

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army****In Accordance With Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App 2.), Announcement Is Made of the Following Committee Meeting: Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation Board of Visitors; Meeting****AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth the schedule and summary agenda for the annual meeting of the Board of Visitors (BoV) for the Western Hemisphere Institute for Security Cooperation (WHINSEC). Notice of this meeting is required under the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463). The Board's charter was renewed on March 18, 2010 in compliance with the requirements set forth in Title 10 U.S.C. 2166.

**DATES:** Tuesday–Wednesday, September 27–28, 2011.*Time:* Tuesday—8 a.m. to 3 p.m. and Wednesday—8 a.m. to 12 p.m.*Location:* 7161 Richardson Circle, Fort Benning, Georgia.

*Proposed Agenda:* The WHINSEC BoV will be briefed on activities at the Institute since the last Board meeting on December 3rd, 2010, as well as receive other information appropriate to its interests.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

WHINSEC Board of Visitors Secretariat at (703) 614-8721.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The meeting is open to the public. Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 and 41 CFR 102-3.140(c), members of the public or interested groups may submit written statements to the advisory committee for consideration by the committee members. Written statements should be no longer than two type-written pages and sent via fax to (703) 614-8920 by 5 p.m. E.S.T. on Monday, September 19th, 2011, for consideration at this meeting.

In addition, public comments by individuals and organizations may be made from 9:30 to 9:45 a.m. during the meeting on 27 September. Public comments will be limited to three minutes each. Anyone desiring to make an oral statement must register by sending a fax to (703) 614-8920 with his/her name, phone number, email address, and the full text of his/her comments (no longer than two typewritten pages) by 5 p.m. E.S.T. on Monday, September 19th, 2011. The first five requestors will be notified by

5 p.m. E.S.T. on Friday, September 23rd, 2011, of their time to address the Board during the public comment forum. All other comments will be retained for the record. Public seating is limited and will be available on a first-come, first-served basis.

**Scott P. Caldwell,***Executive Secretary, Department of the Army Civilian, WHINSEC Board of Visitors.*

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**BILLING CODE M****DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Navy****Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/Legislative Environmental Impact Statement for Renewal of the Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake Public Land Withdrawal, California and To Announce Public Scoping Meetings****AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy (DoN), with the cooperation of the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/Legislative Environmental Impact Statement (EIS/LEIS) to evaluate the potential environmental effects associated with the continued withdrawal of approximately 1.1 million acres of public land in Kern, Inyo, and San Bernardino counties, California. This public land withdrawal comprises the current North and South ranges at Naval Air Weapons Station China Lake (NAWSCL). The proposed land withdrawal extension will allow the DoN to continue defense-related research, development, test and evaluation (RDT&E) and training missions at NAWSCL, in addition to other land uses.

The California Military Lands Withdrawal and Overflights Act of 1994 (Pub. L. 103-433, part of the California Desert Protection Act) withdrew and reserved the lands known then as the China Lake Naval Weapons Center (subsequently renamed NAWSCL) for defense-related purposes for a period of 20 years (until October 14, 2014). The Act provides that the DoN may seek extension of the withdrawal of such lands. As a part of the withdrawal

process, the Secretary of the Navy is required to publish a draft EIS addressing the effects of continued withdrawal and hold public hearings in order to receive public comments on the proposal by October 12, 2012. The NAWSCL EIS/LEIS will examine current and proposed land uses in support of the DoN's military mission. The EIS/LEIS will specifically focus on those military land uses granted to the DoN under Public Law 103-433 that include: (1) Use as an RDT&E laboratory; (2) use as a range for air warfare weapons and weapons systems; (3) use as a high hazard training area for aerial gunnery, rocketry, electronic warfare and countermeasures, and tactical maneuvering and air support; (4) geothermal leasing and development, and related power production activities; and, (5) other defense-related purposes. The environmental analysis in the EIS/LEIS will be incorporated in an update to the May 2005 NAWSCL Comprehensive Land Use Management Plan (CLUMP). The CLUMP facilitates NAWSCL in planning for and managing land use and environmental resources on the withdrawn public lands in accordance with the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976 (FLPMA) (43 U.S.C. 1701). The updated CLUMP will include an examination of both military land uses authorized under Public Law 103-433 and those mission-compatible non-military land uses authorized in the 2005 CLUMP.

*Dates and Addresses:* The DoN is initiating a 90-day public scoping process to identify community interests and specific issues to be addressed in the EIS/LEIS. This public scoping process starts with the publication of this Notice of Intent. Three public scoping meetings will be held to receive oral and/or written comments on issues to be addressed in the EIS/LEIS:

1. Tuesday, July 19, 2011, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Historic USO Building, 230 West Ridgecrest Boulevard, Ridgecrest, California 93555;

2. Wednesday, July 20, 2011, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Statham Hall, 138 Jackson Street, Lone Pine, California 93545; and

3. Thursday, July 21, 2011, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Trona Community Senior Center, 13187 Market Street, Trona, California 93562.

Additional information concerning meeting times and locations is available on the NAWSCL EIS/LEIS Web site at <http://www.ChinalakeLEIS.com>. Public scoping meeting schedules and locations will also be announced in local newspapers.

Each of the public scoping meetings will consist of an informal, open house session with information stations staffed