

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

PROPOSED
MINGO JOB CORPS CENTER
CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION BUILDING PROJECTS

STODDARD COUNTY, MISSOURI

JANUARY, 2002

TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. PURPOSE AND NEED.....	1
II. SUMMARY OF ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED.....	6
III. AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT.....	11
IV. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES.....	14
V. INFORMATION ON PREPARERS.....	20
VI. LIST OF AGENCIES AND PERSONS CONSULTED.....	21
Appendix A- Policy, Authority, and Legal Compliance.....	23
Appendix B- Mingo Job Corps Center’s 1999 Facility Survey Report on needs for Improving the Center.....	25

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
FOR
CONSTRUCTION AND REHABILITATION BUILDING PROJECTS

USDI - FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
MINGO JOB CORPS CENTER
STODDARD COUNTY, MISSOURI

I. Purpose and Need

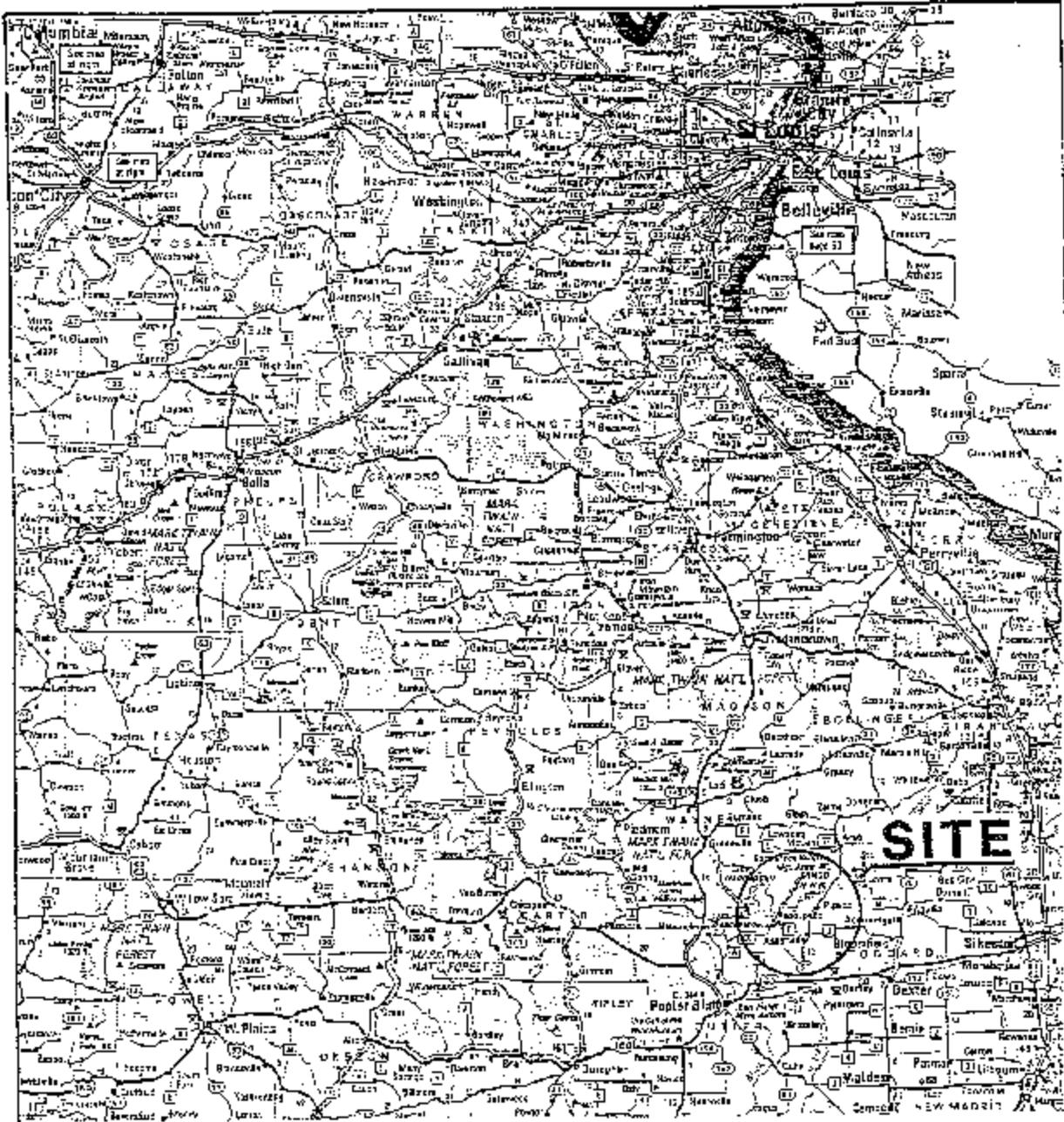
A. Purpose

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) is proposing a multi-faceted project consisting of new construction and renovation and upgrading of existing buildings, facilities, access roads, parking areas, and utilities (electricity, phone, water and sewage treatment) on approximately 40 acres of land located on Mingo National Wildlife Refuge (Refuge) in STODDARD County, Missouri. The Service has designated this location as an Administrative area for the Mingo Job Corps Center Campus (Center), a coed residential training facility for young adults. This document will consider several alternatives for up grading the administrative facilities, including a “No Action” alternative, and to consider the Environmental Consequences of each alternative.

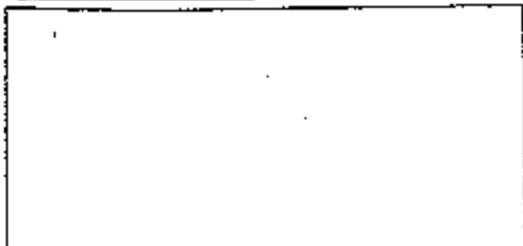
B. Need

The action would address long range facility construction and rehabilitation needs and plans for the Mingo Job Corps Center. An optimum Alternative would need to: 1) Replace outdated 35 year old “temporary” buildings. 2) Enlarge the facilities 3) Stabilize the banks of the sewage lagoon 4) Minimize miles of road and developed acres of the site 5) Develop economical facilities with modern features. 6) Solve accessibility problems 7) Make buildings energy efficient 8) Minimize amount of staff supervision 9) Minimize maintenance costs and effort 10) Minimize the acreage requiring historical surveys.

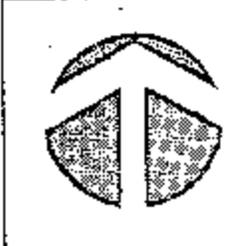
This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared under the mandate of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969. The Act requires us to examine the effects of the proposed actions on the natural and human environment.

