



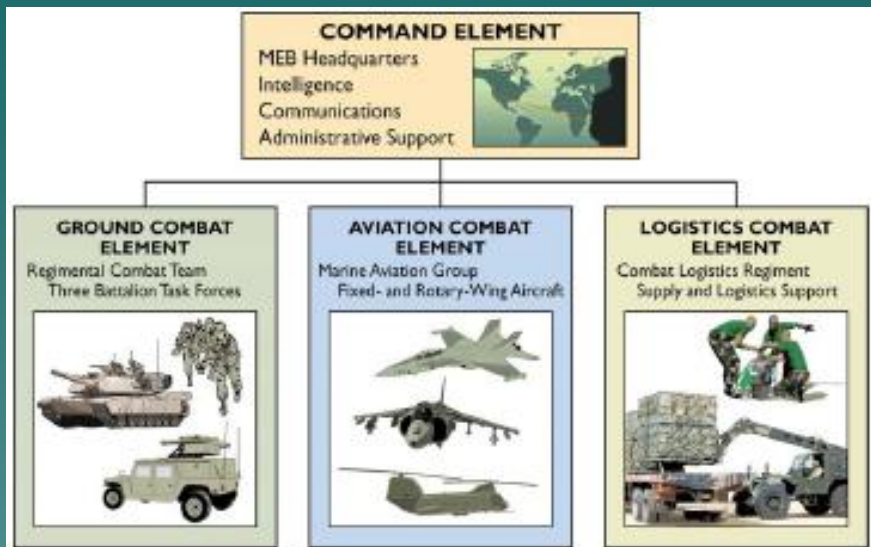
Public Information Brief Special Use Airspace February 2011

Proposed Land Acquisition and
Airspace Establishment
in Support of
Marine Expeditionary Brigade
Sustained, Combined-Arms,
Live-Fire and Maneuver Training

Marine Air Ground Task Force Training Command/
Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center
(MAGTFTC/MCAGCC)
Twenty-nine Palms, CA



Marines Must Train As We Fight



- ◆ **Special Use Airspace is needed to meet MEB sustained, combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver training requirements for use of**
 - ◆ **Artillery, mortars, tanks and other ground-based systems;**
 - ◆ **Missiles, bombs and other airborne weapons systems.**

Operational Requirement

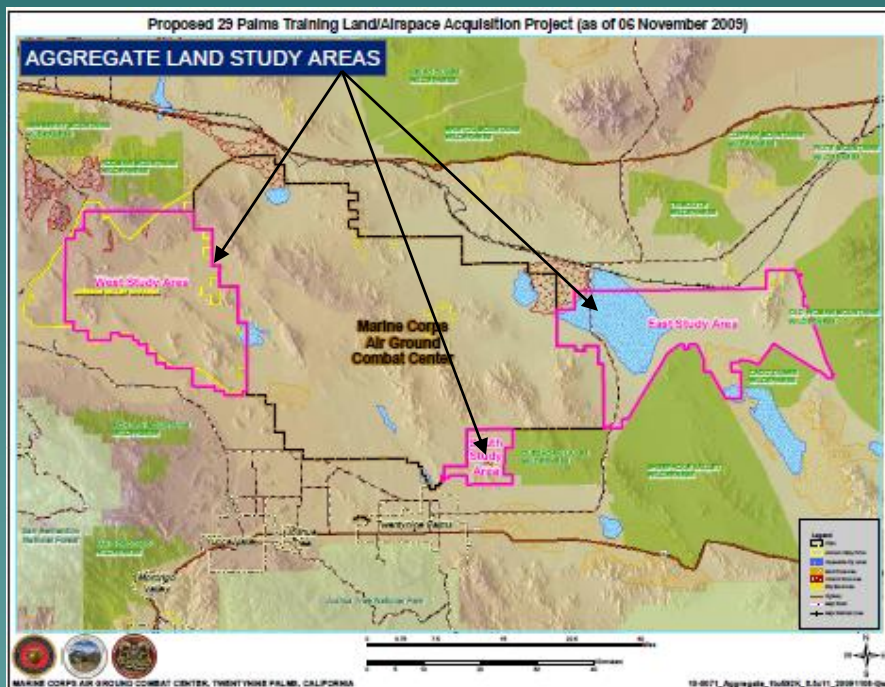
- ◆ Marines deploy as a Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF).
- ◆ Marines must train as a Marine Expeditionary Brigade MAGTF (MEB) to deploy around the globe.
- ◆ A MEB, about 15,000 Marines, includes:
 - ◆ a Command Element;
 - ◆ a Ground Combat Element built around a Regimental Combat Team (three brigades);
 - ◆ an Aviation Combat Element built around a Marine Aviation Group;
 - ◆ a Logistics Combat Element built around a Combat Logistics Regiment.
- ◆ MEB training requires a sustained (48-72 hours), combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver training exercise.
- ◆ No military range in the DoD inventory – including 29 Palms – is currently sufficient to support MEB training.

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



Lands to the west, south and east of 29 Palms are being studied in the NEPA process.

Airspace over the land study areas will also be studied for the potential establishment or modification of Special Use Airspace.



Project Inception

- ♦ Marine Corps Training and Education Command (TECOM) formulated MEB training requirement from lessons learned from combat.
- ♦ *Marine Corps Reference Publication 3-OC and Land Use Requirements Study* showed need for more training range capability.
- ♦ Center for Naval Analyses studied nationwide training options and recommended 29 Palms.
- ♦ Marine Requirements Oversight Council (MROC) validated training requirement and approved study for land acquisition and airspace establishment or modification at 29 Palms.
- ♦ Undersecretary of Defense approved moving forward to study alternatives at 29 Palms to meet MEB training.
- ♦ Notice of Intent to undertake an Environmental Impact Statement published in October 2008.



