

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed project includes upgrading an existing training range to a modern digitized multi-purpose training range; construction of a series of landing zones, drop zones and maneuver areas and a grassed C130 landing strip; upgrade of existing roads; installation of fiber optics and other infrastructure improvements. The facilities would prepare the mounted force warriors for full spectrum combat operations. The proposed facilities would fully support new equipment training such as the M1A2 Main Battle Tank (MBT) Systems Enhancement Package (SEP), the M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and the Light Armored Vehicle (LAV III), as well as other enhanced vehicles requiring digital capability. These vehicles are equipped with a dynamic new computer system that uses digital technology to provide soldiers with on the move and instantaneous battlefield communications. The Notice of Intent for the proposed project was published in the **Federal Register** (65 FR 31534, May 18, 2000).

Submit electronic comments and data by sending via electronic mail (email) to Linda.Pollock@knox.army.mil. Submit comments as an ASCII file avoiding the use of special characters and any form of encryption. Fort Knox also accepts data on disks in Microsoft Word 2000 file format or ASCII format.

Individuals who wish to review the DEIS may examine a copy at any of the following locations: Barr Library, 400 Quartermaster Street, Fort Knox, Kentucky 40121-5000 and Ridgeway Memorial Library, 127 North Walnut Street, P.O. Box 146, Shepherdsville, Kentucky 40165.

The DEIS has also been distributed to Federal, state, and local regulatory agencies, known interested organizations, and those individuals who have requested it.

Dated: May 17, 2001.

Raymond J. Fatz,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (I&E)

[FR Doc. 01-12981 Filed 5-22-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Availability of the Proposed Army Alternate Procedures Regarding the Protection of Army Historic Properties and Environmental Assessment/Finding of No Significant Impact for the Adoption of the Army Alternate Procedures

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This announces the availability of the Army Alternate Procedures (AAP) to 36 CFR Part 800: Protection of Army Historic Properties and Environmental Assessment (EA)/ Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the adoption of the AAP. The Army intends to sign the FONSI unless public comments identify significant impacts or issues that have not been considered. The AAP is an optional procedure that an installation may choose to adopt to satisfy compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) in lieu of the existing regulations set forth in the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation's (Council) regulations at 36 CFR Part 800. The Army and the Council have consulted extensively with State Historic Preservation Officers, Indian tribes and Native Hawaiian organizations, and the National Trust for Historic Preservation throughout the development of the AAP. The EA gives full consideration and adoption of alternate procedures as the proposed action, and two reasonable alternatives to the proposed action.

DATES: Submit comments on or before June 22, 2001.

ADDRESSES: To obtain copies of the proposed AAP, the EA, and FONSI, contact the U.S. Army Environmental Center, ATTN: SFIM-AEC-PA (Joe Ricci), Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21010-5401.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Chuck Wright at (703) 693-0675.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The proposed action is the adoption of the proposed AAP for compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA and for comprehensive management and preservation of historic properties on lands owned or controlled by the Department of the Army. The AAP, once adopted, would stand in place of the project-by-project review procedures set forth in 36 CFR Part 800. The AAP's build upon and rely on the internal policy requirement for installations to prepare Integrated Cultural Resource Management Plans in accordance with

Army Regulation 200-4, Cultural Resources Management, as implemented by more detailed guidance in Department of the Army Pamphlet 200-4. The AAP's would authorize Army installation commanders to develop Historic Property Components (HPC) to the installation's Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP). Once certified by the Council, the HPC would serve as the installation's Section 106 compliance agreement for a five (5) year period. The installation's Section 106 compliance responsibilities would be met through implementation of the HPC rather than case-by-case, formalized, external review of individual undertakings as presently required by 36 CFR Part 800. Installations choosing not to develop certified HPC's would continue to review undertakings in accordance with 36 CFR Part 800.

The EA considered, evaluated and assessed alternatives: (a) The No Action Alternative (continued project-by-project review under 36 CFR Part 800); (b) The Programmatic Agreement (PA) Alternative (adoption of an agency policy encouraging the use of PA's under existing regulations to implement the historic preservation portions of an installation's ICRMP); and (c) the proposed action alternative (adoption of the AAP's). Consideration of the alternatives analyzed in the EA leads to the Army's decision to adopt the AAP's. The No Action Alternative would allow a continued ad-hoc approach to compliance with Section 106 and management of historic properties. With the anticipated growth in the Army's historic properties inventory, continued review of undertakings on a case-by-case basis will likely remain inefficient and lead to increased program costs. The PA Alternative better meets the stated purpose and need since it would provide a programmatic basis for Section 106 compliance, relying on an installation's ICRMP. The Army's past experience with PA's, however, is that they have not been effective in resolving adverse effects, and, generally result in reversion to case-by-case, formalized, external review when such effects are identified. The proposed action (i.e., AAP's) more squarely meets the stated purpose and need for action. The AAP's more squarely meets the stated purpose and need for action. The AAP's build on the present management approach established by Army Regulation 200-4 and leverage the existing Army historic properties management policy, programs and participants. Management in this manner will facilitate overall Army

compliance with Section 106; and, will otherwise provide the agency with the ability to act as a more responsible steward for historic properties entrusted to its care.

Copies of the AAP, EA and FONSI can also be found on the Council's web site at www.achp.gov/army.html.

Dated: May 17, 2001.

Raymond J. Fatz,

*Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army,
(Environment, Safety, and Occupational Health) OASA(I&E).*

[FR Doc. 01-13008 Filed 5-22-01; 8:45 am]

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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 July 23, 2001.

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: May 17, 2001.

John Tressler,

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

Office of Postsecondary Education

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Notice Inviting Proposals for participation in the Experimental Sites Initiative.

Frequency: One time.

Affected Public: Individuals or household; Not-for-profit institutions; State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 500.

Burden Hours: 2,500.

Abstract: The Secretary invites proposals to reinvent the administration of Federal student assistance programs through the use of the experimental sites authority (Section 487A(b)) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended. The program is intended to encourage institutions to develop innovative strategies to improve Title IV program administration.

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. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_IMG_Issues@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 Joseph Schubart at (202) 708-9266 or via his internet address Joe.Schubart@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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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

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