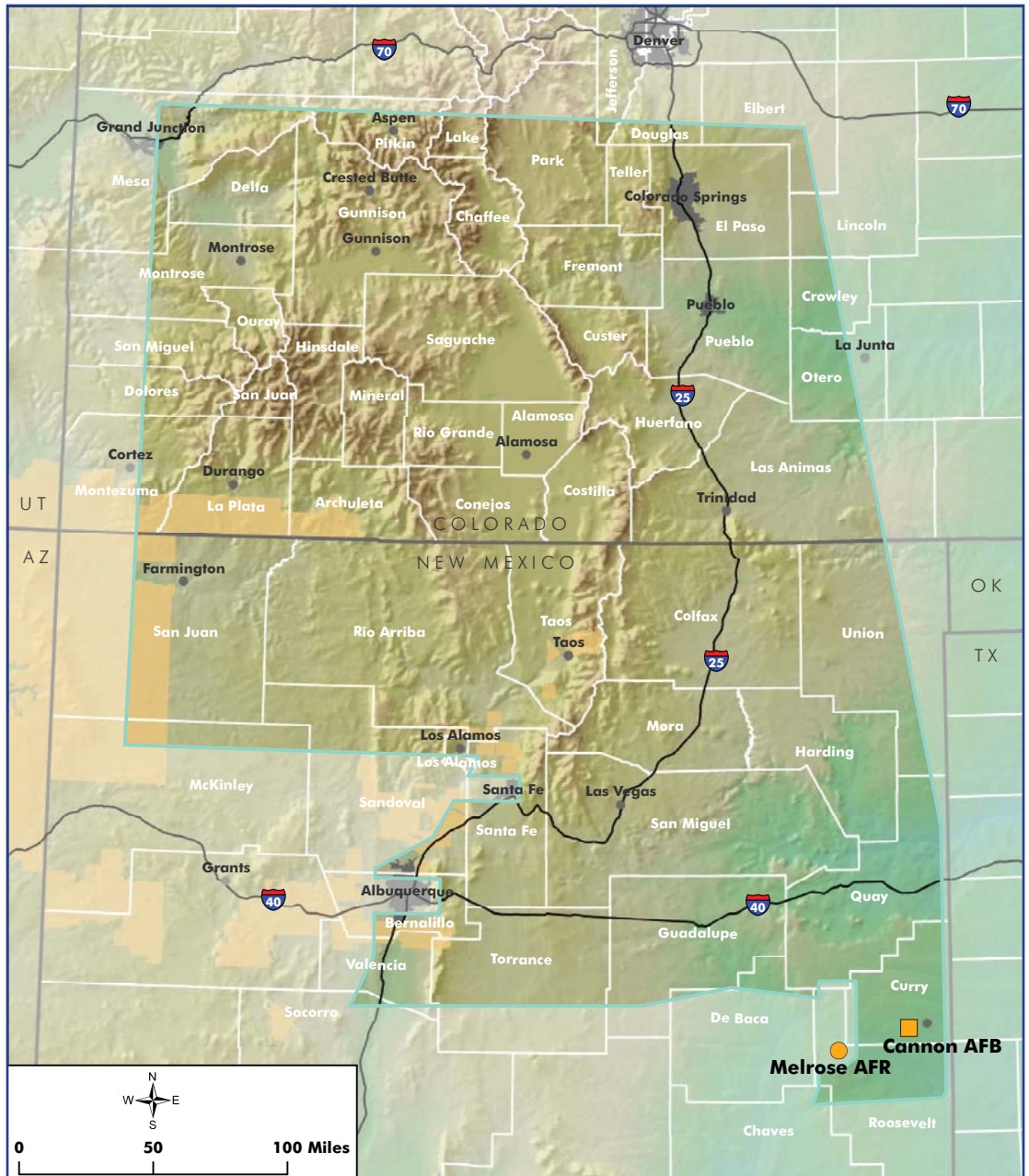




Alternative 1

Create a LATN area smaller in size to the Proposed Action that is confined solely to the mountainous areas of New Mexico and Colorado. This area shares the same southern and eastern boundaries as the Proposed Action, but in some places the northern boundary would be moved south and the Colorado/New Mexico western border would be moved to the east (see map at right). This would reduce the area being affected by random low level flights. However, the disadvantages include reduction in the available training area which increases the likelihood that crews would fly the same route multiple times and that inclement weather would preclude training opportunities.



No Action Alternative

The No Action Alternative would be to use existing MTRs. The majority of local existing Military Training Routes (MTRs) belong to the 27th Special Operations Wing (SOW) or the 58 SOW based at Kirtland AFB near Albuquerque, New Mexico. The 27 SOW MTRs are limited in length and are over relatively flat terrain. The 58 SOW MTRs meet both various types of C-130 and CV-22 Osprey training requirements, but the number of routes are limited and the routes are already used heavily by the 58 SOW. If the 27 SOW training remains restricted to existing MTRs, aircrews would not develop the unique skills obtained by training in varied mountainous terrain and weather conditions.

Alternative 1