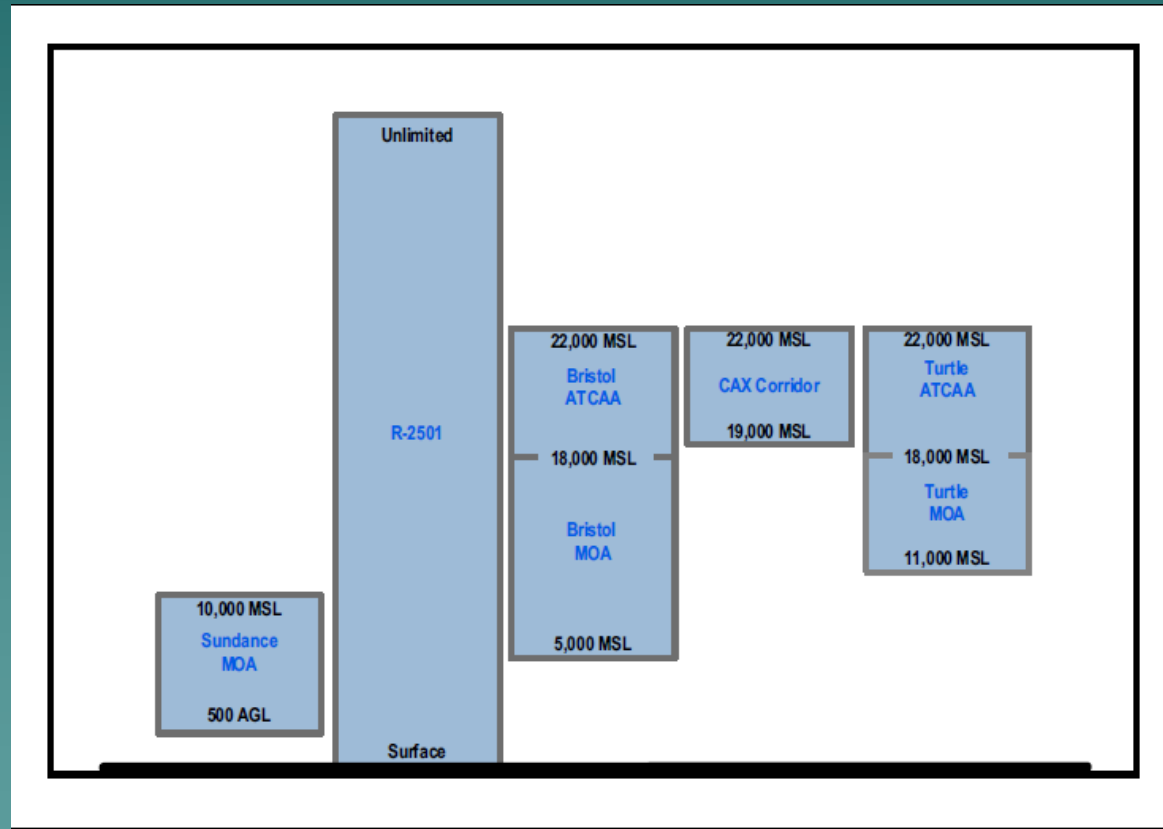
Types of Airspace Used in Military Training at MCAGCC

- ◆ **Restricted Area (RA):** Non-military aircraft are prohibited from entering during military training activities that involve live fire; MCAGCC releases RA for use by all aircraft in the National Airspace System when not needed for military training.
- ◆ **Military Operations Area (MOA):** A military operations area is airspace designated outside of Class A airspace (18,000-60,000 feet) to separate or segregate certain nonhazardous military activities from Instrument Flight Rule (IFR) traffic and to identify for Visual Flight Rule (VFR) traffic where these activities are conducted.
- ◆ **Air Traffic Control Assigned Airspace (ATCAA):** Similar to a MOA (and usually overlaying a MOA) within Class A airspace, non-military aircraft may fly in ATCAA during military training so long as air traffic controllers can maintain IFR separation from military aircraft; only non-hazardous military activities may be undertaken in ATCAA.

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



Special Use and Other Airspace in vicinity of MCAGCC
No Action Alternative – No Added or Modified Airspace
Surface and Ceiling of Airspace Blocks in Alternative





A Range of Reasonable Alternatives Were Evaluated in DEIS

- ◆ Five land acquisition alternatives for meeting MEB training requirements were presented to the public during scoping.
- ◆ Based on public comments and further examination of training requirements, terrain, property ownership and other factors, the five were modified – resulting in removing 15% of lands from the study area.
- ◆ A sixth land acquisition alternative was developed accommodate public access while better meeting MEB training requirements.
- ◆ All Alternatives received the same degree of analysis regarding environmental impacts associated with selecting them.

Supporting Airspace Alternatives

- ◆ Alternatives to establish and modify Special Use Airspace were developed to support the training in any newly acquired lands.
 - ◆ One airspace alternative would support land acquisition Alternatives 1, 4 and 5.
 - ◆ Three separate airspace alternatives were developed for each of land acquisition Alternatives 2, 3 and 6.



Marine Corps Selects Alternative 6 as the *Preferred Alternative*

- ◆ Alternative 6, while not the best from either an operational or an environmental impact perspective, is the optimal alternative given both the operational and environmental impact factors. Consequently, Alternative 6 is the Marine Corps' Preferred Alternative.

In addition, Alternative 6 would allow for continued public access to important areas of the Johnson Valley recreation area for up to 10 months of each year.

- ◆ From an operational perspective, the best alternative is Alternative 1.
- ◆ Alternative 5 is the environmentally preferable alternative; however, it is a very poor alternative from the operational perspective.



