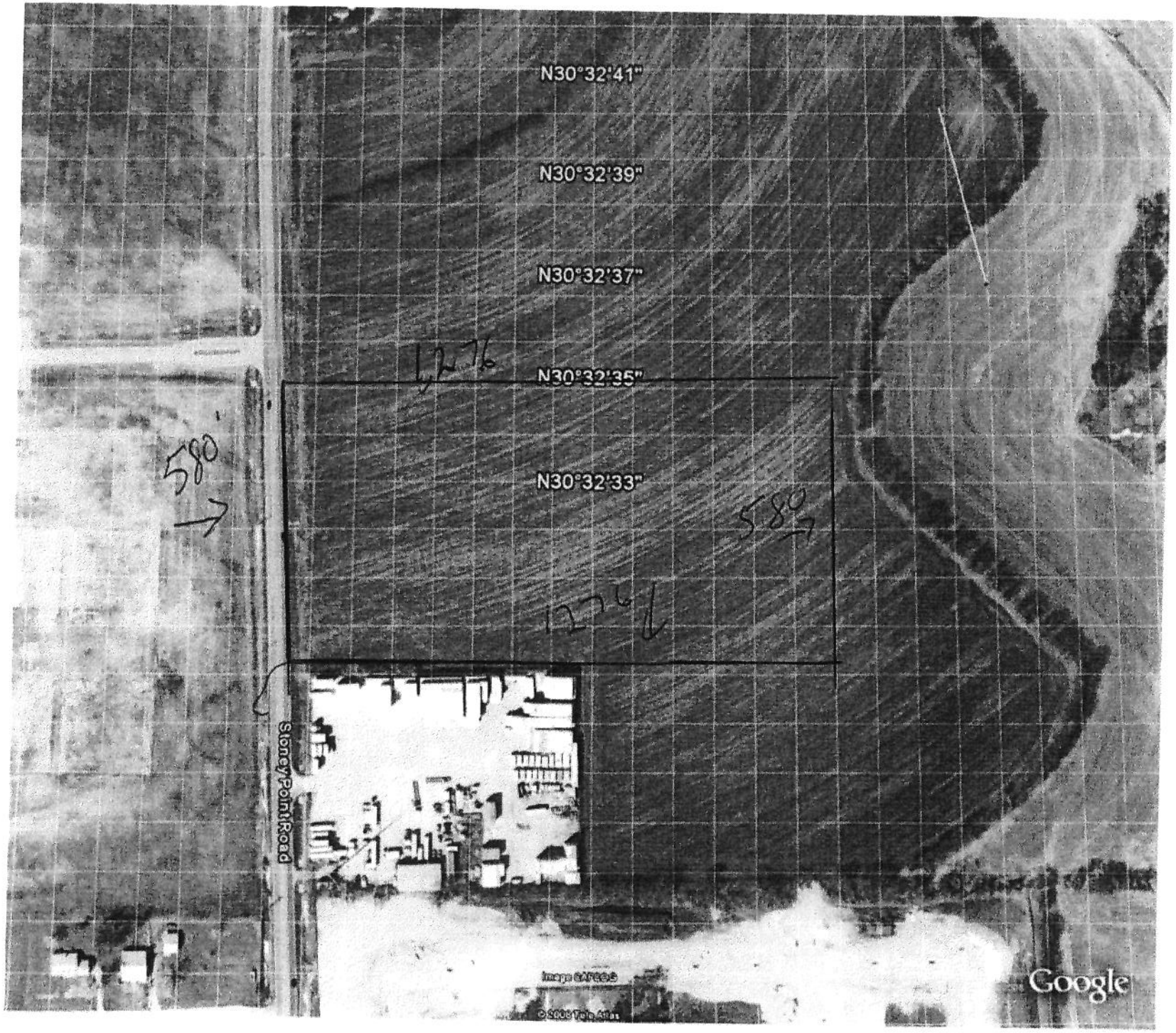
Zoning:	YES	**NO**
Residential:	YES	**NO**
Retail:	**YES**	NO
Commercial:	YES	**NO**
Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Light Industrial:	YES	**NO**
Agricultural:	YES	**NO**
Mixed use:	YES	**NO**

Fenced: **NO**
Parking sufficient net useable land available:
Distance to nearest Fire Station: 1.5 miles.
Distance to nearest Fire Hydrant: None in the immediate area.

Distance to nearest Police Station/Extended Territorial Jurisdiction (ETJ): 2.4 miles.
Subject to Easements: **YES** NO
The source deed for the property has not been collected. However, during the site inspection the following was observed: several overhead power lines within close proximity and connecting to the building adjacent to the property. No manhole cover, fire hydrant, or other utilities were seen in the vicinity. Additional information obtained from research indicates that public water and sewer is available and appears to be connected. Therefore, it is recommended a site survey and title be acquired.
Mineral Rights Reserved: YES **NO**
Purchase Data:
Available Date: Immediately. **Asking Price:** $3.50 per square foot; $152,460.00 per acre; $2,591,820.00 for 17 acres.
Additional Comments: This site is owned by Cypress Semiconductor and is located behind their current facility. There is also a 240,000 square foot slab on site and all services are available.

g. Site 6 is under contract and was therefore not evaluated by the Site Survey Team since it is no longer available for purchase.

Additional Comments: The property owner's representative informed that the property was already contracted out but he would inquire about subdividing acreage to the Army Reserve. After several attempts, no other contact has been received. Site 6 is therefore declared as **Non-Contending**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N30°32'39"
N30°32'37"
N30°32'35"
N30°32'33"
1276
580
580
1276
Stoney Point Road
Image ©AFGRS
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Google

Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, Army Reserve
Installation Management Agency, Army Reserve
Available Site Identification and Validation (ASIV)
SITE SURVEY TEAM MEMBERS ATTENDANCE ROSTER

DATE: 28-5 Apr 08

NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	DUTY POSITION	TELEPHONE NUMBERS	E-MAIL ADDRESS
RACHEL WHITE	8000 CAMP ROBINSON NLR, AR 72118-2225	RE SPECIALIST	W: 501-771-8927 C: F:	rachel.white@us.army.mil
Bill Benson, P	8000 Camp Robinson NLR, AR 72118	Real Prop. Spec	W: 501 771-7937 C: F:	[illegible]
Jerry McAnear	8000 Camp Robinson NLR, AR, 72118	PMO	W: C: 501 538 3433 F:	jerald.mcanear.us.army.mil
SFC Troy B Bowers	1000 S IH 35 Round Rock, Tx 78681	Tx 173 Facility Manager	W: 512-238-1337 x 34 C: 817-939-8989 F:	troy.bowers@us.army.mil
SGT Matos, Sara	1000 S IH 35 Round Rock, Tx 78681	994th/988th Supply SGT	W: 512-238-1331 x 6/1 C: 303-810-8179 F:	sara.matos@usar.army.mil
Forest Willis	819 Taylor St Fort Worth, Tx	Realty Specialist	W: 817 886 1117 C: F:	forest.willis@usace.army.mil
Karen White	PO Box 433 Ladysmith VA 22501	Environmental (CONTR) ACSIM ODR	W: 804 448 8305 C: F:	Karen.white8@us.army.mil
Sara Jackson	1763 Sorento Cir. W Melbourne FL 32904	Environmental (CONTR) ACSIM-ODR	W: 321-725-0667 C: 321-890-3678 F: 321-725-7376	sara.jackson@us.army.mil
Lloyd Roberts	600 E Elm ENID, OK 73701	NGB-ART-BRAC Field Tm Leader	W: 580-213-3026 C: 580-716-4875 F: 405-606-7550	lloyd.w.roberts@us.army.mil
John Wells	2200 W. 35th ST Austin, TX 78703	P&P Branch Chief TXARNG	W: 512-782-6905 C: 512-517-1419 F:	john.wells10@us.army.mil

Instructions: Enter the date of the meeting and capture Site Survey Team Members' Work, Cell, and Fax Telephone numbers for future contact purposes.

Assistant Chief of Staff for Installation Management, Army Reserve
Installation Management Agency, Army Reserve
Available Site Identification and Validation (ASIV)
SITE SURVEY TEAM MEMBERS ATTENDANCE ROSTER

DATE: 28 APRIL 2008

NAME	MAILING ADDRESS	DUTY POSITION	TELEPHONE NUMBERS	E-MAIL ADDRESS
JOHN BARTON	600 Army Pentagon WASH DC 20301	BRAC SUPPO	W: 703 602-6555 C: F:	JOHN.BARTON@hqda.army.
CW4 Michael Gaston	8000 CAMP ROBINSON RD LITTLE ROCK, AR 72118	90TH RRC Project officer	W: 501-771-8780 C: 210-724-6598 F:	MICHAEL.C.GASTON@USAR.ARMY.MIL
Lisa Gilley	2511 Jefferson Davis Arlington, VA 22202	RC Branch Chief OACSIM-ODB	W: 703-602-2860 C: F:	Lisa.Gilley@hqda.army.mil
RONALD HANCOCK	8000 CAMP ROBINSON N. LITTLE ROCK AR 72118	BASE TRANSITION COORD.	W: 501 771 8788 C: F:	RON.HANCOCK@USAR.ARMY.MIL
RONALD L. EDWARDS	934 CR 122 FLORESVILLE TX 78114	ACSIM-ODB REAL ESTATE CONTRACTOR J.M. WALLER	W: 830-393-8961 C: 210-347-2955 F: 830-393-2995	RONALD.L.EDWARDS1@US.ARMY.MIL
ROGER MANAUGH	310 AR MED FORCES DR GRAND PRAIRIE, TX 75051	BTC	W: 972 545 4045 C: 501 442 1801 F: 972 343 4023	roger.manaugh@usar.army.mil
Larry Olliff	U.S Army Corps of Eng 100 West Oglethorpe Ave Savannah, GA	NEPA Support Team Mobile District	W: 912-652-5640 C: 912-795-1516 F:	larry.b.olliff.usace.army.mil
			W: C: F:	
			W: C: F:	
			W: C: F:	

Instructions: Enter the date of the meeting and capture Site Survey Team Members' Work, Cell, and Fax Telephone numbers for future contact purposes.

APPENDIX B
Air Emission Calculations

CALCULATION SHEET-COMBUSTIBLE EMISSIONS-WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Assumptions for Combustible Emissions					
Type of Construction Equipment	Num. of Units	HP Rated	Hrs/day	Days/yr	Total hp-hrs
Water Truck	1	300	10	240	720000
Diesel Road Compactors	1	100	10	90	90000
Diesel Dump Truck	2	300	10	90	540000
Diesel Excavator	1	300	10	16	48000
Diesel Hole Trenchers	1	175	10	90	157500
Diesel Bore/Drill Rigs	0	300	10	90	0
Diesel Cement & Mortar Mixers	2	300	10	240	1440000
Diesel Cranes	1	175	10	240	420000
Diesel Graders	1	300	10	90	270000
Diesel Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1	100	10	240	240000
Diesel Bull Dozers	1	300	10	16	48000
Diesel Front End Loaders	1	300	10	90	270000
Diesel Fork Lifts	2	100	10	240	480000
Diesel Generator Set	6	40	10	240	576000

Emission Factors							
Type of Construction Equipment	VOC g/hp-hr	CO g/hp-hr	NOx g/hp-hr	PM-10 g/hp-hr	PM-2.5 g/hp-hr	SO2 g/hp-hr	CO2 g/hp-hr
Water Truck	0.440	2.070	5.490	0.410	0.400	0.740	536.000
Diesel Road Compactors	0.370	1.480	4.900	0.340	0.330	0.740	536.200
Diesel Dump Truck	0.440	2.070	5.490	0.410	0.400	0.740	536.000
Diesel Excavator	0.340	1.300	4.600	0.320	0.310	0.740	536.300
Diesel Trenchers	0.510	2.440	5.810	0.460	0.440	0.740	535.800
Diesel Bore/Drill Rigs	0.600	2.290	7.150	0.500	0.490	0.730	529.700
Diesel Cement & Mortar Mixers	0.610	2.320	7.280	0.480	0.470	0.730	529.700
Diesel Cranes	0.440	1.300	5.720	0.340	0.330	0.730	530.200
Diesel Graders	0.350	1.360	4.730	0.330	0.320	0.740	536.300
Diesel Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	1.850	8.210	7.220	1.370	1.330	0.950	691.100
Diesel Bull Dozers	0.360	1.380	4.760	0.330	0.320	0.740	536.300
Diesel Front End Loaders	0.380	1.550	5.000	0.350	0.340	0.740	536.200
Diesel Fork Lifts	1.980	7.760	8.560	1.390	1.350	0.950	690.800
Diesel Generator Set	1.210	3.760	5.970	0.730	0.710	0.810	587.300

CALCULATION SHEET-COMBUSTIBLE EMISSIONS-WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Emission factors (EF) were generated from the NONROAD2005 model for the 2006 calendar year. The VOC EFs includes exhaust and evaporative emissions. The VOC evaporative components included in the NONROAD2005 model are diurnal, hotsoak, running loss, tank permeation, hose permeation, displacement, and spillage. The construction equipment age distribution in the NONROAD2005 model is based on the population in U.S. for the 2006 calendar year.

Emission Calculations							
Type of Construction Equipment	VOC tons/yr	CO tons/yr	NOx tons/yr	PM-10 tons/yr	PM-2.5 tons/yr	SO2 tons/yr	CO2 tons/yr
Water Truck	0.349	1.642	4.356	0.325	0.317	0.587	425.284
Diesel Road Paver	0.037	0.147	0.486	0.034	0.033	0.073	53.180
Diesel Dump Truck	0.262	1.232	3.267	0.244	0.238	0.440	318.963
Diesel Excavator	0.018	0.069	0.243	0.017	0.016	0.039	28.368
Diesel Hole Cleaners\Trenchers	0.089	0.423	1.008	0.080	0.076	0.128	92.996
Diesel Bore/Drill Rigs	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000	0.000
Diesel Cement & Mortar Mixers	0.968	3.682	11.552	0.762	0.746	1.158	840.570
Diesel Cranes	0.204	0.602	2.647	0.157	0.153	0.338	245.398
Diesel Graders	0.104	0.405	1.407	0.098	0.095	0.220	159.571
Diesel Tractors/Loaders/Backhoes	0.489	2.171	1.910	0.362	0.352	0.251	182.782
Diesel Bull Dozers	0.019	0.073	0.252	0.017	0.017	0.039	28.368
Diesel Front End Loaders	0.113	0.461	1.488	0.104	0.101	0.220	159.541
Diesel Aerial Lifts	1.047	4.105	4.528	0.735	0.714	0.503	365.406
Diesel Generator Set	0.768	2.387	3.789	0.463	0.451	0.514	372.790
Total Emissions	**4.467**	**17.398**	**36.934**	**3.400**	**3.309**	**4.512**	**3273.217**

Conversion factors	
Grams to tons	1.102E-06

CALCULATION SHEET AFRC WEEKEND TRAINING COMMUTE - WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Weekend Training AFRC Commute to New Site									
	Emission Factors		Assumptions				Results by Pollutant		
Pollutants	Passenger Cars g/mile	Pick-up Trucks, SUVs g/mile	Mile/day	Day/yr	Number of Cars	Number of trucks	Total Emissions cars tns/yr	Total Emissions Trucks tns/yr	Total tns/yr
VOCs	1.36	1.61	30	51	40	40	0.09	0.11	0.20
CO	12.4	15.7	30	51	40	40	0.84	1.06	1.90
NOx	0.95	1.22	30	51	40	40	0.06	0.08	0.15
PM-10	0.0052	0.0065	30	51	40	40	0.00	0.00	0.00
PM 2.5	0.0049	0.006	30	51	40	40	0.00	0.00	0.00

Truck Emission Factor Source: USEPA 2005 Emission Facts: Average annual emissions and fuel consumption for gasoline-fueled passenger cars and light trucks. EPA 420-F-05-022 August 2005. Emission rates were generated using MOBILE.6 highway vehicle emission factor model.