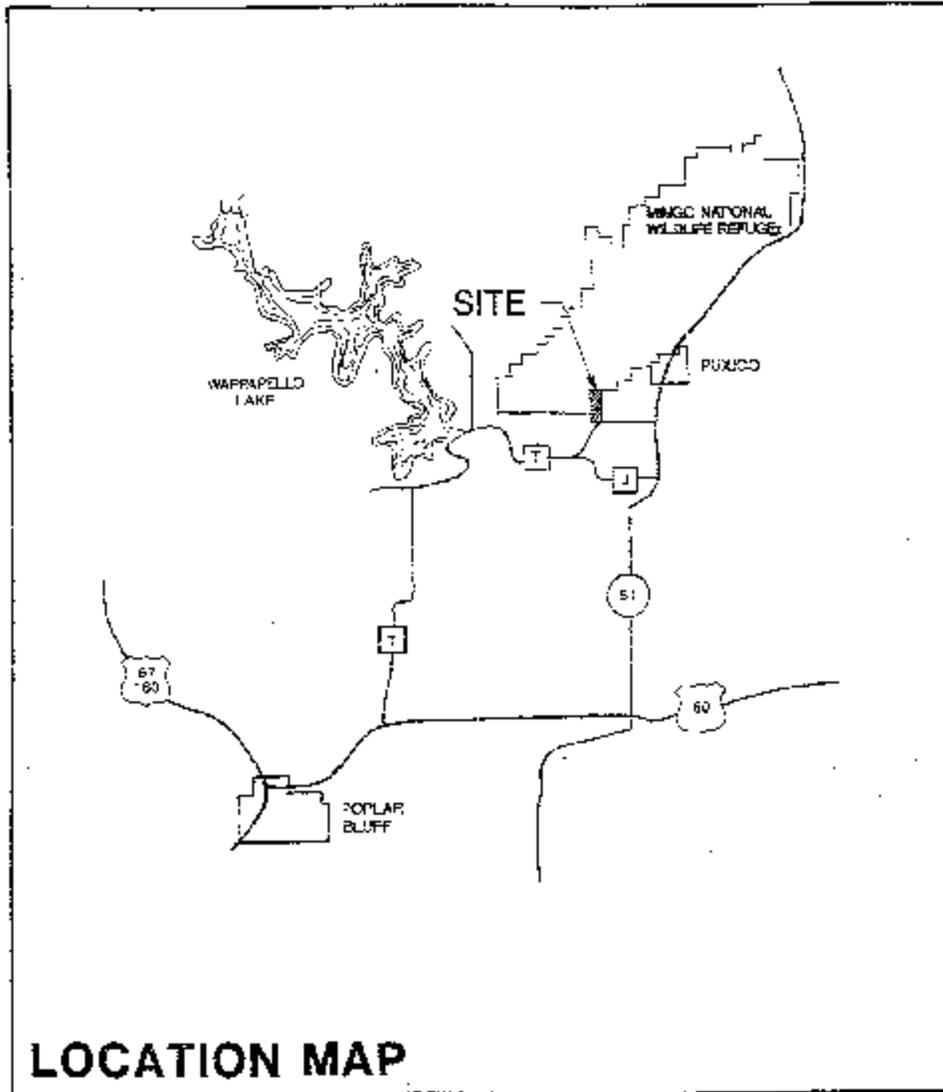


VICINITY MAP



MINGO CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTER
 BOX F.
 PUEBLO, MISSOURI 65966



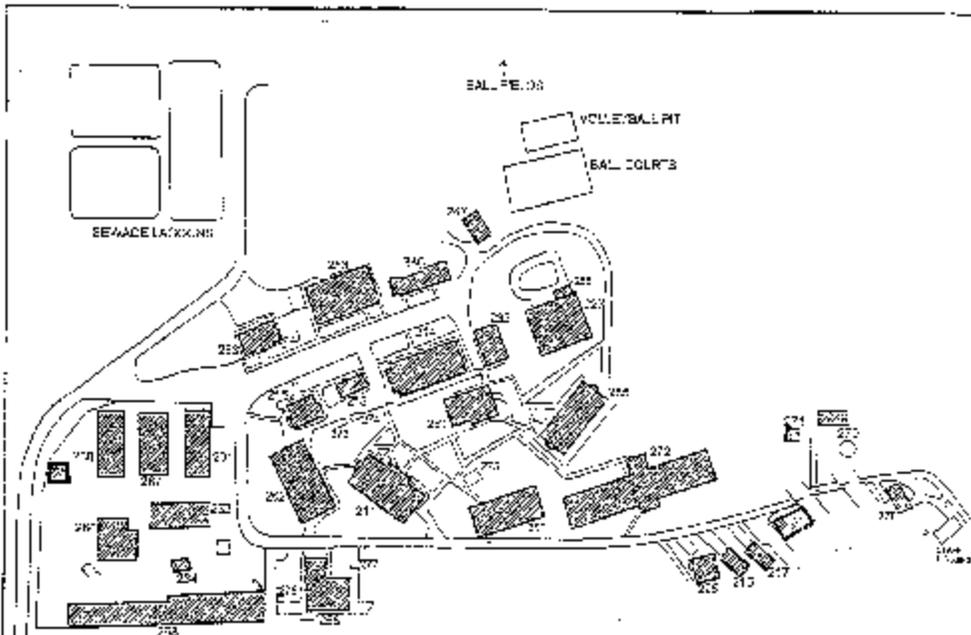


LOCATION MAP



HERGE EDWARDS CONSERVATION CENTER
 BOX 7
 PUXICO, MISSOURI 63960





BUILDING LEGEND

NUMBER LEASE

- 201 - WELDING
- 211 - VOCATIONAL DISPENSARY
- 213 - HUMAN RESOURCES
- 214 - EDUCATION BUILDING
- 215 - RESIDENTIAL LIVING
- 216 - STORAGE
- 217 - ANGLER'S CLUB
- 225 - ORIENTATION
- 227 - GYMNASIUM
- 232 - AUTOMOTIVE SHOP
- 253 - ARTS & CRAFTS
- 238 - STORAGE
- 248 - CULINARY ARTS

- 255 - DINING HALL
- 255 - MEN'S DORMITORY # 1
- 258 - CARPENTRY/MASONRY
- 260 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- 261 - RECREATION CANTEEN
- 262 - WOMEN'S DORMITORY # 4
- 263 - ADMINISTRATION
- 267 - BLDG. MAINT./PAINTING
- 268 - WAREHOUSE/DIAL DRY/VOC.
- 270 - WATER TREATMENT
- 272 - MEN'S DORMITORY # 5
- 276 - TEMPORARY VOCATION
- 280 - EDUCATION BUILDING
(UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

STRUCTURES

- 264 - OIL/PAINT STORAGE
- 267 - PAVILION
- 266 - SWIMMING POOL PUMP HOUSE
- 271 - STORAGE
- 273 - SHELTER
- 274 - SHELTER
- 275 - STORAGE
- 276 - TRAILER STORAGE
- 277 - CARPENTRY STORAGE

EXISTING SITE PLAN

MINGO CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTER
 BOX 5,
 FUXICO, MISSOURI 63950



C. Decisions that Need to be Made

The Regional Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Region 3, Fort Snelling, Minnesota, will use this EA to make two decisions. The first decision will be to select an alternative.

The second decision, required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, will be whether the selected alternative will have a significant impact on the quality of the human environment. If this decision is that it will not, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be signed. Then, the Finding and this Environmental Assessment will be made available to the public.

D. Background

Mingo Job Corps Center was constructed and activated in 1965. A large number of the current buildings are the original 1965 buildings. The original buildings were modular trailers which were constructed for a maximum of 10 years of use. They have been used for over 35 years and need to be replaced with modern facilities. Many of the Center's facilities were constructed for a population smaller than our present capacity of 224 students and need to be enlarged.

A facility survey and other studies have been conducted in order to evaluate the existing facilities and determine how to provide the best possible service to the students and staff. It has been determined that new facilities needed to be constructed and the old facilities be dismantled or demolished. Please see Appendix B for the Facility Survey report on improving the center that was completed by the Department of Labor in 1999.

