The Air Force's rules for accessing records, and for contesting contents and appealing initial agency determinations are contained in Secretary of the Air Force Instruction 33–332; 32 CFR part 806; or may be obtained from the system Manager, 600 Chennault Circle, Maxwell AFB, Alabama 36112–6424. For verification purposes, individual should provide their full name, any details which may assist in locating records, and their signature. In addition, the requester must provide a notarized statement or an unsworn declaration made in accordance with 28 U.S.C. 1746, in the following format:

If executed outside the United States: 'I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury under the laws of the United States of America that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date). (Signature)'.

If executed within the United States, its territories, possessions, or commonwealths: 'I declare (or certify, verify, or state) under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct. Executed on (date). (Signature)'.

CONTESTING RECORD PROCEDURES:
The Air Force’s rules for accessing records, and for contesting contents and appealing initial agency determinations are contained in Secretary of the Air Force Instruction 33–332; 32 CFR part 806; or may be obtained from the system manager. Denial to amend records in this system can be made only by the Director, Air Force History and Museums Policies and Programs.

RECORD SOURCE CATEGORIES:
From information provided by applicants.

EXEMPTIONS CLAIMED FOR THE SYSTEM:
None.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Notice of Availability of the Record of Decision on the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Mechanical and Artificial Creation and Maintenance of Emergent Sandbar Habitat in the Riverine Segments of the Upper Missouri River, Missouri River Basin, United States

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

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The District Commander of the Omaha District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) has reviewed the “Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) for the Mechanical and Artificial Creation and Maintenance of Emergent Sandbar Habitat (ESH) on the Riverine Segments of the Upper Missouri River.” The District Commander has made the decision to proceed with the implementation of an Adaptive Management Implementation Process (AMIP) (preferred alternative) with a construction ceiling of acres associated with Alternative 3.5. Specific details of the decision are captured in the Record of Decision (ROD) for this action. The ROD explains that the Corps will create and maintain ESH acres in the Fort Peck, Garrison, Fort Randall and Gavins Point River Segments, and the Lewis and Clark Lake Segment for the benefit of the Interior Population of the least tern (least tern) and the northern Great Plains piping plover (piping plover). The maximum potential acres of ESH to be created is approximately 4,370 acres total, with the following estimated maximum acres by reach:

- Fort Peck River, 565.
- Garrison River, 1,327.
- Fort Randall River, 212.
- Lewis & Clark Lake, 354.
- Gavins Point River, 1,913.

The AMIP alternative best supports the needs of the birds while providing flexibility in program implementation that will help minimize environmental impacts as well as costs.

ADDRESSES: Questions or comments on the ROD should be sent to: Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers, Omaha District; CENWO–PM–AC; ATTN: Cynthia.s.upah@usace.army.mil. For inquiries from the media, please contact Cynthia Upah, Project Manager, by telephone: (402) 995–2672, by mail: 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102–4901, or by e-mail: Cynthia.s.upah@usace.army.mil. For further information contact: Ms. Cynthia Upah, Project Manager, by telephone: (402) 995–2672, by mail: 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102–4901, or by e-mail: Cynthia.s.upah@usace.army.mil. For inquiries from the media, please contact the USACE Omaha District Public Affairs Officer (PAO), Ms. Monique Farmer by telephone: (402) 995–2416, by mail: 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102, or by e-mail: Monique.farmer@usace.army.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:
1. Background. The ESH program resulted from a Biological Opinion (BiOp) issued by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) in which the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA) IV(b)3 called for the Corps to provide sufficient ESH acreage in order to meet biological metrics (fledge ratios) to avoid jeopardizing continued existence of the least tern and piping plover, as defined by the Endangered Species Act (ESA). The Final PEIS provides National Environmental Policy
Act (NEPA) coverage for the proposed action.

The ROD discusses each alternative considered for the proposed action and those that are environmentally preferable. The Corps has identified an Adaptive Management Implementation Process (AMIP), with a construction ceiling of Alternative 3.5 (approximately 4,370 acres), as the selected plan. The key aspect of the AMIP is that, rather than selecting a specific acreage alternative, actions would be progressively implemented and monitored until the desired biological response of terns and plovers is attained and sustained. The Corps recognizes that alternative methods such as vegetation removal, while relatively untested, provide the potential to decrease impacts and costs, and could be incorporated if proven successful.