CALCULATION SHEET-TRANSPORTATION COMBUSTIBLE EMISSIONS - WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Construction Worker Personal Vehicle Commuting to Construction Sight-Passenger and Light Duty Trucks									
	Emission Factors		Assumptions				Results by Pollutant		
Pollutants	Passenger Cars g/mile	Pick-up Trucks, SUVs g/mile	Mile/day	Day/yr	Number of cars	Number of trucks	Total Emissions Cars tns/yr	Total Emissions Trucks tns/yr	Total tns/yr
VOCs	1.36	1.61	120	240	20	20	0.86	1.02	1.89
CO	12.4	15.7	120	240	20	20	7.87	9.97	17.84
NOx	0.95	1.22	120	240	20	20	0.60	0.77	1.38
PM-10	0.0052	0.0065	120	240	20	20	0.00	0.00	0.01
PM 2.5	0.0049	0.006	120	240	20	20	0.00	0.00	0.01

-

Heavy Duty Trucks Delivery Supply Trucks to Construction Sight									
	Emission Factors		Assumptions				Results by Pollutant		
Pollutants	10,000-19,500 lb Delivery Truck	33,000-60,000 lb semi trailer rig	Mile/day	Day/yr	Number of trucks	Number of trucks	Total Emissions Cars tns/yr	Total Emissions Trucks tns/yr	Total tns/yr
VOCs	0.29	0.55	60	240	2	2	0.01	0.02	0.03
CO	1.32	3.21	60	240	2	2	0.04	0.10	0.14
NOx	4.97	12.6	60	240	2	2	0.16	0.40	0.56
PM-10	0.12	0.33	60	240	2	2	0.00	0.01	0.01
PM 2.5	0.13	0.36	60	240	2	2	0.00	0.01	0.02

Daily AFRC Commute to New Site									
	Emission Factors		Assumptions				Results by Pollutant		
Pollutants	Passenger Cars g/mile	Pick-up Trucks, SUVs g/mile	Mile/day	Day/yr	Number of Cars	Number of trucks	Total Emissions cars tns/yr	Total Emissions Trucks tns/yr	Total tns/yr
VOCs	1.36	1.61	30	240	8	8	0.09	0.10	0.19
CO	12.4	15.7	30	240	8	8	0.79	1.00	1.78
NOx	0.95	1.22	30	240	8	8	0.06	0.08	0.14
PM-10	0.0052	0.0065	30	240	8	8	0.00	0.00	0.00
PM 2.5	0.0049	0.006	30	240	8	8	0.00	0.00	0.00

Truck Emission Factor Source: USEPA 2005 Emission Facts: Average annual emissions and fuel consumption for gasoline-fueled passenger cars and light trucks. EPA 420-F-05-022 August 2005. Emission rates were generated using MOBILE.6 highway vehicle emission factor model.

CALCULATION SHEET-FUGITIVE DUST- WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Fugitive Dust Emissions at New Construction Site					
Construction Site	**Emission Factor tons/acre/month (1)**	**Total Area-Construction/month**	**Months/yr**	**Total PM-10 Emissions tns/yr**	**Total PM-2.5 (2)**
Fugitive Dust Emissions	0.11	12.00	12	15.84	3.17

1. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) 2001. Procedures Document for National Emission Inventory, Criteria Air Pollutants 1985-1999. EPA-454/R-01-006. Office of Air Quality Planning and Standards Research Triangle Park NC 27711.

2. 20% of the total PM-10 emissions are PM-2.5 (EPA 2001).

Construction Site Area	**Dimension (ft)**			**Total**
Proposed Project	**Length**	**Width**	**Units**	**Acres/month**
Construction Area	**0**	**0**	**1**	**12.00**
Total				**12.00**

Conversion Factors	**Miles to Ft**	**Sq ft to Acres**	**Acres to sq ft**	**Sq ft in 0.5 acres**
	5280	0.000022957	43560	21780

CALCULATION SHEET-SUMMARY OF EMISSIONS-WILLIAMSON COUNTY

Proposed Action Construction Emissions for Criteria Pollutants (tons per year)						
Emission source	VOC	CO	NOx	PM-10	PM-2.5	SO_2
Combustible Emissions	4.47	17.40	36.93	3.40	3.31	4.51
Construction Site-fugitive PM-10	NA	NA	NA	15.84	3.17	NA
Construction Workers Commuter & Trucking	1.91	17.98	1.94	0.02	0.02	NA
Total emissions	6.38	35.38	38.87	19.26	6.50	4.51
De minimis threshold	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
AFRC Personnel Commute to Work	0.39	3.68	0.28	0.00	0.00	NA

APPENDIX C
Correspondence

August 22, 2008

Jeff Heath, District Conservationist
NRCS, Georgetown Service Center
505 W. University Ave., Suite C
Georgetown, TX 78622

Re: Farmland Conversion Impact Assessment for the new Armed Forces Reserve Center in Round Rock, Texas

Dear Mr. Heath:

On behalf of the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Mobile District, who is acting for the Government to prepare the environmental assessment of a Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) action requiring relocation of Army and state reserve forces to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center in Round Rock, Texas; we are forwarding to you for your evaluation a Farmland Conversion Impact Rating on form AD-1006. We have determined that the soils on the preferred site, as shown in the attached figures, are rated as prime farmland, subject to the Farmland Protection Policy Act of 1981.

Please review and assess the attached information, and advise if additional information or clarification is required. Please return all correspondence to my attention at the address on this letterhead. I can also be reached at the following email address: soivanki@gsrcorp.com. Thank you for your assistance.

Sincerely,

Stephen Oivanki
GSRC

attachments

Gulf South Research Corporation 8081 GSRI Avenue Baton Rouge, LA 70820
p-225.757.8088 f-225.761.8077 www.gsrcorp.com

U.S. Department of Agriculture

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	Date Of Land Evaluation Request 8/22/08
Name Of Project Round Rock AFRC, Texas	Federal Agency Involved Department of the Army
Proposed Land Use New Armed Forces Reserve Center	County And State Williamson Co., Texas
PART II *(To be completed by NRCS)*	Date Request Received By NRCS

Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? *(If no, the FPPA does not apply -- do not complete additional parts of this form).*	Yes ☐	No ☐	Acres Irrigated / Average Farm Size
Major Crop*(s)*	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %		Amount Of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	Name Of Local Site Assessment System		Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS

PART III *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	Alternative Site Rating			
	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	12.0			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly	5.0			
C. Total Acres In Site	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PART IV *(To be completed by NRCS)* Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				
PART V *(To be completed by NRCS)* Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted *(Scale of 0 to 100 Points)*	0	0	0	0

PART VI *(To be completed by Federal Agency)* Site Assessment Criteria *(These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b)*	Maximum Points				
1. Area In Nonurban Use					
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use					
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed					
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government					
5. Distance From Urban Builtup Area					
6. Distance To Urban Support Services					
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average					
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland					
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services					
10. On-Farm Investments					
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services					
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use					
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	0	0	0	0
PART VII *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*					
Relative Value Of Farmland *(From Part V)*	100	0	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment *(From Part VI above or a local site assessment)*	160	0	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS *(Total of above 2 lines)*	260	0	0	0	0

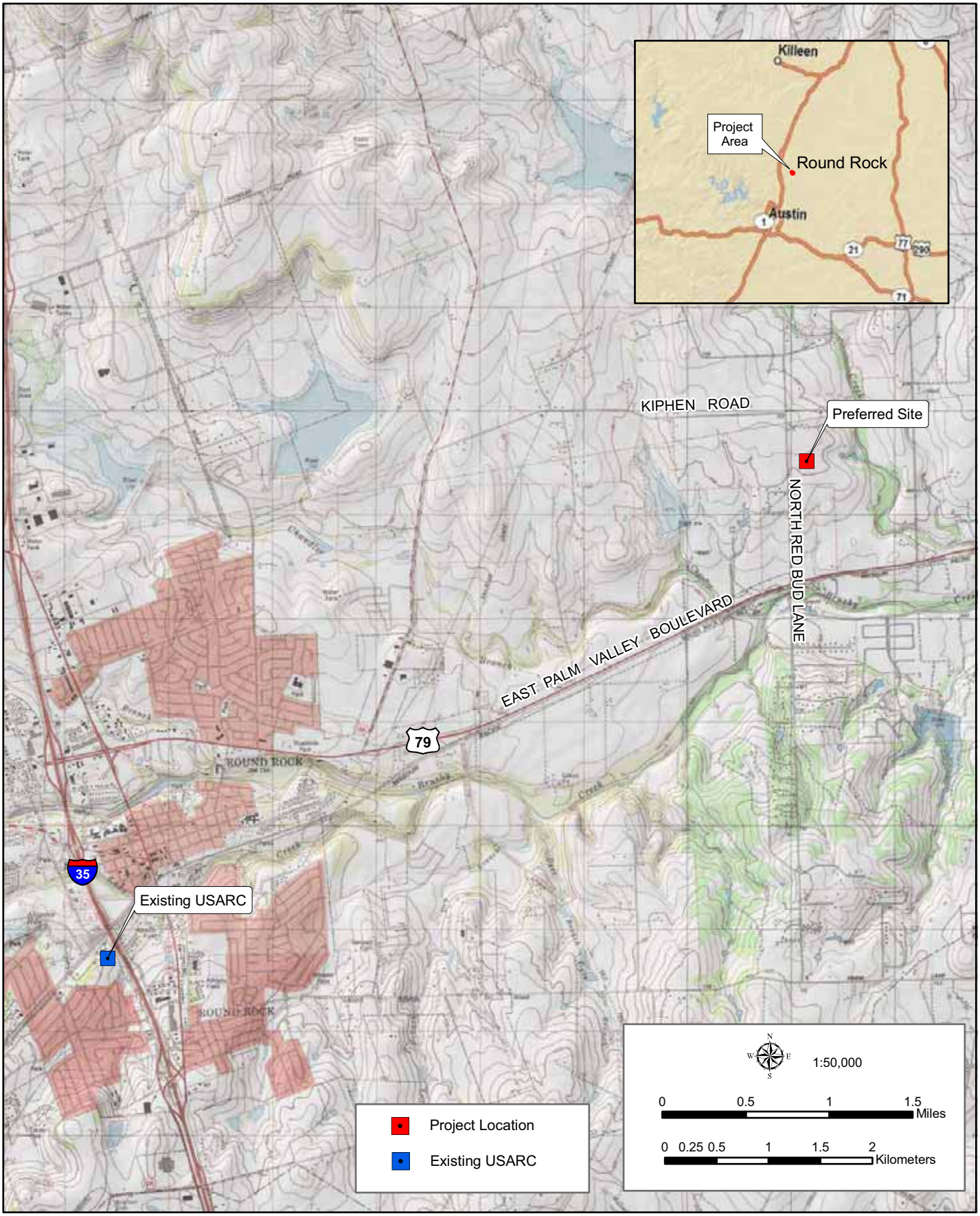
Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes ☐ No ☐

Reason For Selection:

(See Instructions on reverse side)

Form AD-1006 (10-83)

This form was electronically produced by National Production Services Staff



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

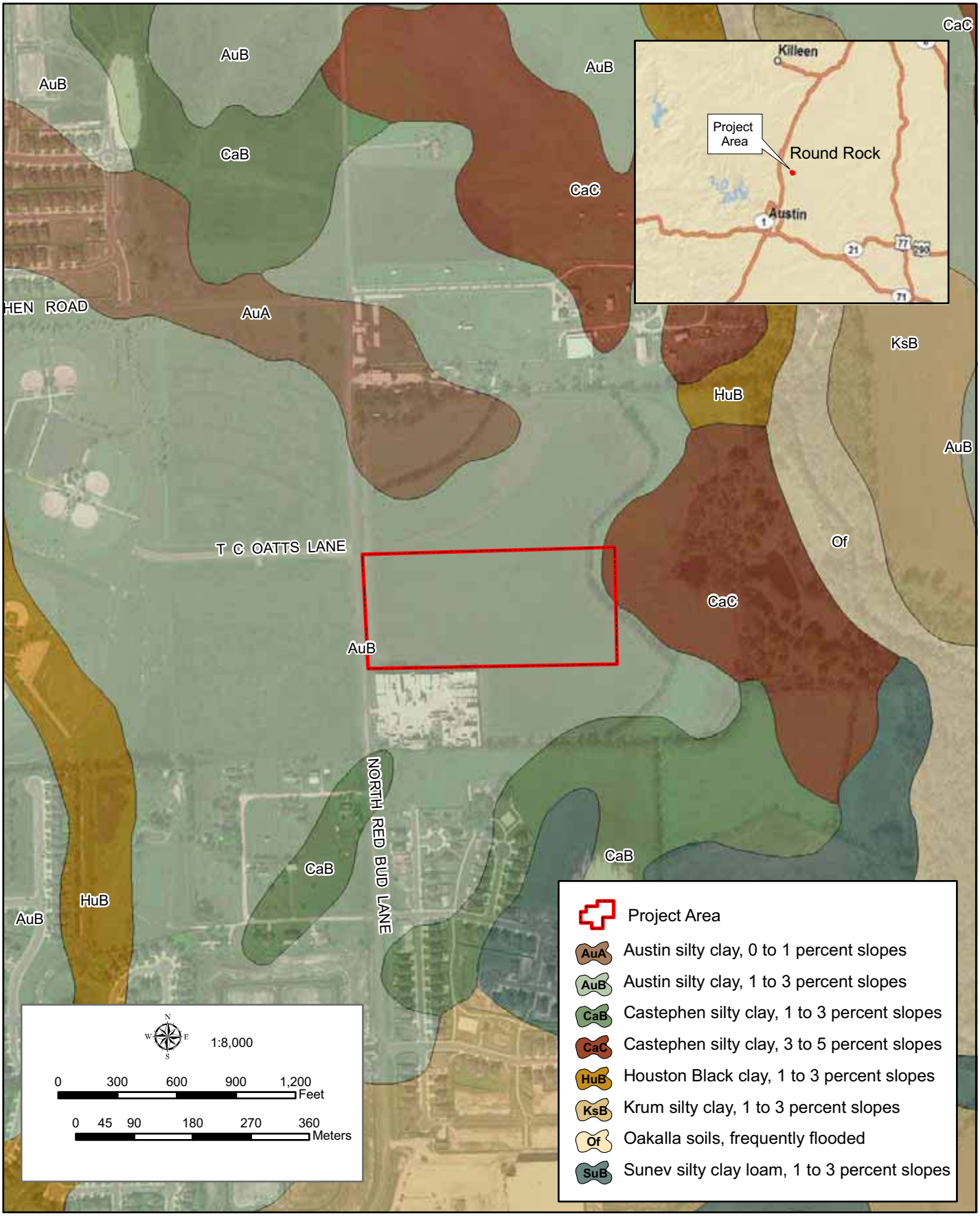
GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure B. Project Site Map - Preferred Site

GSRC

August 2008



Enclosure C. Project Site Soils Map

GSRC

August 2008

United States Department of Agriculture
NRCS
Natural Resources Conservation Service

101 S. Main Street
Temple, TX 76501-6624
Phone: 254-742-9861
FAX: 254-742-9859

October 22, 2008

Gulf South Research Corporation
8081 GSRI Avenue
Baton Rouge, Louisiana 70820
Attention: Stephen Oivanki

Subject: LNU-Farmland Protection
New Armed Forces Reserve Center, Round Rock
Williamson County, Texas

We have reviewed the information provided concerning the proposed Armed Forces Reserve Center in Round Rock, Williamson County, Texas, as outlined in your letter of August 22, 2008. This review is part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) evaluation for the Department of the Army. We have evaluated the proposed Project as required by the Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA).

