



DATE

NAME

AGENCY

STREET ADDRESS

CITY, STATE, ZIP

via email:

**RE: St. Simons Airport at McKinnon Field Safety Improvements and Hangar Development EA  
Glynn County, Saint Simons, Georgia - Early Coordination**

Dear \_\_\_\_\_,

The Glynn County Airport Commission (Commission) proposes safety improvements and development at St. Simons Island Airport at McKinnon Field (SSI or Airport) (see **Figure 1**, attached). The safety improvements consist of perimeter fence relocation east of Runway 4-22, removal of two covered areas and a Goodwill Donation shed, rehabilitation of Runway 4-22, construction of Engineered Material Arrest System (EMAS) on the approach end of Runway 22 and Runway 4, drainage improvements, re-establishment of Runway 4 threshold, realignment of Taxiway A, grading of the Runway Object Free Area (ROFA), installation of new hold markings, and installation of red obstruction lights atop streetlights along Frederica Road and Airport fence line along Airport Road.

Hangar Development would include the construction of an apron area, expansion of Taxiway D connecting to the proposed hangar development, rehabilitation and reconstruction of taxilanes, construction of vehicle parking, construction of three vehicle access points along Skylane Road, and utility and stormwater improvements. The Proposed Project is shown in **Figure 2**. Construction of the Proposed Project would begin in 2024 and be completed in 2026.

The Commission will request the Federal Aviation Administration's (FAA) approval of the improvements on its Airport Layout Plan. This request is a Federal action, and through the requirement for the Commission to meet FAA grant assurances, RS&H, Inc. will prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Proposed Project. In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and FAA Orders 1050.1F, *Environmental Impacts: Policies and Procedures* and 5050.4B, *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Implementing Instructions of Airport Actions*, the EA will analyze the potential environmental effects of the Proposed Project.

On behalf of the Commission, we are sending you this early notification letter to:

1. Advise your agency of the preparation of the EA;

2. Request any relevant information that your agency may have regarding the project site or environs;  
and
3. Solicit early comments regarding potential environmental, social, and economic issues for  
consideration during the preparation of the EA.

You may send any information and comments to me via email at [David.Alberts@rsandh.com](mailto:David.Alberts@rsandh.com) or to the address provided at the top of this letter. We would appreciate your prompt response within 30 days.

On behalf of the Commission, we thank you for your interest in this project and look forward to working with you as we prepare the EA. If you have any questions or need additional information regarding the Proposed Project or EA, please do not hesitate to contact me at (904) 256-2469.

Sincerely,



David Alberts  
Project Manager  
RS&H, Inc.

Attachments

cc: Rob Burr, Glynn County Airports Commission  
Jennifer Adams, FAA  
Jeffery Griffith, GDOT  
Project File

Figure 1: Airport Location



Sources: ESRI, 2022; RS&H, 2022

**Legend**

 Airport Location

Figure is not to scale and is for graphic purposes only.



Figure 2: Proposed Project



**Legend**

- |                                               |                                                                     |                                       |                                      |
|-----------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------|--------------------------------------|
| Hangar Development Area                       | Install New Hold Markings and Signage on Taxiway A for Runway 4 End | Construct Runway 4 Approach End EMAS  | Minor Grading of Enlarged ROFA       |
| Hangar Development Area New Hangars           | Taxiway A Pavement Removal                                          | Construct Runway 22 Approach End EMAS | Infrastructure Removed               |
| Hangar Development Area New Apron and Taxiway | Realign Taxiway A from A3 Northward                                 | Rehabilitation of Runway 4-22         | Red Obstruction Lights Added in ROFA |
| Runway 4 Threshold Relocation                 |                                                                     | On Airport Drainage Improvements      | Relocate Perimeter Fence             |

**AGENCY COORDINATION MAILING LIST**  
**ST. SIMONS AIRPORT AT MCKINNON FIELD (SSI) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**GLYNN COUNTY AIRPORTS COMMISSION**  
**/RS&H COORDINATION**

**FEDERAL AGENCIES**

**USACE**

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Coastal Branch  
ATTN: CESAS-RD-C  
100 West Oglethorpe Avenue  
Savannah, Georgia 31401-3604  
[CESAS-RD-C@usace.army.mil](mailto:CESAS-RD-C@usace.army.mil)

