

- **Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions** – Potential federal or nonfederal actions identified within the geographic and temporal scopes of the Proposed Project and alternatives. The predicted impacts of the Future Actions are combined with the potential direct and indirect impacts of the Proposed Project to determine potential future cumulative impacts on a given resource. The term “reasonably foreseeable” is not defined in the regulations. For this analysis, Future Actions are those for which information available suggests that they are likely to occur.

The identification of past, present, and Future Actions and trends involves some uncertainty, as does the assessment of the magnitude of impacts now and in the future. The cumulative impacts analysis is designed to explore the range of potential cumulative impacts while recognizing that uncertainty. Cumulative effects are identified to allow decision makers to be informed that changes may be necessary in existing programs or that future regulatory initiatives may be required.

5.2 GEOGRAPHIC AND TEMPORAL SCOPE

A cumulative impacts analysis requires expanding the geographic area of the study beyond that of the Proposed Project and expanding the temporal limits to consider past, present, and future actions that may affect the resources of concern. Individual geographic boundaries (study areas) were established in Chapter 3 for each resource area evaluated in this EIS. These study areas were used in the cumulative impacts analysis.

The Navy Base ICTF would have impacts during construction and operation. At project inception the Navy Base ICTF was expected to have a construction period that would last approximately five years, with an opening year of 2018; however, the actual opening year has not been determined at this time. The time frame for the cumulative impacts assessment extends to the year 2038, which includes the construction period and approximately 20 years of operation, and is consistent with the time frame for other impact analyses presented in this EIS. This period extends beyond the practical limits of predictability for some topics, such as air quality and water quality issues, but is a reasonable time period for which to assess potential cumulative impacts. The timeframe used for historical examination of cumulative impacts for specific resources varies depending upon the availability and applicability of information.