This project would be exempt from the FPPA because the acquisition or use of farmland by a Federal agency for national defense purposes is exempted by section 1547(b) of the FPPA, 7 U.S.C. 4208(b). We have completed the AD-1006 (Farmland Conversion Impact Rating form) you provided us that shows the site is not classified as Important Farmland. It is attached.

Thank you for the resource materials you submitted to evaluate this project. If you have any questions please call Laurie Kiniry at (254)-742-9861, Fax (254)-742-9859.

Sincerely,

Laurie Kiniry

Laurie N. Kiniry, Soil Scientist

Enclosure

U.S. Department of Agriculture

FARMLAND CONVERSION IMPACT RATING

PART I *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	Date Of Land Evaluation Request 8/22/08
Name Of Project Round Rock AFRC, Texas	Federal Agency Involved Department of the Army
Proposed Land Use New Armed Forces Reserve Center	County And State Williamson Co., Texas

PART II *(To be completed by NRCS)*			Date Request Received By NRCS	
Does the site contain prime, unique, statewide or local important farmland? *(If no, the FPPA does not apply -- do not complete additional parts of this form).*	Yes ☐	No ☒	Acres Irrigated	Average Farm Size
Major Crop(s)	Farmable Land In Govt. Jurisdiction Acres: %		Amount Of Farmland As Defined in FPPA Acres: %	
Name Of Land Evaluation System Used	Name Of Local Site Assessment System		Date Land Evaluation Returned By NRCS	

PART III *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*	Alternative Site Rating			
	Site A	Site B	Site C	Site D
A. Total Acres To Be Converted Directly	12.0			
B. Total Acres To Be Converted Indirectly	5.0			
C. Total Acres In Site	17.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
PART IV *(To be completed by NRCS)* Land Evaluation Information				
A. Total Acres Prime And Unique Farmland				
B. Total Acres Statewide And Local Important Farmland				
C. Percentage Of Farmland In County Or Local Govt. Unit To Be Converted				
D. Percentage Of Farmland In Govt. Jurisdiction With Same Or Higher Relative Value				
PART V *(To be completed by NRCS)* Land Evaluation Criterion Relative Value Of Farmland To Be Converted *(Scale of 0 to 100 Points)*	0	0	0	0

PART VI *(To be completed by Federal Agency)* Site Assessment Criteria *(These criteria are explained in 7 CFR 658.5(b)*	Maximum Points				
1. Area In Nonurban Use					
2. Perimeter In Nonurban Use					
3. Percent Of Site Being Farmed					
4. Protection Provided By State And Local Government					
5. Distance From Urban Builtup Area					
6. Distance To Urban Support Services					
7. Size Of Present Farm Unit Compared To Average					
8. Creation Of Nonfarmable Farmland					
9. Availability Of Farm Support Services					
10. On-Farm Investments					
11. Effects Of Conversion On Farm Support Services					
12. Compatibility With Existing Agricultural Use					
TOTAL SITE ASSESSMENT POINTS	160	0	0	0	0
PART VII *(To be completed by Federal Agency)*					
Relative Value Of Farmland *(From Part V)*	100	0	0	0	0
Total Site Assessment *(From Part VI above or a local site assessment)*	160	0	0	0	0
TOTAL POINTS *(Total of above 2 lines)*	260	0	0	0	0

Site Selected:	Date Of Selection	Was A Local Site Assessment Used? Yes ☐ No ☐

Reason For Selection:

(See Instructions on reverse side)

This form was electronically produced by National Production Services Staff

Form AD-1006 (10-83)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 6, 2008

Reply to the Attention of Environmental Office

Mr. Ramiro Garcia, Regional Director
Border and South Central Region
Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
12100 Park 35 Circle
Austin, Texas 78753

Dear Mr. Garcia:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the existing U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and relocate the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Texas.

The new facility will have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard units from the following Texas Army National Guard Readiness Centers: Austin and Taylor, Texas, and the Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, Texas, if the state decides to relocate these National Guard units. The total amount of disturbed area is expected to be approximately 12 acres, although the preferred site encompasses a total of approximately 17 acres. No additional weapons systems or demands on training ranges are required for the proposed action.

The preferred site for the establishment of the AFRC is located in eastern Round Rock (see Enclosure A). Another alternate site was identified as suitable for the construction of the AFRC; however, acquisition of the second site would cost six times more than the preferred site and, thus, it was eliminated from further consideration.

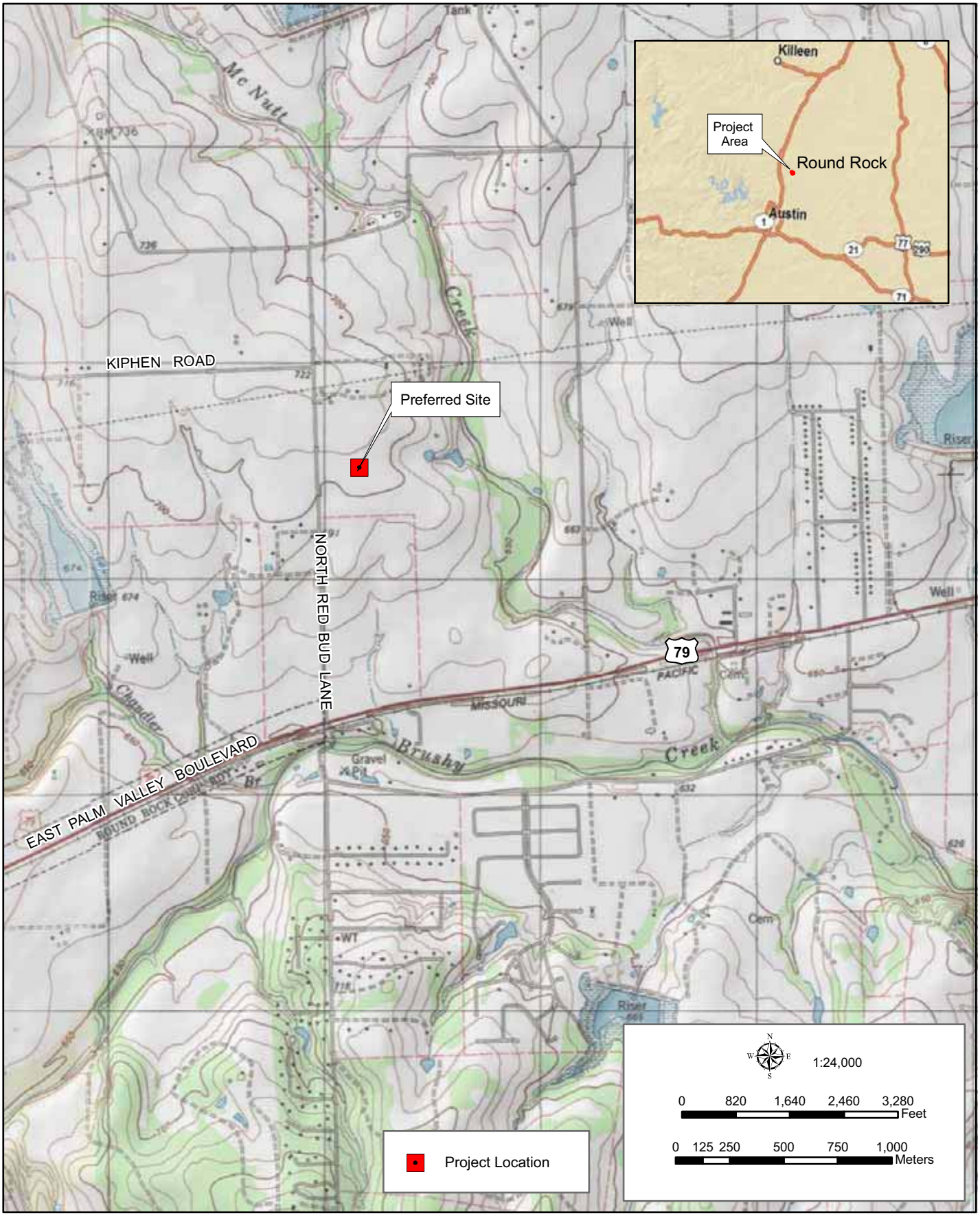
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will assess the potential impacts of constructing and operating the new AFRC at this location. The site is surrounded by a variety of developments including residential, public recreation parks, and private warehouses, as depicted in the aerial photograph (Enclosure B). Photographs taken during the field surveys in August 2008 are presented on Enclosure C.

We respectfully request that you provide us with any concerns or issues that you feel should be addressed in this EA. We will send you a copy of the EA when it is released to the public, which is currently anticipated to occur in early November 2008. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to call me at (501)771-7992.

Sincerely,

James Wheeler II
Chief, Environmental Division
90th RRC

Enclosures (3)



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure B. Preferred Site Location

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure C. Round Rock Preferred Site Photographs

Photograph 1. Narrow Strip of Hackberry Trees along Eastern Boundary

Photograph 2. Round Rock Preferred Site Looking SE from NW Corner

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 6, 2008

Reply to the Attention of Environmental Office

Ms. Kathy Boydson
Wildlife Diversity Program
Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
4200 Smith School Road
Austin, TX 78744

Dear Ms. Boydson:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the existing U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and relocate the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Texas.

The new facility will have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard units from the following Texas Army National Guard Readiness Centers: Austin and Taylor, Texas, and the Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, Texas, if the state decides to relocate these National Guard units. The total amount of disturbed area is expected to be approximately 12 acres, although the preferred site encompasses a total of approximately 17 acres. No additional weapons systems or demands on training ranges are required for the proposed action.

The preferred site for the establishment of the AFRC is located in eastern Round Rock (see Enclosure A). Another alternate site was identified as suitable for the construction of the AFRC; however, acquisition of the second site would cost six times more than the preferred site and, thus, it was eliminated from further consideration. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will assess the potential impacts of constructing and operating the new AFRC at this locations. The site is surrounded by a variety of developments including residential, public recreation parks, and private warehouses, as depicted in the aerial photograph (Enclosure B). Photographs taken during the field surveys in August 2008 are presented on Enclosure C.

A search of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website indicated nine species that could potentially occur within Williamson County: whooping crane (*Grus americana*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*), Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*), Coffin Cave mold beetle (*Batrisodes texanus*), Georgetown salamander

(*Eurycea naufragia*), golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*), Jollyville Plateau salamander (*Eurycea tonkawae*), and Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*). The whooping crane is listed as non-essential experimental population and the bald eagle has been delisted, but is monitored. The two salamanders are candidate species. In addition to these species, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department indicates that the following sensitive species have known or expected occurrences within Williamson County: Plains spotted skunk (*Spilogale putorius interrupta*), timber/canebrake rattlesnake (*Crotalus horridus*), and Texas horned lizard (*Phrynosoma cornutum*).

Pedestrian surveys have been completed at the preferred site and none of these species or were observed at the project site. The site consists of an agricultural cropland (i.e., corn and cotton) with a narrow strip of vegetation along ditches and fence rows on southern and eastern boundaries. The most common species included sunflower (*Asteraceae* sp.), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), blackberry (*Rubus* spp.), false willow (*Baccharis neglecta*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), and Arundo cane (*Arundo donax*), sugar hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*) and mustang grape (*Vitus mustangensis*). No caves, karst formations, streams or wetlands were found on the site. Only two wildlife species observed during the August survey: brown-headed cowbird (*Molothrus ater*) and mourning dove (*Zenaida macroura*). The skunk and rattlesnake could possibly use the narrow strips of vegetation for travel corridors; however, given the amount of development around the preferred site, it is unlikely that these species would occur at the site. Vegetation and crops are too dense to provide suitable habitat for Texas horned lizard.

Based on these surveys and the existing conditions at and surrounding the preferred site, we have determined that the proposed action would have no effect on Federal or state-listed species. Because of the limited size of the proposed construction footprint and the low quality of habitat at the site, insignificant impacts to general wildlife populations would occur as a result of the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC.

