

Finding of No Significant Impact

This Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) has been prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 at Public Law 91-190, 42 U.S. Code 4321 et seq., as amended. The FNSI is the decision document for the Environmental Assessment (EA) Addressing Slope Stabilization for the Lower Presidio Historic Park (LPHP) at United States Army Garrison Presidio of Monterey (USAG Presidio), California (Council on Environmental Quality Unique ID: EAXX-007-21-001-1759319428).

Description of the Proposed Action and Alternatives

The Proposed Action consists of implementing slope stabilization and erosion control measures to address an eroding slope on the eastern boundary of the LPHP along Lighthouse Avenue in Monterey, California. The slope from the LPHP to Lighthouse Avenue is currently experiencing excessive erosion that results in soil material accumulation on the public sidewalk. The Proposed Action, including Alternatives 1, 2, and 3, would include implementing slope stabilization and erosion control measures, potentially using alternative low-cost engineering solutions per Department of Defense legacy resource management grant application conditions. Alternative low-cost solutions comprise measures that incorporate the use of living materials or those that once were living and could include the use of geofabrics, soil nailing, geogrid with anchoring, low-growing native vegetation, and/or construction of a bioswale and small retention basin to redirect stormwater runoff for soil erosion control and slope stabilization. Under Alternative 1, USAG Presidio would install a small retaining wall, between 3 and 4 feet high, along approximately 250 linear feet of the LPHP slope, using the best-engineered technique. Under Alternative 2, USAG Presidio would install a taller retaining wall, up to 8 feet high, along up to 500 linear feet of the LPHP slope, using the best-engineered technique. Under both Alternatives 1 and 2, slope stabilization and erosion control measures would be implemented in addition to construction of the retaining walls. Under Alternative 3, USAG Presidio would only implement slope stabilization and erosion control measures, including potential use of alternative low-cost solutions.

Under the No Action Alternative, USAG Presidio would not seek to implement slope stabilization and erosion control measures for the LPHP along Lighthouse Avenue. Excessive erosion and associated material accumulation on the Lighthouse Avenue sidewalk would continue to pose potential safety risks to pedestrians and roadway traffic and expose cultural resources that require protection. The No Action Alternative would not meet the minimum screening criteria as described in Section 2.2 of the EA, and USAG Presidio would not meet its statutory requirements in accordance with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990, and the Archaeological Resources Protection Act of 1979.

Summary of Environmental Consequences

Based on the analysis in this EA, the Proposed Action would result in short-term, adverse impacts from construction activities on land use and coastal zone (increased potential for erosion and sedimentation in stormwater runoff), air quality (construction-based emissions), noise (increased noise from construction equipment and traffic), geological resources (increased potential for erosion), water resources (increased potential for erosion and sedimentation in stormwater runoff), biological resources (removal and/or disturbance of vegetation), transportation and traffic (increase traffic from construction and potential lane closures), utilities (increased potential for erosion and sedimentation in stormwater runoff), and human health and safety (increased risk during construction activities). These impacts would be temporary and less than significant. No long-term, adverse impacts would be anticipated. Therefore, no avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation measures would be required under the Proposed Action.

The Proposed Action would result in beneficial effects on land use and the coastal zone (reduced erosion and sedimentation in stormwater runoff), geological and soil resources (reduced potential for erosion), water resources (reduced potential for erosion and sedimentation in stormwater runoff and water bodies), biological resources (burrowing species to retain habitat more successfully), cultural resources (protection of culturally sensitive materials), transportation and traffic (improved pedestrian access), utilities (reduced potential for erosion and sedimentation in stormwater runoff), and human health and safety (improved pedestrian access and safety).

Public Review and Comment

The public was provided the opportunity to review and comment on the Draft EA and Draft FNSI. A Notice of Availability of the Draft EA/Draft FNSI was published in the *Monterey County Weekly*. The Notice of Availability initiated a 30-day public comment period from February 5, 2026 through March 9, 2026. A hard copy of the Draft EA/Draft FNSI was available at local libraries and made available upon request at by sending an email to lauren.r.sullivan.civ@army.mil. An electronic version of the Draft EA/Draft FNSI was made available on the USAG Presidio website: <https://home.army.mil/monterey/index.php/my-fort/all-services/environmental/public-notice-environmental-assessment-and-impact>. The Final EA and Final FNSI will be posted on the same website.

Conclusion

Based on the environmental analysis contained in the EA, it has been determined that implementing the Proposed Action would have no significant direct, indirect, or cumulative impacts on the human environment, including the physical and natural environment and the relationship of people with those environments. Therefore, preparation of an environmental impact statement is not required and will not be prepared. This analysis fulfills the requirements of NEPA.

Approved by

DANIEL ARTINO
COL, AV
Commanding

Date