

Building, 100 Penn Square East,
Philadelphia, PA 19107-3390.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action

a. The proposed document will address outstanding economic issues including the appropriate channel depth. Potential environmental impacts will be further evaluated, including possible impacts to groundwater quality from the disposal of dredged material, loss of groundwater into the canal/river, bank erosion, impacts to aquatic resources and water quality impacts in the Chesapeake Bay.

b. The authority for the proposed project is the resolution adopted by the House of Representatives Committee on Public Works and Transportation September 8, 1988.

c. The resolution authorized the review of existing reports of the Chief of Engineers for the Inland Waterway-Delaware River to Chesapeake Bay, Delaware and Maryland, and the report on the Baltimore Harbor and Channels, Maryland, with a view to determine the feasibility of measures to promote and encourage the efficient, economic, and logical development of the channel system serving the Port of Baltimore.

2. Alternatives

In response to the study resolution a reconnaissance report was completed in February 1990 at 100% Federal expense. The results indicated there was Federal interest in further feasibility phase studies of improvements to the canal and the connecting channels. The feasibility phase of study was cost-shared 50%-50% between the Maryland Port Administration (MPA) and the Federal government and was completed in December 1996 with the issuance of the Chief of Engineers' report. The Chief of Engineers' report concluded that the plan developed by the reporting officers was engineeringly sound. The review also found that the Reedy Point entrance flare, bend widening at Sandy Point, and the establishment of an emergency anchorage at Howell Point were economically justified. However, questions remain regarding the appropriate channel depth which are to be addressed during this phase of study (Planning, Engineering and Design).

3. Scoping

a. The Planning, Engineering and Design (PED) phase was initiated 8 April 1997 with the execution of a cost sharing agreement between the Federal government and the MPA. As part of the PED phase a working group has been established to help disseminate information to the interested public,

review the information, make suggestions on the study process, and assure that all the issues are addressed. Also, as part of the PED phase, several repositories have been established at local libraries, Corps offices, and the MPA offices. The repositories contain pertinent reports from the feasibility study as well as information developed during the on-going PED phase.

b. The scoping process is on-going and has involved coordination with Federal, State, and local agencies and interest groups. The public and all agencies are invited to comment on this proposal. Any pertinent information that Federal, State or local agencies or the private sector can provide will be used to the greatest extent possible. We welcome any assistance and suggestions pertaining to the conduct of this study. All comments should be directed to the above address, Attn: CENAP-PL-E.

4. Availability

It is estimated that the DSEIS will be made available to the public in Spring 2000.

Leonard J. Lipski,

Assistant Chief of Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 98-30084 Filed 11-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Corps of Engineers, Department of the Army

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Lee County Beach Erosion Control Project, Gasparilla and Estero Islands, Lee County, Florida

AGENCY: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Lee County Beach Erosion Control Project, Gasparilla and Estero Islands, Lee County, Florida.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Kenneth Dugger, 904-232-1686, Environmental Branch, Planning Division, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Beach Erosion Control Project for Lee County, Florida, was authorized in accordance with recommendations of the Chief of Engineers in House Document number 91-393, under the provisions of Section 201 of the Flood Control Act of 1965 enacted by House Resolution dated December 15, 1970, and Senate

Resolution dated December 17, 1970. The authorization provides for Federal participation in beach restoration and periodic nourishment along portions of the Gulf shore of Lee County. Captiva Island was included in this authorization and has been constructed. The proposed action consists of a protective beach, estimated berm width of up to 120 feet, along 2.7 miles of shore on Gasparilla Island, and 4.6 miles on Estero Island. The borrow site for Estero Island has an area of 1.59 square miles, and is located in the Gulf approximately 1.5 miles southwest of Sanibel Island. The borrow site for Gasparilla Island has an area of 2.8 square miles, and is located in the Gulf just north of Boca Grande Pass.

Alternatives: Alternatives considered include no action, non-structural measures, the construction of revetments, perched beaches, breakwaters, beach fills of varying widths, construction of submerged near-shore berms, beach fill transitions, and a beach fill/groin combination. Alternative sand sources in addition to the use of the proposed borrow area for nourishment, include the use of other local offshore sand sources, the use of other sand sources such as upland sources, Bahamian sand, other foreign sands, or other distant sources.

Issues: The EIS will consider impacts on hardbottom communities, protected species, shore protection, health and safety, water quality, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, energy conservation, socio-economic resources, and other impacts identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

Scoping: A scoping letter was sent to interested parties on August 12, 1996. In addition, all parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns on issues, studies needed, alternatives, procedures, and other matters related to the scoping process. At this time, there are no plans for a public scoping meeting.

Public Involvement: We invite the participation of affected Federal, state and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties.