**USEPA**

Ms. Ntale Kajumba, Chief  
NEPA Program Office  
Region 4  
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency  
Sam Nunn Atlanta Federal Center  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303-3104  
(404) 562-9620  
[kajumba.ntale@epa.gov](mailto:kajumba.ntale@epa.gov)

**USFWS**

Attn. NEPA Coordination  
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Georgia Ecological Services Field Offices  
[GAES\\_Assistance@FWS.gov](mailto:GAES_Assistance@FWS.gov)

**FEMA**

Region 4  
770-220-5200  
[FEMA-R4-Info@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:FEMA-R4-Info@fema.dhs.gov)

**DOI**

Ms. Joyce A. Stanley  
Regional Environmental Protection Assistant  
U.S. Department of the Interior  
Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance  
Atlanta Region  
75 Ted Turner Drive, S.W., Suite 1144  
Atlanta, GA 30303  
Telephone: (404) 331-4524  
Fax: (404) 331-1736  
[joyce\\_stanley@ios.doi.gov](mailto:joyce_stanley@ios.doi.gov)

**STATE AGENCIES**

**Georgia Department of Natural Resources (DNR)  
Environmental Protection Division**

Ms. Beth Willis-Stevenson  
Coastal District (Brunswick)  
1050 Canal Road  
Brunswick, GA 31525  
Ph: 912.264.7284  
Fax: 912.262.3160  
[beth.stevenson@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:beth.stevenson@dnr.ga.gov)

**Georgia DNR Coastal Resources Division**

Ms. Jan Mackinnon  
One Conservation Way  
Suite 300  
Brunswick, GA 31520-8687  
Ph: 912-262-3137  
[Jan.mackinnon@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Jan.mackinnon@dnr.ga.gov)

**Georgia DNR Wildlife Resources Division**

Ms. Talia Levine  
Wildlife Conservation Section  
Environmental Review  
(706) 318-3296  
[Talia.Levine@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Talia.Levine@dnr.ga.gov)

**Georgia DNR Parks, Recreation, and Historic Sites  
Division**

Mr. Jeff Cown  
Director  
2610 Highway 155, SW  
Stockbridge, GA 30281  
(770) 389-7286  
[Jeff.cown@dnr.ga.gov](mailto:Jeff.cown@dnr.ga.gov)

**Georgia Association of Regional Commissioners  
Region 12: Coastal**

Mr. Aaron Carpenter  
Planning Director  
1181 Coastal Drive SW  
Darien, GA 31305  
(912) 223-9258  
[acarpenter@crc.ga.gov](mailto:acarpenter@crc.ga.gov)

**AGENCY COORDINATION MAILING LIST**  
**ST. SIMONS AIRPORT AT MCKINNON FIELD (SSI) ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**Georgia Department of Community Affairs**

Ms. Jennifer Fordham  
Regional 12 Representative  
60 Executive Park South, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
(404) 679-4840  
[region12@dca.ga.gov](mailto:region12@dca.ga.gov)

**GDOT**

Jeffery Griffith  
Aviation Project Manager  
112 Tift Street  
Jesup, Georgia 31545  
912-269-1594  
[jgriffith@dot.ga.gov](mailto:jgriffith@dot.ga.gov)

Cody Dupre  
Aviation Planner  
One Georgia Center  
600 W. Peachtree St NW – 6th floor  
Atlanta, GA  
404.631.1343 office  
770.601.9572 cell  
[CDupre@dot.ga.gov](mailto:CDupre@dot.ga.gov)

**LOCAL AGENCIES**

**Glynn County Planning and Zoning**

Stefanie Leif  
Planning Manager  
1725 Reynolds St.  
Suite 200  
Brunswick, GA 31520  
Phone: 912-554-7428  
[PlanningZoning@glynncounty-ga.gov](mailto:PlanningZoning@glynncounty-ga.gov)

**Brunswick-Glynn Joint Water & Sewer  
Commission**

Timothy Ransom  
Planning & Development Coordinator  
1703 Gloucester Street Brunswick, GA 31520  
(912) 261-7121  
[transom@bgjwsc.org](mailto:transom@bgjwsc.org)

**FAA COORDINATION**

**Descendent communities**

**Native American Tribes**

Mr. Wilson Yargee (Chief)  
PO Box 187  
Wetumka, OK 74883  
Phone: (405) 452-3987  
Fax: (405) 452-3968  
[wilson.yargee@alabama-quassarte.org](mailto:wilson.yargee@alabama-quassarte.org)

