

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Rueter-Hess Reservoir, Parker, CO****AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to analyze the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of constructing and operating the proposed Rueter-Hess Reservoir near the town of Parker, in Douglas County, Colorado. The project proponent is the Parker Water and Sanitation District (District). The basic purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide a safe, adequate and sustainable municipal water supply to the District, which is capable of meeting peak demands within the District's currently zoned boundary for the next 50 years. The construction of the proposed project would result in permanent impacts to 6.7 acres of wetlands and 5 miles of other waters of the United States, and would require a Section 404 permit.

The DEIS was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as amended, and the Corps' regulations for NEPA implementation (33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) parts 230 and 325, appendices B and C). The Corps, Omaha District; Regulatory Branch is the lead Federal agency responsible for the DEIS and information contained in the DEIS serves as the basis for a decision regarding issuance of the Section 404 permit. It also provides information for local and state agencies having jurisdictional responsibility for affected resources.

DATES: Written comments on the DEIS will be accepted on or before April 8, 2002. Comments should be submitted to Rodney Schwartz, Corps—Omaha District (address below). Oral and/or written comments may also be presented at the Public Hearing to be held at 7 p.m. on March 12, 2002 at the High Prairie Farm Equestrian Center, 7522 Pinery Parkway South in Parker, Colorado.

ADDRESSES: Copies of the DEIS will be available for review at:

1. Parker Library, 10851 South Crossroad Drive, Parker, CO 80134.
2. Parker Water and Sanitation District, 19801 East Mainstreet, Parker, CO 80138.

3. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Denver Regulatory Office, 9307 South Platte Canyon Road, Littleton, CO 80128.

Copies can also be obtained from the Corps' third-party contractor, URS Corporation, attention: Paula Daukas, 8181 East Tufts Avenue, Denver, CO 80237; 303-740-3896; Fax 303-694-3946, paula_daukas@urscorp.com

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rodney Schwartz, Senior Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District—Regulatory Branch, 12565 West Center Road, Omaha, Nebraska 68144-3869, Phone: 402-221-4143, Fax: 402-221-4939, rodney.j.schwartz@usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The purpose of the DEIS is to provide decision makers and the public with information pertaining to the Proposed Action, and to disclose environmental impacts and identify mitigation measures to reduce impacts. The DEIS analyzes the Parker Water and Sanitation District's proposal to construct and operate Rueter-Hess Reservoir and the associated water delivery system. The proposed reservoir would be located in Douglas County, Colorado approximately 12 miles southeast of Denver and 3 miles southwest of the town of Parker. The reservoir would be located on Newlin Gulch with a diversion structure along Cherry Creek. The project would include a 16,200 acre-foot (AF) reservoir inundating 470 acres, a 5,300-foot long and 135-foot high dam, two pipelines, a water treatment plant and booster pump station, a diversion structure along Cherry Creek with a pump station, and 16 Denver Basin extraction wellfields.

The proposed water supply system would rely upon renewable sources of water, including the capability of capturing, storing, and reusing seasonal high flows in nearby Cherry Creek, and Advanced Wastewater Treatment (AWT) return flows currently discharged into Cherry Creek. The water from the reservoir would be used primarily to help satisfy the District's peak seasonal demands, thereby reducing the loading on nonrenewable Denver Basin aquifer groundwater. The reservoir is needed by the District to provide operational flexibility to ensure a long-term, reliable water supply.

In addition to the Proposed Action, the DEIS analyzes two alternatives: (1) The Reduced Capacity Reservoir (11,200 AF), and (2) the No Action. The Reduced Capacity Reservoir would be constructed along the same dam axis as the Proposed Action, but with a smaller storage capacity. The dam would be

5,000 feet long, 123 feet high, and inundate approximately 370 acres. A total of 17 Denver Basin wellfields would be developed, one more wellfield than the Proposed Action. The diversion facilities along Cherry Creek would be the same as for the Proposed Action. The No Action Alternative assumes that the Rueter-Hess Reservoir would not be built and that the District would continue with their current operational plan relying upon deep groundwater well fields and alluvial Cherry Creek wellfields to supply their water. It is estimated that 71 Denver Basin wellfields would be required to supply the area within the District's legal boundary.