Adequate long term planning and direction does not currently exist for the Mingo Job Corps Center's future facilities construction and rehabilitation. Construction is based on a 1 year Vocational Skills Training Plan and a 5 year construction plan. A comprehensive facilities construction plan needs to address current management issues and propose a plan of action which the Fish and Wildlife Service and its partners can use to achieve the future vision of the Mingo Job Corps Center.

E. Scoping

Scoping was conducted by the Mingo Job Corps Center to determine the issues related to the proposed actions. Scoping letters were mailed on July 27, 2001, to adjacent land owners and a news release was put in the Puxico newspaper inviting participation in the planning process. The Center met with its Community Relations Council On August 24, 2001. There were 27 members present. The environmental assessment and the related projects were explained to the council and a request for input, issues and concerns from the council.

The planning team and the public identified the following issues:

1. Soil and Water Resources - Proposed activities such as timber harvesting, road and parking area construction, utility and site development may increase erosion and soil compaction.

Measures to compare alternatives are:

-acres opened for site development

2. Building Efficiency - One of the needs of these projects is to provide economically modern buildings for all students and employees of the Mingo Job Corps Center. Buildings that are accessible will improve customer service. Measures to compare alternatives are:

-American Disabilities Act standards are met.

-Energy conservation

-Buildings are constructed where less staff supervision is needed for students.

-Buildings are easier and less costly to maintain.

-Maintenance costs.

3. Heritage Resources - The location of the Center could effect significant heritage resources.

Measures to compare alternatives are:

-Acres of heritage resources that require additional testing.

II. Summary of Alternatives Considered

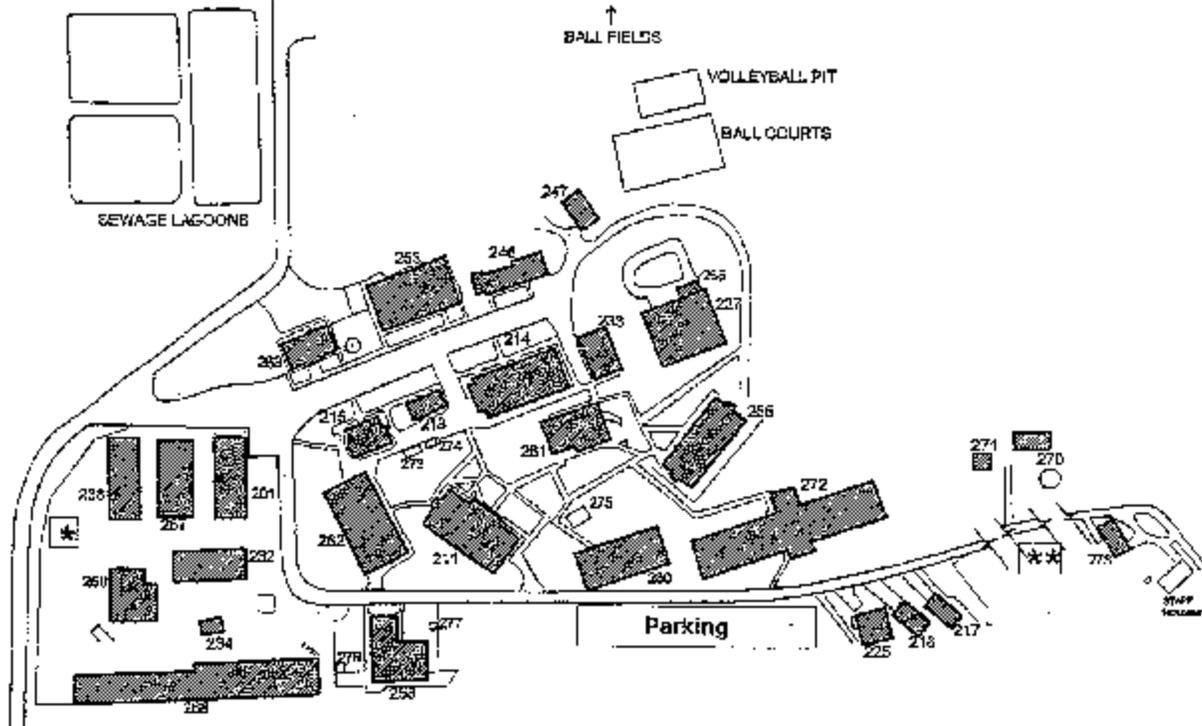
A. Alternatives Considered in Detail

Alternative A: No Action- No new activities would be implemented with this proposal. The existing arrangement of offices, classrooms, shops, dormitories and other buildings would remain the same and would continue to be used.

Alternative B - Partial Upgrade of Center: The Facility Survey completed by the Department of Labor included a plan of the new construction for a 5-year period as shown on the attached map. This alternative would construct a new welding shop, a new security building, expand the administration building, construct an addition to the gym, renovate the recreation hall into an office building, construct a new flammable storage building, and renovate the west end of the dispensary into a Health Occupations classroom. This alternative would involve limited construction on the site and major rehabilitation of existing facilities. This alternative would take approximately 5 years to implement.

Alternative C - Complete Upgrade of Center (Preferred Alternative): This alternative would involve major construction of new facilities and expansion of old facilities. All old temporary

JOB CORPS CAMPUS UNDER ALTERNATIVE A



BUILDING LEGEND

NUMBER USAGE

201 - WELDING	253 - DINING HALL
211 - VOCATIONAL/DISPENSARY	255 - MEN'S DORMITORY # 1
213 - HUMAN RESOURCES	258 - CARPENTRY/MASONRY
214 - EDUCATION BUILDING	280 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT
215 - RESIDENTIAL LIVING	281 - RECREATION/CANTEEN
216 - STORAGE	282 - WOMEN'S DORMITORY # 4
217 - ANGLER'S CLUB	283 - ADMINISTRATION
225 - ORIENTATION	287 - BLDG. MAINT./PAINTING
227 - GYMNASIUM	288 - WAREHOUSE/LAUNDRY/VOC.
232 - AUTOMOTIVE SHOP	270 - WATER TREATMENT
233 - ARTS & CRAFTS	272 - MEN'S DORMITORY # 5
238 - STORAGE	278 - TEMPORARY VOCATION
246 - CULINARY ARTS	280 - EDUCATION BUILDING (UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

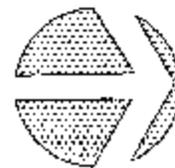
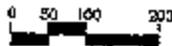
STRUCTURES

234 - OIL/PAINT STORAGE
247 - PAVILION
266 - SWIMMING POOL PUMP HOUSE
271 - STORAGE
273 - SHELTER
274 - SHELTER
275 - STORAGE
276 - TRAILER STORAGE
277 - CARPENTRY STORAGE
** - NEW PAINT SHOP
* - HAZMAT BUILDING

