

to COL John B. O'Dowd, District Engineer, at the above address.

**Luz D. Ortiz,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for a Dredged Material Management Plan for the Port of Baltimore, Chesapeake Bay, MD

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, the Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) will conduct a study to evaluate the dredged material placement needs and opportunities for the Port of Baltimore, Maryland and develop a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP). The study area encompasses the Baltimore Harbor and the Chesapeake Bay approach channels, which extend from the mouth of the Bay in Virginia to Chesapeake and Delaware Canal, in the upper Bay, Maryland/Delaware. The purpose of the plan is to develop a long-term strategy for providing viable placement alternatives that meet the dredging needs of the Port of Baltimore Federal channels and include consideration of state and local dredging needs. The DMMP study will be evaluated through the preparation of a tiered EIS. As part of the process, the goals and objectives of the study will be clearly determined by all study participants. The DMMP will identify the quantity of material to be dredged from the Federal channels and how the dredged material can be managed in an economically and environmentally acceptable manner. Priority will be given to beneficial uses of the material. Beneficial uses include, but are not limited to, restoration of underwater grasses, islands, wetlands, shorelines, or fish and shellfish habitat. The DMMP will identify, evaluate, screen, prioritize, and ultimately optimize placement alternatives resulting in the recommendation of a plan for the placement of dredged materials for at least the next 20 years. The Baltimore District is actively seeking public opinion and advice to be incorporated into the plan. To this end, three public

scoping meetings are planned throughout the study area. The meetings are tentatively scheduled at 7:00 p.m. for the following dates, in the following locations: Wednesday, June 12, 2002 at Queen Anne's County Library in Stevensville, MD; Tuesday, June 18, 2002 at Community College of Baltimore County, Dundalk Campus, Campus Community Center, in Baltimore, MD; and Thursday, June 20, 2002 at Anne Arundel Community College, Lecture Hall 101, in Arnold, MD.

The study will be conducted in compliance with Section 404 and Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the Clear Air Act, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act, Prime and Unique Farmlands, the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System Act. All appropriate documentation (i.e., Section 7, section 106 coordination letters, and public and agency comments) will be obtained and included as part of the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and draft EIS can be addressed to Ms. Michele Bistany, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CENAB-PL, 10 South Howard Street, PO Box 1715, Baltimore, MD 21203-1715, telephone 410-962-4934; e-mail address: [michele.a.bistany@usace.army.mil](mailto:michele.a.bistany@usace.army.mil).

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. The Baltimore District Corps of Engineers is responsible for the maintenance of navigation channels in the Chesapeake Bay and Patapsco River known as the Baltimore Harbor and Channels project. Maintenance of these channels requires the annual placement of approximately 4.5 million cubic yards of dredged material. The DMMP study will include an associated programmatic tiered EIS to allow for identification of a suite of options or projects for future detailed study in order to provide for long-term optimized capacity of dredged material. The tiered EIS allows all interested parties the opportunity to participate in the process from inception. It also includes adequate environmental analysis so that future NEPA documentation can be based on a solid foundation.

2. The USACE, Engineering Regulation (ER) 1105-2-100 mandates that the Corps Districts develop DMMP plans for all Federal harbor projects where there is an indication of insufficient capacity to accommodate maintenance dredging for the next 20

years. The ER further states that the Districts are encouraged to consider options that provide opportunities for beneficial uses of dredged material for environmental purposes including habitat restoration. The DMMP process began with a Preliminary Assessment that was completed in September 2001. The Preliminary Assessment identified placement option shortfalls within the next 8-10 year time frame.

3. As part of the EIS process, recommendations of placement sites and options for dredged material management will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for the protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which may reasonably be expected to accrue from the proposal, will be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, among there are wetlands; fish and wildlife resources; cultural resources; land use; water and air quality; hazardous, toxic, and radioactive substances; threatened and endangered species; regional geology; aesthetics; environmental justice; and the general needs and welfare of the public.

4. The draft EIS for the DMMP is expected for public release in late 2004.

**Mr. Kevin Bunker,**

*Assistant Chief, Planning Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare an Integrated Draft Project Implementation Report/ Environmental Impact Statement for the Southern Golden Gate Estates Hydrologic Restoration

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Jacksonville District intends to prepare an integrated Draft Project Implementation Report/ Environmental Impact Statement (DPIR/ EIS) for the Southern Golden Gate Estates Hydrologic Restoration (SGGEHR). This DPIR/EIS is a cooperative effort between the Corps and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD). The SGGEHR planning process is authorized

under Section 601 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000 as part of the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). The objective of this project is to restore the hydrology of Southern Golden Gate Estates (SGGE) to that which existed prior to the 1960's real estate subdivision. Development of SGGE created approximately 20,000 separate parcels of land, 70 miles of drainage canals, and 290 miles of roads. Elimination of the home sites, plugging of the canals, reduction in the number of miles of roadway, and the reestablishment of a more natural hydrology are expected to restore native plant communities and improve habitat for fish and wildlife resources.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** John Kremer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Environmental Branch, PO Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL, 32232-0019, by e-mail [john.g.kremer@usace.army.mil](mailto:john.g.kremer@usace.army.mil), or by telephone at 904-232-3551.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

a. *Authorization:* The Southern Golden Gate Estates Hydrologic Restoration PMP and PIR planning process is authorized under Section 601 of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 2000 as part of the Central and Southern Florida (C&SF) Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP).

