



Basing F-16 Fighting Falcon Fighter Squadron at Gowen Field – Idaho Air National Guard Base, Ada County, Boise, Idaho Environmental Impact Analysis

Fact Sheet #1



Inside this Fact Sheet

- Summary of the Proposed Action.
- Description of the Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action.
- Overview of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, including opportunities for public involvement
- Instructions for submitting written comments.

The National Guard Bureau (NGB) and the Department of the Air Force (DAF), in cooperation with the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA), invite the public to learn about the proposal to locate an F-16 Fighting Falcon Fighter Squadron at the Idaho Air National Guard Base at the Boise Air Terminal/Gowen Field in Ada County, Idaho. Please visit www.gowenfieldf16eis.com to learn more about this proposal and submit comments and questions.

What is the Proposed Action?

The proposal includes basing, operation, and infrastructure construction associated with up to 21 F-16 Fighting Falcon aircraft (18 primary and three back up/reserve) at the 124th Fighter Wing (124 FW). These aircraft would replace the 21 aging A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft (18 primary

and three backup/reserve) currently flown by the 124 FW.

Why is the Proposed Action Needed?

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to maintain combat capability and mission readiness for the 124 FW by transitioning from an A-10C Thunderbolt II mission to an F-16 Fighting Falcon mission. The Proposed Action is needed because the A-10C fleet is reaching the end of its service life and is consistent with DAF plans to divest all A-10 aircraft by FY 2029.

The National Environmental Policy Act

NEPA is our national charter for making informed decisions based upon potential environmental consequences. NEPA requires all federal agencies to take a good-faith, hard look at potential environmental consequences of a proposal before making a decision. The NGB is preparing a detailed study that will analyze the potential environmental consequences of the Proposed Action and the No Action Alternative - required by NEPA for the purpose of presenting a comparative analysis to the action alternative. Under the No Action Alternative, the 124 FW would retain the A-10C Thunderbolt II aircraft and continue flying that mission. The facility and infrastructure construction required for continuing this mission will also be evaluated in this Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Process Timeline

Current Phase



Public Involvement

Public involvement is an integral part of the NEPA process, which requires full disclosure of potential environmental impacts to the public and encourages public involvement in the process. The public has an important role in providing input during this process to help the NGB make more informed decisions about implementation of this proposal. The first opportunity for public involvement is the process called “public scoping.” The scoping period for this EIS began with the publication of the “Notice of Intent” to prepare an EIS, which was published in the Federal Register on February 11, 2026, and will formally extend through March 15, 2026.

Please note that by including your name and address on correspondence, it may be used to compile a mailing list for distributing future information regarding this EIS. Names may appear in the EIS, but phone numbers, email addresses, and physical addresses will not be published.



Comments may be submitted by:



Project website: www.gowenfieldf16eis.com



Project email: NGB.CCA4F.NEPACOMMENTSorg@us.af.mil. Please Include "F-16 Gowen Field EIS" in the subject line.



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Please submit comments by the end of the scoping public comment period on March 15, 2026, to ensure that your comments are addressed in the Draft EIS. Comments received after the close of the public comment period will be reviewed but may not be specifically addressed in the Draft EIS. Comments will be accepted throughout the EIS process.