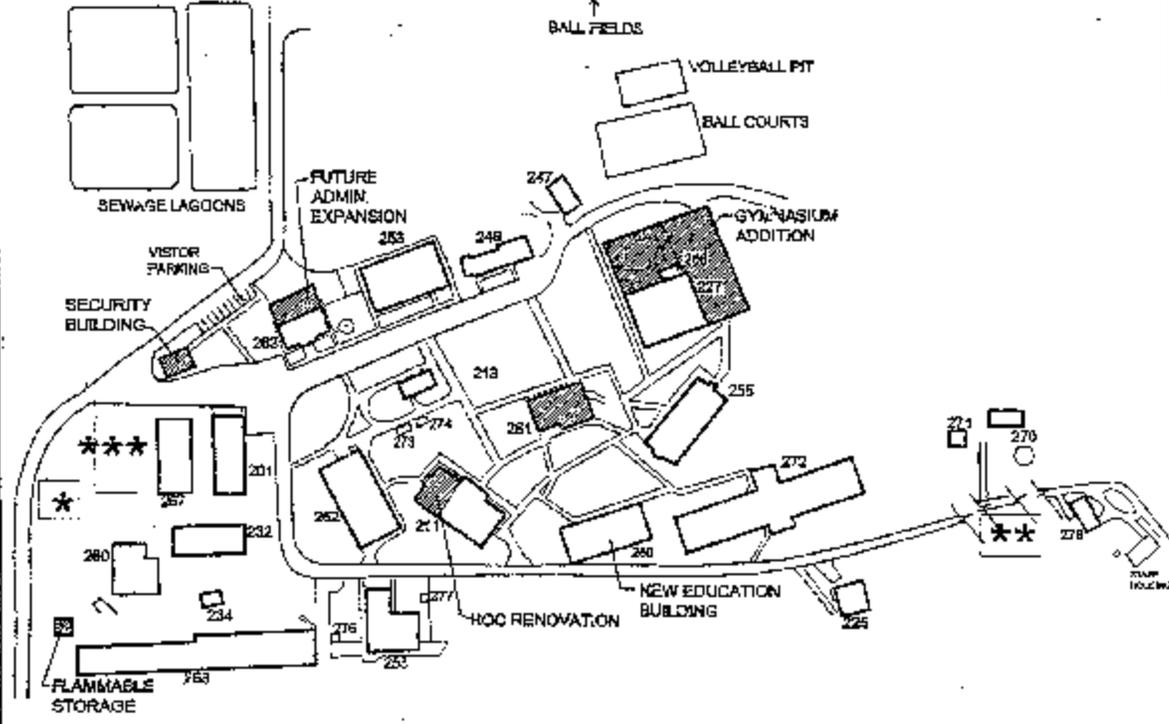
EXISTING SITE PLAN

MINGO CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTER

BOX F,
PUXICO, MISSOURI 63960.



JOB CORPS CAMPUS UNDER ALTERNATIVE B



BUILDING LEGEND

NUMBER USAGE

- 201 - STORAGE
- 211 - VOCATIONAL/DISPENSARY
- 213 - HUMAN RESOURCES
- 225 - ORIENTATION
- 227 - GYMNASIUM
- 232 - AUTOMOTIVE SHOP
- 233 - ARTS & CRAFTS
- 246 - CULINARY ARTS
- 253 - DINING HALL
- 255 - MEN'S DORMITORY # 1
- 258 - CARPENTRY/ MASONRY

- 260 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT
- 261 - RESIDENTIAL LIVING/ CSO
- 282 - WOMEN'S DORMITORY # 4
- 263 - ADMINISTRATION
- 267 - BLDG. MAINT./ PAINTING
- 268 - WAREHOUSE/ LAUNDRY/ VOC.
- 270 - WATER TREATMENT
- 272 - MEN'S DORMITORY # 5
- 273 - TEMPORARY VOCATION
- 280 - EDUCATION BUILDING (UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

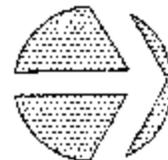
STRUCTURES

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- 271 - STORAGE
- 273 - SHELTER
- 274 - SHELTER
- 278 - TRAILER STORAGE
- 277 - CARPENTRY STORAGE
- ** - NEW PAINT SHOP
- * - HAZMAT BUILDING
- *** - NEW WELDING SHOP

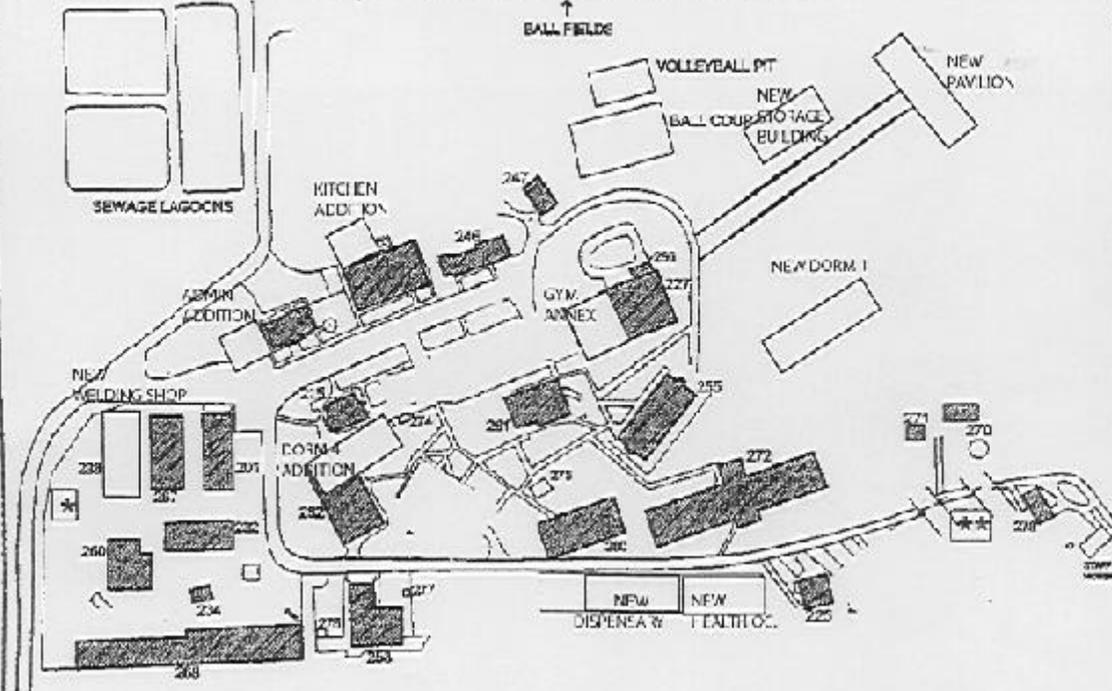
PROPOSED SITE PLAN

LONG RANGE PLAN IN NUMERICAL SEQUENCE

MINGO CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTER
 BOX F.
 PUXICO, MISSOURI 63960



JOB CORPS CAMPUS UNDER ALTERNATIVE C - PREFERRED



BUILDING LEGEND

NUMBER USAGE

215 - RESIDENTIAL LIVING

225 - ORIENTATION

227 - GYMNASIUM

232 - AUTOMOTIVE SHOP

238 - STORAGE

246 - CULINARY ARTS

253 - DINING HALL

258 - CARPENTRY/MASONRY

260 - HEAVY EQUIPMENT

261 - RECREATION/CANTEEN

262 - WOMEN'S DORMITORY #4

263 - ADMINISTRATION

267 - BLDG. MAINT./PAINTING

288 - WAREHOUSE/LAUNDRY/VOC.