The PEIS describes the potential environmental consequences of the alternatives considered in detail. During analysis, impacts of the larger alternatives (3, 2 and 1) were deemed to be moderate to high and impacts of lesser alternatives (3.5, 4 and 5) were deemed to be moderate to low. Alternative 3.5 represents a midrange of habitat available at a time when the birds were productive, and it is anticipated that biological metrics will be met before fully implementing up to Alternative 3.5. If Alternative 3.5 is fully implemented and biological metrics are not met, the Corps can consider continuing to higher acreage alternatives or other methodologies, in which case appropriate coordination and disclosure would be pursued (potential amended ROD or additional NEPA).

The AMIP allows for flexibility to provide habitat up to a point of meeting population goals, and to minimize impacts through approaches such as monitoring, redistributing acreage targets among segments if needed, avoiding sensitive resources, using less-impactful or costly construction methodologies as they become available, and avoiding over-construction of habitat.

Implementing the selected alternative will provide the most effective means for the Corps to meet its obligations, including avoiding jeopardy to the bird species, while managing the river for all authorized purposes. Risk of significant impacts to the environment appears to be low to moderate as a result of implementation of the ESH program, and numerous acres of ESH would be created, which is considered important not only to protected bird species, but to the overall ecology of the Missouri River.

Concurrently with the ROD, an errata sheet is also being made available, which provides the comments received on the Final PEIS along with the Corps response to each. Also included in the errata is an update regarding Tribal coordination and the PEIS.

2. Document Availability. The Final PEIS (May 2011), the ROD, the errata sheet, and an updated Final PEIS which incorporates the ROD and the errata items (August 2011), are available at: http://www.moriverrecovery.org/mrrp/?f=MRIP/documents.

For more information about the Emergent Sandbar Habitat program, please visit http://www.moriverrecovery.org under “BiOp/ Mit Efforts.”

Dated: August 15, 2011.

Christopher D. Wiehl,
Acting Chief, Planning Branch, Omaha District.

[FR Doc. 2011–21894 Filed 8–25–11; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3720–58–P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report for the Section 408 Permission for the Southport Sacramento River Early Implementation Project, West Sacramento, CA

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (as amended) (33 U.S.C. 408), and Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344), for the proposed Southport Sacramento River Early Implementation Project (EIP), sponsored by the West Sacramento Area Flood Control Agency (WSAFCA). Figures of the project area can be viewed at http://www.cityofwestsacramento.org/city/flood.

WSAFCA is planning the Southport Sacramento River EIP to implement flood-risk reduction measures along the Sacramento River South Levee in the City of West Sacramento, Yolo County, CA. The project reach extends along the right bank of the Sacramento River south of the barge canal, downstream approximately 6.4 miles to the South Cross Levee, protecting the Southport community of West Sacramento. The 3.3-square mile study area encompasses the area of levee improvement along the river corridor and the potential soil borrow sites. In order to implement the project, the sponsor must acquire permission from USACE to alter the Federal project under Section 14 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (as amended) (33 U.S.C. 408) or, Section 408. USACE also has authority under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 U.S.C. 1344) over activities involving the discharge of dredged or fill material to waters of the United States, which are known to be in the project area. The project would bring the levee up to standard with Federal and state flood protection criteria, as well as providing opportunities for ecosystem restoration and public recreation. USACE, acting as the federal lead agency under NEPA, and WSAFCA, acting as the state lead agency under the CEQA in coordination with the Central Valley Flood Protection Board, have determined that an EIS/EIR should be prepared to describe alternatives, potential environmental effects, and mitigation measures.

DATES: Public scoping meetings will be held on Thursday, September 15, 2011 at 3:30 p.m. and 6:30 p.m. at the West Sacramento Recreation Center, 801 Jefferson Boulevard, West Sacramento, CA. Send written comments by September 26, 2011 (see ADDRESSES). ADDRESSES: Written comments and suggestions concerning the scope and content of the environmental information may be submitted to Mr. John Suazo, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Attn: Planning Division (CESPK–PD–R), 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814. Requests to be placed on the mailing list also should be sent to this address.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions about the proposed actions and environmental review process should be addressed to John Suazo at (916) 557–6719, e-mail: john.suazo@usace.army.mil (see ADDRESSES).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Proposed Action. WSAFCA is proposing a project along the Sacramento River west levee under the California DWR’s Early Implementation Program to expeditiously complete flood-risk reduction measures. Known as the Southport Sacramento River EIP, the project proposes implementation of flood-risk reduction measures.