Mr. Ben Yahola (THPO)  
PO Box 187  
Wetumka, OK 74883  
Phone: (405)-452-3881  
Fax: (405) 452-3889  
[Ben.Yahola@alabama-quassarte.org](mailto:Ben.Yahola@alabama-quassarte.org)

Mr. Jonathan Cernek (Chairman)  
PO Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532  
Phone: (337) 584-1401  
Fax: (337) 584-1507  
[r-rich@coushatta.org](mailto:r-rich@coushatta.org)

Kristian Poncho (THPO)  
PO Box 818  
Elton, LA 70532  
Phone: (337) 275-1350  
[kponcho@coushatta.org](mailto:kponcho@coushatta.org)

**GA SHPO**

Central Office  
60 Executive Park South, NE  
Atlanta, GA 30329  
(404) 679-4840  
[er@dca.ga.gov](mailto:er@dca.ga.gov)

**From:** [White, Douglas](#)  
**To:** [Alberts, David](#)  
**Cc:** [Buskey, Traci P.](#); [Kajumba, Ntale](#); [Washington-Newton, JAMILHA](#); [Hamblin, Monica](#)  
**Subject:** EPA Scoping Comments SSI Airport Safety Improvements  
**Date:** Tuesday, June 20, 2023 10:40:28 PM

---

Re: EPA Comments on the Early Notification Letter to Prepare an Environmental Assessment for Safety Improvements and Hangar Development at St. Simons Island Airport at McKinnon Field, Glynn County, Georgia

Dear Mr. Alberts:

The U. S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) received the referenced document and reviewed the subject proposal in accordance with Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EPA understands that Glynn County Airport Commission (Commission) is conducting an Environmental Assessment (EA) for the proposed field safety improvements and hangar developments at St. Simons Island Airport at McKinnon Field (SSI).

Under the Proposed Action, the Commission would construct a new aircraft apron, an Engineered Material Arrest System, and ground vehicle parking and access points. The Commission would also extend Taxiway D, reconstruct existing paved and improved surfaces, relocate perimeter fencing, and improve stormwater drainage and utility infrastructure. The purpose of this EA is for Glynn County Airport Commission to evaluate the impacts of this Proposed Action.

Upon review of the scoping documents, the EPA notes that the improvements considered are reasonably consistent with land use at airports. The EPA has the following comments:

**Wetlands and Streams:** The Proposed Action is primarily situated on developed property with surface waters that flow to the Saint Simons Sound. The EPA recommends that design proposals and construction avoid impacting Waters of the United States (WOTUS) to the maximum extent practicable by locating permanent infrastructure and temporary construction measures away from WOTUS and respective buffers. WOTUS should be delineated for this project and coordination with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers made where the Proposed Action may enter or affect WOTUS. Mitigation may be required where impacts to WOTUS cannot be avoided. Flood water mapping should be consulted to ensure proposed activities do not take place in floodplains except where alternatives are not practicable.

**Water Quality:** The Proposed Action would disturb a considerable amount of soil through demolition, pavement construction, and possible vegetation clearing. Best Management Practices (BMP) should be implemented to mitigate impacts before and during construction. Where impermeable surfaces will be constructed, additional construction of rainwater runoff control structures, designed to leave existing stormwater runoff profiles of the area unchanged, should be constructed to mitigate the impacts of land development, in accordance with Section 438 of the Energy Independence and Security Act of 2007. Long-term stormwater attenuation may reuse sufficiently designed and properly maintained sedimentation basins that are developed as construction BMPs. The EPA also recommends using obstruction reduction techniques that require minimal maintenance and land altering activities.

**Environmental Justice:** The EPA recommends that the Draft EA identify to what degree the Proposed Action would increase existing air or land traffic at SSI. Preliminary data from the

EPA's EJSCREEN (<https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen>) mapping tool shows that People over the age of 64 comprise 35% of the population within the project area. This population is in the 95<sup>th</sup> and 93<sup>rd</sup> percentiles in the state and the United States, respectively. Consistent with Executive Order 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice (EJ) in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations, (<https://www.epa.gov/laws-regulations/summary-executive-order-12898-federal-actions-address-environmental-justice>) please incorporate an environmental justice analysis in the Draft EA and ensure protected populations are not disproportionately or adversely impacted by the proposed project. The EPA recommends that the Commission reach out to local residents and community groups at the earliest stage of project and Draft EA development to provide education and foster community engagement among people who reside near SSI and within the affected approach areas. EJ analysis of the Proposed Action should also be completed in accordance with Executive Order 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All, published April 21, 2023.

