



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE CORPS INSTALLATIONS WEST-MARINE CORPS BASE
BOX 555010
CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA 92055-5010

11000
G-7

JUL 1 2015

Ms. Lisa Mangat
Director, California State Parks
1416 Ninth Street, Suite 1405
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Ms. Mangat:

As you may know, the National Defense Authorization Act of Fiscal Year 2014 withdrew approximately 132,000 acres of public land in Johnson Valley. Approximately 79,000 of those acres are reserved for the exclusive military use; whereas the remaining 53,000 acres in Johnson Valley were designated as the Shared Use Area. The Shared Use Area can be reserved for military purposes for two 30-day periods and for the remaining 10 months returned to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) for public access.

Since the withdrawal, we have successfully worked with BLM to establish the Resource Management Group, finalized the Use Agreement identifying the two company objective sites, and worked cooperatively to accommodate the "King of the Hammers" event in Johnson Valley. We have also been working closely with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) to establish the required airspace needed to conduct combined arms live fire training on newly acquired lands.

Moving forward, one of the Marine Corps primary responsibilities will be developing a public outreach plan to communicate to stakeholders: training schedules, safety plans, land-use and associated airspace changes of both the Shared Use Area and recently acquired training lands. We are committed to informing the public well in advance of the planned 30-day closure of the Shared Use Area with notification no less than twelve months prior to scheduled military training to accommodate BLM's Special Recreation Permitting process.

We are planning to utilize the Shared Use Area for military training from August 1-30, 2016. We will be working with BLM to address issues associated with the closure of the Shared Use Area and with the FAA in support of their published airspace establishment process. We will implement an effective community/public outreach plan to ensure the public is given every opportunity to understand the change in land and airspace use along with related potential dangers.

For more information, please visit the project website at <http://www.29palms.marines.mil/Staff/G5CommunityPlansPAO/JohnsonValley.aspx>, or contact Erin Adams at erin.adams@usmc.mil or 760-830-3786.

Sincerely,

EDWARD D. BANTA
Brigadier General, U.S. Marine Corps
Commanding General,
Marine Corps Installations West-
Marine Corps Base, Camp Pendleton



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
MARINE AIR GROUND TASK FORCE TRAINING COMMAND
MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER
BOX 788100
TWENTYNINE PALMS, CALIFORNIA 92278-8100

1 June 2015

INFORMATION PAPER

Subj: Military training in Johnson Valley land expansion Shared Use Area authorized by Commanding General MAGTFTC, MCAGCC for August 1-30, 2016.

1. Purpose. To provide early notice to the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and interested stakeholders of the Marine Corps' intention to use the congressionally established Shared Use Area for large-scale training August 1-30, 2016.

2. Key Points. The National Defense Authorization Act of FY14 (NDAA) withdrew approximately 132,000 acres of public land in Johnson Valley and almost 20,000 acres south of the installation for military purposes. Approximately 79,000 acres in Johnson Valley were reserved for the exclusive military use; the remaining 53,000 acres in Johnson Valley were designated as the Shared Use Area. The Shared Use Area can be reserved for military purposes for two 30-day periods twice a year. For the remaining 10 months, the Shared Use Area is returned to BLM for public access. See Enclosure (1) for a map of the withdrawn lands. The Commanding General of MAGTFTC, MCAGCC has authorized training in the expansion area and Shared Use Area for August 1-30, 2016.