270 - WATER TREATMENT

272 - MEN'S DORMITORY #5

278 - TEMPORARY VOCATION

280 - EDUCATION BUILDING

(UNDER CONSTRUCTION)

STRUCTURES

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274 - SHELTER

275 - STORAGE

276 - TRAILER STORAGE

277 - CARPENTRY STORAGE

** - NEW PAINT SHOP

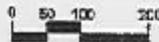
* - HAZMAT BUILDING

NEW CONSTRUCTION OR ADDITIONS:
 Sewage Building/Pavilion
 Dorm #1, Dispensary/Health Occupations
 Welding Shop/Gym Annex
 Kitchen Addition/Administration Addition
 Dorm 4 Addition

PROPOSED SITE PLAN

MINGO CIVILIAN CONSERVATION CENTER

BOX F,
 PUXICO, MISSOURI 63960



facilities on the Center would be demolished. Facilities would be constructed and renovated to meet all the needs of the students and staff in space and safety issues. This alternative would include constructing a new welding shop, new administration building addition with a pass office in it, new health occupations building, an addition to Dorm 4 (female), an addition to the gym, new dormitory 1 (male), new dispensary, storage addition to the kitchen, a new storage building, new pavilion by Gritman Lake, fire cache, outdoor club building (meeting room and storage) and rehabilitate the sewage lagoons. This alternative would take approximately 15 years to implement.

B. Alternatives Eliminated from Detailed Study

Move the Center to a new location and reconstruct the entire Center. Since the cost of doing this would be prohibitive, this alternative was not considered further.

C. Management Requirements and Mitigation Measures

The following issues can be found on page (8) of this environmental assessment. Unless otherwise stated, the following mitigation measures apply to Alternatives B and C.

1. Inventories of cultural resources and consultation with the State and Regional (RHPO) Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) will be completed for all projects which involve a decision to implement ground disturbing activities.
2. Evaluate cultural resources located within a project's area of potential effect, and nominate those, which qualify for the National Register.
3. If archeological or historic resources are encountered during soil disturbing activities, work would stop until an archeologist evaluates the site's significance and completes any necessary consultation with SHPO and RHPO
4. Maintain soil erosion with tolerance levels for that soil type and minimize increases in stream turbidity.
5. Project analysis, in accordance with current Fish and Wildlife standards, would be completed on all proposed facility projects.
6. All design and implementation practices would meet high quality landscape design and architectural standards, and be adapted to the site.
7. Landscape plans shall be prepared for each building site.

8. Vegetation removal would be limited to protection of area values, health and safety, and the preparation of the site for rehabilitation or future development.

9. Restoration of all eroding areas would improve water quality to eliminate hazards to the facilities, employees, students or visitors.

10. Prompt revegetation would be done if treatment leaves insufficient ground cover to control erosion by the end of the first growing season.

III. Affected Environment

A. Physical Characteristics

1. Soils, Water and Air

The predominant soil type on the 40 acres of the Mingo Job Corps site is Loring silty loams, on 5 to 9 percent slopes eroded (3C2). This is a moderately sloping, moderately well drained soil on convex ridge tops and side slopes. It occurs on narrow ridge tops that have an irregularly branched appearance but is mostly on long, narrow side slopes. Permeability of Loring soil is moderately slow in more restrictive areas. This soil is suited to building site development and some onsite waste disposal systems. Surface runoff from areas of well established grasses and legumes is slow. The other dominant soils on the site are the Goss Cherty silt loam (upland 9 to 14 percent slopes). This is a strongly sloping, well drained soil on convex ridge tops and side slopes of uplands. Areas are elongated and narrow and about 6 to 40 acres or more. Permeability is moderate, and surface runoff is medium or rapid. This soil is suitable for building site development and certain on site waste disposal. Goss Cherty silt loam (upland 14-40 percent slopes 15F) is another soil type on the Job Corps site. This is a steep to moderately steep, very well drained soil on side slopes of uplands. Areas are long and narrow and parallel to the ridge tops. They are about 6 to 200 acres. Permeability of this Goss soil is moderate, and the surface run off is rapid. This soil is not suitable for building site development and certain onsite waste disposal. The other soil types on the 40 acre site are: Calhoun Silt Loam (Lowland soil 61), Dubbs silt loam (upland 1-5 percent slopes 87B), and Memphis silt loam (5D3).

The Center property is adjacent to Mingo Creek which borders the site on the west side. There are approximately 9 acres of jurisdictional wetlands within the 40 acre site. However, these areas are not planned to be impacted by the proposal.

The Service's objective is to meet the National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS) for Class I as defined by the amended Clean Air Act. There are no indications that NAAQS for Class I areas are not being achieved and the Mingo Refuge is considered to be in compliance

by the Environmental Protection Agency. The Air Quality Branch of the Fish and Wildlife Service in Denver, Colorado, said the Refuge was in compliance in 1999. From the studies done there is no ozone damage and no measurable damage from acid rain.

2. Recreation and Visual Resources

The Job Corps Center is adjacent to the Mingo National Wildlife Refuge which has 155,000 visitors annually. Principle recreation activity is wildlife viewing on the 21 mile auto-tour. Hunting, fishing and hiking also occur on the Refuge.

The 40 acres of the Mingo Job Corps Center is considered an administrative site and there are no visual quality objectives for the site.

The recreation facilities on the site are for the students use and normally not open to the public, except for Gritman Lake which the public uses for fishing.

3. Heritage Resources

Archeologists from Southwest Missouri State University have completed an archeological survey of the entire Job Corps campus and identified no archeological sites or other cultural resources that meet the criteria for the National Register of Historic places. Upon receipt of the final report, the Regional Historic Preservation Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, will resume consultation with the Missouri State Historic Preservation Officer based on the negative results of the preliminary report. The project will not commence until the Section 106 process (National Historic Preservation Act) is completed in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.

B. Biological Factors

1. Vegetation

Twenty four acres of the site are openings which have either buildings or are planted with grass and some trees. Seven acres are upland hardwood forest type (Oaks, Hickories, Eastern Red Cedar, Ash, Walnut, Hickory, Honey Locust, Sweetgum, Common Persimmon and Black Cherry) and nine acres are considered to be lowland (bottomland) hardwood (Water Hickory, Tupelo, Sweetgum, American Sycamore, Yellow Poplar, Water Tupelo, Eastern Cottonwood, Water Oak and some Bald Cypress) forest type. See attached map on page (13) for cleared areas and forested areas.

