

construction by the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. Construction began in October 2002 and is currently continuing using previously approved disposal areas.

2. Background

The City of Los Angeles Harbor Department (LAHD) administers the Port of Los Angeles. The Port comprises 45 kilometers (28 miles) of waterfront and 3,035 hectares (7,500 acres) of land and water. LAHD administers automobile, container, omni, lumber, cruise ship, liquid and dry bulk terminals, and commercial fishing facilities. For recreational activities the Port of Los Angeles provides slips for 5,000 pleasure craft, sport fishing boats, and charter vessels. Community facilities include a water front youth center, a boat launch ramp, and a public swimming beach. Educational facilities include the Cabrillo Marine Aquarium and the Los Angeles Maritime Museum.

This SEIS/SEIR is a supplement to the 2000 SEIS/SEIR that was prepared for the Channel Deepening Project, which was a supplement to the 1998 Channel Deepening Project EIR and the 1992 Deep Draft Navigation Improvements Project EIS/EIR the modifications required to complete disposal of dredged material from the authorized project. This SEIS/SEIR addresses impacts associated with providing additional disposal capacity of approximately 3 mcy required to complete the Channel Deepening Project. Additional disposal capacity is required to complete the deepening of the navigation channel and berthing areas to -53 feet Mean Lower Low Water (MLLW) at container terminals along the deepened channel and the removal of dredge material that was temporarily used as surcharge at the Southwest Slip. This project meets a public need for safe and efficient commercial navigation.

3. Hearing Process

The Corps Los Angeles District and the Los Angeles Harbor Department (LAHD or Port) will jointly conduct a Public Hearing for the Port of Los Angeles Channel Deepening Project, Los Angeles, California Draft SEIS/SEIR on August 6, 2008 at 6:30 p.m., to receive public comment and assess public concerns regarding the Draft SEIS/SEIR (Corps File Number 2008-00662-AOA). Participation in the Public Hearing by Federal, State and local agencies and other interested organizations and persons are encouraged. This meeting is to be conducted in English and Spanish. Members of the public who wish to communicate and listen entirely in

Spanish are encouraged to attend this meeting. The Public Hearing will be held at: Banning's Landing Community Center, 100 East Water Street, Wilmington, CA 90744.

4. Availability of the Draft SEIS/SEIR

a. The Draft SEIS/SEIR for the Proposed Action is being distributed directly to agencies, organizations, and interested groups and persons for comment during the 45-day formal review period in accordance with Section 15087 of the State CEQA Guidelines and 40 CFR Section 1506.10 of the CEQ NEPA Regulations. During the 45-day public review period, which begins on July 18, 2008 and ends on September 1, 2008, the Draft SEIS/SEIR is available for general public review at the following locations:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Environmental Resources Branch, 915 Wilshire Blvd., 14th Floor, Los Angeles, CA 90053

Los Angeles Public Library, San Pedro Branch, 921 South Gaffey Street, San Pedro, CA 90731

Los Angeles Public Library, Central Branch, 630 West 5th Street, Los Angeles, CA 90071

Port of Los Angeles, Environmental Management Division, 425 South Palos Verdes Street, San Pedro, CA 90731

Los Angeles Public Library, Wilmington Branch, 1300 North Avalon Boulevard, Wilmington, CA 90744

b. Participation of affected Federal, State, and local resource agencies, and concerned interest groups/individuals are encouraged on the Draft SEIS/SEIR during the public review period. Public participation will be especially important in receiving input on environmental analysis for the Proposed Action, and associated Alternatives in finalizing the SEIS/SEIR. Those wishing to provide comments relevant to the environmental or social impacts that should be included or considered in updating the environmental analysis can furnish this information by writing to the point of contact indicated above.

c. The Final SEIS/SEIR document will incorporate public concerns in the analysis of impacts associated with the Proposed Action and associated project alternatives. The Final SEIS/SEIR will address the comments received on the Draft SEIS/SEIR. In compliance with NEPA, the Final SEIS/SEIR will be sent out for a 30-day public review period. Copies of the Final SEIS/SEIR will be furnished to all who commented on the Draft SEIS/SEIR and to anyone who requests a copy. The final step involves preparing and signing a Record of

Decision (ROD) by lead Federal Agency for the Federal SEIS. The lead CEQA agency certifies the SEIR and adopts a Mitigation Monitoring and Reporting Plan. The ROD is a concise summary of the decisions made by the USACE from among the alternatives presented in the Final SEIS/SEIR. A certified SEIR indicates that the environmental document adequately assesses the environmental impacts of the proposed project with respect to CEQA. Any required permit would be issued concurrently or soon after the issuance of the ROD.

Dated: July 9, 2008.

Anthony G. Reed,

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, Deputy District Commander.

[FR Doc. E8-16458 Filed 7-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-KF-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Potential Multipurpose Projects for Ecosystem Restoration, Flood Risk Management, and Recreation Development Within and Along Johnson Creek, Arlington, Tarrant County, TX

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The study is being conducted in response to the authority contained in the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008. Pertinent text is quoted below:

SEC. 117. JOHNSON CREEK, ARLINGTON, TEXAS.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The project for flood damage reduction, environmental restoration and recreation, Johnson Creek, Arlington, Texas, authorized by section 101(b)(14) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (113 Stat. 280–281) is modified to authorize the Secretary to construct the project substantially in accordance with the report entitled Johnson Creek: A Vision of Conservation, dated March 30, 2006, at a total cost of \$80,000,000, with an estimated Federal cost of \$52,000,000 and an estimated non-Federal cost of \$28,000,000 if the Secretary determines that the project is technically sound and environmentally acceptable.

