

Duluth International Airport Air Guard Station, MN

Recommendation: Realign Duluth International Airport Air Guard Station, Minnesota by retiring the 148th Fighter Wing's F-16s (15 aircraft).

Justification: Duluth (136) ranked low in military value. The reduction in F-16 force structure and the need to align common versions of the F-16 at the same bases argued for realigning Duluth to an ASA site using aircraft assigned elsewhere and operating from Duluth on rotational basis as tasked by US Northern Command. The 148th Fighter Wing's expeditionary combat support will remain at Duluth supporting the air sovereignty alert (ASA) facility.

Payback: The total estimated one-time cost to the Department of Defense to implement this recommendation is \$2.1 million. The net of all costs and savings to the Department during the implementation period is a savings of \$0.2 million. Annual recurring savings to the Department after implementation are \$0.8 million with a payback expected in five years. The net present value of the costs and savings to the Department over 20 years is a savings of \$7.8 million.

Economic Impact on Communities: This recommendation will result in any job reductions (direct or indirect) over the 2006-2011 period in the Duluth, Minnesota-Wisconsin Metropolitan Statistical economic area. The aggregate economic impact of all recommended actions on this economic region of influence was considered and is at Appendix B of Volume I.

Community Infrastructure Assessment: A review of community attributes indicates no issues regarding the ability of the infrastructure of the communities to support missions, forces and personnel. There are no known community infrastructure impediments to implementation of all recommendations affecting the installations in this recommendation.

Environmental Impact: There are no anticipated impacts to air quality; cultural, archeological, or tribal resources; dredging; land use constraints or sensitive resource areas; marine mammals, resources, or sanctuaries; noise; threatened and endangered species or critical habitat; waste management; water resources; or wetlands. No impacts are anticipated for the costs of environmental restoration, environmental compliance, or waste management activities. The aggregate environmental impact of all recommended BRAC actions affecting the installations in this recommendation have been reviewed. There are no known environmental impediments to the implementation of this recommendation.