

## Public Scoping Meeting

Southern Nevada Supplemental Airport (SNSA) Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA)



Federal Aviation Administration



**Bureau of Land Management** 

#### **About the Presenter**



David B. Kessler, AICP

Project Manager, SNSA EIS

Federal Aviation Administration

#### **About the Presenter**



Stephen Leslie

Acting Deputy District Manager

Bureau of Land Management

### Agenda

- Introductions
- Roles and Responsibilities
- Proposed Project Background & Overview
- Environmental Resource Categories
- Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) Process & Schedule



#### Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) & Bureau of Land Management (BLM)

- Joint Lead Agencies (JLA) for preparation of the EIS/RMPA
- FAA is lead agency for the preparation of the required evaluation per the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
- Coordinate with and seek comments/concurrence from federal, state, and local agencies and Tribal nations
- Ensure compliance with the NEPA, the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA), and other special purpose laws
- Evaluate the Proposed Project and Reasonable Alternatives including No Action



## Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) & Bureau of Land Management (BLM) (Continued)

- BLM to evaluate the need for a Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) to modify the Visual Resource Management (VRM) class in order for the BLM to evaluate the established Ivanpah Transportation and Utilities Corridor (Public Law 107-282), as this will require amending the existing 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan
- Prepare and issue a Record of Decision (ROD)





#### **Cooperating Agencies**

• FAA Reauthorization Act of 2024 (Public Law 118-63) states that "[a] Federal agency required to make an approval or take an action for a project" must be treated as a cooperating agency.

The proposed SNSA project includes modifications to an existing interchange and construction of a new interchange on Interstate Highway 15 (I-15)

- Therefore, the cooperating agencies for this EIS/RMPA are:
  - Federal Highway Administration (FHWA)
  - Nevada Department of Transportation (NDOT)

#### **Consultant Team**

- Reports to JLA
- Under the supervision of the JLA, conducts the environmental impact analysis and supports JLA's coordination with federal, state, and local agencies
- Assists the JLA with preparing the EIS/RMPA documentation
- Assist the JLA to plan and conduct public outreach
- Provides subject matter experts that conduct associated field work



#### **Clark County Department of Aviation (CCDOA)**

- CCDOA is the Sponsor for the proposed SNSA
- Owner and operator of Harry Reid International Airport (LAS), North Las Vegas Airport (VGT), Henderson Airport (HND), Jean Airport (0L7), and Overton Perkins Field (U08)
- Provide supporting planning, design, and other information to inform the EIS/RMPA
- Is a Participating Agency with the JLA in preparing the EIS/RMPA

#### **Participating Agencies**

- National Park Service (NPS)
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (US EPA)
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS)
- Nevada Department of Wildlife (NDOW)
- Nevada Department of Environmental Protection (NDEP)
- Nevada Division of Forestry (NDF)
- Nevada State Historic Preservation Officer (SHPO)
- Nevada Division of Natural Heritage (NDNH)
- Regional Transportation Commission of Southern Nevada (RTC)
- Clark County Department of Environment and Sustainability (CCDES)
- Clark County Regional Flood Control District (CCRFCD)
- Clark County Department of Aviation (CCDOA)

















