

SEIS, will cooperate and consult with concerned agencies, the Collaborative, and those on the Executive Committee for this project. The Environmental Protection Agency and Fish and Wildlife Service have regulatory responsibilities that could not efficiently be considered without direct involvement; guidance regarding formal consultation responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act will be provided by a Fish and Wildlife Service specialist who will participate as a member of the interdisciplinary team. Other agencies, local and county governments will also be invited to participate, as appropriate.

12. List of Public and Private Persons/Agencies Notified

A list of persons and agencies notified is available upon request to the person identified on the first page of this notice.

13. Decisions To Be Made and Responsible Officials

The Commander, Sacramento District is the official responsible for compliance with NEPA for actions within the District's boundaries. The Santa Clara Valley Water District Board of Directors is responsible for CEQA compliance for the proposed action. After completion of review, the Chief of Engineers will sign his final report and transmit the report and accompanying documents to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA(CW)). After review, ASA(CW) will transmit the report to the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) requesting its views in relation to the programs of the President. After OMB provides its views, ASA(CW) will sign the record of decision (ROD) and transmit the report to Congress. The responsible officials for respective NEPA and CEQA compliance are: COL Michael Walsh, District Engineer, Sacramento District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922; Mr. Stanley Williams, Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, CA 95118.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-27636 Filed 10-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-EZ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for Proposed Hurricane and Wetland Protection in Terrebonne and Lafourche Parishes, LA, a Component of the Morganza, LA, to the Gulf of Mexico Feasibility Study

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(C) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) will prepare a draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to analyze the direct, indirect, and cumulative beneficial and adverse impacts of implementing a hurricane protection project in Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. The purposes of the proposed action are to provide protection to existing development from tropical storm and hurricane-induced tidal flooding such as that which occurred during Hurricane Andrew and to protect coastal wetlands from hurricane surges in a portion of Terrebonne Parish, Louisiana. The proposed action would consist of: (1) Upgrading many existing forced drainage system levees; (2) using permitted and/or installed flood-control features (e.g., floodgates); (3) constructing some new levees and water-control structures; and, (4) closing the water-control structures and flood gates in a coordinated manner in the event of tropical storm or hurricane-induced tidal surges.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding the PEIS may be directed to Mr. Robert Martinson, CEMVN-PM-RS, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267, telephone: (504) 862-2582.

Questions regarding the proposed action may be directed to Mr. Rodney Greenup, CEMVN-PM-W, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 60267, New Orleans, Louisiana 70160-0267, telephone: (504) 862-2613.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: A hurricane protection plan was proposed by the South Terrebonne Tidewater Management and Conservation District (STTMCD). A Notice of Intent to prepare an EIS for the STTMCD plan, under the COE Regulatory Program, was issued on April 7, 1993 (Volume 58, Number 65, pp. 18084-18085). Subsequent to this,

the COE was authorized to begin a study of a similar plan. Because the underlying purposes of the plans were the same and in the interest of cost effectiveness, the COE decided to prepare one EIS to address both initiatives, rather than two separate EISs. A Notice of Intent, announcing this decision, was issued in the **Federal Register** on September 8, 1995.

The COE and its cost-share partner, the Louisiana Department of Transportation and Development, have determined that a full accounting of all the details on the proposed hurricane protection system, in the feasibility phase of project planning, will be extremely difficult. The COE came to this conclusion because of the study area's large size, its remote location, and the hydraulic complexity of developing a hurricane protection system with numerous openings for navigation and the natural environment. Therefore, the COE has decided, in conjunction with its cost-share partner, to address a hurricane protection system, programmatically, and to determine if the construction of the entire system is feasible. If such a system is deemed feasible, then as the details for each component (e.g., Houma Navigation Canal lock, levee alignment/placement) of the system become definitive during the detailed design phase, additional NEPA compliance would be achieved for each component. Each of the component NEPA documents would be presented in the context of the PEIS, which will provide an evaluation of the overall environmental impacts of such a system and present a mitigation plan for unavoidable impacts of the entire system.

Proposed Action

The proposed action would consist of: (1) Upgrading many existing forced-drainage system levees from near Larose at the eastern end of Theriot on the western end; (2) using permitted and/or installed flood-control features (e.g., floodgates) in the area; (3) constructing new levees and environmental water-control structures; and, (4) closing the water-control structures and flood gates, in a coordinated manner, in the event of tropical storm or hurricane-induced tidal surges. The flood gates and water-control structures would normally be left open for navigational and tidal ingress and egress. Several communities, including the City of Houma, Dulac, Cauvin, and Montegut, would receive protection from the proposed action.