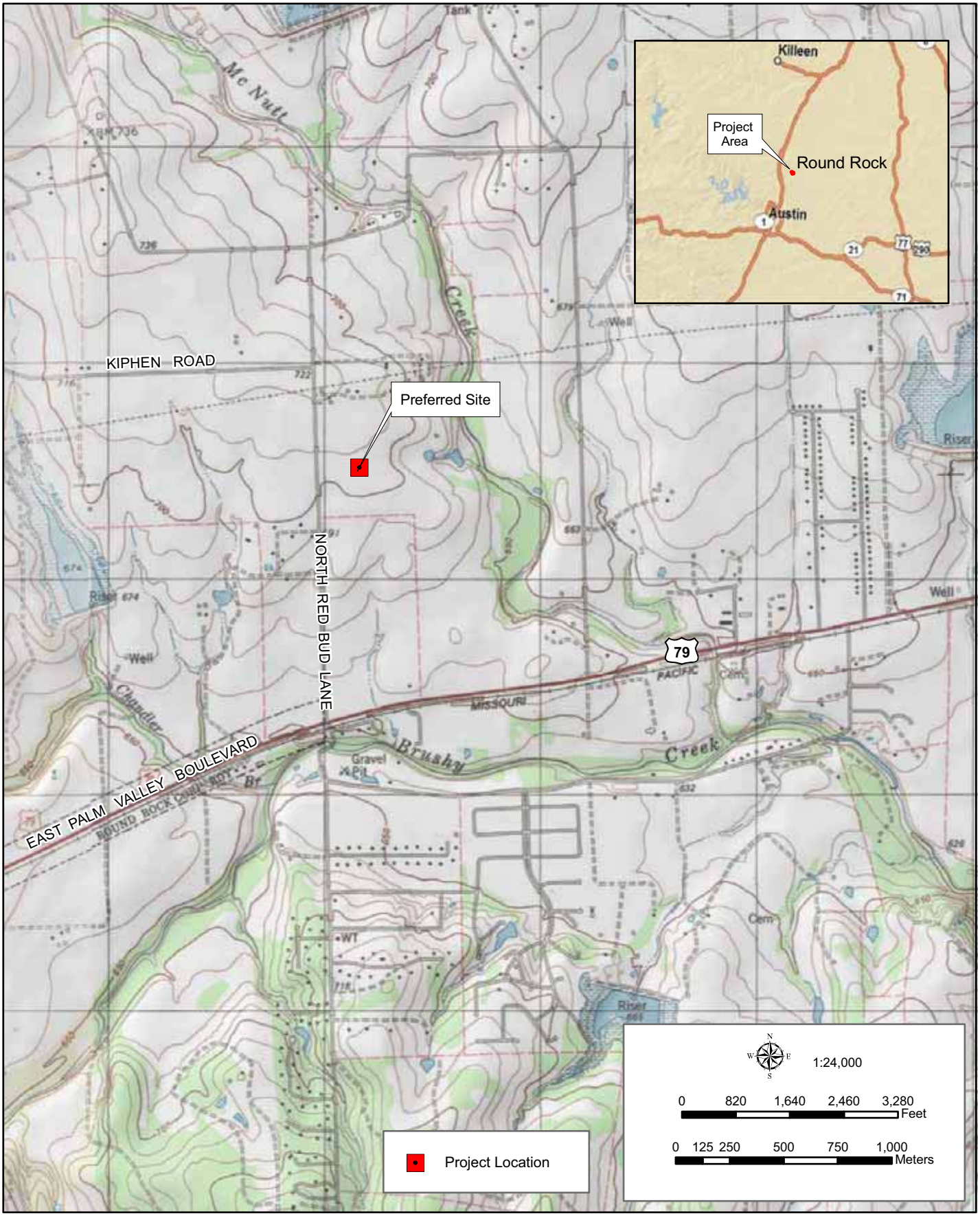
We respectfully request that you provide a written concurrence with our determination. Your prompt attention and cooperation would be greatly appreciated. If you have questions or concerns about this project, please do not hesitate to call me at (501) 771-7992.

Sincerely,

James Wheeler II

James Wheeler II
Chief, Environmental Division
90th RRC

Enclosures (3)



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure B. Preferred Site Location

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure C. Round Rock Preferred Site Photographs

Photograph 1. Narrow Strip of Hackberry Trees along Eastern Boundary

Photograph 2. Round Rock Preferred Site Looking SE from NW Corner

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 6, 2008

Environmental Office

Mr. Adam Zerrenner, Field Supervisor
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 2
Austin Ecological Services Field Office
U.S. 10711 Burnet Road, Suite 200
Austin, Texas 78758

Dear Mr. Zerrenner:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the existing U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and relocate the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Texas.

The new facility will have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard units from the following Texas Army National Guard Readiness Centers: Austin and Taylor, Texas, and the Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, Texas, if the state decides to relocate these National Guard units. The total amount of disturbed area is expected to be approximately 12 acres, although the preferred site encompasses a total of approximately 17 acres. No additional weapons systems or demands on training ranges are required for the proposed action.

The preferred site for the establishment of the AFRC is located in eastern Round Rock (see Enclosure A). Another alternate site was identified as suitable for the construction of the AFRC; however, acquisition of the second site would cost six times more than the preferred site and, thus, it was eliminated from further consideration. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will assess the potential impacts of constructing and operating the new AFRC at this location. The site is surrounded by a variety of developments including residential, public recreation parks, and private warehouses, as depicted in the aerial photograph (Enclosure B). Photographs taken during the field surveys in August 2008 are presented on Enclosure C.

A search of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's website indicated nine species that could potentially occur within Williamson County: whooping crane (*Grus americana*), bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*), black-capped vireo (*Vireo atricapilla*), Bone Cave harvestman (*Texella reyesi*), Coffin Cave mold beetle (*Batrisodes texanus*), Georgetown salamander

(*Eurycea naufragia*), golden-cheeked warbler (*Dendroica chrysoparia*), Jollyville Plateau salamander (*Eurycea tonkawae*), and Tooth Cave ground beetle (*Rhadine persephone*). The whooping crane is listed as non-essential experimental population and the bald eagle has been delisted, but is monitored. The two salamanders are candidate species.

Pedestrian surveys have been completed at the preferred site and none of these species or suitable habitat capable of supporting these species were observed at the project site. The site is in agricultural production (i.e., corn). Fence rows and ditches along the southern and eastern side of the site provide a very thin strip of vegetation containing both native and invasive plant species. The most common species included sunflower (*Asteraceae* sp.), switchgrass (*Panicum virgatum*), sideoats grama (*Bouteloua curtipendula*), blackberry (*Rubus* spp.), false willow (*Baccharis neglecta*), goldenrod (*Solidago* spp.), and Arundo cane (*Arundo donax*), sugar hackberry (*Celtis laevigata*) and mustang grape (*Vitus mustangensis*). No caves, karst formations, streams or wetlands were found on the site.

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Based on this survey and the existing conditions at and surrounding the preferred site, we have determined that the proposed action would have no effect on Federal or state-listed species. Because of the limited size of the proposed construction footprint and the low quality of habitat at the site, insignificant impacts to general wildlife populations would occur as a result of the proposed construction and operation of the AFRC.

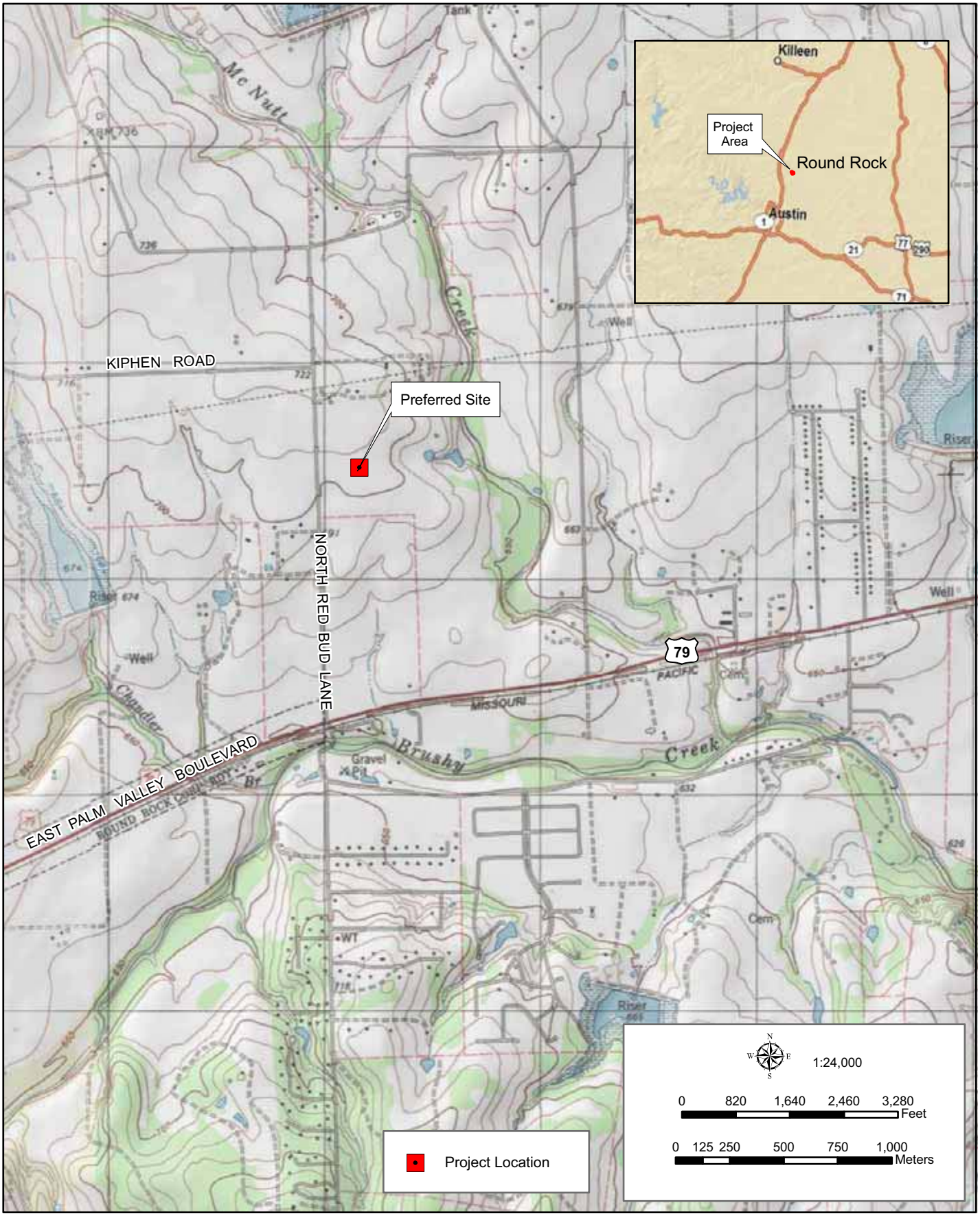
We respectfully request that you provide a written concurrence with our determination. Your prompt attention and cooperation would be greatly appreciated. If you have questions or concerns about this project, please do not hesitate to all me at (501) 771-7992.

Sincerely,

James Wheeler II

James Wheeler II
Chief, Environmental Division
90th RRC

Enclosures (3)



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure B. Preferred Site Location

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure C. Round Rock Preferred Site Photographs

Photograph 1. Narrow Strip of Hackberry Trees along Eastern Boundary

Photograph 2. Round Rock Preferred Site Looking SE from NW Corner

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 8, 2008

Environmental Office

Mr. F. Lawrence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer
ATTN: Mr. Bill Martin
Texas Historical Commission
1511 Colorado Street
Austin, Texas 78701

Dear Mr. Oaks:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and relocate the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Texas.

The new facility will have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard units from the following Texas Army National Guard Readiness Centers: Austin and Taylor and the Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, TX, if the state decides to relocate these National Guard units. The total amount of disturbed area is expected to be approximately 12 acres, although the preferred site encompasses a total of approximately 17 acres. No additional weapons systems or demands on training ranges are required for the proposed action.

Two locations, the preferred and alternate site at Round Rock, Texas, were identified as suitable for the construction of the AFRC (see Enclosure A). However, acquisition of the second site would cost six times more than the preferred site and, thus, it was eliminated from further consideration. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will assess the potential impacts of constructing and operating the new AFRC at one of these locations. The site is surrounded by a variety of developments including residential, public recreation parks, and private warehouses, as depicted in the aerial photograph (Enclosure B).

The Texas Historical Sites Atlas was searched by remote terminal to identify any known archaeological sites, historic structures, historic districts, or historic markers within 1-mile of the project area. The search indicated that three previous surveys conducted by the Texas Department of Water Resources (1981), Hicks and Company (1999) and Horizon Environmental Services, Inc. (2007) were conducted within one-mile of the project area. These search indicated

that these surveys identified six previously recorded archaeological sites (41WM463, 41WM737, 41WM738, 41WM744, 41WM943, and 41WM1194) and no previously recorded historic resources were located within the 1.0mile buffer zone. Site 41WM943 is currently identified as being potentially eligible for inclusion on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP), while the remaining sites are identified as ineligible for inclusion on the NRHP.

No cultural resources were identified during pedestrian survey or subsurface testing of the preferred Round Rock, Texas site. In addition, a pedestrian reconnaissance was performed of the view shed of the preferred tract. No structures or buildings that meet the 50 year age minimum for historic structures. As a result, no impacts to cultural resources are anticipated from the implementation of the preferred action alternative.

The construction and operation of the proposed AFRC at the alternative site would be expected to result in similar impacts as described above for the preferred site. However, cultural resources field surveys were not conducted at this site, so accurate statements regarding the presence/absence of potentially significant historic properties cannot be made at the present time. If another site is ultimately selected, cultural resources surveys and supplemental NEPA documentation would be required to fully assess the potential impacts to these resources.

If activities were to impact cultural resources not previously identified, we will immediately inform you of the discovery and to invite you to assist in the development of procedures for minimizing adverse impacts to the newly discovered cultural resources.

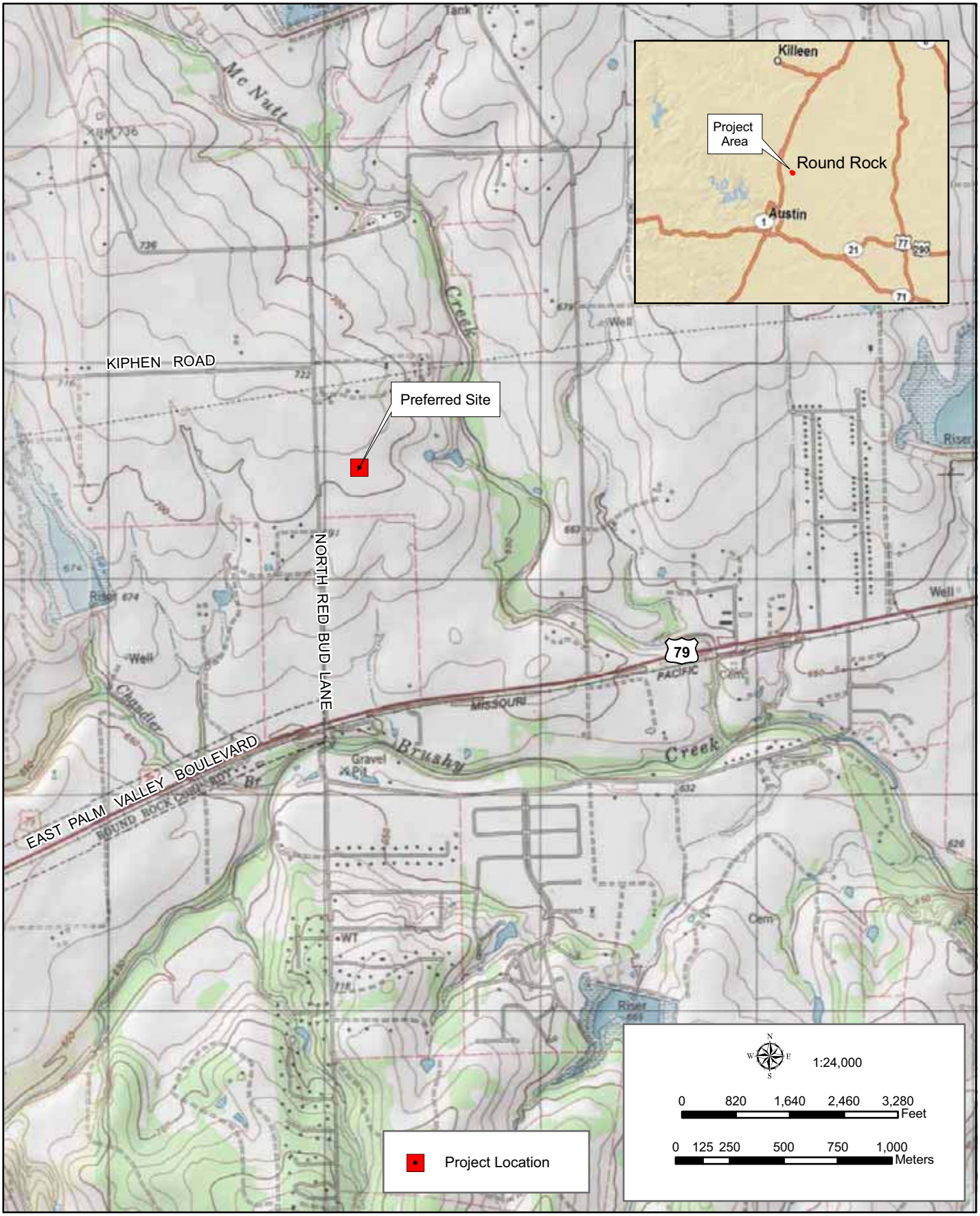
We request your concurrence on our determination that there are "no historic properties affected" by building the proposed AFRC, Round Rock. If you have questions or concerns about this project, please contact me at (501) 771-7992, at your earliest convenience.