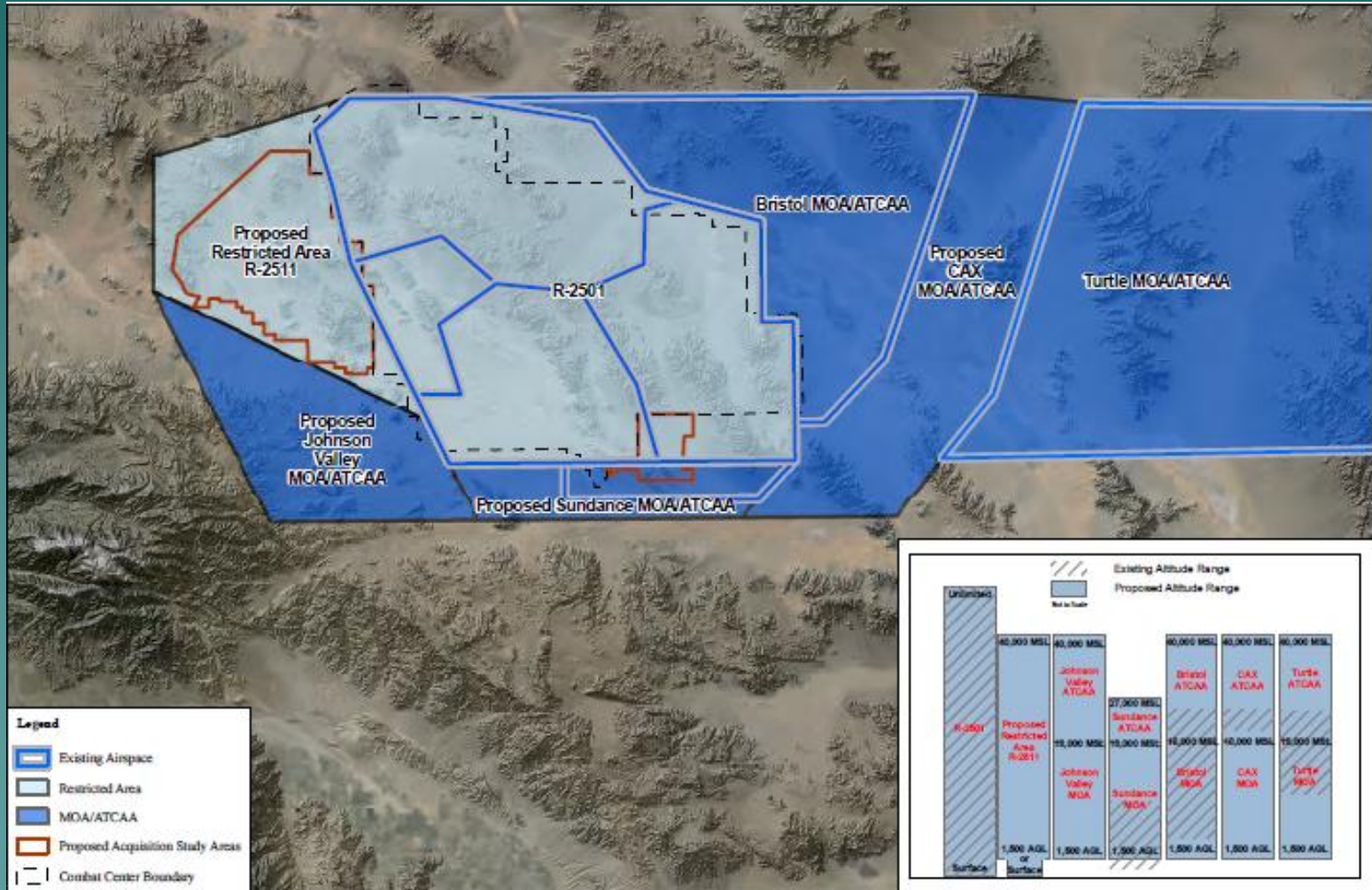
Airspace Establishment and Modification Highlights Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 6

- ◆ Would add *Proposed Combined Arms Exercise MOA/ATCAA* between currently authorized *Bristol MOA/ATCAA* and *Turtle MOA/ATCAA*.
- ◆ Would expand *Sundance MOA/ATCAA* to the south, east and west.
- ◆ Would add *Proposed Western Restricted Area* and *Western MOA/ATCAA* to the west of the current *R2501 Restricted Area*.
 - ◆ In the area west of the Fry Mountains *Western Restricted Area* would only go down to 1,500 feet above ground level, as would be true for *Restricted Area* anywhere it is not above the installation.