**Hazardous Materials and Containment:** Georgia Environmental Protection Division data identified by the EPA's NEPAAssist mapping tool (<https://www.epa.gov/nepa/nepassist>) indicates that the Saint Simons Sound that receives surface waters from the site of the Proposed Action is impaired for mercury. To protect surface waters, and as required by the Clean Water Act, the EPA recommends the use of secondary containment for storage and handling of Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants (POL). Where secondary containment is not directly practicable, spill ponds and oil water separators should be constructed downstream of POL related activities. Construction and operation in support of the Proposed Action should ensure that Resource Conservation and Recovery Act regulated solid wastes are disposed of in accordance with federal regulations.

**Air Quality:** The Proposed Action is located in Glynn County, Georgia, which is in attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards. The EPA recommends controlling fugitive dust emissions and implementing measures to reduce diesel emissions, such as switching to cleaner fuels, retrofitting current equipment with emission reduction technologies, repowering older engines with cleaner engines, replacing older vehicles, inspecting and maintaining fuel tanks in accordance with regulations, and reducing idling through operator training and contracting policies.

**Energy Efficiency and Recycling:** Efforts should be made to divert any recyclable materials such as concrete, steel, and asphalt away from landfills and repurpose materials. The EPA recommends the use of sustainable building practices that maximize energy and water conservation, and the use of renewable energy including solar power for supplemental electricity and lighting for parking lots, taxiways, approach zones, and buildings, should such infrastructure be required. Please consult appropriate federal agencies (<https://www.energy.gov/eere/femp/sustainable-federal-buildings>) for energy conservation requirements.

Thank you for the opportunity to provide comments on Glynn County Airport Commission's proposed safety improvements and hangar development. For effective coordination, please provide this office with an electronic version of the Draft EA for further review and keep the local community informed and involved throughout the project process.

Douglas White

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency / Region 4  
Strategic Programs Office / NEPA Section  
61 Forsyth Street, SW  
Atlanta, GA 30303-8960  
404-562-8586

**From:** [Rutlin, William M CIV USARMY CESAS \(USA\)](#)  
**To:** [Alberts, David](#)  
**Subject:** FW: SSI Airport Safety Improvements EA- Early Agency Coordination  
**Date:** Tuesday, May 23, 2023 6:13:00 PM  
**Attachments:** [SSI Airport improvements EA\\_Agency Early Coordination Letter\\_Final\\_USACE Coastal.pdf](#)

---

Mr. Alberts,

The Corps offers the following comments on this proposal:

Please be advised that if your project/activities involve work in waters of the United States that are considered to be within the jurisdiction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA) and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act (RHA), a permit may be required. The placement of dredged or fill material into any waterways and/or their adjacent wetlands, including material re-deposited during mechanized land clearing or excavation of those wetlands, would likely require prior Department of the Army authorization. Proceeding with such work, without proper authorization, may result in our initiating a CWA and/or RHA enforcement action.

If your client is requesting an all upland call or jurisdictional determination for wetlands, please complete the "Request for Corps of Engineers Jurisdictional Determination (JD) and/or Delineation Review" form and return it to our office by email to [CESAS-RD-C@usace.army.mil](mailto:CESAS-RD-C@usace.army.mil). The form can be found at: [https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Portals/61/docs/Regulatory/JD/Revised\\_Appendix%201v2.pdf?ver=2018-04-10-111939-157](https://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Portals/61/docs/Regulatory/JD/Revised_Appendix%201v2.pdf?ver=2018-04-10-111939-157). Please keep in mind that an approved Jurisdictional Determination must be requested if you need the Corps to confirm that a site is composed entirely of dry land.

If your project does not involve waters of the United States under Corps jurisdiction, then a Department of the Army permit is not required. To learn more about our program you may want to access our website located at <http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory.aspx>.

William M. Rutlin  
Chief, Coastal Branch  
Regulatory Division  
US Army Corps of Engineers, Savannah District

100 West Oglethorpe Avenue  
Savannah, Georgia 31401-3640  
912-652-5893 (desk)  
912-652-5995 (fax)

Thank you in advance for completing our Customer Survey Form. This can be accomplished by visiting our web site at <https://regulatory.ops.usace.army.mil/customer-service-survey/>, and completing the survey on-line. We value your comments and appreciate your taking the time to complete a survey each time you interact with our office.

