

pockets of native coastal sage scrub, riparian vegetation, and a high level of human-induced disturbance, especially during the last 20 to 30 years. A prominent result of changes in the watershed has been a significant increase in sediment yield in response to higher volumes of runoff and an increased sediment supply throughout the watershed. Increased sedimentation has adversely affected the local habitat communities of Goat Canyon and downstream within the Tijuana River Estuary. By the mid-1980s, it was estimated that erosion and sedimentation had resulted in the loss of 30 acres of intertidal wetland area in the Tijuana River Estuary. The composition and distribution of native habitat communities along the creek and on the alluvial fan have been altered, as has the morphology of the creek. Further, during storm events, sediment is deposited on Monument Road, which in turn blocks public access to Border Field State Park and impedes the U.S. Border Patrol.

On August 10, 2000, the National Ocean Service published in the **Federal Register** a Notice of Intent to prepare a joint Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report (Vol. 65 No. 155, 48971-48972). The stated intent of the proposed project was to enhance the existing Goat Canyon Creek and its natural habitat communities, including the Tijuana River Estuary, through the management of sediment within the canyon and on the adjacent alluvial fan. A notice announcing the availability of the draft EIS/EIR was published on October 12, 2001.

The final EIS/EIR examines the potential effects of the No Project Alternative and four project alternatives for construction of a sedimentation retention system within Goat Canyon and the alluvial fan. NOAA has identified Alternative D-1 as the Preferred Alternative based on an evaluation of the comparison of the impacts between the alternatives.

Alternative D-1 features an in-canyon diversion structure and sedimentation basin system consisting of two basins in series to capture the flow in Goat Canyon Creek. The system has been designed to contain the full 100-year flood event. The Preferred Alternative also involves construction of access roads around the basins, staging areas adjacent to the basins, a visual berm located between the basins and Monument Road, improvements to part of Monument Road and a multi-purpose trail, and creation of wetland habitat. The Preferred Alternative would be the most efficient at capturing sediment and would result in the least impacts to

sensitive wetland habitats and endangered species.

Document Availability

Copies of the final EIS/EIR are available for review at the California State Parks, San Diego Coast District Office, 9609 Waples, Suite 200, San Diego, California, 92108, (858) 642-4200, the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve at 301 Caspian Way, Imperial Beach, California 91932, (619) 575-3613, and at the Imperial Beach Public Library, 810 Imperial Beach Boulevard, Imperial Beach, 91932, (619) 424-6981.

Federal Domestic Assistance Catalog Number 11.420 (Coastal Zone Management) Research Reserves

Dated: December 21, 2001.

Alan Neuschatz,

Associate Assistant Administrator for Management, Ocean Services and Coastal Zone Management.

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DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

[I.D. 120701C]

Pacific Fishery Management Council; Public Meeting

AGENCY: National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), Commerce.

ACTION: Notice of public meeting and cancellation of public meeting.

SUMMARY: The Pacific Fishery Management Council's (Council) Ad Hoc Groundfish Multi-Year Management Committee (GMMC) will hold a work session, which is open to the public. A previously noticed meeting of the GMMC is canceled.

DATES: The GMMC meeting noticed for Thursday, January 10, 2002, and Friday, January 11, 2002, is cancelled (see 66 FR 64954, December 17, 2001). Instead, the GMMC will meet Thursday, January 31, 2002, from 10 a.m. until 5 p.m.; and Friday, February 1, 2002, from 8 a.m. until business for the day is completed.

ADDRESSES: The work session will be held at the Pacific Fishery Management Council, West Conference Room, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220; telephone: 503-326-6352.

Council address: Pacific Fishery Management Council, 7700 NE Ambassador Place, Suite 200, Portland, OR 97220.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Dan Waldeck or Dr. Don McIsaac, Pacific Fishery Management Council, 503-326-6352.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The formation of this ad hoc committee is in response to the Council's request for a committee to scope multi-year management approaches for the West Coast groundfish fishery. Multi-year management of the groundfish fishery would be synchronized with a multi-year groundfish stock assessment schedule. Full accommodation of federal notice and comment requirements would also be incorporated into the multi-year cycle. This is the second meeting of the committee, and the primary purpose of the meeting is to further develop the purpose and objectives of multi-year management, as well as alternative multi-year management approaches.

Although nonemergency issues not contained in the GMMC meeting agenda may come before the GMMC for discussion, those issues may not be the subject of formal GMMC action during the meeting. GMMC action will be restricted to those issues specifically listed in this document and any issues arising after publication of this document that require emergency action under section 305(c) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, provided the public has been notified of the GMMC's intent to take final action to address the emergency.

Special Accommodations

The meeting is physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Ms. Carolyn Porter at 503-326-6352 at least 5 days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: December 31, 2001.

Dean Swanson,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Sand and Gravel Dredging on the Allegheny and Ohio Rivers, Pennsylvania

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