

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers****Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Raritan Bay-Sandy Hook Bay, Port Monmouth, New Jersey**

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for proposed measures to provide flood control and storm damage protection in Port Monmouth, New Jersey. For this Notice of Intent, the Corps is considering protection measures to reduce damages caused by flooding and coastal storms. The EIS will be prepared according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (NEPA) 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), and consistent with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' policy to facilitate public understanding and scrutiny of agency proposals. This notice of intent is published as required by the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the provisions of NEPA, 40 CFR Parts 1500–1508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding the action can be addressed to Mark H. Burlas, Project Environmental Manager, phone (212) 264-4663, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, Planning Division, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, New York 10278-0090.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. *Authorization.* The Raritan Bay-Sandy Hook Bay flood control and shore protection project was authorized by the U.S. House of Representatives, Committee of Public Works and Transportation, adopted August 1, 1990.

2. *Location of the Proposed Action.* The project area is located in the Port Monmouth section of Middletown Township, Monmouth County, New Jersey. The study area is approximately 1.5 miles long and is bounded by Comptons Creek to the east, Pews Creek to the west, New Jersey State Highway 36 to the south and the Raritan Bay-Sandy Hook Bay to the north.

3. *Reasonable Alternative Actions.* In addition to the "No Action" alternative, the flood control component of the feasibility study will evaluate

alternatives such as buy-outs, storm gates and floodwalls to avoid and minimize impacts to coastal wetlands, as well as various levee layouts and heights. The shore protection component will analyze alternatives such as the expansion of existing dunes and various improvements to existing beaches.

4. *Significant Issues Requiring In-Depth Analysis.* 1. Coastal Wetlands Impacts; 2. Impacts to Aquatic Resources; 3. Archaeological and Cultural Resources Impacts; 4. Hydrology Impacts; 5. Economic Impacts.

5. *Environmental Review and Consultation.* Review will be conducted as outlined in the Council on Environmental Quality regulations dated November 29, 1983 (40 CFR Parts 1500–108) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers regulation ER 200–2–2 dated March 4, 1988.

6. *Estimated Date of DEIS Availability:* July 1998.

Gregory D. Showalter,

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 (DEIS) for the Truckee Meadows, Nevada General Reevaluation Report**

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), lead agency under the National Environmental Policy Act intends to prepare a draft EIS evaluating the environmental effects of flood control, environmental restoration, and recreation proposed for Truckee Meadows, Sparks, and downtown Reno. The Corps is working with Washoe County and the cities of Reno and Sparks to provide this protection.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions concerning the proposed action and draft EIS should be addressed to Ms. Patricia Roberson, Planning Division, Environmental Resources Branch, Corps of Engineers, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, California 95814–2922, telephone (916) 557–6705.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. *Project Location:* The Truckee River basin in eastern California and western Nevada encompasses about 3,060 square miles. The drainage area upstream from Reno includes 1,067 square miles of mountainous terrain on the eastern slope of the Sierra Nevada, the crest of which forms the western boundary of the basin. The primary study area includes the Truckee River in Washoe and Storey Counties, Nevada, at and below Reno, Sparks, and the Truckee Meadows. The Truckee Meadows encompasses an area along the Truckee River from the central part of Reno on the west to the Virginia and Pah Pah Mountain Ranges on the east, south along Steamboat Creek to Huffaker Hills, and includes Sparks to the north.

2. *Proposed Action and Alternatives:* Alternatives to address resource problems and needs identified to date will include: (1) flood control improvements along the Truckee River in the Truckee Meadows, (2) non-structural flood control measures through downtown Reno, (3) improving Lake Tahoe operation for flood control, (4) environmental restoration measures, and (5) recreation features.

3. Scoping Process:

a. "Scoping" is a process to identify the action, alternatives, and effects to be evaluated in an environmental document. The public is invited to assist the Corps and non-Federal sponsor in scoping this EIS. The process provides an opportunity for the public to identify significant resources with the study area that may be affected by the project. To facilitate this involvement, a public scoping meeting will be held in Reno, Nevada on June 10, 1998, from 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at the Washoe County Department of Water Resources, 4930 Energy Way, Reno, Nevada. Individuals, organizations, and agencies are also encouraged to submit written scoping comments by July 10, 1998.

b. After the draft EIS is prepared, it will be circulated to all interested parties for review and comment. Public meetings will be held to receive verbal and written comments. All comments will be considered and responded to in the final EIS.

4. *Availability:* The draft EIS is scheduled to be distributed for public review and comment in spring 1999.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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