

Subj: OLF Site Evaluation – Ft. Pickett, VA

12 June 2003

BACKGROUND

The Outlying Field Study portion of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for East Coast Basing of the F/A-18 E/F Super Hornet was conducted to identify minimal population areas where Super Hornet FCLPs could be conducted away from homebase and be safe from future encroachment. The study used Global Information System data to identify tracks of land that met defined criteria regardless of state/county boundaries. Specific locations such as existing airfields were not directly identified for study, but were analyzed if they fell within an area that met the defined criteria. Few existing airfields/military installations analyzed because they were generally encroached (greater than 50 people per square mile).

DISCUSSION

1. Identification of potential OLF sites was based on an area analysis conducted along the East Coast from Virginia to South Carolina (based on potential homebasing sites). The criteria used were:

- a. **Population Density** (less than 50 people per square mile),
 - b. **Existing Airspace** (no interference with existing Class C/D or special use airspace such as airfields/airways, or restricted areas.
 - c. **No tall obstacles** (towers/buildings),
 - d. **Environmental Issues** (less than 100 acres of wetlands, endangered species),
 - e. **Public lands** (wildlife refuges/Nat'l parks)
2. **Fort Pickett (A.C. Perkinson Blackstone AAF) Oceana - 94 NM, Cherry Pt. - 141 NM**

- **Environmental Issues. (Fail – wetlands)**
 - Wetlands within the complex are estimated at 3000 acres.
 - Endangered species include Bald Eagle, Roanoke Logperch, and Michaux's Sumac. Consultation on Bald Eagle and Michaux's Sumac would be required.
 - Unexploded ordnance cleanup likely required prior to OLF construction...unofficial cleanup cost estimation is \$25M.
- **Existing Airspace. (Fail)**
 - Perkinson Airport/Blackstone AAF would be within 5nm of the OLF. Class D airspace (Tower control area) would extend over existing airfield requiring deconfliction between the two traffic patterns.

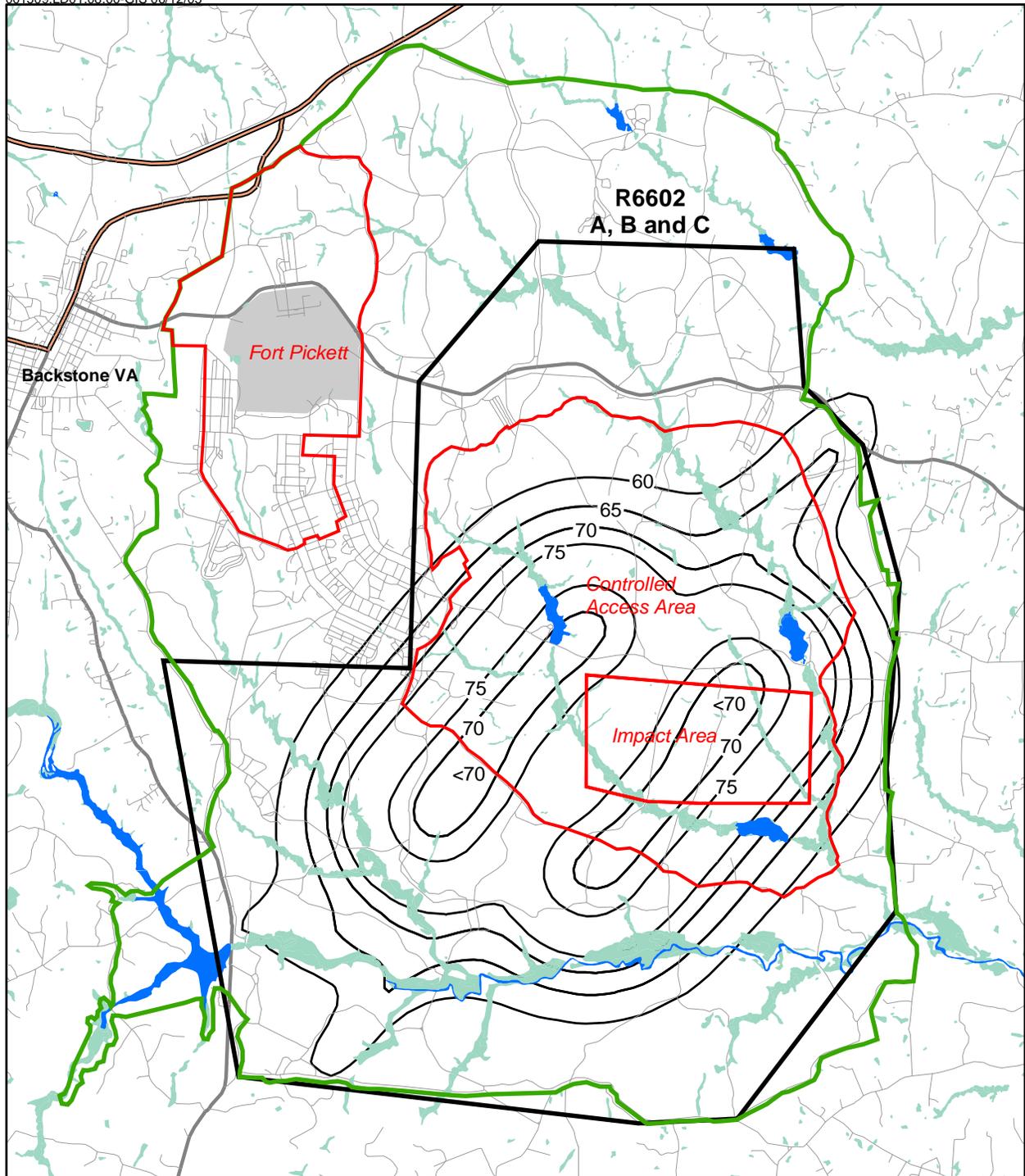
- Restricted Area R-6602 (SFC to 17,999 MSL), comprises 35,000 acres, overlies Ft Pickett and is the VA. Nat'l Guard Maneuver Training Center. Incompatible use - Live fire area - small arms, tank, artillery and helicopter gunnery training.

