

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army****Advisory Committee Meeting Notice
(Historical Advisory Committee)**

AGENCY: U.S. Army Center of Military History, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 10 (a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the following committee meeting:

Name of Committee: Department of Defense Historical Advisory Committee.

Date: 28 October 1999.

Place: U.S. Army Center of Military History, Building 35, 103 Third Avenue, Fort McNair, DC 20319-5058.

Time: 0900-1600.

Proposed Agenda: Review and discussion of the status of historical activities in the United States Army.

Purpose of the Meeting: The committee will review the Army's historical activities for FY 1999 and those projected for FY 2000 based upon reports and manuscripts received throughout the period and formulate recommendations through the Chief of Military History to the Chief of Staff, Army, and the Secretary of the Army for advancing the use of history in the U.S. Army.

For further information contact: All communications regarding this advisory committee should be addressed to Dr. Jeffrey J. Clarke, U.S. Army Center of Military History, ATTN: DAMH-ZC, 103 Third Avenue, Fort McNair, DC 20319-5058; telephone number (202) 685-2709.

Supplementary information: Meeting of the advisory committee is open to the public. Because of restricted meeting space, attendance may be limited to those persons who have notified the Advisory Committee Management Office in writing at least five days prior to the meeting of their intention to attend the 28 October 1999 meeting.

Any members of the public may file a written statement with the committee before, during, or after the meeting. To the extent that time permits, the committee chairman may allow public presentations of oral statements at the meeting.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 99-23355 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers****Intent To Prepare Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS), Centralia-Chehalis Flood Damage Reduction Study, Lewis County Washington**

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is proposing to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Centralia-Chehalis Flood Damage Reduction Study. The government of Lewis County (Washington) requested this study because of significant flooding on the Chehalis River and its tributaries. An EIS is being prepared because of the potential for impacts on environmental resources, including the human environment. Potential impacts include those to wetlands, fish and wildlife habitat, cultural and historical resources, downstream flooding, and water quality. There is also intense public interest in addressing the flooding problems.

DATES: Persons or organizations wishing to submit scoping comments should do so by September 30, 1999. Public comment may also be made at the scoping meetings (dates and locations to be determined later). Notification of scoping meetings times and locations will be sent to all agencies, organizations and individuals on the project mailing list.

ADDRESSES: Requests for documents and all comments should be sent to: Kathleen Kunz, NEPA Coordinator, Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 3755 Seattle, Washington 98124-2255. ATTN: CENWS-PM-PL-ER, telephone (206) 764-3708.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions concerning the proposed action and the Draft EIS can be directed to: Kathleen Kunz, NEPA Coordinator or Forest Brooks, Project Manager, Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 3755, Seattle, Washington 98124-2255, ATTN: CENWS-PM-PL-ER, telephone (206) 764-3708.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**Background**

The Chehalis River basin is located in west central Washington, south of Olympia. The focus of the flood damage reduction study encompasses the cities of Centralia and Chehalis and the urbanizing areas immediately adjacent to the cities.

The cities of Centralia and Chehalis have been subject to repeated flooding for many years. This flooding has caused extensive damage to private and public property and periodic closure of critical transportation routes resulting in significant economic losses. Flood closures of the transportation routes have also significantly disrupted emergency response actions by local

governments. Stream habitat functions of the Chehalis River and its tributaries have been affected from long-term development throughout the Chehalis Basin. This has resulted in the diminishment of the remaining habitat resources to adequately support sustainable fish and wildlife resources. The losses of wetlands, riparian areas, and back channels have also contributed to increased flooding in the area. The purpose of the Centralia-Chehalis Flood Damage Reduction study is to reduce flood hazards in the project area, the cities of Centralia and Chehalis and the urbanizing area immediately adjacent, and to incorporate appropriate fish and wildlife habitat improvements. Flood hazards are defined as significant damage to existing structures, high risk to life, and extended closures of transportation corridors.

Authority for this study is contained in Section 401(a) of the 1986 Flood Control Act (PL-99-662). This section provided authorization for the construction of "works of improvement" substantially in accordance with the Report of the Chief of Engineers dated 20 June 1984.

Alternatives

The Corps has currently identified 6 alternative courses of action for analysis. This is a preliminary assessment of alternatives. We believe the scoping process and the study process will also identify additional alternatives:

1. *No Action.* Allow current conditions and programs to remain as currently planned.

2. *Authorized Project.* The project identified in the 1984 Chief of Engineers Report only included modifications at Skookumchuck Dam to provide flood storage. These included a 12-foot diameter, 1,200-foot-long low-level discharge tunnel and a steel gate on top of the spillway.

3. *Lewis County Alternative.* Lewis County has developed a plan that consists of three major elements: modifications at Skookumchuck Dam to provide flood storage (sluices through the spillway and a rubber weir-type gate on top of the spillway), overbank excavation near Centralia, and flood bypass measures near Chehalis.