Alternatives

The no-action alternative must be evaluated. Additionally, several levee alignments around the Lake Beudreaux area will be evaluated, including the STTMCD plan. Non-structural solutions for protecting existing development also will be evaluated.

On May 12, 1993, the COE held a formal NEPA scoping meeting at Houma, Louisiana, for the previously-announced regulatory EIS. Fifty-two individuals registered at the meeting. Questions and issues of concern were solicited at the meeting, and a summary of the results was made available to participants on April 12, 1994. One of the main areas of concern brought out during the 1993 scoping meeting was potential impacts to Lake Boudreaux, its surrounding marshes, and the associated marine organisms. Additional meetings will be held, with local interests from the various bayou areas, and with the various affected Federal and state agencies.

The COE does not plan to hold additional formal NEPA scoping meetings, but meetings will continue to be held throughout the planning process, as discussed above.

A draft PEIS is scheduled to be available for public review during March 2000.

Thomas F. Julich,

Colonel, U.S. Army District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 99-27637 Filed 10-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-84-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Open Meeting of the Naval Research Advisory Committee

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Naval Research Advisory Committee (NRAC) Panel on Commercial Science and Technology will meet to review and assess European intermediate to long-term commercial Science and Technology investment strategy in areas related to Department of the Navy dependence upon commercial off-the-shelf products, in an effort to identify mutually beneficial opportunities for Department of the Navy Science and Technology collaboration with commercial industrial sectors. All sessions of the meeting will be open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held on Monday, November 15, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.; and on Tuesday,

November 16, 1999, from 8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held at the Jorge Scientific Corporation, 1225 Jefferson Davis Highway, 6th Floor, Suite 600, Crystal Gateway Two, Arlington, Virginia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Diane Mason-Muir, Program Director, Naval Research Advisory Committee, 800 North Quincy Street, Arlington, VA 22217-5660, telephone number: (703) 696-6769.

Dated: October 13, 1999.

J.L. Roth,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-27591 Filed 10-21-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No.: 84.250A]

Vocational Rehabilitation Service Projects for American Indians With Disabilities

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2000.

Purpose of Program: To provide vocational rehabilitation services to American Indians with disabilities who reside on or near Federal or State reservations, consistent with their individual strengths, resources, priorities, concerns, abilities, capabilities, and informed choices, so that they may prepare for and engage in gainful employment, including self-employment, telecommuting, or business ownership.

Eligible Applicants: Applications may be submitted only by the governing bodies of Indian tribes (and consortia of those governing bodies) located on Federal or State reservations.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: April 21, 2000.

Applications Available: October 22, 1999.

Available Funds: \$9,242,660.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$250,000-\$325,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$290,000.

Estimated Number of Awards: 27-28.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 60 months.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 75, 77, 80, 81, and 82; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR parts 369 and 371.

Priority

Under section 121(b)(4) of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, the Secretary gives preference to applications that meet the following competitive priority. Under 34 CFR 74.105(c)(2)(i) the Secretary awards 10 points to an application that meets this competitive priority. These points are in addition to any points the application earns under the selection criteria:

Competitive Preference Priority—Continuation of Previously Funded Tribal Programs

In making new awards under this program, the Secretary gives priority consideration to applications for the continuation of tribal programs that have been funded under this program.

Selection Criteria: In evaluating an application for a new grant under this competition, the Secretary uses selection criteria chosen from the general selection criteria in 34 CFR 75.210 of EDGAR. The selection criteria to be used for this competition will be provided in the application package for this competition.

For Applications Contact: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX (301) 470-1244. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call (toll free): 1-877-576-7734. You may also contact ED Pubs via its Web site (<http://www.ed.gov/pubs/edpubs.html>) or its E-mail address (edpubs@inet.ed.gov). If you request an application from ED Pubs, be sure to identify this competition as follows: CFDA number 84.250A.

Individuals with disabilities may obtain a copy of the application package in an alternate format by contacting the Grants and Contracts Services Team, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3317, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2550. Telephone: (202) 205-8351. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339. However, the Department is not able to reproduce in an alternate format the standard forms included in the application package.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Pamela Martin or Alfreda Reeves, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., room 3314, Switzer Building, Washington, DC 20202-2650. Telephone (202) 205-8494 or (202) 205-9361. If you use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD), you may call