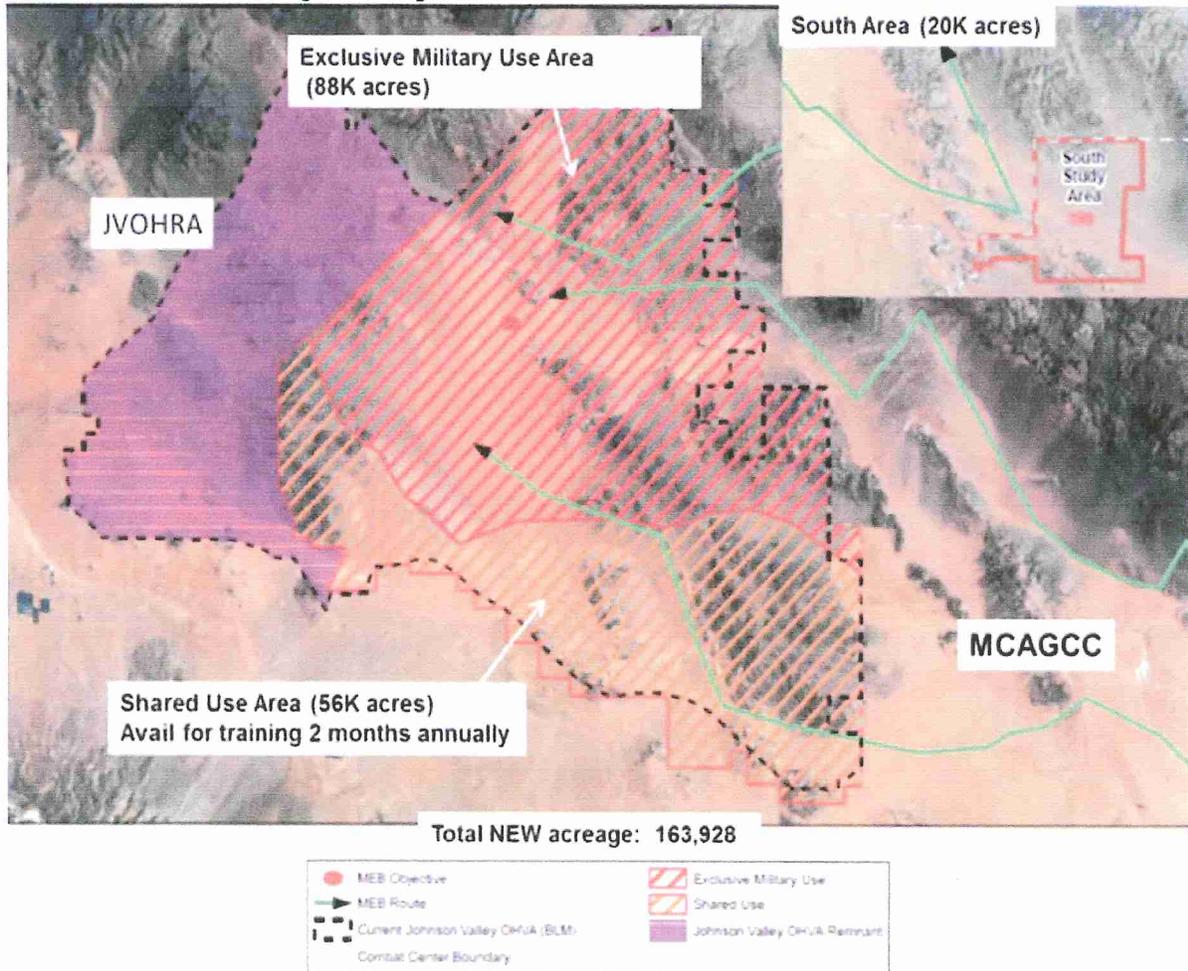
a. Implementation status. The Marine Corps has been working deliberately over the past two years to prepare the newly acquired land for training. Private and state parcels within the boundaries are being acquired. Signs and gates marking the new installation boundary have been installed. Training ranges have been established in the expansion area and company objective sites have been identified within the Shared Use Area. Environmental mitigation is on track. The process for establishing new training airspace, including military operations areas and restricted airspace, over the newly acquired lands is ongoing with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA). Overall implementation of new airspace is moving slightly slower than anticipated, yet is not expected to impact the August 1-30, 2016 training schedule. See Enclosure (2) for a graphic of proposed new training airspace over newly acquired lands.

