

SECTION 3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED

3.1 ALTERNATIVES DEVELOPMENT

The Proposed Action presented in Section 2 is CSSA's preferred alternative. In addition to the Proposed Action, the following natural resources management alternatives were considered:

- Limited INRMP Implementation alternative; and
- No Action alternative.

Criteria used to evaluate the alternatives included:

- Ability to achieve sustained use of lands for military mission;
- Ability to meet compliance and legal requirements;
- Ability to meet stewardship requirements;
- Conflicts with the military mission and no net loss of military lands; and
- Funding and personnel required for implementation.

3.2 LIMITED INRMP IMPLEMENTATION ALTERNATIVE

Under the Limited INRMP Implementation alternative, the INRMP would only contain goals and objectives required to achieve compliance with federal and state regulations. This alternative would not include stewardship goals intended to maintain sustainable use of the land for the military mission, enhance biodiversity, and improve quality of life for military personnel. While this alternative would result in implementation of goals and objectives that would have positive impacts on natural resources, opportunities to provide the additional benefits contained in the preferred alternative would not be possible. Therefore, this alternative was eliminated from consideration and is not carried forward for analysis in this EA.

3.3 NO ACTION ALTERNATIVE

Under the No Action alternative, the current INRMP would not be implemented and natural resources would continue to be managed in accordance with existing directives and procedures. Prior to development of the current INRMP, the installation operated under a formal INRMP (dated 1997) that addressed past natural resource needs. Under the No Action alternative, the INRMP would remain outdated and there would be no consistent framework or approach for implementing current CSSA natural resources needs. The CEQ regulations and AR 200-2 stipulate that the No Action alternative be analyzed to assess any environmental consequences that may occur if the Proposed Action is not implemented.