Rodney J. Schwartz,

Senior Project Manager, Regulatory Branch.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Everglades Agricultural Area (EAA) Storage Reservoirs—Phase 1 Project, Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Project, Comprehensive Review Study**

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), intends to prepare an integrated Project Implementation Report (PIR) and DEIS for the EAA Storage Reservoirs Project. The study is a cooperative effort between the Corps and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), which is also a cooperating agency for this DEIS. The lack of water storage in the Everglades system, particularly during wet periods, has led to ecological damage of Lake Okeechobee's littoral zone and damaging regulatory releases to the St. Lucie and Caloosahatchee estuaries. Conversely, in dry periods, this lack of storage has led to water supply shortages for both the human and natural environment. The EAA Storage Reservoirs—Phase 1 is one of the initially authorized projects of the C&SF Comprehensive Review Study (Restudy). The integrated PIR will evaluate providing 240,000 acre-feet of storage on existing Federally- and State-owned lands and increasing the canal conveyance of the Miami, North New River, Bolles, and Cross Canals.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Environmental Branch, PO Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019; Attn: Ms. Janete Cushing, or by telephone at 904-232-2259.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: a.

Authorization: Section 601 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 (Public Law 106-541) authorizes the implementation of the EAA Storage Reservoirs—Phase 1 Project.

b. *Study Area:* The study area is the Everglades Agricultural Area, approximately 500,000 acres immediately south of Lake Okeechobee, and within sections of Palm Beach and Hendry Counties.

c. *Project Scope:* The scope includes conducting a watershed assessment of the study area and developing alternative plans for optimizing the design of water storage reservoirs and increasing the canal conveyance of the Miami, North New River, Bolles, and Cross Canals. The watershed assessment will refine the Restudy water budgets for the project components and provide peak flows for canal conveyance improvement requirements. The evaluation of the alternative and selection of a recommended plan will be documented in the PIR. The alternative plans will be reviewed under provisions of appropriate laws and regulations, including the Endangered Species Act, Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Clean Water Act, and Farmland Protection Policy Act.

d. *Preliminary Alternatives:* The Talisman and Woerner land acquisition, composed of 3 parcels totaling approximately 49,900 acres, and the design of Stormwater Treatment Area-3/4 determine the footprint of the reservoirs. Further plan formulation will determine the configuration and sizing of the reservoirs, as well as the design of the levees and pump stations.

e. *Issues:* The EIS will address the following issues: impacts to aquatic, wetland, and upland ecosystems; water flows; socio-economic impacts on agriculture and other water supply dependent business; hazardous and toxic waste; water quality; flood protection; the impacts of land acquisition on the tax base; aesthetics and recreation; fish and wildlife resources, including protected species; cultural resources; and other impacts identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

f. *Scoping:* A scoping letter and multiple public workshops will be used to invite comments on alternatives and issues from Federal, State, and local

agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and individuals.

g. *DEIS Preparation:* The integrated PIR, including a DEIS, is currently scheduled for publication in November 2003.

Dated: February 6, 2002.

George M. Strain,

Chief, Planning Division.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

DATES: Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before April 23, 2002.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g. new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment. The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) Is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner;

(3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: February 15, 2002.

John Tressler,

Leader, Regulatory Information Management, Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of English Language Acquisitions

Type of Review: New.

Title: Descriptive Study of Immigrant Education Programs.

Frequency: Semi-Annually.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs; Individuals or household.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 555.

Burden Hours: 317.

Abstract: The goals of the Descriptive Study of Immigrant Education are to provide information about: (1) The types of programs and services for immigrant children and youth and best practices for serving this population; (2) the degree to which immigrant students are meeting state standards; and (3) the way in which services are paid for and provided. The study will include case studies of 15 districts that represent diverse circumstances and populations, and a range of approaches to serving recent immigrant children and youth.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW, Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian.reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at (202) 708-6287 or via her internet address Sheila.Carey@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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