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



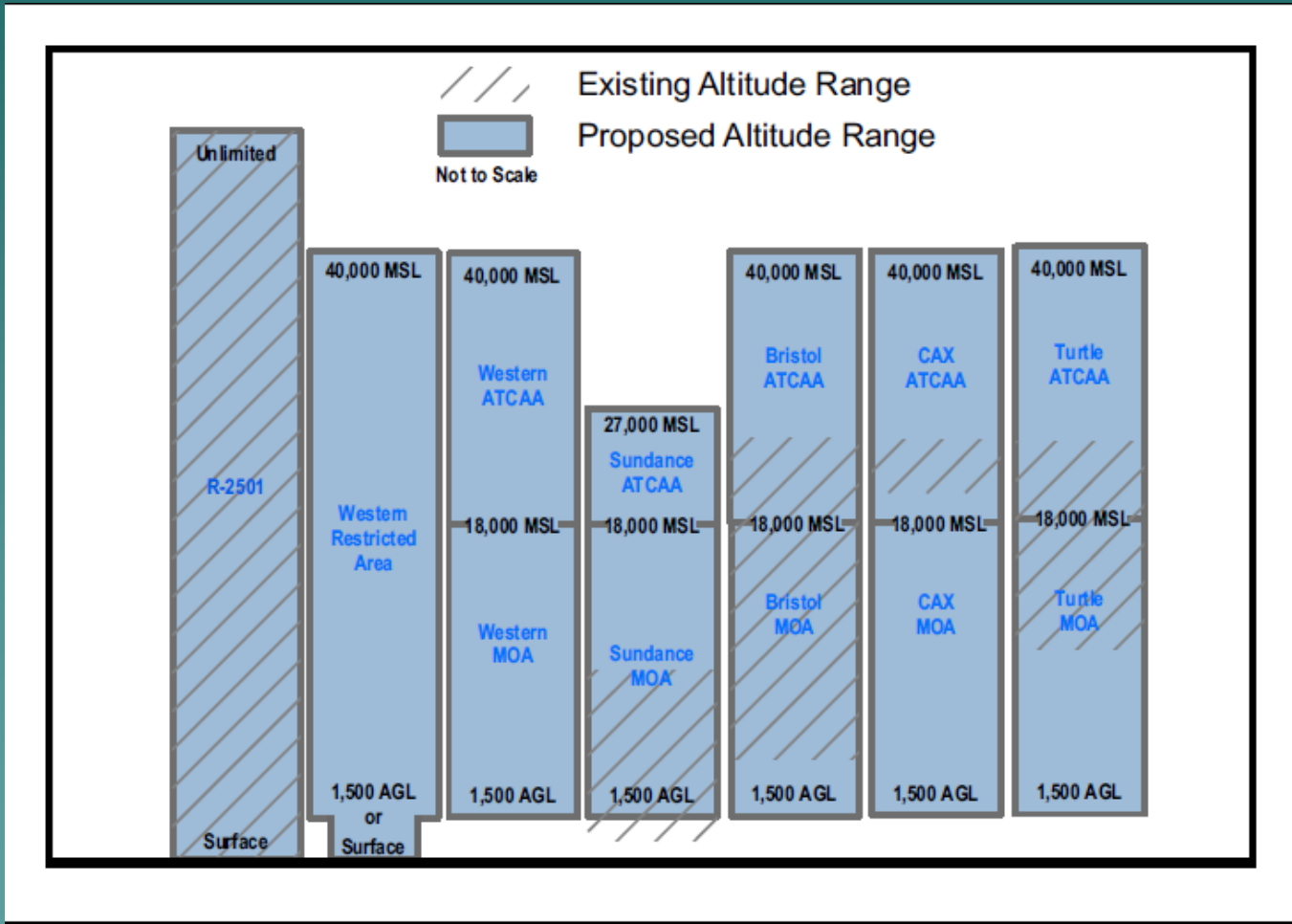
Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 6



Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 6 Surface and Ceiling of Airspace Blocks in Alternative



Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



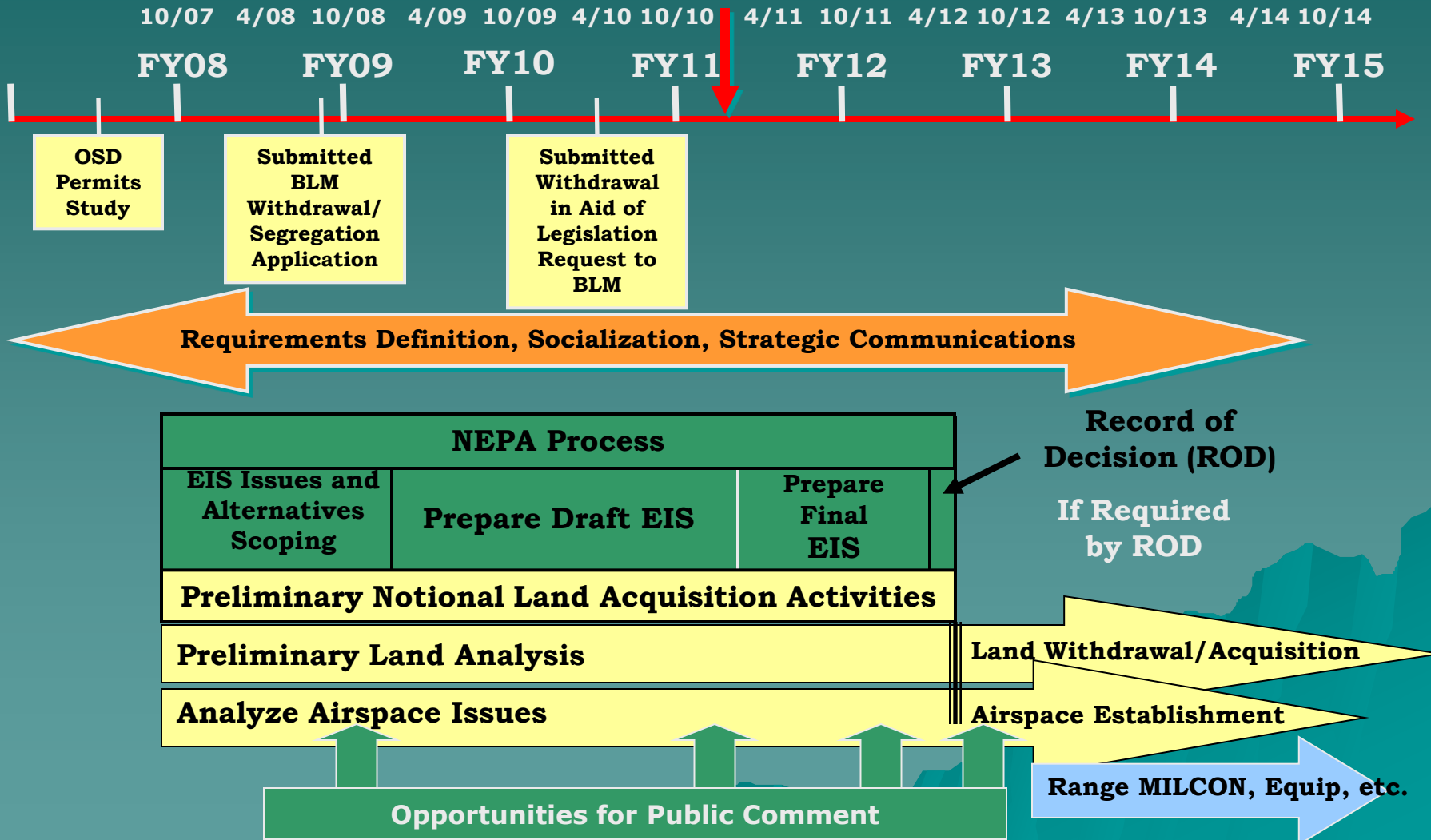
Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 6 Days and Hours of Proposed Usage of SUA