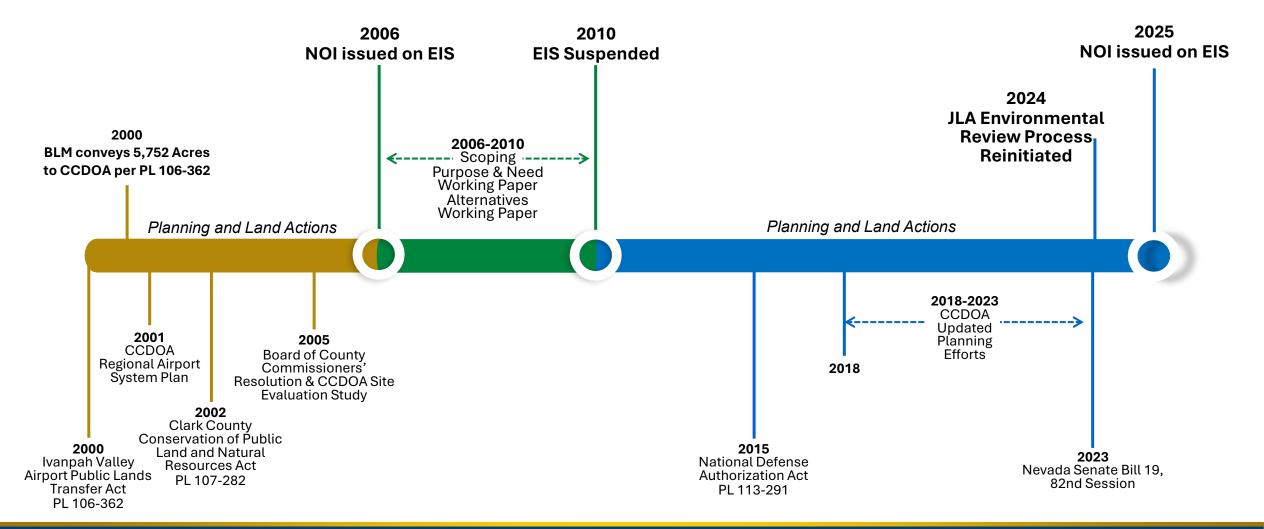






# Project Background & Overview

## **Proposed Project Background & Overview**



## Clark County Department of Aviation Preliminary Purpose and Need



- **Purpose:** To accommodate future aviation demand in the Las Vegas metropolitan area, while meeting FAA airport design standards, protect airspace from obstacle encroachment, and provide for safe and efficient flight procedures.
- **Need:** Insufficient facilities to accommodate future aviation demand in the Las Vegas metropolitan area and comply with Public Law 106-362.

#### **FAA Purpose and Need**



- **Purpose:** To fulfill FAA's statutory mission to ensure the safe and efficient use of navigable airspace in the United States as set forth under 49 U.S.C. § 47101 (a)(1).
- **Need:** Ensure that the proposed SNSA provides for safe and efficient air transportation pursuant to the Federal Aviation Act of 1958 and meets FAA airport design standards, and to comply with Public Law 106-362.

#### **BLM Purpose and Need**



• **Purpose:** To convey the identified federal lands to facilitate the development the SNSA.

#### Need:

- Comply with Public Law 106-362, Public Law 107-282, and Public Law 113-291, provided conditions set forth in the Public Laws are met, and to meet agency responsibilities as required by Section 209 of the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, as amended (FLPMA).
- Evaluate the need to amend the 1998 Las Vegas Resource Management Plan/Record of Decision to modify the Visual Resource Management (VRM) class for proposed infrastructure within the Interstate 15 South Corridor designated per Public Law 107-282.

## FHWA/NDOT Purpose and Need



**FHWA Purpose**: to fulfill the FHWA's statutory mission to ensuring that America's roads and highways continue to be among the safest and most technologically sound in the world as set forth under 23 U.S.C. § 111.

**FHWA Need**: Ensure that the proposed new interchange and modifications to an existing interchange on Interstate Highway 15 associated with the proposed Southern Nevada Supplemental Airport meet FHWA Standards and comply with Title 23, Code of Federal Regulations – *Highways*.

**NDOT Purpose**: Provide, operate, and preserve a reliable and sustainable transportation system in the State of Nevada that enhances safety, quality of life and economic development through innovation and collaboration.

**NDOT Need:** Ensure the new airport, any proposed new interchange(s), modifications to an existing interchange(s), and potential modifications to Interstate Highway 15 associated with the proposed Southern Nevada Supplemental Airport are in accordance with Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) 408.210 and 408.423 and Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 408.403 through 408.557.

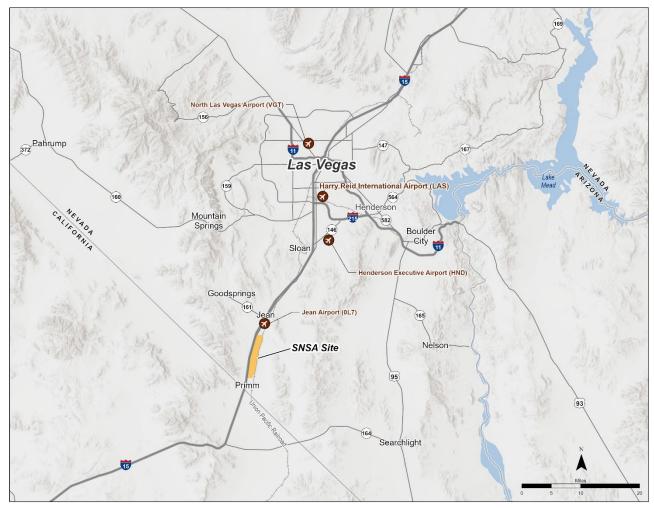
#### Range of Alternatives

- No Action
- Other Modes of Transportation
- Air Traffic Demand Management Strategies
- Enhancement of Existing Airports including the use of Advanced Technologies
- New Airport