- **Distance. (Fail)**
 - Fort Pickett is beyond the established 50 NM maximum (94 NM) from Oceana. Locations beyond 50 NM were only considered between NAS Oceana and MCAS Cherry Point due to economies of scale gained by supporting two facilities.

- **Population Density. (Pass)**
 - Updated (smaller) 60 DNL contour appears to fit within range complex if the runway is constructed near the center of the Fort Pickett property. Area of greater than 50 people per square mile population density is still less than two miles from projected 60 DNL contour.

- **Tall Obstacles. (Pass)**
 - None

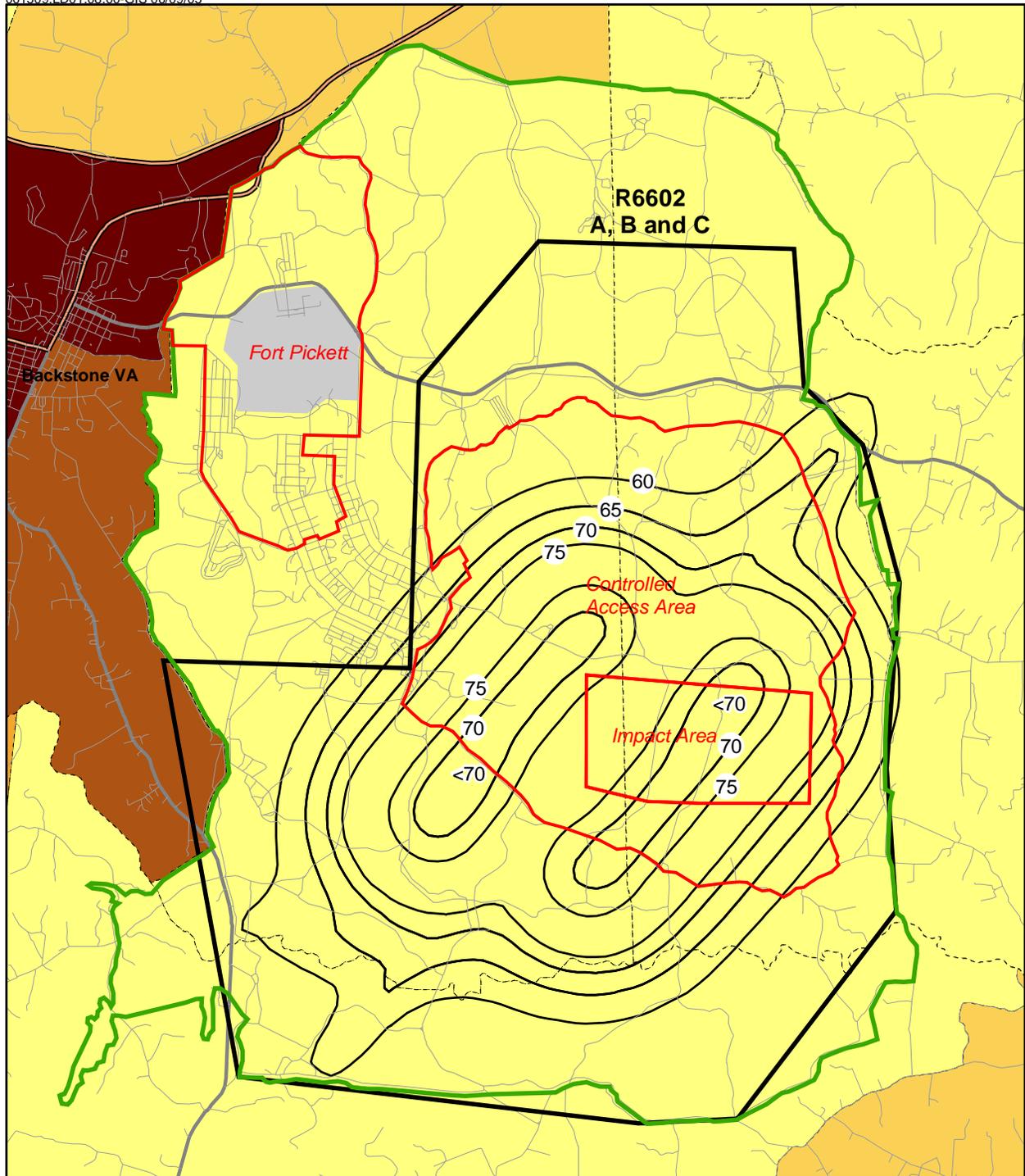
- **Federal Public Lands. (Pass)**
 - None



-  Noise Contours
-  Fort Pickett
-  Fort Pickett Range
-  Fort Pickett Range Areas
-  Open Water
-  Wetlands

NWI Wetlands Fort Pickett Area





- | | |
|---|--|
|  <25 people/square mile |  Noise Contours |
|  25-50 people/square mile |  Fort Pickett |
|  50-75 people/square mile |  Fort Pickett Range |
|  75-100 people/square mile |  Fort Pickett Range Areas |
|  >100 people/square mile | |

2000 Census Data Fort Pickett Area