R-XXXX parameters:			Johnson Valley MOA/ATCAA parameters:			Sundance MOA parameters:			Bristol MOA/ATCAA parameters:			CAX Corridor MOA/ATCAA parameters:			Turtle MOA parameters:			
Alt	Hours	Days	Alt	Hours	Days	Alt	Hours	Days	Alt	Hours	Days	Alt	Hours	Days	Alt	Hours	Days	
FL180	8	60	FL180	8	160	FL 270	12	20X2	FL 220	8	M-F	FL270	12	6	FL 220	10	M-F	
	12	34		12	34	For a total of 40 days/yr.			FL 270	12	6	FL 400	12	6	FL 270	12	6	
FL270	24	6	FL 270	24	6	24-hr ops.	FL 400	12	6	FL 400	12	6	FL 400	12	6	FL 400	12	6
FL400	12	6	FL 400	12	6		Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.		Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.	Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.		Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.			Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.			
Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.			Not to exceed 40 hrs/yr.															



Path Forward – Project Timeline





Key Airspace Stakeholders

- Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)
- California Department of Transportation, Division of Aeronautics
- US Fish and Wildlife Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Pilots and Pilot Organizations
 - e.g., Aircraft Owners and Pilots Assoc., California Pilots Assoc.
- Commercial Airlines
- Airports
- Environmental Groups
- Aviation Non-Governmental Organizations
 - e.g., Air Transport Assoc., Cal. Aviation Assoc., National Air Transportation Assoc.

Path Forward

- Published Draft EIS, February 2011
 - Public Comment Period, Feb 25 to May 26, 2011
 - Public Comment Meetings, April 12 (Joshua Tree), April 13 (Ontario) and April 14 (Victorville)
- ◆ Evaluate Public Comments
- ◆ Publish Final EIS, December 2011
- ◆ Publish Record of Decision (ROD), April 2012
- ◆ If required by the ROD:
 - ◆ Submit land withdrawal legislation request, 2012
 - ◆ Commence FAA Rulemaking to consider establishment or modification of MCAGCC Special Use Airspace, 2012
 - ◆ Federal Land Withdrawal, 2012
 - ◆ Prepare Resource Management Plan or Amend Existing Plan, 2012-2014
 - ◆ Acquire State/Private Lands, 2012-2014
 - ◆ Complete FAA Rulemaking, 2013
 - ◆ Complete Necessary Training Range Improvements, 2014
 - ◆ Implement and Sustain Required Mitigation, 2014 and beyond
 - ◆ Commence MEB-Level Training, 2015



Conclusion

- ◆ The Marine Corps has studied reasonable Special Use Airspace alternatives in the area near the Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, 29 Palms, CA as part of our effort to meet sustained, combined-arms, live-fire and maneuver MEB training requirements.
- ◆ The Marine Corps pledges to seek only that airspace needed to meet our training requirements, and to release it for use by all aircraft in the National Airspace System when not needed for military training.
- ◆ Throughout the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process and FAA rulemaking, airspace stakeholders will have opportunities to review these alternatives, the completed studies that support NEPA compliance, the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), and the final decision made for a project that seeks the resources necessary to train Marines as they must fight.
- ◆ We look forward to working with you throughout this process, receiving your comments, and using them to develop the right plan to meet Marine Corps training requirements, while we also help to preserve the region's resources for generations to come.





Back Up Information Slides
Other Airspace Alternatives Evaluated in the DEIS



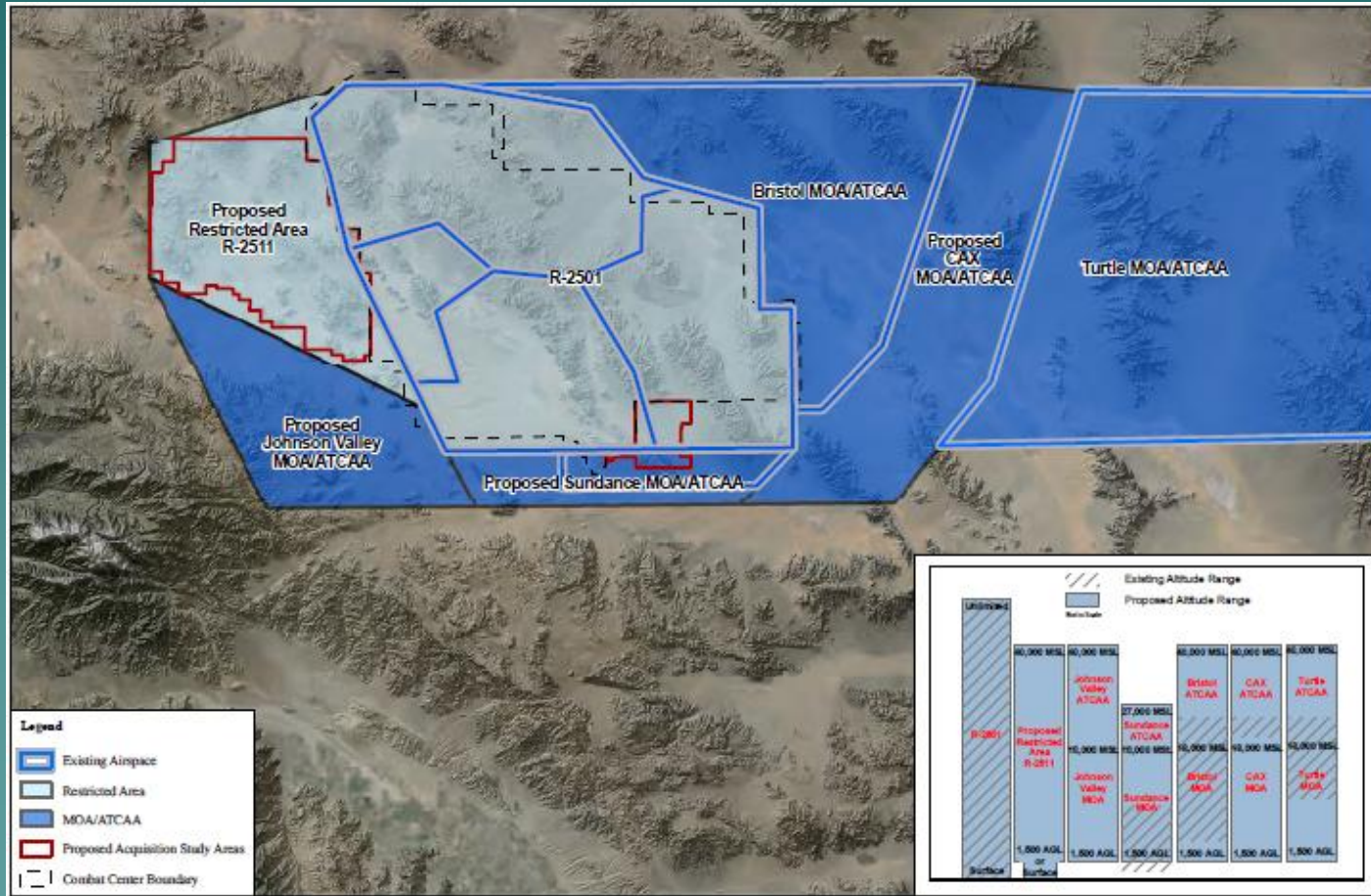
Airspace Establishment and Modification Highlights Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternatives 1, 4 and 5