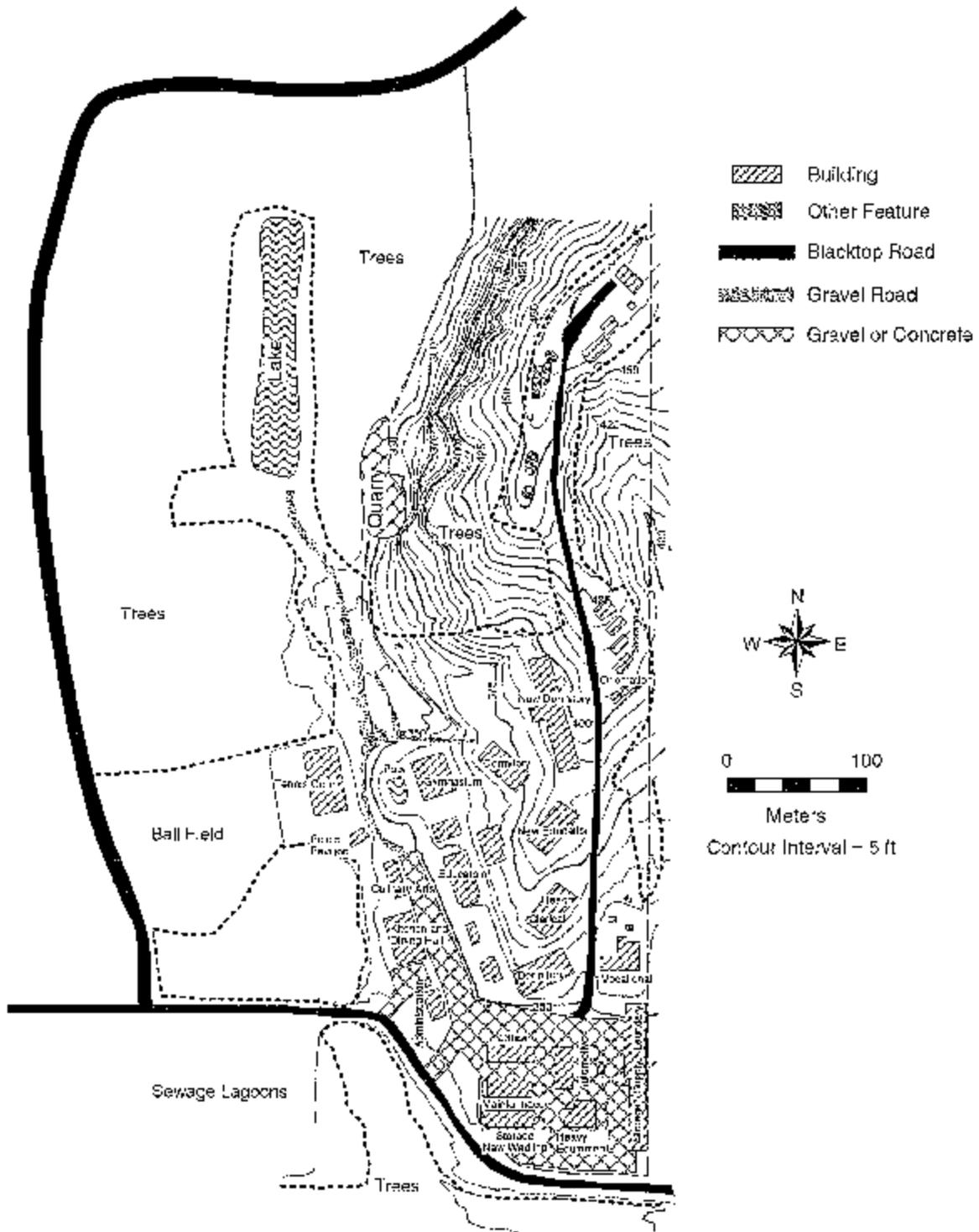


Figure 3. The MNWR Job Corps Center (based on facility site plan prepared in 1988 by Kuhlman Design Group, Inc., Maryland Heights, Missouri).

2. Wildlife

The forty acres of the administrative site have a multitude of wildlife such as: deer, turkey, eagles, vultures, numerous different types of birds, reptiles, racoons, possums, gray squirrels and fox squirrels which live on/or cross the property.

3. Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species

There is a bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) nest within three miles of the Center, which is a threatened species, however, there are no roosting or feeding areas near the Center. There are no known endangered or sensitive species within the Center's boundaries or surroundings. The proposed action would have no affect on the bald eagle; therefore a Section 7 consultation would not be required (Personal communication with Paul McKenzie, Ecological Services Field Office, Columbia, Missouri, August 11, 2001.

C. Socio-Economic Conditions

The Center is located on Mingo National Wildlife Refuge about 3 miles southwest of Puxico, (Stoddard County) Missouri. County population is approximately 30,000 people with about 800 of these residing in Puxico. Forty percent of the county are age 44 years or older. Race of county residents includes 95 percent white with the remaining 5 percent being Black, Asian, Hispanic, or other.

The area is rural with 83 percent of the county's land base being in farms. The county has a civilian labor force of about 13,000 with an unemployment rate of 4.9 percent. Jobs are available in agriculture and related services, small and large manufacturing plants, retail and service trades, government agencies, and schools. Income from employment in the county is comprised of about 28 percent from retail trade, 28 percent from service, and the remainder spread among other employers. Per capita personal income for Stoddard County is \$19,522. About 14 percent of the county population is comprised of retired workers.

The Center's budget is approximately \$8,000,000 annually, which includes employee salaries, purchasing supplies, equipment, food, contracting of services, and construction materials. The majority of the budget goes directly into the local community and improves the local economy which is a positive economic factor for local residents.

IV. Environmental Consequences

A. Alternative A - No Action

Soil, Water and Air: No construction would occur. There would not be any additional impacts to soils, water, or air with this alternative. Conditions would generally remain the same except for areas that are maintained for use, i.e. roads, use areas, and facilities.

Recreation and Visual Resources: No additional construction. There would be no impact to recreation or visual resources.

Heritage Resources: There are no known archeological sites or other cultural resource that meet the criteria for the National Register of Historic places.

Biological Factor: The impact on vegetation and wildlife would remain the same.

Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, Sensitive Species: Since no new activities are scheduled there would be no effect.

Irreversible and Irrecoverable Commitment of Resources: This alternative would result in continued sub-optimal customer service for the Center's students in the current facilities and minimal access to persons with disabilities. Deficient areas and facilities would continue to deteriorate or be a detriment.

Short Term Uses Versus Long Term Productivity: This alternative will not provide newer and more useful facilities for employees and students. The existing building will be difficult and costly to maintain.

Socio-Economic Conditions: There would be an inconvenience to the Center's students and staff by being in marginal facilities and environment. Working conditions would continue to deteriorate and production and output could decrease. A long term savings in fixed operational costs would not be realized. Maintenance costs of buildings would increase and in time some buildings could be condemned.

Environmental Justice (Executive Order 12898- Federal Actions are not to cause undue adverse impacts upon poor or minority populations). One hundred percent of the center's students are considered disadvantaged and fifteen percent of the population are minorities. This alternative would have a detrimental impact on our student population.

Cumulative Impact: This alternative would not have any cumulative impact on a nation wide basis, other than if all 118 Job Corps Center over the country did not renovate and improve their facilities the Job Corps program would eventually be eliminated because of health and safety issues.. The cumulative impact on the Center of not upgrading and improving the center would be a detriment to the center and would lead to it's eventual elimination because of health and safety issues.

B. Alternative B - Partial Upgrade of Center

Soil, Water, and Air: This alternative would impact the soils on approximately 3 acres of land. Soils on all construction areas for this alternative are the Loring Silty Loams, on 5 to 9 percent slopes, eroded soils. This is a moderately sloping, moderately well drained soil on convex ridge tops and side slopes. This soil is suited to building site development and some onsite waste disposal systems. Surface runoff from areas of well established grasses and legumes is slow. There are no stream courses or ephemeral draws with the project areas. Air quality should remain the same.

Recreation and Visual Resources: There should be no change in recreation or visual resources, except for some of the old unattractive and unsightly buildings will be replaced with new aesthetically pleasing to the eye buildings.

Heritage Resources: There are no known archeological sites or other cultural resource that meet the criteria for the National Register of Historic places.