Sincerely,

James Wheeler II

James Wheeler II
Chief, Environmental Division
90th Regional Readiness Command

Enclosures (2)



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

Enclosure B. Preferred Site Location

GSRC

August 2008

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

ARMY RESERVE
100 YEARS STRONG
READY FOR THE NEXT 100 YEARS!

October 8, 2008

RECEIVED
OCT 16 2008
Texas Historical Commission

Environmental Office

Mr. F. Lawrence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer
ATTN: Mr. Bill Martin
Texas Historical Commission
1511 Colorado Street
Austin, Texas 78701

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NO HISTORIC
PROPERTIES AFFECTED
PROJECT MAY PROCEED
By _____
for F. Lawerence Oaks
State Historic Preservation Officer
Date 11/13/08
Track# _____

Sincerely,

James Wheeler II
Chief, Environmental Division
90th Regional Readiness Command

Enclosures (2)

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 19, 2008

Environmental Office

Mr. Anthony Street
Tonkawa Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
P.O. Box 70
Tonkawa, OK 74653

Dear President Street:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and realign the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with a Field Maintenance Shop at Round Rock, Texas.

The new facility will have the capability to accommodate Texas National Guard units from the following Texas Army National Guard Readiness Centers: Austin and Taylor and the Field Maintenance Shop in Austin, TX, if the state decides to relocate these National Guard units. The total amount of disturbed area is expected to be approximately 12 acres, although the preferred site encompasses a total of approximately 17 acres. No additional weapons systems or demands on training ranges are required for the proposed action.

Two locations, the preferred and alternate site at Round Rock, Texas, were identified as suitable for the construction of the AFRC (see Enclosure A). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will assess the potential impacts of constructing and operating the new AFRC at one of these locations.

After a thorough search of the archaeological, historic building, and burial indices at the Texas State Historic Preservation Office, we have determined that there are no recorded archaeological sites, no recorded historic structures, and no recorded human burials on the property as described above. If your Tribe, or members of your Tribe, have knowledge of traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, or burials on or near the sites of our project, we request that you notify our representative listed below.

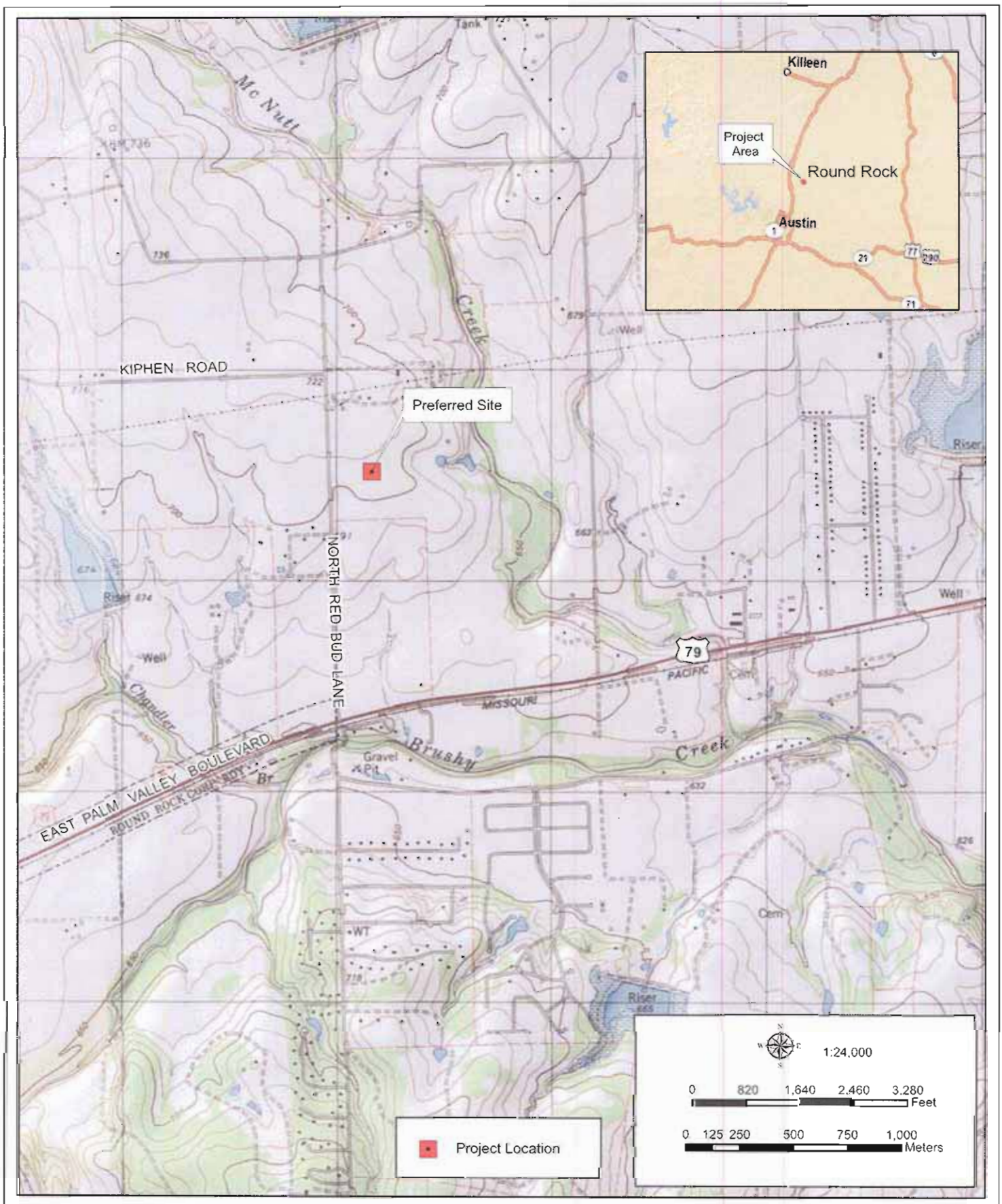
This notification is an invitation for your Tribe to participate in the cultural resources consultation process as required by the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as

amended, and Presidential Executive Order 13175 Consultation and Coordination with Indian Tribal Governments. The Army wishes to ensure that issues of concern to your Tribe are addressed, and welcomes any comments you may have about the proposed AFRC construction. If you have questions or concerns about this project, please contact Mr. James Wheeler II, Environmental Manager, 90th Regional Readiness Command at (501) 771-7992, within thirty days of receipt of this letter.

Sincerely,

Philip L. Hanrahan
Brigadier General, U.S. Army Reserve
Commanding

Enclosure



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 19, 2008

Environmental Office

Mr. Mark R. Chino
Mescalero Apache Tribe
P.O. Box 227
Mescalero, NM 88340

Dear President Chino:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and realign the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with a Field Maintenance Shop at Round Rock, Texas.

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Two locations, the preferred and alternate site at Round Rock, Texas, were identified as suitable for the construction of the AFRC (see Enclosure A). The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Mobile District is in the process of preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA), which will assess the potential impacts of constructing and operating the new AFRC at one of these locations.

After a thorough search of the archaeological, historic building, and burial indices at the Texas State Historic Preservation Office, we have determined that there are no recorded archaeological sites, no recorded historic structures, and no recorded human burials on the property as described above. If your Tribe, or members of your Tribe, have knowledge of traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, or burials on or near the sites of our project, we request that you notify our representative listed below.

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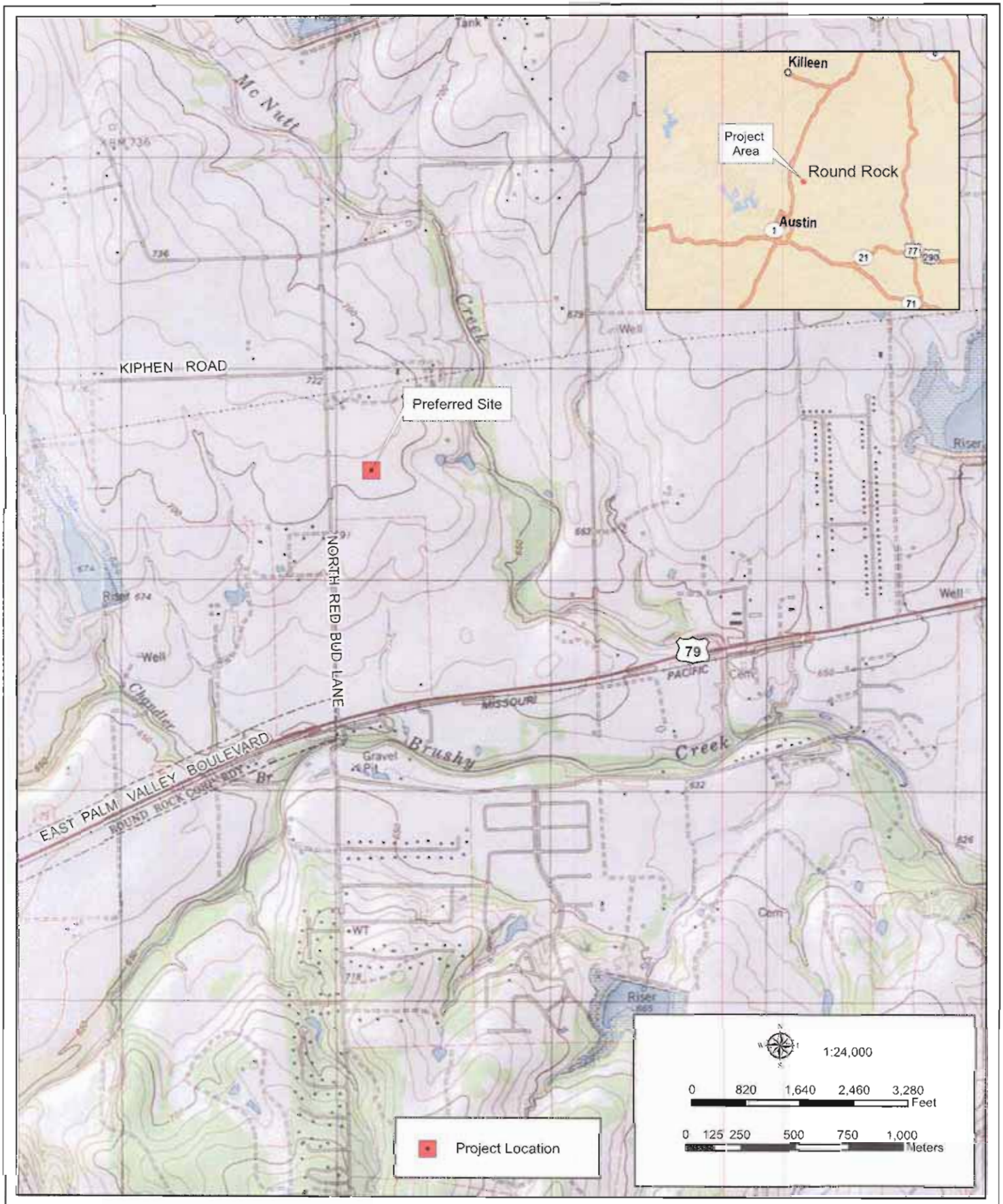
Sincerely,

Philip L. Hanrahan
Brigadier General, U.S. Army Reserve
Commanding

Enclosure



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 19, 2008

Environmental Office

Mr. Billy E. Horse
Kiowa Tribe of Oklahoma
Business Committee
P.O. Box 369
Carnegie, OK 73015

Dear Chairperson Horse:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and realign the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with a Field Maintenance Shop at Round Rock, Texas.

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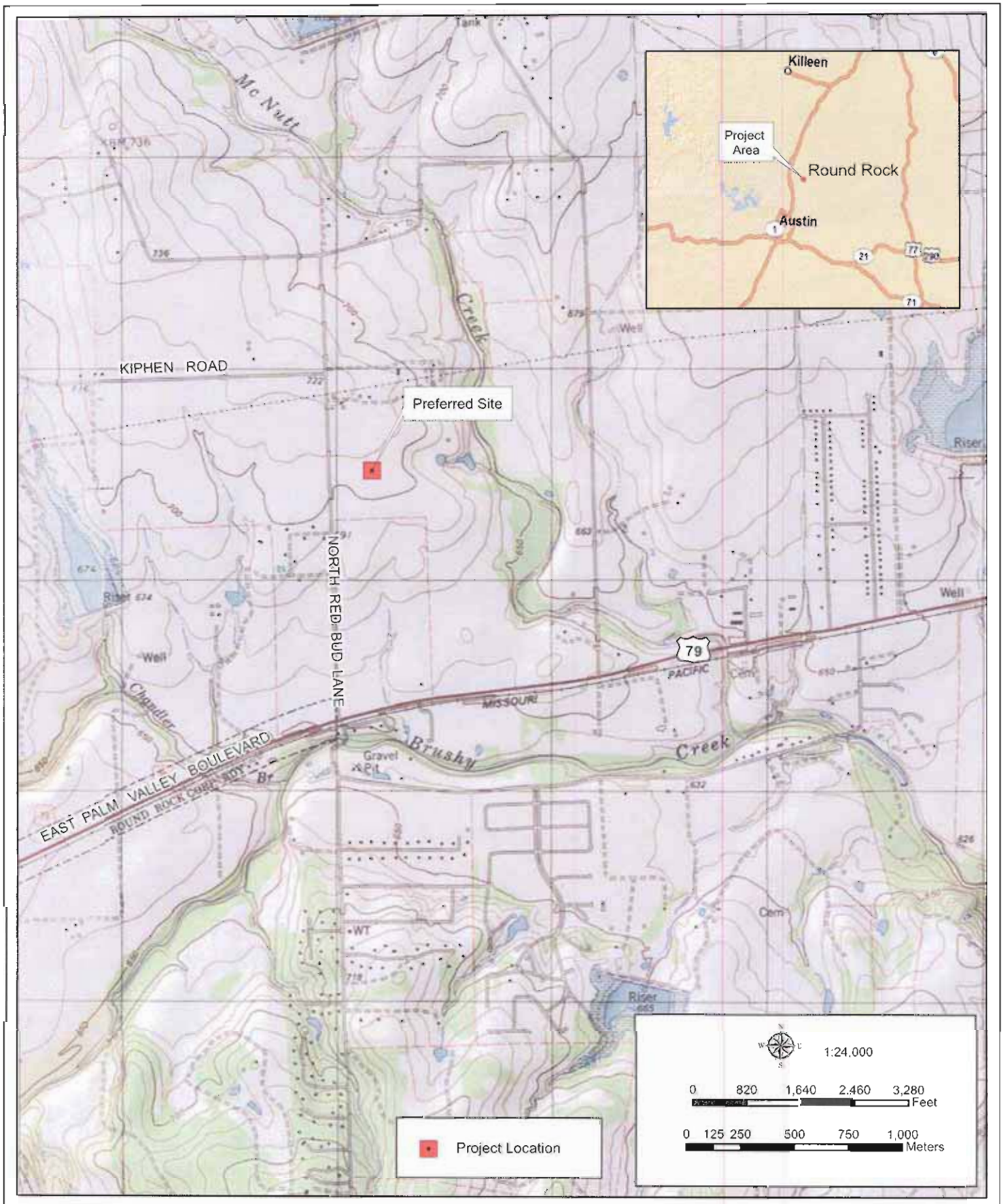
Sincerely,

Philip L. Hanrahan
Brigadier General, U.S. Army Reserve
Commanding

Enclosure



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 19, 2008

Environmental Office

The Honorable Wallace Coffey, Chairman
Comanche Nation
ATTN: Office of Historic Preservation (Arterberry)
P.O. Box 908
Lawton, OK 73502

Dear Chairman Coffey:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and realign the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with a Field Maintenance Shop at Round Rock, Texas.