- ◆ Would add *Proposed Combined Arms Exercise MOA/ATCAA* between currently authorized *Bristol MOA/ATCAA* and *Turtle MOA/ATCAA*.
- ◆ Would expand *Sundance MOA/ATCAA* to the south, east and west.
- ◆ Would add proposed *Western Restricted Area* and *Western MOA/ATCAA* to the west of the current *R2501 Restricted Area*.

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



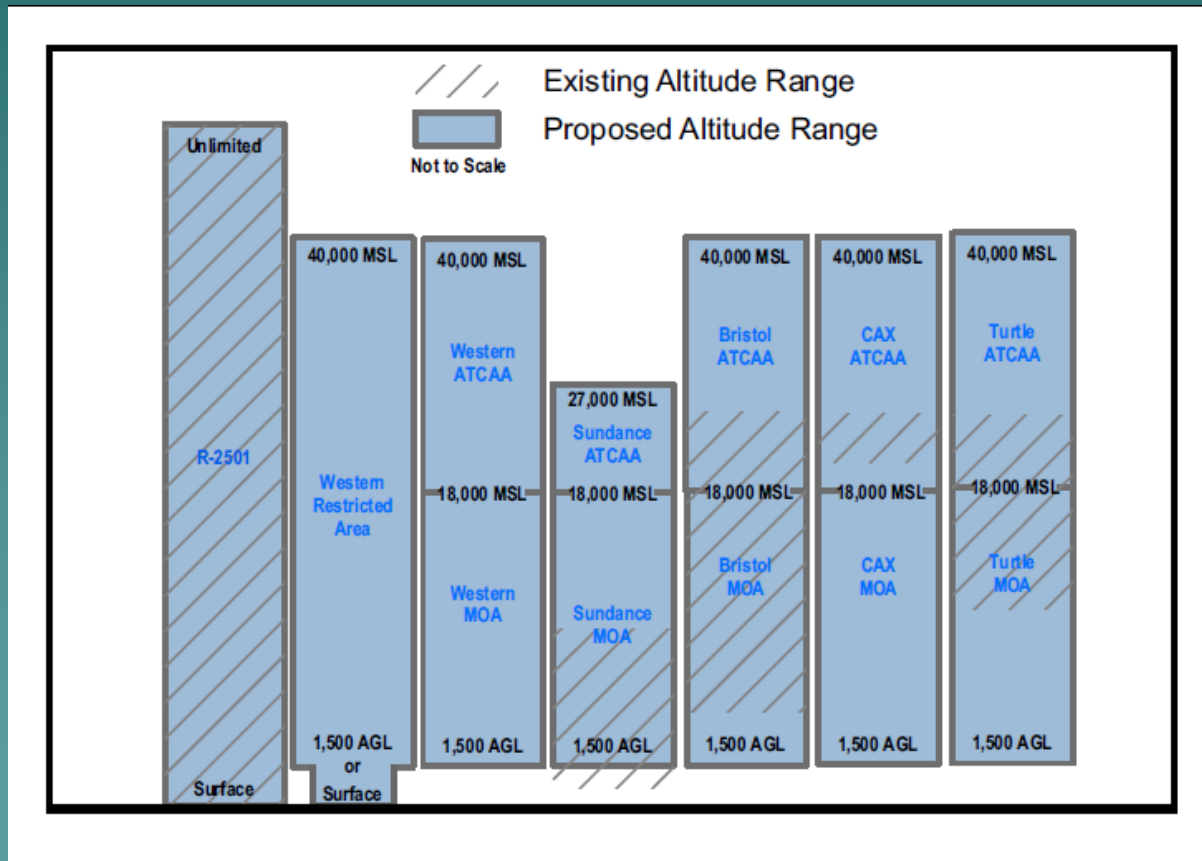
Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternatives 1, 4 and 5



Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project



Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternatives 1, 4 and 5 Surface and Ceiling of Airspace Blocks in Alternatives