Biological Factors: No long term vegetation changes will occur except where new facilities are constructed. Plants that will be destroyed will be Bermuda or Kentucky blue grass planted by the center. Trees which may have to be removed are native or have been planted by the center (Oaks, hickories, black cherry trees, willows, plumb, etc.). None of the plant communities destroyed would be unique to the area. Areas not occupied by facilities would be revegetated to lawn grasses and/or native vegetation that will be maintained. This alternative should have no more impact on wildlife than what occurs on the Center or adjacent to the Center at the present.

Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species: This alternative will not impact any known PETS species located in the project area.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources: There would be some short term soil movement that would occur resulting from construction of facilities.

Short Term Uses Versus Long Term Productivity: Management requirements and mitigation measures reduce effects of construction on long term productivity by protecting resources like soil, water, wildlife, threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants and animals, visual quality, and heritage resources.

Sediments from this alternative are not expected to have any long term cumulative effects. Short term increases in sediment is predicted to occur. The quantities of sediment predicted are not expected to have any effect on channel conditions of existing stream courses that are adjacent to the Center site.

Implementation of this alternative would meet the short term needs of the Mingo Job Corps Center by providing some new facilities and additions for employees and students that are easily accessible. The opportunity for higher learning will be enhanced.

Socio-Economic Conditions - This alternative would have a favorable effect since better service would be provided to students and employees. Customer service would be improved since areas and facilities would provide “universal access” to all new facilities for all customers and employees. This alternative would result in the potential for a short term increase in local employment of laborers, contractors and those that may provide service to contractors or groups that are constructing the facilities.

Environmental Justice: This alternative would have a favorable impact on our disadvantaged youth and minority students.

Despite mitigation measures, some adverse effect cannot be avoided. Some non-target plants would be injured or killed by all management activities (construction). During construction activities, short-term effects on water quality and stream sediments from soil erosion would occur until the sites become revegetated. Visual quality would be temporarily impaired by all management activities.

Cumulative Impacts: If other agencies did similar projects as this alternative proposes there would not be serious cumulative impacts because only ground that has already been cleared and disturbed in the past will be impacted. No wetlands are proposed to be impacted. All development will be confined to already impacted areas. The cumulative impacts of center and refuge projects should be minimal because there are no known similar projects planned.

C. Alternative C - Total Upgrade of Center (Preferred Alternative)

Soil, Water, and Air: This alternative would impact the soils on approximately 10 acres of land. Soils on all construction areas except for the construction site of the new dormitory 1 for this alternative are the Loring Silty Loams, on 5 to 9 percent slopes, eroded soils. This is a moderately sloping, moderately well drained soil on convex ridge tops and side slopes. This soil is suited to building site development and some onsite waste disposal systems. The construction site of Dorm 1 is the Goss Cherty Silt Loam (upland 9 to 14 percent slopes) this is a strongly sloping, well drained soil on convex ridge tops and side slopes of uplands. Permeability is moderate, and surface runoff is medium or rapid. This soil is suitable for building site development and certain on site waste disposal. There will be no construction planned on the Goss cherty Silt Loam soils if slopes are greater than 14 percent. Surface runoff from areas of well established grasses and legumes is slow. There are no stream courses or ephemeral draws within the project areas. Air quality should remain the same.

Recreation and Visual Resources: There should be no change in recreation or visual resources, except for all of the old unattractive and unsightly buildings will be replaced with new aesthetically pleasing to the eye buildings.

Heritage Resources: There are no known archeological sites or other cultural resource that meet the criteria for the National Register of Historic places.

Biological Factors: No long term vegetation changes will occur except where new facilities are constructed. Plants that will be destroyed will be Bermuda or Kentucky blue grass planted by the center. Trees which may have to be removed are native or have been planted by the center (Oaks, hickories, black cherry trees, willows, plumb, etc.). None of the plant communities destroyed would be unique to the area. Areas not occupied by facilities would be revegetated to lawn grasses and/or native vegetation that will be maintained. This alternative should have no impact on wildlife that does not already occur with the existing Center or adjacent to the existing Center.

Proposed, Threatened, Endangered, and Sensitive Species: This alternative will not impact any know PETS species located in the project area.

Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitment of Resources: There would be some short term soil movement that would occur resulting from construction of facilities.

Short Term Uses Versus Long Term Productivity: Management requirements and mitigation measures reduce effects of construction on long term productivity by protecting resources like soil, water, wildlife, threatened, endangered, or sensitive plants and animals, visual quality, and heritage resources.

Sediments from this alternative is not expected to have any long term cumulative effects. Short term increases in sediment is predicted to occur. The quantities of sediment predicted are not expected to have any affect on channel conditions of existing stream courses that are adjacent to Center site.

Implementation of this alternative would meet the long term needs of the Mingo Job Corps Center by providing all needed new facilities and additions for employees and students that are easily accessible. The opportunity for higher learning will be enhanced.

Socio-Economic Conditions- This alternative would have a most favorable effect since better service would be provided to students and employees. Customer service would be greatly improved since areas and facilities would provide “universal access” to all new facilities for all customers and employees. This alternative would result in the potential for a short term

increase in local employment of laborers, contractors and those that may provide service to contractors or groups that are constructing the facilities.

Environmental Justice: This Alternative will have the most positive impact on our disadvantaged and minority students.

Despite mitigation measures, some adverse effect cannot be avoided. Some non-target plants would be injured or killed by all management activities (construction). During construction activities, short-term effects on water quality and stream sediments from soil erosion would occur until the sites become revegetated. Visual quality would be temporarily impaired by all management activities.

Cumulative Impacts: The cumulative impacts of this proposed action if other agencies did similar activities would not be serious because all planned development will be on already impacted land. All planned development will be confined to impacted ground on the center and confined to the center grounds. Cumulative impacts of center and refuge projects should be minimal, the refuge has no known similar projects planned.

D. Socio-Economic Conditions

Social benefits in the area are primarily related to service to the students of the Mingo Job Corps Center dealing with academic, vocational and social skills training. Economic benefits come from increases in workload products and out put. Basically our students complete the program and go on to productive lives.

E. Summary of Adverse Effects that Cannot be Avoided.

For all action alternatives, despite mitigation measures, some adverse effects cannot be avoided. Some non-target plants would be injured or killed by management activities (construction). During construction activities, short-term effects on water quality and stream sediments from soil erosion would occur until the sites become revegetated. Visual quality would be temporarily impaired by all management activities.

F. Environmental Consequences Summary Table

Issues	Alt. A	Alt. B	Alt. C
Impact on Recreation/visual resources	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal
Socio - Economic Condition	Negative	Positive	Positive
Environmental Justice	Negative	Positive	Positive
Replace outdated buildings	0	5	12
Enlarge Facilities	0	5	12
Stabilize the banks of the lagoon	No	Yes	Yes
Minimize miles of roads and developed acres	0	3 acres	10 acres
Develop economical facilities with modern features	0	5	12
Accessible buildings (Disability Act)	0	5	12
Energy Efficient buildings	0	5	12
Minimize amount of staff supervision	No	Yes	Yes
Minimize building Maintenance cost and efficiency	No	Yes	Yes
Minimize acreage requiring heritage surveys	NA	NA	NA
T and E Species	No	No	No
Impact on wildlife	Minimal	Minimal	Minimal

V. Information on Preparers

The following planning team cooperated in the preparation of this document.

Team Leader: Don Riggle, Center Director, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mingo Job Corps Center, Puxico Missouri- Project Manager, author, research, data collection, editing and etc.

