

T-7A Recapitalization at Columbus AFB (The Proposed Action)

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

- The Department of the Air Force proposes to recapitalize the T-38C Talon flight training program at Columbus Air Force Base (AFB) with T-7A Red Hawk aircraft.
- The T-38C is expected to reach the end of its service life within the next decade.
- Training with the T-38C fails to prepare pilots for the technological advancements of modern fourth and fifth generation aircraft including nighttime flight training.
- The Secretary of the Air Force has made strategic basing decisions to recapitalize existing T-38C pilot training installations with Columbus AFB as the second of five T-38C installations to be environmentally analyzed for possible recapitalization.



Photo Credit: Boeing T-7A Red Hawk Website, September 2021, <https://www.boeing.com/defense/t-7a/#/gallery>

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR T-7A RECAPITALIZATION AT COLUMBUS AFB:

Purpose

The purpose of this proposal is to continue the T-7A recapitalization program by recapitalizing Columbus AFB to prepare pilots to operate more technologically advanced modern aircraft.

Need

Recapitalization is needed because the current training practices with the older T-38C aircraft do not prepare pilots adequately for the technological advancements of fourth and fifth generation aircraft.



ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

T-7A RECAPITALIZATION AT COLUMBUS AIR FORCE BASE, MISSISSIPPI