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After a thorough search of the archaeological, historic building, and burial indices at the Texas State Historic Preservation Office, we have determined that there are no recorded archaeological sites, no recorded historic structures, and no recorded human burials on the property as described above. If your Tribe, or members of your Tribe, have knowledge of traditional cultural properties, sacred sites, or burials on or near the sites of our project, we request that you notify our representative listed below.

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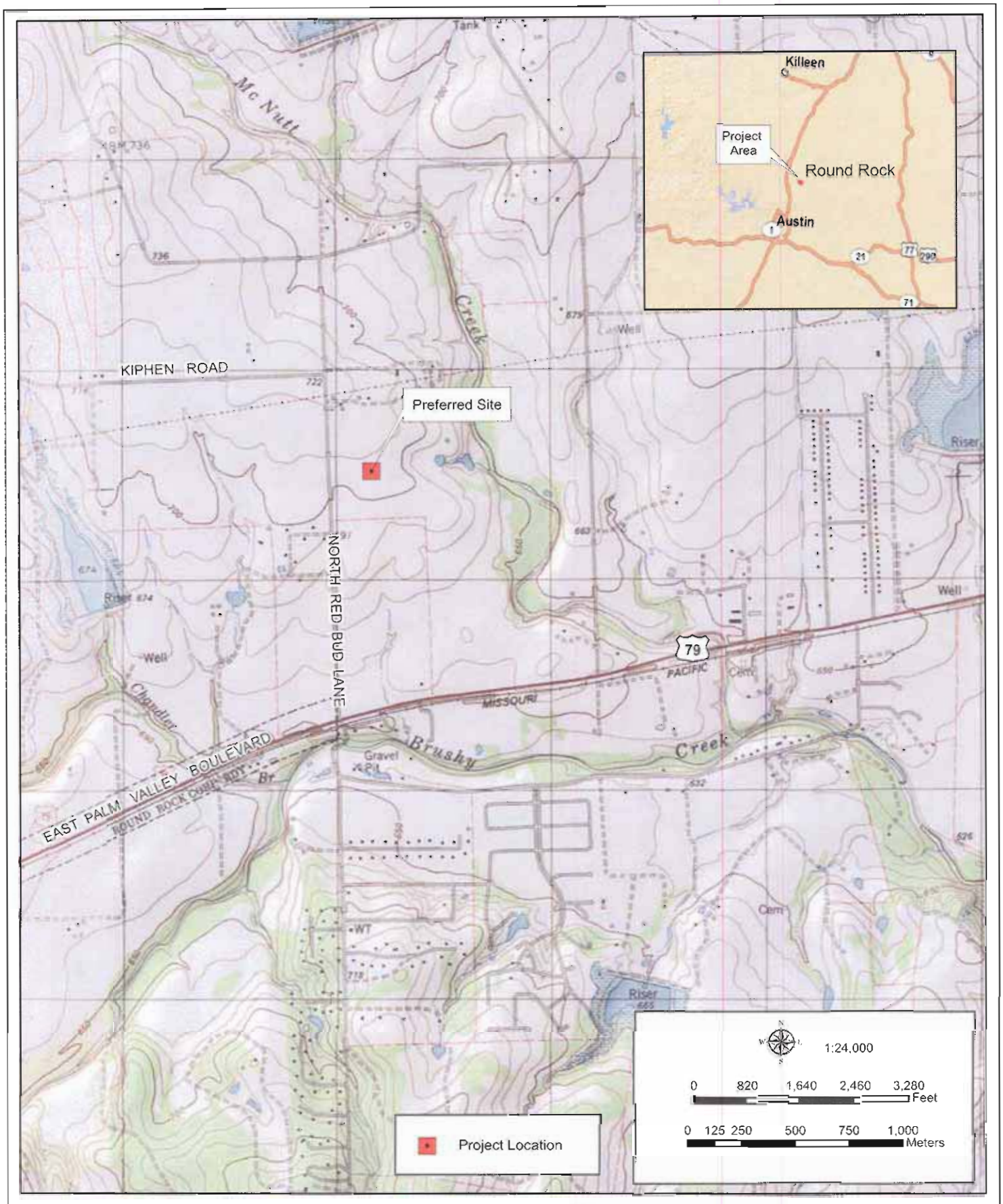
Sincerely,

Philip L. Hanrahan
Brigadier General, U.S. Army Reserve
Commanding

Enclosure



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
HEADQUARTERS, UNITED STATES ARMY 90TH REGIONAL READINESS COMMAND
CAPTAIN MAURICE L. BRITT UNITED STATES ARMY RESERVE CENTER
8000 CAMP ROBINSON ROAD
NORTH LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72118-2205

October 19, 2008

Environmental Office

Mr. Nathan Tselee
Apache Tribe of Oklahoma
Business Committee
P.O. Box 1220
Anadarko, OK 73005

Dear Chairman Tselee:

The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990 (Public Law 101-510), as amended, implements recommendations made during the fall of 2005, by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC Commission). One of the proposed actions is to close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock, Texas and realign the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with a Field Maintenance Shop at Round Rock, Texas.

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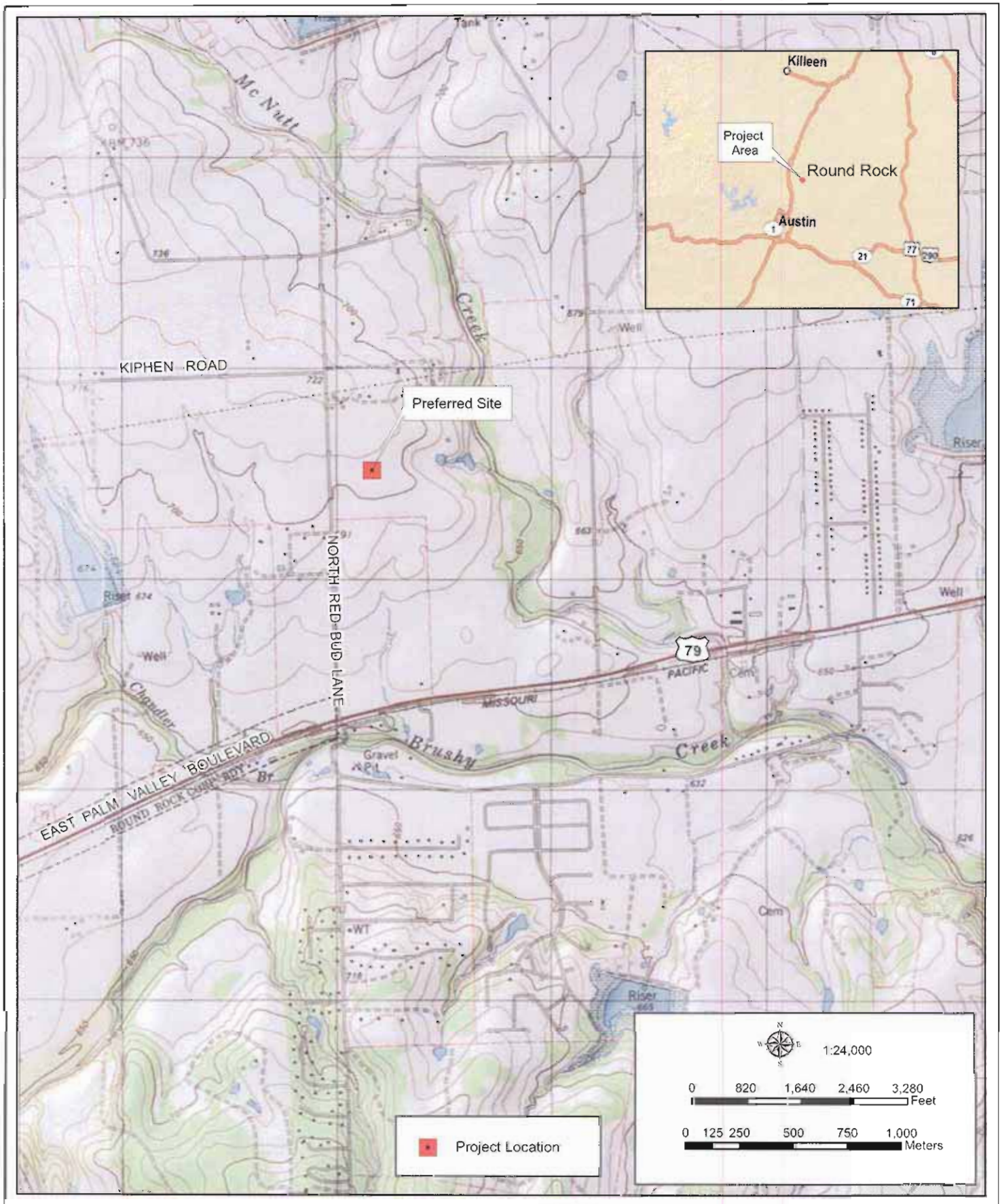
Sincerely,

Philip L. Hanrahan
Brigadier General, U.S. Army Reserve
Commanding

Enclosure



Enclosure A. Vicinity Map

GSRC

August 2008

TONKAWA TRIBE OF OKLAHOMA

TONKAWA TRIBAL COUNCIL

• 1 RUSH BUFFALO ROAD, TONKAWA, OKLAHOMA 74653 •
• PHONE (580) 628-2561 • FAX: (580) 628-3375 •
WEB SITE: www.tonkawatribe.com

Department of the Army
Headquarters, United States Army 90th Readiness Command
Captain Maurice L. Britt United States Army Reserve Center
8000 Camp Robinson Road
North Little Rock, Arkansas 72118-2205

Date: October 28, 2008

Dear Phillip L. Hanrahan:

In response to the letters from your office dated October 19, 2008 regarding closure of the San Marcos U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in San Marcos and relocate the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) at San Marcos, Texas, and close the Round Rock U.S. Army Reserve Center (USARC) in Round Rock and realign the units to a new Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) with a Field Maintenance Shop at Round Rock, Texas, we submit the following: The Tonkawa Tribe has no specifically designated historical or cultural sites identified in the above listed project area. However if any human remains, funerary objects, or other evidence of historical or cultural significance is inadvertently discovered then the Tonkawa Tribe would certainly be interested in proper disposition thereof.

We appreciate notification by your office of the many projects on-going, and as always the Tonkawa Tribe is willing to work with your representatives in any manner to uphold the provisions of NAGPRA to the extent of our capability.

Respectfully,

NAGPRA Representative

Concurrence: Tonkawa Tribe Business Committee

Austin American-Statesman

PO#:
Ad ID#: **3773392**
Acct#: **2257578088**
Account Name: **GULF SOUTH RESERACH CORP.**

GULF SOUTH RESERACH CORP.
8081 GSRI AVE.
BATON ROGUE, LA 70820
Attn: Shanna McCarty

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER ROUND ROCK, TEXAS

The public is hereby notified of the availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the construction and operation of the Armed Forces Reserve Center (AFRC) in Round Rock, Texas. The establishment of the AFRC has been recommended by the Defense Base Closure and Realignment (BRAC) Commission, in response to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1990. The EA and FNSI will be available for review for 30 days beginning the day of this publication. Copies are available for review at the following public library: Robert G. and Helen Griffith Library, 216 E. Main Street, Round Rock, Texas 78664 (512-218-7000). The EA will also be available for review and downloading from the BRAC's website at http://www.hqda.army.mil/acsim/brac/env_ea_review.htm. Comments and requests for copies should be sent Mr. James Wheeler II, Chief, Environmental Division, 90th Regional Readiness Command, 8000 Camp Robinson Road, North Little Rock, AR 72118-2205.

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

THE STATE OF TEXAS
COUNTY OF TRAVIS

Before me, the undersigned authority, a Notary Public in and for the County of Travis, State of Texas, on this day personally appeared:

Dawn M. Hollis

Classified Advertising Agent of the Austin American-Statesman, a daily newspaper published in said County and State that is generally circulated in Bastrop, Bell, Blanco, Brazos, Burleson, Burnet, Caldwell, Colorado, Comal, Coryell, Fayette, Gillespie, Gonzales, Guadalupe, Hays, Kerr, Lampasas, Lee, Llano, Milam, Nueces, San Saba, Travis, Washington, and Williamson Counties, who being duly sworn by me, states that the attached advertisement was published at the lowest published rate for Classified advertising in said newspaper on the following date(s), to wit:

First Published:	**11/22/2008**	Last Published:	**11/22/2008**
Times Published:	**1**	Classification:	**Legal Notices (9980)**
Lines:	**44**	Cost:	**$240.92**

and that the attached is a true copy of said advertisement.

Dawn M. Hollis

SWORN AND SUBSCRIBED TO BEFORE ME, this the 24 day of Nov., 2008.

