

and Ecosystem Restoration will continue as a separate and complete document.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the combined Feasibility Report and joint EIS/EIR can be answered by Erin Taylor at (916) 557-6862 or by mail at U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, ATTN: Erin Taylor, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922, or e-mail: Erin.A.Taylor@usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action

The combined Feasibility Report and joint EIS/EIR will evaluate ways to reduce the risk of flooding and restore the Sacramento River's connection with its flood plain, natural flood plain processes, and riparian and associated flood plain habitat.

2. Alternatives

Alternatives include the no-action, reinforcing the existing levee, several setback levee alignments at some distance from the river, and flood-proofing or relocating structures at risk of flooding, with different habitat configurations and methods of establishment. Maximum area of potential effect is estimated to be 2,600 acres currently held by a combination of private, State, and Federal agencies. Fee title and/or conservation and flood easements would likely be required to implement any project. The Corps will conduct site-specific hydrologic, hydraulic and geotechnical analyses, to determine the most suitable potential levee alignments and the feasibility of repairing the existing levee in place. The Feasibility Study will focus on the economic feasibility and will run a risk analysis of the alternatives. Ecosystem restoration would consist of either planting native habitat or allowing native habitats to establish naturally in the area between any new levee and the river. Selection of a preferred alternative will depend on the result of these studies and the desires of the local community.

3. Scoping Process

a. This notice re-initiates the scoping process whereby the Corps and the Board will identify the scope of issues to be addressed in the EIS/EIR and identify the significant environmental issues related to the flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration at Hamilton City. The Corps and the Board have initiated a process of involving Federal, State, and local agencies, and concerned individuals under the Comprehensive Study.

b. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth include; agricultural resources, air quality, biological resources, cultural resources, geology and soils, hazardous, toxic, and radioactive materials, hydrology and water quality, and land use.

4. Public Meeting Scoping

Community meeting will be held during scoping, after the release of the draft EIS/EIR, and after release of the final EIS/EIR. A public scoping meeting will be held the week of January 6, 2003. The purpose of the meeting is to explain the NOI/NOP, and to solicit suggestions, recommendations, and comments to help refine the issues, measures, and alternatives to be addressed in the EIS/EIR. The public is asked to submit any issues (points of concern, dispute or disagreement) regarding potential effects of the proposed action or alternatives by mail to Corps (see **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT** above for address).

5. Availability

The draft EIS/EIR is scheduled to be available for public review and comment in August 2003. The comment period on the draft EIS/EIR will be 45 days from the date the notice of availability is published in the **Federal Register** by the Environmental Protection Agency. All interested parties should respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the draft EIS/EIR circulation and future scoping meeting dates.

Dated: November 26, 2002.

Michael J. Conrad, Jr.,
Col, EN, Commanding.

[FR Doc. 02-31456 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-EZ-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers Comprehensive Plan

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) is preparing a Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Upper Mississippi River Comprehensive Plan to identify problems, opportunities, and potential measures to reduce flood

damages in the floodplains of the Upper Mississippi and Illinois Rivers. A Programmatic EIS will be prepared to address potential effects of any recommendations for further action resulting from this study effort, and to provide a broad review of general issues for incorporation by reference in subsequent National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents, if future actions are undertaken as a result of recommendations in the Comprehensive Plan.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and Draft Programmatic EIS can be answered by: David R. Gates, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Louis District (CEMVS-PM-F), 1222 Spruce Street, St. Louis, MO 63103, telephone (314) 331-8478, or by Charlene Carmack, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District (CEMVR-PM-A), Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004, Rock Island, IL 61204-2004, telephone (309) 794-5570.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: 1. Section 459 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 directed the Secretary of the Army to develop a plan to address water resource and related land resource problems in the study area in the interest of systemic flood damage reduction. Section 459 also directed the Secretary to submit a report to Congress detailing the results of this planning effort and addressing recommendations for authorization of further Federal actions or follow-on studies concerning systemic flood control.

The Comprehensive Plan will be developed as a collaborative effort among three Corps Districts (St. Paul, Rock Island, and St. Louis); other Federal agencies (including the Federal Emergency Management Agency [FEMA], the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service [USFWS], the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency [USEPA], the U.S. Geological Survey [USGS], and the U.S. Department of Agriculture [USDA]); the States of Illinois, Iowa, Minnesota, Missouri, and Wisconsin; and appropriate non-Federal organizations. The plan will identify future management actions and make recommendations for systemic improvements that provide flood damage reduction and associated environmental benefits.

The Comprehensive Plan will include recommendations addressing: (1) Construction of a systemic multipurpose water resources and flood management/damage reduction project; (2) floodplain management alternatives; and (3) follow-on design and construction

requirements. This plan will include overall systemic recommendations, not optimized recommendations for specific sites. Follow-on implementation studies, including NEPA documentation, would be necessary at specific sites where additional analysis is required to develop the National Economic Development (NED) plan. Site-specific NEPA documentation would be tiered from the Programmatic EIS currently in preparation and would be developed in association with follow-on implementation studies, preconstruction engineering and design (PED).

2. Alternatives, including both structural and nonstructural measures, will be identified and investigated for their potential to accomplish systemic flood damage reduction. It is anticipated that between three to five systemic flood damage reduction alternatives will be formulated and evaluated for their potential to contribute to National Ecosystem Development.

3. *Scoping:* This notice solicits input and assistance from the interested public and invites participation by affected Federal and State agencies having special jurisdiction and/or expertise.

An initial set of public meetings (open house format) was held September 9–12 in St. Louis, MO; Quincy, IL; Peoria, IL; and Dubuque, IA. These meetings were announced in mailed newsletters (also posted on the study Web site <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/UMRCP/>) as scoping meetings intended to help fulfill the scoping requirements of the NEPA, as well as overall study scoping requirements.

4. The scoping process is expected to continue through December 2002 to facilitate early input to the NEPA process and identify significant issues to be evaluated in depth in the Programmatic EIS.

5. Based on current study schedules, the Draft Programmatic EIS is anticipated to be available for public review late in the first quarter of Calendar Year 2004.

Dated: October 25, 2002.

William J. Bayles,
Colonel, EN, Commanding.

[FR Doc. 02-31452 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-HV-M

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory 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 February 11, 2003.

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 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: December 9, 2002.

John D. Tressler,
Leader, Regulatory Management Group,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.

Office of Elementary and Secondary Education

Type of Review: Reinstatement.

Title: Annual Performance Reporting Form for Office of Indian Education (OIE) Local Grantees.

Frequency: Annually.

Affected Public: State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 1,272.

Burden Hours: 17,808.

Abstract: Application for funding for Indian Education discretionary programs of Demonstration Grants for Indian Children and Professional Development. The information is used to determine applicant eligibility and amount of awards for projects selected for funding.

Written requests for information should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651 or to the e-mail address vivian_reese@ed.gov. Requests may also be 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 Kathy Axt at her e-mail address Kathy.Axt@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.

[FR Doc. 02-31405 Filed 12-12-02; 8:45 am]
BILLING CODE 4000-01-P

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory 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 February 11, 2003.

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 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,