4. *Check Dam Alternative.* This alternative that would consist of a series of flow restriction structures, strategically located on the mainstream and/or tributaries of the Chehalis River. These would temporarily store flood water on selected areas of the existing rural/agricultural floodplain and reduce flood peaks downstream. This alternative would not interfere with fish

passage during non-flood flows. Some possible sites include Chehalis River near Mellen Street, Salzer Creek, Chehalis River downstream of the South Fork, the lower South Fork, and Chehalis River upstream of the South Fork.

5. *Levee Alternative*. This alternative consists of a levee system to protect Bucoda, Centralia, Chehalis, and the immediate urbanized area.

6. *Non-Structural Alternative Measures*. This alternative would include such measures as such as flood warning system improvements, structure relocation, structure floodproofing, structure raising, bridge/road/railroad modifications, etc.

Scoping

Public involvement will be sought during scoping and preparation of the EIS in accordance with NEPA procedures. A public scoping process has been started to clarify issues of major concern, identify any information sources that might be available to analyze and evaluate impacts, and obtain public input on the range and acceptability of alternatives. This Notice of Intent formally commences the scoping process under NEPA. As part of the scoping process, all affected Federal, State and local agencies, Native American Nations, and other interested private organizations, including environmental groups, are invited to comment on the scope of the EIS. Comments are requested concerning project alternatives, probable significant environmental impacts, and permits or other approvals that may be required.

The Corps has identified the following key areas so far to be analyzed in depth in the draft EIS:

- (1) Flooding Characteristics
- (2) Impacts to Fish and Wildlife Habitat
- (3) Impacts to Wetlands
- (4) Impacts to Riparian Areas
- (5) Impacts to Cultural and Historical Resources
- (6) Social and Economic Concerns
- (7) Transportation
- (8) Hazardous Materials

Scoping Meeting

Opportunity to comment will also be available at the project scoping meeting that has yet to be scheduled. Details of the meeting time and location will be announced in the local media. Notices will be sent to all agencies, organizations and individuals on the EIS mailing list.

Availability of the Draft EIS

The Corps expects to complete preparation of the draft EIS and have

review copies of it available by December 2000.

James M. Rigshy,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 99-23354 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) for the Kennedy-Bechara Segment of the Authorized Río Puerto Nuevo (Puerto Rico) Flood Control Project

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is finalizing the design for the Kennedy-Bechara segment of the existing Federal flood control project at Río Puerto Neuvo, located in San Juan and Guaynabo, Puerto Rico, and is considering several alternatives to provide the authorized 100 year level of protection in this area. New alternatives have been developed that may eliminate the need for pumps or other mechanical drainage. A Draft Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (D-SEIS) will be prepared for the project.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and Draft EIS can be answered by Ms. Barbara Cintron, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Planning Division, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, Florida 32232-0019; Telephone 904-232-1692.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The proposed action consists of design changes to one segment of the Congressionally authorized Río Puerto Nuevo Federal flood control project, located in San Juan, Puerto Rico. This large project was documented in a Final Environmental Impact Statement in 1984, and has been under construction since 1995. Detailed construction design is completed in stages, following the guidance of the General Design memorandum (GDM) published in 1991, and an Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (EA/FONSI) published in 1993. At this time alternative detailed designs are being considered for the Kennedy-Bechara area. New data and a re-evaluation of previous designs for the area led to development of new alternatives for this segment. Alternatives so far developed

include the "base plan" as discussed in the GDM, and three additional options, two involving gravity drainage and one involving pumped drainage.

2. Alternatives under consideration involve spatial and structural variations in project features that would convey storm runoff to the receiving body (San Juan Bay). Associated with each alternative, there may be tradeoffs in the project cost, operation and maintenance requirements, and adverse effects on natural and manmade features of the environment, including effects on wetlands and other natural and cultural resources.

3. A scoping letter will be used to invite comments on alternatives and issues from Federal, Commonwealth and local agencies, and other interested private organizations and individuals. A public scoping meeting has not been scheduled at this time but may be requested and will be scheduled if the degree of public interest appears to warrant it.

4. The D-SEIS will analyze issues related to flood reduction potential, water quality, wetlands impacts, excavated material disposal alternatives, infrastructure effects, cultural resources impacts, socio-economic impacts and effects on the San Juan Bay Estuary System.

5. The alternative flood control features will be reviewed under the provisions of appropriate laws and regulations, including the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Clean Water Act, Clean Air Act, and the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Management and Conservation Act.

6. The D-SEIS is expected to be available for public review in the last quarter of Calendar Year 1999.

James C. Duck,

Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 99-23356 Filed 9-8-99; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

Determination to Establish the Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee

Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463, and Title 41, Code of Federal Regulations, Subpart 101-6, Final Rule on Federal Advisory Committee Management), I hereby certify the Advanced Scientific Computing Advisory Committee is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Department of