b. *Study Area:* Southern Golden Gate Estates encompasses an area of approximately 94 square miles (60,160 acres) in southwestern Collier County, Florida. It is located between Interstate 75 and U.S. Highway 41. SGGE is located southwest of the Florida Panther National Wildlife Refuge, north of the Ten Thousand Islands Aquatic Preserve and the Ten Thousand Islands National Wildlife Refuge, east of the Belle Meade State Conservation and Recreation Lands Project Area, and west of the Fakahatchee Strand State Preserve. In combination with the Belle Meade tract SGGE will be managed as the Picayune Strand State Forest. Northern Golden Gate Estates (NGGE) lies across Interstate 75 to the north of SGGE.

c. *Project Scope:* Implementation of this project would restore a more natural hydrology in Southern Golden Gate Estates by reintroducing sheet flow, reestablishing historic flow ways, reducing runoff through increased evaporation and groundwater recharge, and by replacing point source discharges from the Faka Union Canal with distributed flow to tidal coastal marshes along U.S. highway 41. The proposed project would plug the canals,

reduce the number of miles of roadway, and reestablish a more natural hydrology. Accomplishment of these objectives is expected to restore historic native plant communities and improve habitat for fish and wildlife resources.

d. *Preliminary Alternatives:* The DPIR/EIS will evaluate alternative structural and non-structural measures to modify the existing water management system of SGGE to accomplish the following objectives: Establish more uniform freshwater flows to estuaries, restore historic hydro patterns, restore wetland and upland communities, reduce habitat for invasive non-native species, increase aquifer recharge, restore ecological connectivity among public lands, restore habitat for listed species, increase fish and wildlife resources, restore the natural fire regime, remediate or remove chemical contaminants, maintain existing level of flood protection, and maintain appropriate access for managing agencies and public users of the state forest.

e. *Issues:* The integrated DPIR/EIS will address the following issues: restoration of wetlands and upland ecosystems; water flows; future environmental and urban water demand and supply; socio-economic resources; aquifer recharge; water quality; impacts to the estuaries; flood protection; aesthetics and recreation; fish and wildlife resources, state and federal protected species; cultural resources; and other impacts identified through further scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

f. *Scoping:* The SGGE project has had a long history of public and interagency involvement dating back to the 1978 Congressional authorization for the Corps to prepare a Golden Gate Estates (GGE) Feasibility Study. The Corps published the GGE Feasibility Study in 1986. In February of 1996 the Big Cypress Basin/South Florida Water Management District submitted the "Hydrologic Restoration of Southern Golden Gate Estates—Conceptual Plan" to the Governor of Florida. In January 1997 the Interagency Technical Advisory Committee (ITAC) convened with representatives from the Corps, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Geological Survey, FDEP, Florida Game and Fresh Water Fish Commission and others, to provide input and assistance for the Cooperative Watershed Planning Assistance Study led by USDA-NRCS and SFWMD. NRCS published this study in September 2001. In September 2000, utilizing the expertise of the ITAC, the Corps and SFWMD jointly initiated the development of a Project

Management Plan (PMP) for the SGGE restoration project. The PMP was presented to the Big Cypress Basin Board of Directors at a public meeting in February of 2001. During the past 24 years local and state agencies have held numerous meetings to gather input on issues and opportunities involving the restoration of SGGE.

g. *DPIR/EIS Preparation:* The integrated DPIR/EIS is scheduled for publication in June 2005.

Dated: May 8, 2002.

**George M. Strain,**

*Acting Chief, Planning Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA 84.184B]

### Mentoring Programs; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2002

*Purpose of Program:* This program provides assistance to promote mentoring programs for children with greatest need that: (1) Assist these children in receiving support and guidance from a mentor; (2) improve the academic performance of the children; (3) improve interpersonal relationships between the children and their peers, teachers, other adults, and family members; (4) reduce the dropout rate of the children; and (5) reduce the children's juvenile delinquency and involvement in gangs.

*Eligible Applicants:* (1) Local educational agencies (LEAs); (2) nonprofit, community-based organizations (CBOs), which may include faith-based organizations; and (3) a partnership between an LEA and a CBO.

**Note:** We strongly encourage partnerships between LEAs and CBOs that propose school-based mentoring programs.

*Applications Available:* May 24, 2002.

*Deadline for Transmittal of*

*Applications:* July 2, 2002.

*Deadline for Intergovernmental*

*Review:* September 2, 2002.

*Estimated Available Funds:*

\$17,500,000.

*Estimated Range of Awards:*

\$100,000–\$200,000.

*Estimated Average Size of Awards:*

\$150,000.

*Estimated Number of Awards:* 115.

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

*Project Period:* Up to 36 months.

*Applicable Regulations:* (a) The Education Department General