---

**From:** Hamblin, Monica <Monica.Hamblin@rsandh.com>

**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2023 11:09 AM

**To:** CESAS-RD-C <cesas-rd-c@usace.army.mil>

**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] SSI Airport Safety Improvements EA- Early Agency Coordination

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Glynn County Airport Commission (GCAC), I am pleased to provide the Early Agency Coordination Letter for Airport Safety Improvements and Hangar Development at St. Simons Airport at McKinnon Field. Any comments and input you have regarding the attached and the Proposed Project is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Best Regards,  
Monica Hamblin

**Monica Hamblin**

Aviation Environmental Specialist  
10748 Deerwood Park Blvd South, Jacksonville, FL 32256  
904-256-2394

[Monica.Hamblin@rsandh.com](mailto:Monica.Hamblin@rsandh.com)  
[rsandh.com](http://rsandh.com) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

[Stay up-to-date with our latest news and insights.](#)





**Russell R. McMurry, P.E., Commissioner**  
One Georgia Center  
600 West Peachtree NW  
Atlanta, GA 30308  
(404) 631-1990 Main Office

24 May 2023

Mr. David Alberts  
Project Manager  
R, S, & H  
10748 Deerwood Park Boulevard, South  
Jacksonville, FL 32256

Dear Mr. Alberts,

Thank you for the opportunity to review and comment on the proposed St. Simons Island Airport/McKinnon Field Safety Improvements and Hangar Development EA for early coordination purposes.

The GDOT Aviation Team has reviewed the project, as presented in the Early Coordination Letter, and supports the proposed work to enhance safety at KSSI as well as the proposed hangar development in the proximity of Skylane Drive. At this time, we have no other comments to add and look forward to proceeding with this project for the benefit of the Glynn County Airport Commission and those stakeholders with aviation interests in Glynn County.

Sincerely, I am,



Jeffrey Griffith  
Aviation Project Manager, GDOT

cc: Rob Burr, Glynn County Airport Commission  
Jennifer Adams, FAA  
Nathan Coyle, GDOT Planning Manager  
Cody Dupree, GDOT Aviation Planner  
Bonnie Baskin, GDOT Aviation Environmentalist

**From:** [Paulk-Buchanan, Crystal](#)  
**To:** [Hamblin, Monica](#)  
**Subject:** RE: Glynn County FL: FW: SSI Airport Safety Improvements EA- Early Agency Coordination  
**Date:** Wednesday, May 24, 2023 9:10:09 AM

---

We received your email. I've consulted with FEMA Region 4's Environmental and Historic Preservation Branch. They have advised that we would not have input on non-FEMA funded actions

**Crystal Paulk-Buchanan**

Mitigation Liaison | Office of External Affairs | FEMA Region 4  
202-702-3477  
[crystal.paulk-buchanan@fema.dhs.gov](mailto:crystal.paulk-buchanan@fema.dhs.gov)

Federal Emergency Management Agency  
[fema.gov](http://fema.gov)

---

**From:** Hamblin, Monica <Monica.Hamblin@rsandh.com>  
**Sent:** Thursday, May 18, 2023 11:17 AM  
**To:** FEMA-R4-Info <fema-r4-info@fema.dhs.gov>  
**Subject:** SSI Airport Safety Improvements EA- Early Agency Coordination

**CAUTION:** This email originated from outside of DHS. DO NOT click links or open attachments unless you recognize and/or trust the sender. Please select the Phish Alert Report button on the top right of your screen to report this email if it is unsolicited or suspicious in nature.

To whom it may concern,

On behalf of the Glynn County Airport Commission (GCAC), I am pleased to provide the Early Agency Coordination Letter for Airport Safety Improvements and Hangar Development at St. Simons Airport at McKinnon Field. Any comments and input you have regarding the attached and the Proposed Project is greatly appreciated.

If you have any questions, please let me know.

Best Regards,  
Monica Hamblin

**Monica Hamblin**

Aviation Environmental Specialist  
10748 Deerwood Park Blvd South, Jacksonville, FL 32256  
904-256-2394  
[Monica.Hamblin@rsandh.com](mailto:Monica.Hamblin@rsandh.com)  
[rsandh.com](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [LinkedIn](#) | [Blog](#)

[Stay up-to-date with our latest news and insights.](#)