



MEDIA RELEASE

UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

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PRESS RELEASE
July 13, 2009

NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT FOR BARRY M. GOLDWATER RANGE - EAST

The Department of the Air Force, in cooperation with the Department of the Interior (Fish and Wildlife Service, Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge), has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental effects of proposed range enhancements and alternatives within the eastern portion of the Barry M. Goldwater Range (BMGR), Arizona. The enhancements are needed to upgrade operational and infrastructure features to support realistic and relevant training for current and emerging war fighting technology and tactics.

This notice provides an opportunity for the public to submit comments, suggestions, or observations and announces the time and place for public hearings. Comments should be received on or before August 24, 2009.

The draft EIS is available for review at the following Arizona libraries beginning July 10, 2009:

Ajo Branch Library; Casa Grande Public Library; Flagstaff Public Library; Gila Bend Branch Library; Glendale Public Library; Mesa Public Library; Phoenix Public Library; Prescott Public Library; San Luis Branch Library; and Scottsdale Public Library; Tempe Public Library; Tohono O'odham Education Department Library; Tucson/Pima Library; Wellton Branch Library; Yuma County Library.

An executive summary of the EIS can be found at
<http://www.luke.af.mil/shared/media/document/AFD-090710-105.pdf>

There will be three public hearings in southern Arizona communities. The purpose of these hearings is for interested persons to review displays and ask questions regarding the analysis, and to provide comments on the draft EIS. Each hearing will begin at 6 p.m. with an open house, include a short presentation at 6:30 p.m. with the opportunity

for the public to make oral comments after the presentation, and conclude by resuming the open house until 8 p.m.

The three hearings will be conducted at the following locations on the dates indicated:

- Monday, July 27, 2009, Gila Bend High School, cafeteria, 308 N. Martin Ave., Gila Bend, AZ
- Tuesday, July 28, 2009, Glendale Adult Center, Room 104, 5970 W. Brown St., Glendale, AZ,
- Wednesday, July 29, 2009, Arizona Game and Fish Department office, 555 N. Greasewood Rd., Tucson, AZ,

Air Force and Cabeza Prieta National Wildlife Refuge representatives will be available at these hearings to answer questions and receive comments from the public.

CONTACT: 56th Range Management Office Public Affairs at 623-856-8516.