**Proposed Project - SNSA** 

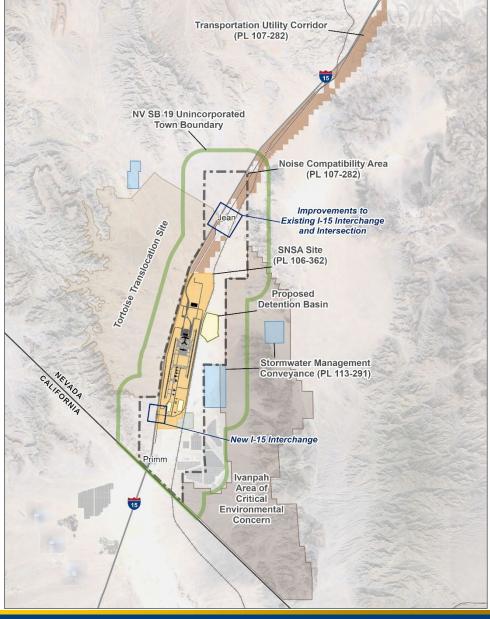
- New *supplemental* commercial airport.
- Located ~35 miles southwest of downtown Las Vegas, along I-15.
- Located ~6 miles south of Jean and ~5 miles north of Primm.
- 5,752 acres conveyed by BLM to CCDOA (commonly referred to as the "6,000 acre parcel")



### **Proposed Project - SNSA**

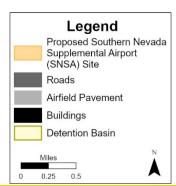
- Two parallel runways & supporting taxiway system
- Airport Traffic Control Tower
- Aircraft navigational aids for landing & takeoff
- Airspace & flight procedure changes
- Airport surveillance radar(s) primary and supplemental; and Automatic Dependent Surveillance-Broadcast (ADS-B)
- Central terminal with Federal Inspection Service (FIS) facility
- New I-15 interchanges and improvements to existing interchange at Jean
- Support facilities
- Public, employee, and rental car parking
- Utilities
- Drainage/flood mitigation facilities
- Non-aeronautical development
- Transportation and utilities corridor

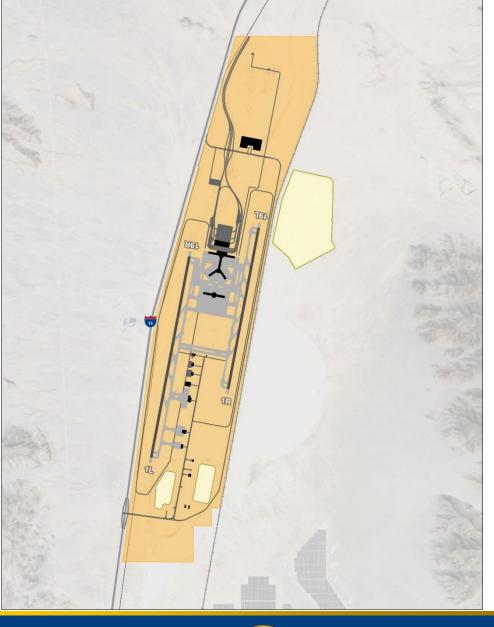




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# **Environmental Resource**Categories

## Environmental Resource Categories for the EIS/RMPA

- Aviation Emissions and Air Quality
- Biological resources (including fish, wildlife & plants)
  - Special Status Species (Flora and Fauna)
  - Threatened and Endangered Species
- Department of Transportation Act, Section 4(f) (parks and other recreation resources)
- Farmlands
- Fuels and fire management
- Geology/mineral resources
- Hazardous materials, solid waste, and pollution prevention
- Historical, architectural, archaeological, and cultural resources

- Land use and realty
- Natural resources and energy supply
- National Historic Trails
- Noise and noise-compatible land use
- Recreation
- Socioeconomics and Children's environmental health and safety risks
- Soils, vegetation, non-native and noxious weeds
- Visual effects (including light emissions) and visual resource management
- Water resources (including wetlands, floodplains, surface waters, and groundwater)
- Wild horses and burros

# EIS/RMPA Process & Schedule

#### **RMPA Process**

- A land use plan or resource management plan provides a framework for the BLM management of public lands.
- A land use plan amendment also known as Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA) is identified when there is "a need to modify management or accommodate a project that may result in a change in the scope of resource uses or a change in the terms, conditions, and decisions of the approved plan". These changes may be to a specific resource area. (H-1601-1)
- BLM manages public lands under principles of multiple-use and sustained yield as mandated by the Federal Land Policy and Management Act (FLPMA).
- Uses a systematic interdisciplinary approach to integrate physical, biological, economic, and other sciences.