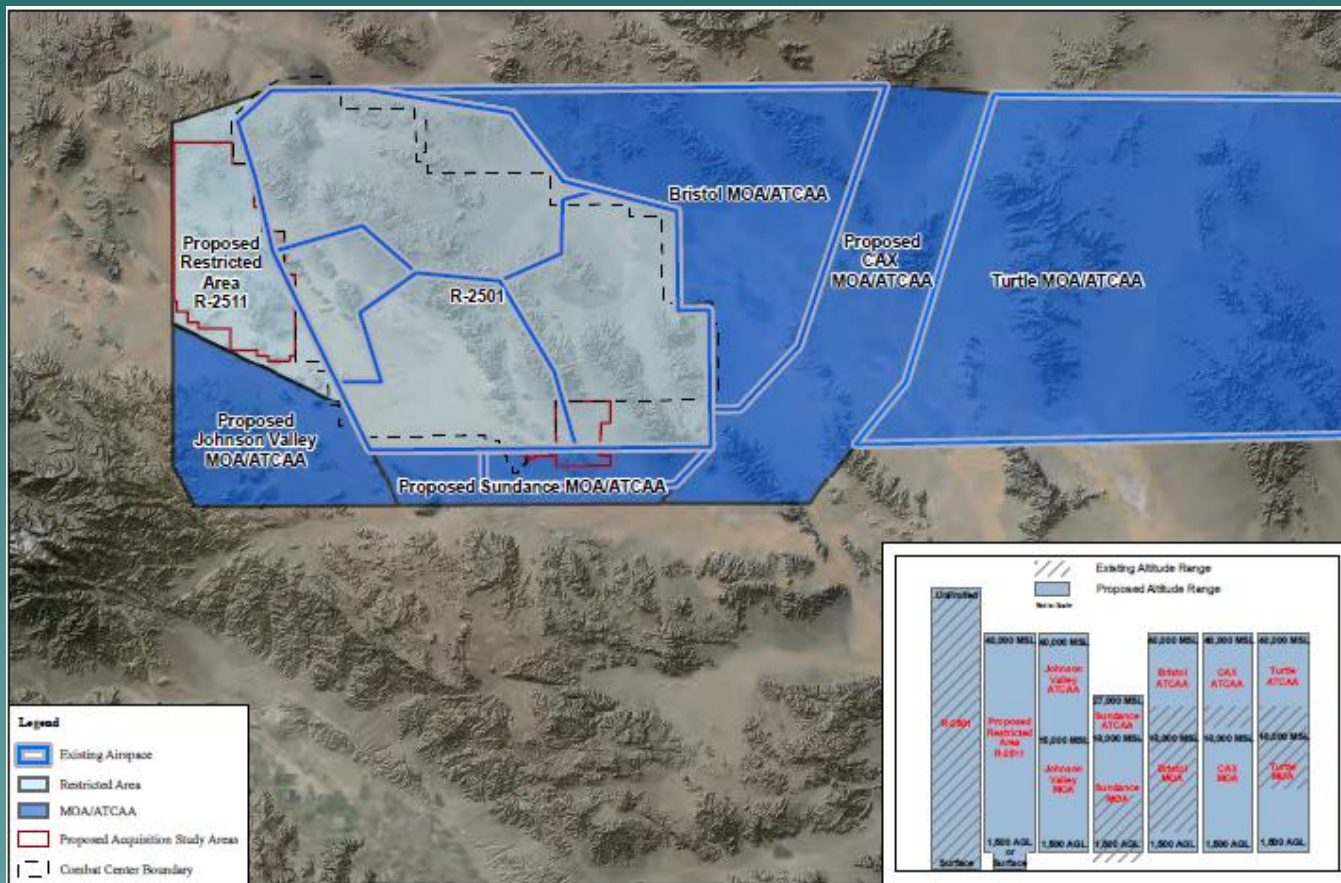
Airspace Establishment and Modification Highlights Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 2

- ◆ Would add *Proposed Combined Arms Exercise MOA/ATCAA* between currently authorized *Bristol MOA/ATCAA* and *Turtle MOA/ATCAA*.
- ◆ Would expand *Sundance MOA/ATCAA* to the south, east and west.
- ◆ Would add proposed *Western Restricted Area* and *Western MOA/ATCAA* to the west of the current *R2501 Restricted Area*.
 - ◆ Westward expansion of both the *Western Restricted Area* and the *MOA/ATCAA* would be less in Alternative 2 than in Alternatives 1, 4, 5 and 6.