Coordination: The proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, with the State Historic Preservation Officer, and with the FWS under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act. A request and scope of work for a Fish and

Wildlife Coordination Act Report was forwarded to FWS on October 20, 1998.

Other Environmental Review And Consultation: The proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act; application (to the State of Florida) for Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act; certification of state lands, easements, and rights of way; and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

DEIS Preparation: It is estimated that the DEIS will be available to the public on or about January 13, 1999.

Dated: October 28, 1998.

Michael A. Moore,

Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army Acting Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 98-30085 Filed 11-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-AJ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Intent To Re-Open Scoping Process for the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Disposal and Reuse of Naval Air Station South Weymouth, Massachusetts

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DOD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy announces the intent to re-open the Scoping process for the preparation of a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the proposed disposal and reuse of Naval Air Station (NAS) South Weymouth, Massachusetts. A second scoping workshop will be held to receive oral and written comments to identify potentially significant issues for study in the DEIS and to notify parties interested in and affected by the property transfer and reuse. Federal, state, and local agencies, and interested individuals are invited to be present or represented at the workshop.

DATES: The Navy will hold a second public meeting to further identify the scope of issues to be addressed in the DEIS in light of the revised Reuse Plan. The meeting will be held on Wednesday, December 9, 1998, beginning at 7:00 p.m., at the Abigail Adams Intermediate School, Middle Street, Weymouth, Massachusetts.

ADDRESSES: Navy representatives will make a brief presentation, then members of the public will be asked to provide their comments. Agencies and the public are encouraged to provide

written comments in addition to, or, in lieu of, oral comments at the scoping meeting. To be most helpful, comments should clearly describe specific issues or topics, which the EIS should address. Written comments must be postmarked by Jan 15, 1999, and should be mailed to Commanding Officer, Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Attn: Mr. Robert Ostermueller (Code 202), 10 Industrial Highway, MS 82, Lester, Pennsylvania 19113. All statements, both oral and written, will become part of the public record on this action and will be given equal consideration.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Additional information concerning this notice may be obtained by contacting Mr. Robert Ostermueller (Code 202), Northern Division, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 10 Industrial Highway, MSC 82, Lester, Pennsylvania 19113, telephone (610) 595-0759, facsimile (610) 595-0778.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Pursuant to Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) implementing procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Department of the Navy announces its intention to prepare a DEIS for the proposed disposal and reuse of NAS South Weymouth, Massachusetts.

In December 1995, the Congressional Committee on Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommended the closure of NAS South Weymouth and its subsequent relocation to NAS Brunswick, Maine. This recommendation was approved by President Clinton and accepted by the One Hundred Fifth Congress in 1995. The BRAC legislation also identified the requirements for compliance with NEPA, stating that the provisions of NEPA shall apply during the process of property disposal. Accordingly, the Navy initiated the process to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the environmental effects of the disposal and likely reuse of this property with the publication of a Notice of Intent (NOI) to prepare an EIS in the **Federal Register** on April 14, 1997. A public scoping workshop was held at the NAS South Weymouth Officers Club on April 29, 1997.

The proposed action that was to be considered and evaluated in the DEIS was the Reuse Plan prepared by the NAS South Weymouth Reuse Committee acting as the Local Reuse Authority (LRA). Subsequent to this scoping process, the LRA informed the Navy that it was revising the Reuse Plan and requested that the EIS process be

deferred until the revised Reuse Plan was submitted. The recently submitted revised Reuse Plan represents a reasonable and likely redevelopment scenario based on the proposed zoning of the site including the development of a mall and other facilities providing approximately 2.1 million square feet of retail space. The Draft EIS will evaluate environmental impacts of the revised Reuse Plan as well as of reasonable possible redevelopment scenarios. Navy will also evaluate the no action alternative, defined as the retention of NAS South Weymouth by the federal government.

Based on an evaluation conducted and accepted by the State Historic Preservation officer in 1990, none of the NAS buildings or structures are eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places. A re-evaluation of these buildings and structures, particularly with regard to Cold War significance, will be conducted as part of the EIS process.

Dated: November 5, 1998.

Ralph W. Corey,

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

[FR Doc. 98-30118 Filed 11-9-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Privacy Act of 1974; System of Records Notice

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice to amend a record system.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Navy proposes to amend a system of records notice in its inventory of record systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended.

DATES: The amendment will be effective on December 10, 1998, unless comments are received that would result in a contrary determination.

ADDRESSES: Send comments to the Department of the Navy, PA/FOIA Policy Branch, Chief of Naval Operations (N09B30), 2000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350-2000. **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mrs. Doris Lama at (202) 685-6545 or DSN 325-6545.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Department of the Navy's record system notices for records systems subject to the Privacy Act of 1974 (5 U.S.C. 552a), as amended, have been published in the **Federal Register** and are available from the address above.