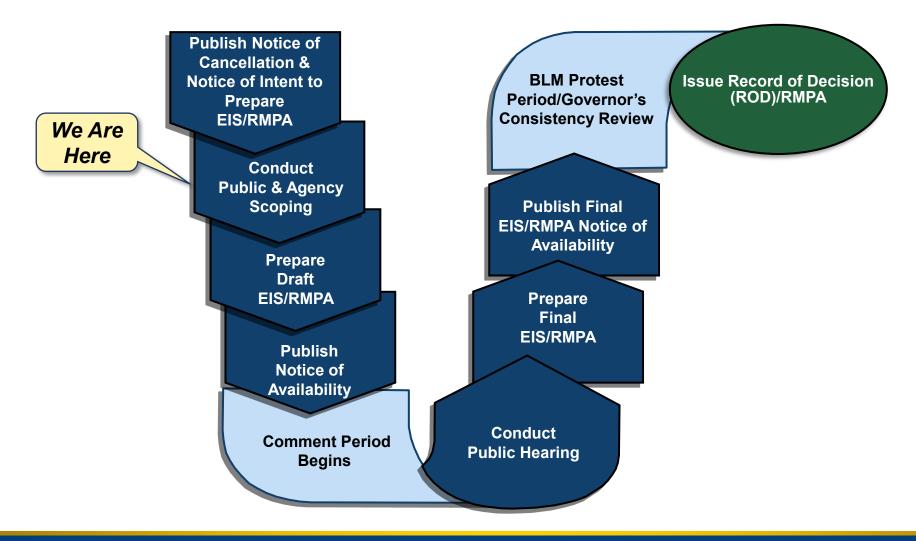
## RMPA Process (Cont'd)

- Provides for meaningful involvement and is prepared with involvement of Federal,
  State, County, Local and Tribal governments.
- Prepared in compliance with National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) requirements.
- Provides opportunities for meaningful public participation in the land use planning process, including but not limited to planning criteria development and review, advance notice of public meetings, comment periods and protest of planning decisions. Submission of the proposed RMPA for Governor's consistency review and appeal to the governor of the state(s) involved and must identify any relevant known inconsistencies with the officially approved and adopted plans of state and local governments.
- An RMPA is approved when a Record of Decision (ROD) is signed to adopt the RMPA.

## BLM Planning Criteria for Land Use Planning

- Criteria 1: Any plan amendments will be completed in compliance with FLPMA, NEPA, and all other relevant Federal laws, executive orders, and BLM policies.
- **Criteria 2:** Existing valid Las Vegas Resource Management Plan decisions will not change, and any new plan decisions will not conflict with existing valid plan decisions.
- Criteria 3: Any resource management plan amendments will recognize valid existing rights.

#### **EIS / RMPA Process**



#### **EIS/RMPA Schedule**

May 2028

Issue Record of Decision (ROD)/RMPA

May 19, 2025

Publish Notice of Cancellation & Notice of Intent (NOI)

**July 2027** 

Public Hearing & Workshop

**March 2028** 

BLM Protest Period and Governor's Consistency Review

**July 2025** 

Agency & Public Scoping Meetings

**March 2028** 

Publish NOA and Final EIS/RMPA

**June 2027** 

Publish NOA and

Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)/Resource Management Plan Amendment (RMPA)

#### **How to Comment**

## All Comments Must be Submitted or Postmarked by September 5, 2025

#### In Person Today:

Members of the public may submit their comments in one of the following methods:

- √ Verbally with the court reporter
- ✓ Comment forms at the comment boxes
- ✓ Comment forms via U.S. Postal Service

#### E-Mail:

SNSAEIS@landrumbrown.com

#### Mail:

SNSA EIS/RMPA Landrum & Brown, Inc 4445 Lake Forest Dr. Suite 700 Cincinnati, OH 45242

Visit the project website for more information: <u>snvairporteis.com</u>

#### **JLA Contact**

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