



# Sumter-Shaw AFB JLUS Results

## What is the Sumter-Shaw Air Force Base Joint Land Use Study?

The Sumter-Shaw Air Force Base (AFB) Joint Land Use Study (JLUS) was a year-long cooperative planning effort completed in September 2016. The JLUS assessed land use around Shaw AFB and Poinsett Electronic Combat Range (ECR) to identify current and potential incompatible land uses and to recommend means of promoting compatible uses and economic development, protect public safety and quality of life, and sustain the mission of the Air Force in the region for the long term.

The JLUS report was the result of a public planning process that took place in the local community and included relevant stakeholders such as Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR, the City of Sumter, Sumter County, other key stakeholders, and the public at large.

The Sumter-Shaw AFB JLUS was funded through a grant from the Department of Defense (DOD) Office of Economic Adjustment (OEA), with a local match, and was managed by the Sumter City-County Planning Commission.

The final JLUS report and additional information and project materials are available at [www.sumtershaw-jlus.org](http://www.sumtershaw-jlus.org).

## What is included in the Sumter-Shaw AFB JLUS Report?

The purpose of the JLUS is to identify means of promoting responsible land use near both Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR, to accommodate compatible growth and economic development in the region, to protect public safety and quality of life, and to sustain the mission of the Air Force in the Sumter and Sumter County region for the long-term. The JLUS will evaluate ways to enhance communication and coordination among local and regional stakeholders with the goal being to protect land use compatibility as both the community and the Air Force plan for the future. The JLUS does not result in changes to land use, zoning, or how a property owner may use their property, though it may identify regulatory changes for the community to consider after the JLUS is completed.

## Goals and Objectives of the Sumter-Shaw AFB JLUS Report

The primary goal of this JLUS was to further support the preservation of long-term land use compatibility between Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR, and the surrounding communities. The primary objectives therefore were to 1) **increase awareness** among the multiple stakeholders of each other's needs and requirements; 2) **encourage collaboration** among stakeholders, with the goal of increased compatibility; and 3) **maintain land use compatibility** by implementing recommended tools.

## How did the Process Work?

The study was directed by the JLUS Policy Committee, which consisted of local leadership from the City of Sumter, Sumter County, Shaw AFB, and the Sumter School District. A separate JLUS Technical Committee composed of local staff, government officials, and private citizens provided expertise to the Policy Committee throughout the process. Three public meetings were held throughout the course of the study to update the public on the study's progress and to receive public input. An initial public meeting introduced the JLUS to the public and gathered public input on the installations. A mid-term update meeting provided the public the opportunity to discuss the analysis and drafted recommendations. The final public meeting presented the completed study and gathered public input. The public was also invited to complete a JLUS survey designed to provide general insight into the public perception of, and attitude toward, Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR.



## What Happens Next?

The JLUS Policy Committee has identified strategies and tools available to the City and County, Air Force bases, and other stakeholders to maintain the community's current collaborative approach to compatible land use near Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR. Ultimately, it will be up to the community to decide which tools are appropriate for the protection of the Air Force missions and civilian quality of life.

The recommended strategies and tools fall within the following categories and are detailed in Chapter 5 of the final report:

### **Comprehensive Planning**

Although the Comprehensive Plans for the City of Sumter and Sumter County outline provisions related to military land use planning and the lands surrounding Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR, the study recommends revisions to the existing "Military Protection Areas" and generalized plan updates per the JLUS.

### **Zoning & General Code Provisions**

The study suggests that the City and County update zoning maps and codes in order to facilitate existing or anticipated operations, or to clarify existing code provisions.

### **Subdivision Regulations**

To address areas around Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR equally, the study recommends that subdivision regulations be updated to include the same language for both installations. Expanding requirements for subdivision signage related to noise impacts is recommended as well.

### **Notice to Property Owners & Occupants**

In order to facilitate public awareness and reduce land use conflicts, the study recommends expanding notification areas. This includes engaging the real estate and development community to establish requirements for real estate disclosures and expand informational road signage.

### **Interagency Cooperation**

The study recommends that measures be taken to facilitate interagency cooperation and dialogue. This includes creating a standing "Military Planning and Coordination Committee" to serve as a platform for engagement between the installations, local planning staffs, and elected officials.

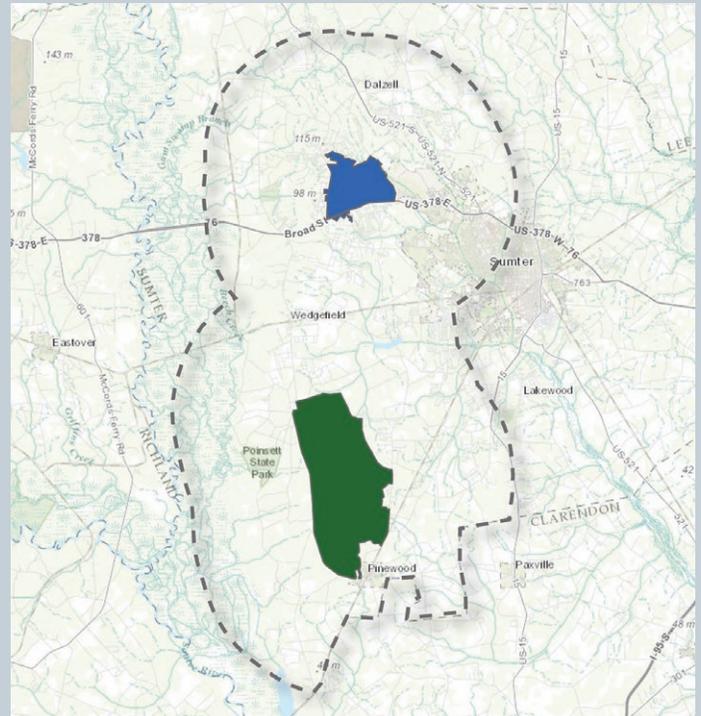
### **Public Outreach & Communication**

Public outreach and communication is a crucial part of maintaining transparency and fostering trust between the installations and the surrounding community. The study suggests improving public outreach on topics such as civilian use of Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), noise attenuation, and potential electromagnetic and frequency interference.

### **Ongoing Planning & Coordination**

Finally, the study suggests creating a framework that would guide community operations after the JLUS Implementation phase is completed. This phase would include actions to help facilitate ongoing communication between the Air Force and the community, and monitor the status of the potential arrival of the F-35A at Shaw AFB.

## What lands outside of Shaw AFB and Poinsett ECR are included in the JLUS?



Shaw AFB covers 3,367 acres in the city of Sumter, and Poinsett ECR covers 12,500 acres in southwest Sumter County. The JLUS Study Area included the lands within a five-mile buffer of the installation, which are shown in the map above.

*Photo courtesy of the USAF*



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