An initial assessment based on the authority indicates that the modifications outlined within the report "Johnson Creek: A Vision of Conservation" require preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to review the project proposal

based upon magnitude of modifications proposed and potential controversy related to degree of initial short term impacts.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the DEIS will be prepared to evaluate and compare ecosystem restoration, flood damage reduction, and recreation alternatives within and along Johnson Creek and its floodplain within the City of Arlington, Texas. In addition, the local cost share sponsor (City of Arlington) is proceeding with construction of Phase 1a of the project located between Randal Mill Road and Sanford Streets and has requested that the federal government reimburse a portion of their expenditures. The government's decision will be based upon analyses within the EIS to determine technical soundness and environmental acceptability of the proposal. The general study area will be bound on the upstream by Interstate Highway 20 and at the downstream at Interstate Highway 30.

DATES: A public scoping meeting will be held on July 31, 2008 beginning at 4:30 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Bob Duncan Center, located within Vandergriff Park, 2800 South Center Street, Arlington, TX 76014.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions pertaining to the proposed action and DEIS can be addressed to: Ms. Amy Archambeau, Project Manager, CESWF-PER-PP, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300, (817) 886-1867.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The study area lies within an area of rapid growth in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas metropolitan area. Johnson Creek has experienced a history of flooding, bank and stream bed erosion and habitat degradation during the past 60 years that has led to several studies and local and federal actions to reduce damages. Following WRDA, 1999, a non-structural flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration project was initiated that resulted in the acquisition and removal of 140 residential structures from the 25-year floodplain and acquisition of 155 acres of floodplain lands for restoration. Approximately 90 acres of this land was planted with a variety of native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees to improve the riparian habitat along Johnson Creek.

Alternatives for ecosystem restoration, flood damage reduction, and recreation will be developed and evaluated based on ongoing fieldwork and data collection and past studies conducted

by the Corps of Engineers, the City of Arlington, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey. Ecosystem restoration alternatives will include bank protection; natural channel design restoring, protecting and expanding the riparian corridor; improving aquatic habitat including creating riffle-pool complexes; and constructing wetlands. It is anticipated that ecosystem restoration measures would improve water quality, improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat, and minimize erosion and scouring along and within Johnson Creek. Alternatives for flood damage reduction measures will be evaluated from both a non-structural and structural aspect. Non-structural measures will include acquisition and removal of structures or flood proofing. Structural measures will include channel modification by increasing widths and depths and straightening or a combination of these measures. Recreation measures will include multipurpose trails and passive recreation features, such as interpretive guidance and media and picnic areas. Recreation measures will be developed to a scope and scale compatible with proposed ecosystem restoration measures without significantly diminishing ecosystem benefits.

The public will be invited to participate in the scoping process, invited to attend public meetings, and given the opportunity to review the DEIS. The first public scoping meeting will be on (see **DATES & ADDRESSES**). Subsequent public meetings, if deemed necessary, will be announced in the local news media. Release of the DEIS for public comment is scheduled for December 2009. The exact release date, once established, will be announced through mailings to known interested individuals, agencies and officials and in the local news media.

Future coordination with other agencies and public scoping will be conducted to ensure full and open participation and aid in the development of the DEIS. All affected Federal, state, and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties are hereby invited to participate. Future coordination will also be conducted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS will furnish information on threatened and endangered species in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. In addition, the USFWS will also be requested to provide support with planning aid and to provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report. The State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted as required by Section 106

of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Dated: July 11, 2008.

Jimmy D. Baggett,

Acting District Engineer.

[FR Doc. E8-16446 Filed 7-17-08; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-20-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

Notice of Solicitation of Applications for Stakeholder Representative Members of the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Solicitation of applications.

SUMMARY: The Commander of the Northwestern Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting applications for stakeholder representative membership on the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC). Members are sought to participate on a committee to represent various categories of interests within the Missouri River basin. The MRRIC is being formed to advise the Corps on a study of the Missouri River and its tributaries and to provide guidance to the Corps with respect to the Missouri River recovery and mitigation activities currently underway. The Corps is required to establish the MRRIC by the U.S. Congress through the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (WRDA), Section 5018.

DATES: The agency must receive completed applications no later than August 22, 2008.

ADDRESSES: Mail completed applications to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division (Attn: MRRIC), 1616 Capitol Avenue, Suite 365, Omaha, NE 68102-4909 or e-mail completed applications to *Missouri.Water.Management@nwd02.usace.army.mil*. Please put "MRRIC" in the subject line.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mary S. Roth, 402-996-3852.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The establishment of the MRRIC is in the public interest and will provide support to the Corps in performing its duties and responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; Sec. 601(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, Public Law 99-662; Sec. 334(a) of WRDA 1999, Public Law 106-53, and