Consultant: Judy McClendon, Wildlife Biologist, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Southern Missouri Ascertainment Office, Puxico, Missouri- Gave author guidance in Fish and Wildlife procedures for preparation of NEPA documents, editing, revision, map preparation, coordination and information.

Team Member: Nancy Barnfield, Center Administrative Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mingo Job Corps Center, Puxico Missouri- Provided data, editing, research and etc.

Team Member: Cletus Prenger, Training Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mingo Job Corps Center, Puxico Missouri- Provided data, map preparation, editing and research.

VI. Information on Contributors

Kathy Maycroft- Refuge Manager, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Mingo National Wildlife Refuge, Puxico, Missouri - Provided wildlife and soils information.

John Dobrovolny, Regional Historic preservation Officer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fort Snelling, Minnesota- Cultural resource information.

Rod Hartleib- Regional Engineer, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fort Snelling, Minnesota- Cultural resource information

VII. List of Agencies and Persons Consulted

A news release was issued by the Service on July 26, 2001, to solicit any issues or concerns from the public between the dates of July 27, 2001 and August 27, 2001. The news release also announced an open house to discuss the proposed action on August 7, 2001.

The adjacent landowner was contacted by letter and personally, to see if he had any issues or concerns.

There was no response from the public or adjacent landowner.

The Center gave members of Center Community Relations Council information on the Environmental Assessment, three alternatives and the issues and concerns of the projects. The members were requested to give the center any of their thoughts, issues and concerns. The Center received no response from the council other than they thought the long range plans were a good idea.

Members in attendance:

Geneva Lacewell	Ex-Job Corps Staff
Goerge and Carol Vails	Puxico Nutrition Center
Mathew Inman	Mingo Student Government President
James and Elaine Wilthong	Community Council
Larry Kimbrow	Three Rivers Community College
Stacey Griffen	Center CDDS Manager
Beck Ross	Mingo Job Corps Center
Debra Sansoucie	Mingo Job Corps Center
Sue Archer	Mingo Job Corps Center
Deborah Frazier	Cedargate Health Care
Louis Martin	Student
Kitty Kehaun	Student

Steve Fowler	Center Social Living Manager
William Pogue	Puxico High School
Herbert Rice	Mingo Job Corps Center
Jeff Holloway	UCS Inc. Consultant
Betty Lowery	Missouri Career Center
Ed Coursy	Retired Staff
Chad Allen	Puxico Technical High School
Thelma Driver	Center Staff
Nancy Barnfield	Center Support Service Manager
Cletus Prenger	Center Training Manager
Don Rigge	Center Director
Rob Mayer	State Representative
Elsie Buttrey	Puxico High School
Judy Bergman	Center Staff

The Center has forwarded a copy of the Environmental Assessment to the Missouri Federal

Appendix A - Policy, Authority, and Legal Compliance

This environmental assessment (EA) and planning process is in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). NEPA requires Federal agencies to consider all environmental factors related to their proposed actions. An EA is an explanation/declaration of the consequences, both favorable and unfavorable, of a particular action that is contemplated by a Federal agency. This includes effects on the natural, economic, social, and cultural resources of the area.

Fish and Wildlife Act of 1956, as amended [16 USC, ss 742f (a) (4) (5)]. This Act is the specific law granting authority for acquiring lands for national wildlife refuges. Under this Act, the Secretary of the Interior is authorized to take steps as may be required for the development, advancement, management, conservation, and protection of fish and wildlife resources including but not limited to research, development of existing facilities, and acquisition by purchase or exchange of land and water or interests therein. The Act also authorizes the Service to accept gifts of real or personal property for its benefit and use in performing its activities and services. Such gifts qualify under Federal income, estate, or gift tax laws as a gift to the United States.

Land and Water Conservation Fund Act of 1965. This Act provides funding through receipts from the sale of surplus Federal land, appropriations from oil and gas receipts from the outer continental shelf, and other sources for land acquisition under several authorities. Appropriations from the Fund may be used for matching grants to the states for outdoor recreation projects and for land acquisition by various Federal agencies, including the Service.

National Wildlife Refuge Act of 1997. The Act's main components improve on the National Wildlife Refuge System Administration Act of 1966 by amending it to include a unifying mission for the Refuge system, a new process for determining compatible uses of refuges, and a requirement for preparing comprehensive conservation plans. This Act states first and foremost that the mission of the National Wildlife Refuge System be focused singularly on wildlife conservation.

The Refuge Revenue Sharing Act of 1935, as Amended. This Act established procedures for making payments to counties in which national wildlife refuges are located. Such payments come from revenues derived from the sale of products and privileges from national wildlife refuges, supplemented by Congressional appropriations. The revenues are deposited in a special Treasury account, and net receipts from this are distributed to counties or other units of local government to help offset their loss of tax revenue that occurs when land for national wildlife refuges is acquired by the Federal Government and removed from tax rolls. Three formulas are used to determine payments.

Executive Orders 11988 (Floodplain Management) and 11990 (Protection of Wetlands). These Executive Orders prohibit any significant changes to the natural and beneficial values of the floodplain or wetland and require avoidance of direct and indirect support of floodplain development.

Appendix A - Policy, Authority, and Legal Compliance

Executive Order 12372 (Intergovernmental Review of Federal Programs). In compliance, copies of this EIS will be sent to the Missouri Clearinghouse.

Executive Order 12996 (Management and Public Use of the National Wildlife Refuge System). This order defines a conservation mission for the Refuge System "to preserve a national network of lands and waters for the conservation and management of the fish, wildlife, and plants of the United States for the benefit of present and future generations." Six compatible wildlife-dependent recreational activities (hunting, fishing, wildlife observation, photography, environmental education and interpretation) are defined as priority uses. The order also provides for the identification of existing wildlife-dependent uses that would continue to occur as lands are added to the system. The order defines four guiding principles for management: habitat conservation, public use, partnerships, and public involvement.

National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as Amended. Established a national policy for the environment. Preparation of this EA is a part of the Service's compliance.

Clean Water Act, as Amended. Section 404 of this Act requires that a Corps permit be obtained prior to dredge or fill in waters of the United States.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as Amended. A consultation pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act was conducted as part of this project to ensure that the proposal would not affect the continued existence of any endangered or threatened species in the project area or result in destruction or adverse modification of their critical habitats.

National Historic Preservation Act. Section 106 of the Act of 1966 requires Federal agencies to consider the effects of their undertakings on properties meeting the criteria for the National Register of Historic Places. The regulations in 36 CFR, Part 800, describe how Federal agencies are to identify historic properties, determine effect on significant historic properties, and mitigate adverse effects.

Section 110 of the 1966 Act codifies the salient elements from Executive Order 11593, "... to ensure that historic preservation is fully integrated into the ongoing programs and missions of Federal agencies." Section 110 also requires each Federal agency to establish a program to inventory all historic properties on its land.

Archaeological Resources Protection Act. Section 14 of this Act of 1979 also requires an inventory program of all Federal lands. Too, it applies to the protection of all archaeological sites more than 100 years old (not just sites meeting the criteria for the National Register) on Federal land and requires archaeological investigations on Federal land be performed in the public interest by qualified persons.

The Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act of 1990. This Act directed Federal agencies to protect Native American human remains and associated burial items located on, or removed from, Federal land.