Proposed 29 Palms Training Land/Airspace Acquisition Project

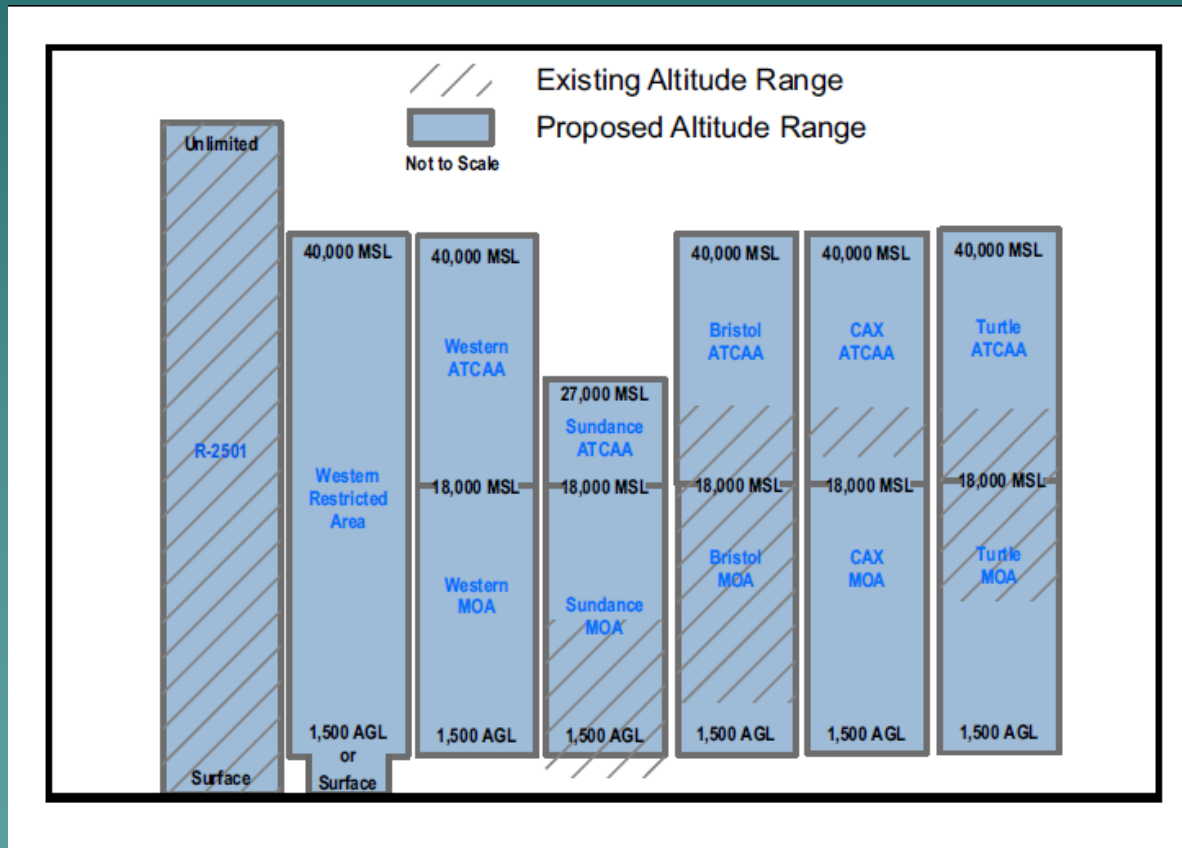


Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 2





Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 2 Surface and Ceiling of Airspace Blocks in Alternative



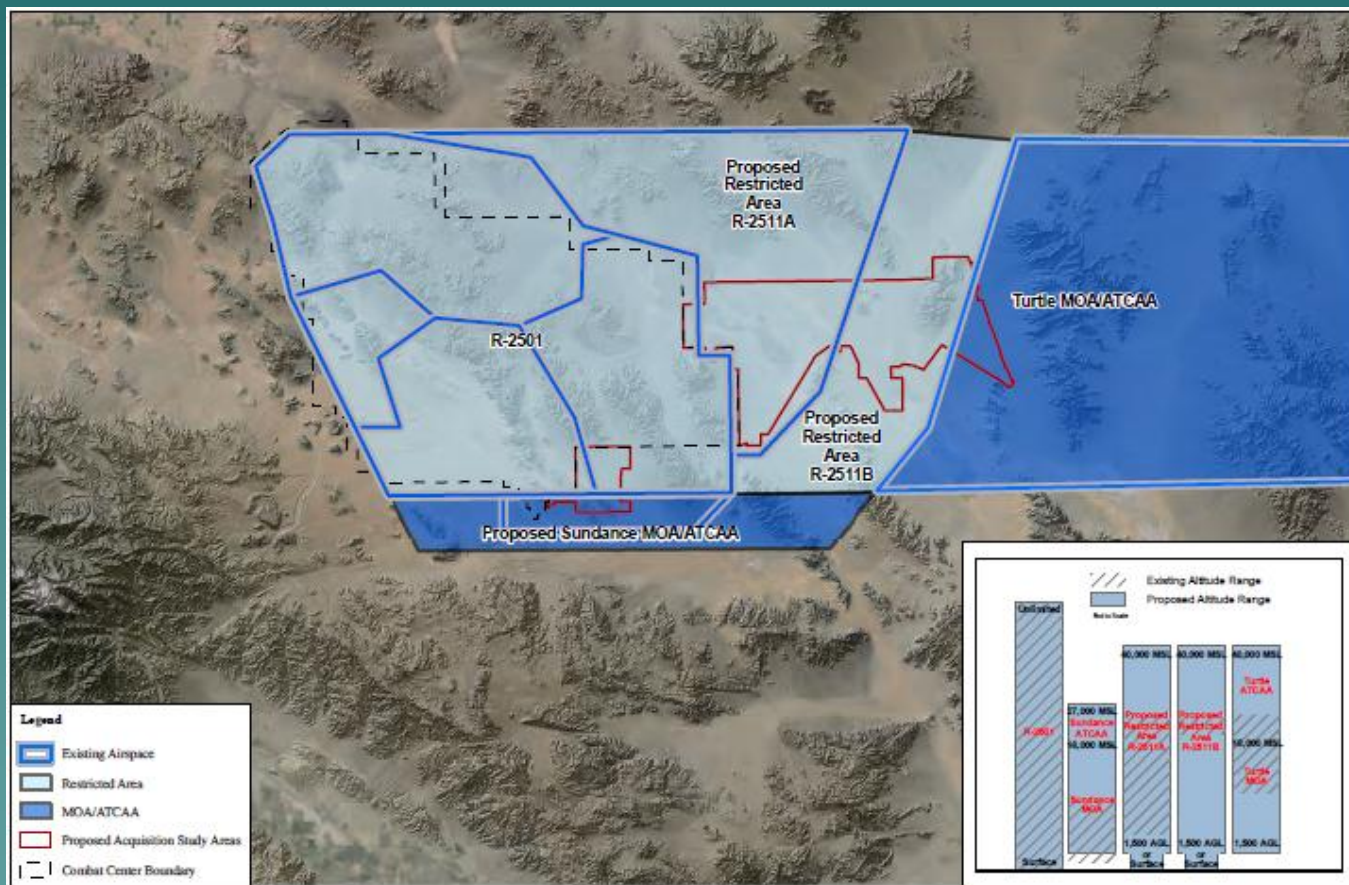


Airspace Establishment and Modification Highlights Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 3

- ◆ Would convert *Bristol MOA/ATCAA* into *Bristol Restricted Area*.
- ◆ Would add *Proposed Combined Arms Exercise Restricted Area* between currently authorized *Bristol MOA/ATCAA* and *Turtle MOA/ATCCA*.
- ◆ Would expand *Sundance MOA/ATCAA* to the south, east and west.



Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 3





Airspace Establishment and Modification Proposed Under EIS Land Acquisition Alternative 3 Surface and Ceiling of Airspace Blocks in Alternative