NOTARY PUBLIC STATE OF TEXAS
SARA STARICHA SMITH
My Commission Expires
November 5, 2011

Sara Staricha Smith
Notary Public in and for
TRAVIS COUNTY, TEXAS

Austin American-Statesman
305 South Congress Ave., P.O. Box 670, Austin, Texas 78767-0670 512-445-3832

Monday, November 24, 2008 9:49 AM

Gulf South Research Co
173 words
$69.20

AUSTIN COMMUNITY NEWSPAPERS

ROUND ROCK LEADER

FFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

TATE OF TEXAS
OUNTY OF WILLIAMSON

efore me on this day personally appeared the undersigned, known to me to be an uthorized representative of the **ROUND ROCK LEADER**, which is a newspaper of eneral circulation published in the county of Williamson in the state of Texas, who being uly sworn by me, states that the attached advertisement was published in said newspaper n the following dates, to wit: November 22nd, 2008

nd that the attached is a true copy of said advertisement.

Publisher's signature

worn and subscribed to before me, this 24th Day of November, A.D. 2008.

LORNA J. WOESSNER
Notary Public, State of Texas
My Commission Expires
August 30, 2009

Notary Public
In and for Williamson County, Texas

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
ESTABLISHMENT OF THE ARMED FORCES RESERVE CENTER
ROUND ROCK, TEXAS

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Publication Date:
November 22nd, 2008

APPENDIX D
Economic Impact Forecast System

Analysis of Socioeconomic Effects For Round Rock Reserve Center Realignment for BRAC05

Introduction

The socioeconomic analysis requirements of NEPA have been established over the years through successful early NEPA litigation ("McDowell vs Schlesinger", US District Court, Western District of Missouri, Western Division, No. 75-CV-234-W-4 (June 19,1975) and "Breckinridge vs Schlesinger", US District Court, Eastern District of Kentucky, No. 75-100 (October 31,1975)), as well as the practical need for communication and collaboration with affected communities. The social and economic effects of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) actions are especially relevant and important, as these issues are often the source of community concerns and subsequent controversies.

The Economic Impact Forecast System (EIFS) and the Hierarchical Approach.

The Model:

The Economic Impact Forecast System (EIFS) (Huppertz, Claire E.; Bloomquist, Kim M.; Barbehenn, Jacinda M.; EIFS 5.0 Economic Impact Forecast System, User's Reference Manual; USACERL Technical Report TA-94/03; July 1994.) has been a mainstay of Army NEPA practice since its initial development and implementation in the mid-70s. EIFS provides a mechanism to estimate impacts, and ascertain the "significance" of projected impacts, using the Rational Threshold Value (RTV) technique. This analysis and determination can be readily documented, and if significance thresholds are not exceeded, the analysis can be completed. EIFS was designed to address NEPA applications, providing a "two-tier" approach to the process; (1) a simple and quick aggregate model (sufficient to ascertain the overall magnitude of impacts) and (2) a more detailed, sophisticated input-output (I-O) model to further analyze impacts that appear significant, in NEPA terms, and worthy of additional expenditures and analyses. This "two-tier" approach is consistent with the two common levels of NEPA analysis, the Environmental Assessment (EA) and the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). EIFS has facilitated efficient and effective completion of such analyses for approximately 3 decades.

Complete documentation of the model, its development, and applicable theoretical underpinnings is available in numerous publications:

Huppertz, Claire E.; Bloomquist, Kim M.; Barbehenn, Jacinda M.; EIFS 5.0 Economic Impact Forecast System, User's Reference Manual; USACERL Technical Report TA-94/03; July 1994.

Isard, W., Methods of Regional Analysis, MIT Press, 1960.

Isard, W. and Langford,T., Regional Input-Output Study: Recollections, Reflections, and Diverse Notes on the Philadelphia Experience, MIT Press, 1971.

Isserman, A., "The Location Quotient Approach to Estimating Regional Economic Impacts", AIP Journal, January, 1977, pp. 33-41.

Isserman, A., "Estimating Export Activity in a Regional Economy: A Theoretical and Empirical Analysis of Alternative Methods", International Regional science Review, Vol. 5, 1980, pp. 155-184.
Leigh, R., " The Use of Location Quotients in Urban Economic Base Studies", Land Economics, Vol 46, May, 1970, pp 202-205.
Mathur, V.K. and Rosen, H.S. , "Regional Employment Multiplier: A new Approach", Land Economics, Vol 50, 1974, pp 93-96.
Mayer, W. and Pleeter, S., "A Theoretical Justification for the Use of Location Quotients", Regional Science and Urban Economics, Vol 5, 1975, pp 343-355.
Robinson, D.P., Hamilton, J.W., Webster, R.D., and Olson, M.J., Economic Impact Forecast System (EIFS) II: User's Manual, Updated Edition, Technical Report N-69/ADA144950, U.S. Army Construction Engineering Research Lab (USACERL),1984.
Robinson, D.P. and Webster,R.D., Enhancements to the Economic Impact Forecast System (EIFS), Technical Report N-175/ADA142652, USACERL, April, 1984.
Rogers, Claudia and Webster, Ron, "Qualitative Answers to Quantitative Questions", Impact Assessment, IAIA, Vol.12, No.1, 1999.
Thompson, W., A Preface to Urban Economics, Johns Hopkins Press, 1965.
Tiebout, C., The Community Economic Base, New York Committee for Economic Development, 1962.
USACERL, " Methods for Evaluating the Significance of Impacts: The RTV and FSI Profiles"; USACERL EIFS Tutorial; July 1987.
U.S. Army, Department of the Army, DA Pamphlet 200-2, "Economic Impact Forecast System-User Instructions", 1980.
U.S. Army, "Base Realignment and Closure "How-To" Manual for Compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act", revised and published as official Department of Army Guidance, 1995.
U.S. Army, Army Regulation 5-20, "Commercial Activities"
U.S. Army, Department of the Army, DA Pamphlet 200-2, "Economic Impact Forecast System-User Instructions", 1980
Webster, R.D.and Shannon, E.; The Rational Threshold Value (RTV) Technique for the Evaluation of Regional Economic Impacts; USACERL Technical Report TR N-49/ADA055561; 1978.
Webster, R.D., Hamilton, J.W., and Robinson, D.P., "The Two-Tier Concept for Economic Analysis: Introduction and User Instructions", USACERL Technical Report N-127/ADA118855.

These efforts reflect development of a tool for specific NEPA application, following the successful NEPA litigation referenced in the Introduction. As EIFS has been used for Army NEPA analyses, the results of EIFS analyses have been reviewed by stakeholder (affected community) representatives, and, as a result of BRAC application, twice reviewed by the Government Accounting Office (GAO). During such reviews, the analyses and resultant decisions were upheld, and EIFS was lauded as a uniform (non-arbitrary and non-capricious) approach to such requirements. Drawing from a national, uniform database, and using a common, systematic approach, EIFS allowing the improved comparison of project alternatives (the heart of NEPA analysis), and provides comparable analyses across the U.S.

NEPA Process Improvement:

Since NEPA was implemented, it has been commonly criticized as expensive and time-consuming. While these criticisms have been often justified, the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) has actively promoted NEPA process improvements; first

in the publication of the CEQ NEPA regulations (CEQ, Regulations for Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act, Reprint, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, Executive Office of the President, Council on Environmental Quality, 1992.), and, more recently, through a NEPA anniversary introspective (CEQ, The National Environmental Policy Act: A Study of its Effectiveness After Twenty-five Years, Executive Office of the President, Council on Environmental Quality, January, 1997.) and the formal CEQ NEPA Task Force (CEQ, The NEPA Task Force Report to the Council on Environmental Quality: Modernizing NEPA Implementation; September, 2003.). All three CEQ initiatives call for more "focus" on NEPA documents, eliminating the analyses of minor or unimportant issues, and focusing, instead, on those issues that should be part of an informed agency decision. The use of EIFS, and the "two-tier" approach is consistent with these CEQ recommendations.

Determining Significance:

While EIFS was being developed, communities began to question the rationale for determining the significance of socioeconomic impacts. USACERL was directed to develop a defensible procedure for such a determination, resulting in the Rational Threshold Value (RTV) technique (Webster, R.D.; and Shannon, E.; The Rational Threshold Value (RTV) Technique for the Evaluation of Regional Economic Impacts; USACERL Technical Report TR N-49/ADA055561; 1978). This technique relies on the yearly Bureau of Economic Analysis (BEA) time series data on employment, income, and population to evaluate historical trends with in a subject community (region); and uses those trends to measure the "resilience" of the local community to change, or its ability to accommodate such change. This approach has worked well when communicating with affected communities. The combined use of RTV with the EIFS model meet the two pronged approach for significance determinations, intensity and context (CEQ, 1992)

The initial EIFS implementation (USACERL, 1975) included the analysis of numerous variables: business volume, personal income, employment, government revenues and expenditures, income and employment distribution, local housing impacts, regional economic stability, school system impacts, government bond obligations, population, welfare and dependency, social control, and aesthetic considerations. These selction of these variables was based on the predictive capability of forecasting techniques and data availability. Over some 30 years of practice, pragmatism and sufficiency led to the use of sales volume, employment, personal income, and population as indicators of impacts (as a "first tier" approximation of effects). These effects can also be readily evaluated (and significance determined) using the BEA time series data. Population, important in its own right, is also a valuable indicator of other factors (e.g., impact on local government revenues and expenditures, housing, local school systems, and the change in welfare and dependency), as impacts on such variables are driven, to a large extent, by a population change.

Using BEA time series data is used to analyze the four variables for the ROI, the RTV model produces thresholds for assessing the magnitude of impacts. The RTV technique is

simple, starting with a straight line between the first year of record and the last year of record for that variable, establishing the average rate of change over time. Then, each yearly deviation from that growth rate is calculated and converted to a percentage. The largest historical changes (both increase and decrease) are used to define significance thresholds. The following figure illustrates the RTV concept:

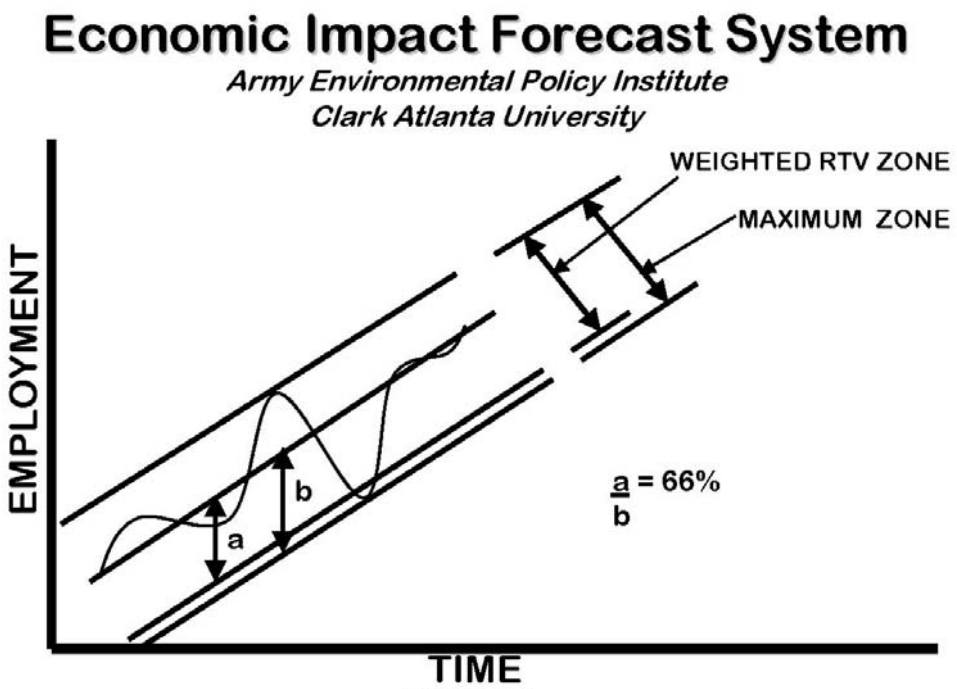


Figure 10
Visual Depiction of the RTV Technique

A "factor of safety" is applied to negative thresholds, as shown in the figure, to produce a conservative analysis; while 100% of the maximum positive thresholds is used; as indicated below:

	Increase	Decrease
Total sales volume	100 percent	75 percent
Total employment	100 percent	66 percent
Personal Income	100 percent	66 percent
Total population	100 percent	50 percent

The maximum positive historical fluctuation is used because of the positive connotations generally associated with economic growth. While economic growth can produce

unacceptable impacts and the "smart growth" concept is increasingly favored, the effects of reductions and closures are usually much more controversial. These adjustments, while arbitrary, are sensible. The negative sales volume threshold is adjusted by 75%, as sales volume impacts can be absorbed by such factors as the manipulation of inventory, new equipment, etc; and the impacts on individual workers or proprietors is indirect, if at all. Changes in employment and income, however, are impacts that immediately affect individuals; thus they are adjusted by 66%. Population is extremely important, as an indicator of other social issues, and is thus adjusted by 50%.

To adjust dollar amounts for inflation (to create "constant dollars" prior to calculations), the Consumer Price Index (CPI) is used for appropriate years, and all dollar values are adjusted to 1987 equivalents.

The main strength of the RTV approach stems from its reliance on data for each individual ROI. This approach addressed previous criticism of more simple approaches that applied arbitrary criteria to all communities. This approach establishes unique criteria, representative of local community patterns, and, while a community may not completely agree, a common frame of reference is established. Critics of the RTV technique have questioned the arbitrary selection of the maximum allowable deviations to indicate impact significance, but the process has proven workable over the years.

The Application of EIFS to the Proposed Action

To effect these analyses, the inputs to the EIFS model must be estimated. The normal EIFS inputs include:

Number of affected (moving) civilians and their salaries
Number of affected (moving) military employees and their salaries
Percentage of affected military employees living on-post
Changes in local procurement, contracting, and purchases
Definition of the multi-county region of influence (ROI)

In the case of the Round Rock realignment, no change in civilian or military strength in the region will occur, given the close proximity of the existing (combining) affected sites. The only exogenous economic stimulus will be associated with the construction of some 185,000 square feet of new facilities. This will involve some $41 million dollars in construction expenditures and land acquisition.

For this analysis, the Austin-Round Rock Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA) was selected as the ROI, consisting of Bastrop, Caldwell, Hays, Travis, and Williamson counties.

