

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY
NOTICE OF AVAILABILITY OF ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
and FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT for
NAVAL AIR STATION (NAS) OCEANA STRIKE FIGHTER TRANSITION**

The U.S. Department of the Navy (Navy) announces the availability of the Final Environmental Assessment (EA) prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, which evaluates the potential environmental impacts from transitioning the remaining F/A-18A/C/D Hornet aircraft operated by Fleet squadrons based at Naval Air Station (NAS) Oceana, Virginia to F/A-18E/F Super Hornet and retiring the F/A-18A/C/D Hornet aircraft operated by the Fleet Replacement Squadron.

The Proposed Action would result in a one-for-one aircraft replacement and includes no change in the type and amount of aircraft operations, no major construction or facility modification, and no major change in personnel. The majority of the aircraft based at NAS Oceana transitioned to F/A-18E/F Super Hornet over a decade ago (as part of a separate action) and are currently conducting flight training operations at NAS Oceana and Naval Auxiliary Landing Field (NALF) Fentress. The purpose of transitioning the remaining Hornet aircraft to Super Hornet aircraft is to provide newer, more capable, and more reliable aircraft to the NAS Oceana-based strike fighter community, which is needed to support the Navy's national defense requirements under Title 10 U.S. Code Section 5062.

The Draft EA was made available for public review and comment from August 16 through September 15, 2017. During the review period, the Navy hosted public meetings in Virginia Beach and Chesapeake on August 29 and August 30, 2017, respectively. All comments received were considered in preparing the Final EA.

Based on the findings of the Final EA and the public review of the Draft EA, the Navy has determined that the Proposed Action would have no significant impact on the quality of the human environment. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required and a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) has been issued.

The Final EA and FONSI are available at www.oceanastrikefighter.com or at one of the following public libraries: **Meyera E. Oberndorf Central Library**, 4100 Virginia Beach Blvd, Virginia Beach VA 23452; **Oceanfront Area Library**, 700 Virginia Beach Blvd, Virginia Beach VA 23451; **Great Neck Area Library**, 1251 Bayne Drive, Virginia Beach VA 23454; **Princess Anne Area Library**, 1444 Nimmo Parkway, Virginia Beach VA 23456; **Windsor Woods Area Library**, 3612 South Plaza Trail, Virginia Beach VA 23452; **Wahab Public Law Library**, 2425 Nimmo Parkway, Judicial Center, Bldg 10B, Virginia Beach, VA 23456; **Chesapeake Central Library**, 298 Cedar Road, Chesapeake VA 23322; and **Greenbrier Library** 1214 Volvo Parkway, Chesapeake, VA 23320.