b. Resource Management Group. The Resource Management Group (RMG) is co-chaired by the Marine Corps and BLM. It provides cooperative and coordinated but separate management of the Shared Use Area as mandated by the NDAA. The RMG's main responsibility is developing a public outreach plan to communicate to the stakeholders: training schedules, safety plans, and land-use changes of the Shared Use Area. The RMG will inform the public well in advance of the closure of the Shared Use Area with no less than twelve months prior to scheduled military training. This advanced notice is to accommodate the BLM Special Recreation Permitting process which permits organized public events in the Shared Use Area. The RMG will work closely with BLM to ensure robust public engagement and communication leading up to and during the training events to ensure public safety during the exercise period.

Prepared by: Erin Adams, MAGTFTC, MCAGCC, RMG, G-5, (760) 830-3786

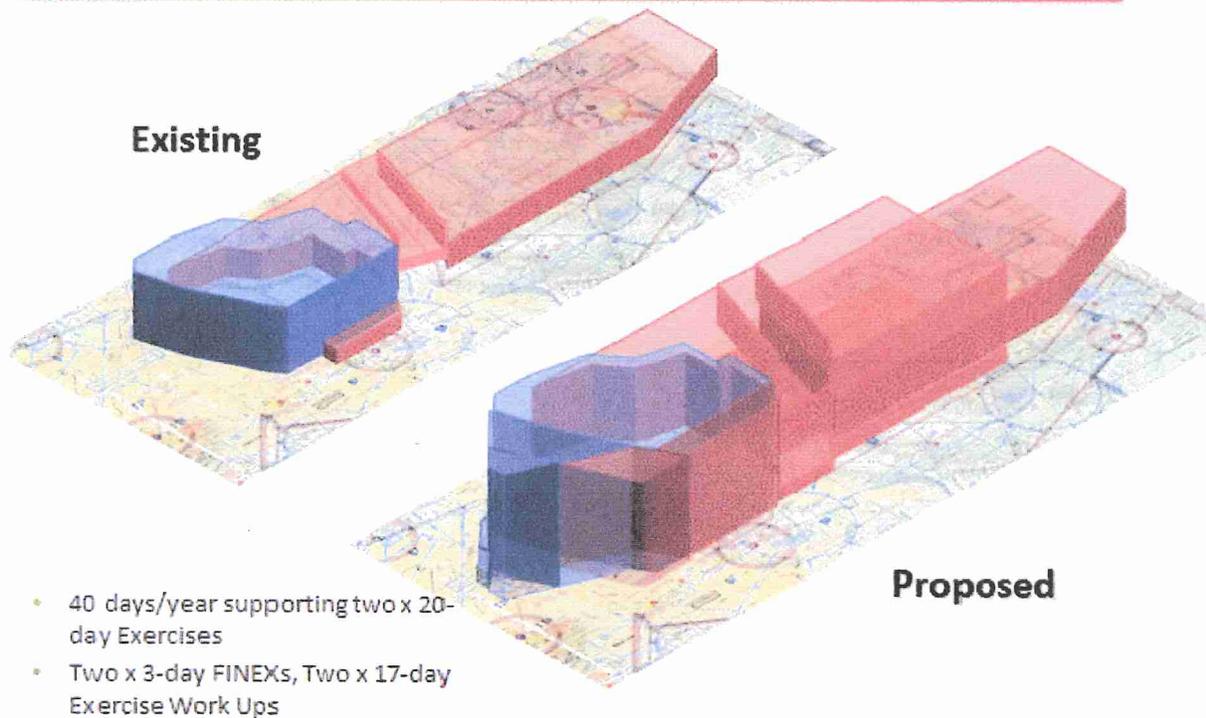
UNCLASSIFIED

Enclosure (1). Map of expansion area



UNCLASSIFIED

Proposed Airspace Modifications



UNCLASSIFIED