The estimated inputs were used to produce EIFS reports (model results) for changes in total business volume, employment, income, and population. These are best shown as percentages (of the activity in the total ROI), and can be prepared to the RTVs for that variable in that ROI. The following EIFS documentation is provided; detailing the inputs,

documenting projected changes, and evaluating the potential significance of the predicted change, based on the RTV technique:

Economic Impact Forecast System

EIFS REPORT

PROJECT NAME

Round Rock AFRC

STUDY AREA

48021	Bastrop, TX
48055	Caldwell, TX
48209	Hays, TX
48453	Travis, TX
48491	Williamson, TX

FORECAST INPUT

Change In Local Expenditures	$41,000,000
Change In Civilian Employment	0
Average Income of Affected Civilian	$0
Percent Expected to Relocate	0
Change In Military Employment	0
Average Income of Affected Military	$0
Percent of Military Living On-post	0

FORECAST OUTPUT

Multiplier	3.5	
Sales Volume - Direct	$24,404,760	
Sales Volume - Induced	$61,011,900	
Sales Volume - Total	$85,416,660	0.13%

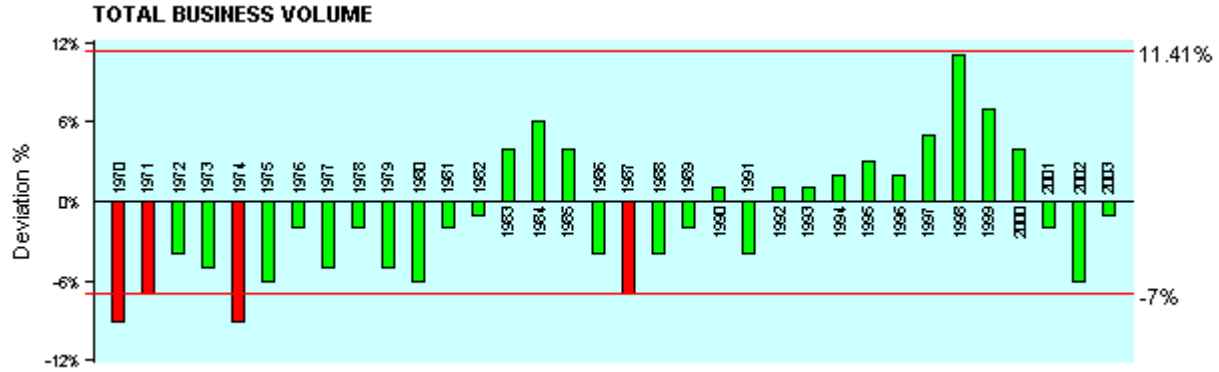
Income - Direct	$4,569,521	
Income - Induced	$11,423,800	
Income - Total	$15,993,320	0.06%
Employment - Direct	133	
Employment - Induced	333	
Employment - Total	466	0.06%
Local Population	0	
Local Off-base Population	0	0%

RTV SUMMARY

	Sales Volume	Income	Employment	Population
Positive RTV	11.41 %	11.36 %	5.68 %	2.96 %
Negative RTV	-7 %	-6.92 %	-4.8 %	-2.02 %

RTV DETAILED

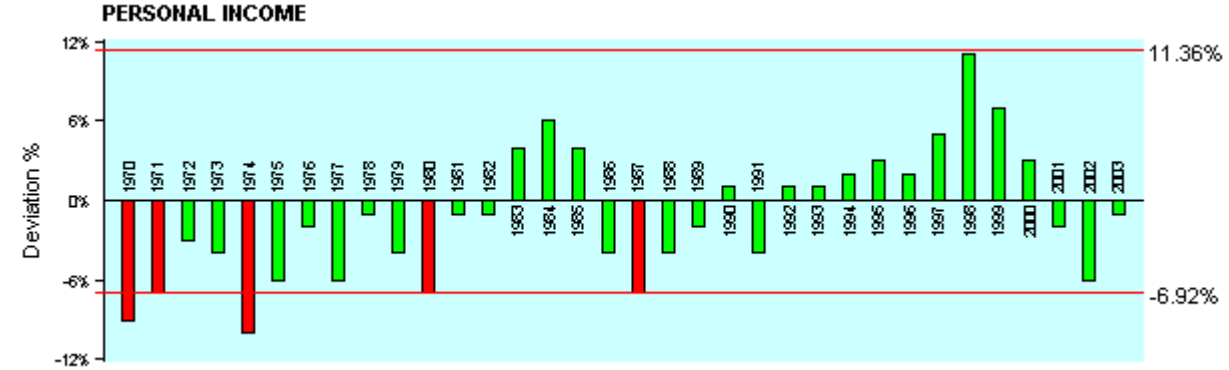
SALES VOLUME



Year	Value	Adj_Value	Change	Deviation	%Deviation
1969	2425692	12759140	0	-2206115	0
1970	2755664	13723207	964067	-1242048	-9.05
1971	3125912	14910600	1187394	-1018721	-6.83
1972	3576022	16521222	1610621	-595494	-3.6
1973	4082958	17760867	1239646	-966469	-5.44
1974	4670432	18261389	500522	-1705593	-9.34
1975	5374338	19293873	1032484	-1173631	-6.08
1976	6185264	21029898	1736024	-470091	-2.24
1977	6938830	22134868	1104970	-1101145	-4.97
1978	8089228	23944115	1809247	-396868	-1.66
1979	9399082	25001558	1057443	-1148672	-4.59
1980	10969430	25668466	666908	-1539207	-6
1981	12881418	27437420	1768954	-437161	-1.59

1982	14692096	29384192	1946772	-259343	-0.88
1983	16949410	32881855	3497663	1291548	3.93
1984	20118478	37420369	4538514	2332399	6.23
1985	22859616	41147309	3726940	1520825	3.7
1986	23784332	41860424	713116	-1492999	-3.57
1987	24170290	41089493	-770931	-2977046	-7.25
1988	25529930	41613786	524293	-1681822	-4.04
1989	27527246	42942504	1328718	-877397	-2.04
1990	30520776	45475956	2533452	327337	0.72
1991	32396312	46002763	526807	-1679308	-3.65
1992	35351962	48785708	2782945	576830	1.18
1993	38542192	51646537	2860830	654715	1.27
1994	42216612	54881596	3235058	1028943	1.87
1995	46380444	58903164	4021568	1815453	3.08
1996	50615000	62256450	3353286	1147171	1.84
1997	56361690	67634028	5377578	3171463	4.69
1998	66247956	78835068	11201040	8994925	11.41
1999	74755194	86716025	7880957	5674842	6.54
2000	82290770	92165662	5449637	3243522	3.52
2001	84960596	92607050	441387	-1764728	-1.91
2002	83247990	89075349	-3531700	-5737815	-6.44
2003	85688736	89973173	897823	-1308292	-1.45

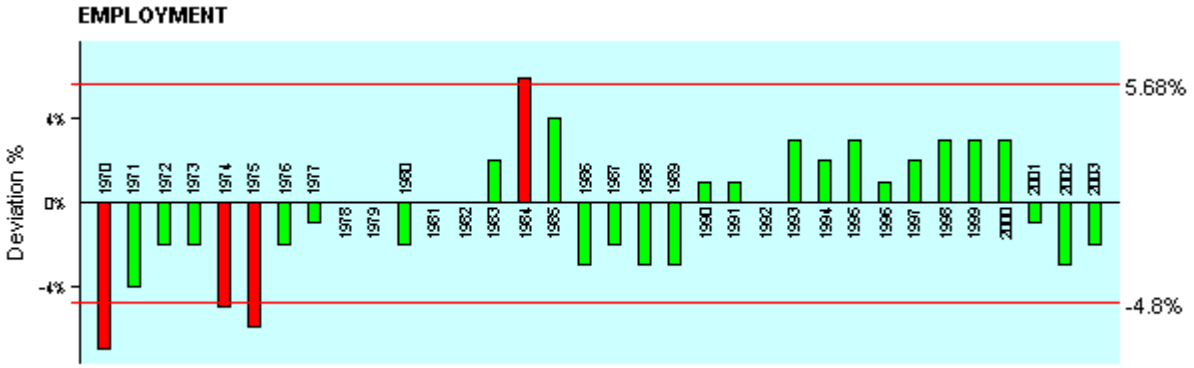
INCOME



Year	Value	Adj_Value	Change	Deviation	%Deviation
1969	1220824	6421534	0	-1102446	0
1970	1390507	6924725	503191	-599255	-8.65
1971	1574227	7509063	584338	-518108	-6.9
1972	1813320	8377538	868476	-233970	-2.79
1973	2086800	9077580	700042	-402404	-4.43

1974	2359838	9226967	149387	-953059	-10.33
1975	2705220	9711740	484773	-617673	-6.36
1976	3122939	10617993	906253	-196193	-1.85
1977	3475469	11086746	468754	-633692	-5.72
1978	4059750	12016860	930114	-172332	-1.43
1979	4727025	12573886	557026	-545420	-4.34
1980	5486231	12837781	263894	-838552	-6.53
1981	6465672	13771881	934101	-168345	-1.22
1982	7374232	14748464	976583	-125863	-0.85
1983	8487169	16465108	1716644	614198	3.73
1984	10071866	18733671	2268563	1166117	6.22
1985	11422396	20560313	1826642	724196	3.52
1986	11889218	20925024	364711	-737735	-3.53
1987	12087330	20548461	-376563	-1479009	-7.2
1988	12765096	20807106	258645	-843801	-4.06
1989	13774010	21487456	680349	-422097	-1.96
1990	15265953	22746270	1258814	156368	0.69
1991	16209192	23017053	270783	-831663	-3.61
1992	17692347	24415439	1398386	295940	1.21
1993	19295587	25856087	1440648	338202	1.31
1994	21124153	27461399	1605312	502866	1.83
1995	23203309	29468202	2006804	904358	3.07
1996	25286668	31102602	1634399	531953	1.71
1997	28191968	33830362	2727760	1625314	4.8
1998	33116580	39408730	5578369	4475923	11.36
1999	37408615	43393993	3985263	2882817	6.64
2000	41157291	46096166	2702173	1599727	3.47
2001	42489015	46313026	216860	-885586	-1.91
2002	41647840	44563189	-1749838	-2852284	-6.4
2003	42863962	45007160	443971	-658475	-1.46

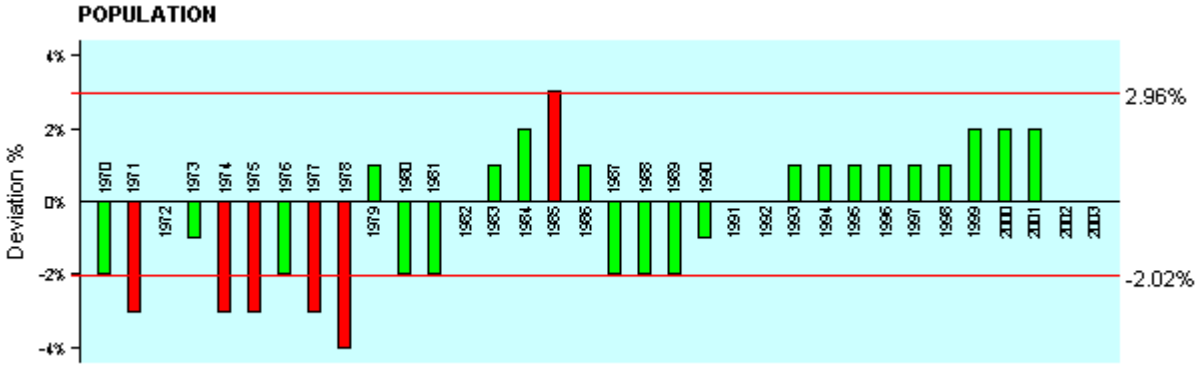
EMPLOYMENT



Year	Value	Change	Deviation	%Deviation
1969	178161	0	-19433	0
1970	184371	6210	-13223	-7.17
1971	195537	11166	-8267	-4.23
1972	210710	15173	-4260	-2.02
1973	226305	15595	-3838	-1.7
1974	235030	8725	-10708	-4.56
1975	240694	5664	-13769	-5.72
1976	255068	14374	-5059	-1.98
1977	272296	17228	-2205	-0.81
1978	290748	18452	-981	-0.34
1979	308660	17912	-1521	-0.49
1980	322980	14320	-5113	-1.58
1981	343419	20439	1006	0.29
1982	363901	20482	1049	0.29
1983	389963	26062	6629	1.7
1984	434046	44083	24650	5.68
1985	471275	37229	17796	3.78
1986	474435	3160	-16273	-3.43
1987	484459	10024	-9409	-1.94
1988	487916	3457	-15976	-3.27
1989	493622	5706	-13727	-2.78
1990	516589	22967	3534	0.68
1991	540050	23461	4028	0.75
1992	558624	18574	-859	-0.15
1993	595100	36476	17043	2.86
1994	628963	33863	14430	2.29
1995	668594	39631	20198	3.02
1996	697239	28645	9212	1.32
1997	730675	33436	14003	1.92

1998	773684	43009	23576	3.05
1999	814281	40597	21164	2.6
2000	856866	42585	23152	2.7
2001	867884	11018	-8415	-0.97
2002	858539	-9345	-28778	-3.35
2003	858317	-222	-19655	-2.29

POPULATION



Year	Value	Change	Deviation	%Deviation
1969	382835	0	-28397	0
1970	401871	19036	-9361	-2.33
1971	419249	17378	-11019	-2.63
1972	447971	28722	325	0.07
1973	473351	25380	-3017	-0.64
1974	485969	12618	-15779	-3.25
1975	497356	11387	-17010	-3.42
1976	517680	20324	-8073	-1.56
1977	532052	14372	-14025	-2.64
1978	538668	6616	-21781	-4.04
1979	571520	32852	4455	0.78
1980	589582	18062	-10335	-1.75
1981	605961	16379	-12018	-1.98
1982	633452	27491	-906	-0.14
1983	668303	34851	6454	0.97
1984	707646	39343	10946	1.55
1985	758510	50864	22467	2.96
1986	793109	34599	6202	0.78
1987	807392	14283	-14114	-1.75
1988	817153	9761	-18636	-2.28
1989	831848	14695	-13702	-1.65

1990	851898	20050	-8347	-0.98
1991	880678	28780	383	0.04
1992	912833	32155	3758	0.41
1993	949788	36955	8558	0.9
1994	988925	39137	10740	1.09
1995	1031557	42632	14235	1.38
1996	1073037	41480	13083	1.22
1997	1111264	38227	9830	0.88
1998	1155579	44315	15918	1.38
1999	1205898	50319	21922	1.82
2000	1264517	58619	30222	2.39
2001	1319189	54672	26275	1.99
2002	1346646	27457	-940	-0.07
2003	1376724	30078	1681	0.12

Summary of Results

The EIFS analyses indicated that the proposed action will produce no major socioeconomic effects in the ROI (community). The projected changes compare the appropriate RTVs as follows:

	projected change	RTV
Business (sales) volume	0.13%	11.41%
Income	0.06%	11.36%
Employment	0.06%	5.68%
Population	0.0%	2.96%

This significance determination is "conservative"--well within any errors produced through assumed EIFS input values. While these inputs could be refined, the results of the analysis (final determination) will certainly remain unchanged.

As this project involves the purchase of land from private sources, some local tax revenues will be reduced from the purchase and utilization by the government, which is tax exempt. The purchase price of this land is approximately $1,100,000. Applying the published Round Rock composite property tax rate of 2.14% to this purchase price, this will yield a maximum reduction of $23,538 per year in tax revenues. This is significant overestimate of the lost tax revenues, as the “assessed value” of this property is less than the purchase price. This loss in tax revenue will be easily offset by the exogenous influx of construction expenditures during the 2-3 years of the construction phase of the proposed action and the indicated multiplier affect. While development of the property

for other commercial or non-government uses would produce additional revenues, such development is speculative and cannot be ascertained without more specific information.