

River sediment in shallow coastal areas and restore delta growth and wetland sustainability will be identified and evaluated. A series of hydrodynamic models will be used to evaluate Mississippi River sediment and water resources including: Hydraulics and the relationship of flow conditions to sediment transport, salinity intrusion, the flux of key nutrients, deposition and erosion, and the net results of these processes in river channel and distributary morphology over more than 300 miles of the river (Old River to the Gulf of Mexico). These models will be used for this study and future LCA Program studies and projects. Large-scale river diversions and outfall management measures that optimize the river sediment and freshwater resources to provide long-term restoration and sustainability of the Delta Plain, including the sediment-starved barrier shorelines, will be considered. Possible navigation alternative scenarios could include consideration of new navigation channels to the east or west of the current Mississippi River alignment. Navigation channel analysis would be limited to preliminary screening as any navigation channel re-alignment scenarios would require, at a minimum, re-scoping the present study.

The Mississippi River Hydrodynamic and Delta Management Study will evaluate potential benefits and impacts to both the natural and human environments. This study will provide methods for quantifying effects and developing large-scale management strategies and projects that balance the interests of ecosystem restoration, flood control, and navigation purposes for Louisiana and the Nation.

**3. Public Involvement.** Public involvement, an essential part of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process, is integral to assessing the environmental consequences of the proposed action and improving the quality of the environmental decision making. The public includes affected and interested Federal, state, and local agencies, Indian tribes, concerned citizens, stakeholders, and other interested parties. Public participation in the EIS process will be strongly encouraged, both formally and informally, to enhance the probability of a more technically accurate, economically feasible, and socially acceptable EIS. Public involvement will include, but is not limited to: Information dissemination; identification of problems, needs and opportunities; idea generation; public education; problem solving; providing feedback on proposals; evaluation of alternatives; public and scoping notices

and meetings; public, stakeholder and advisory groups consultation and meetings; and making the EIS and supporting information readily available in conveniently located places, such as libraries and on the world wide web.

**4. Scoping.** Scoping, an early and open process for identifying the scope of significant issues related to the proposed action to be addressed in the EIS, will be used to: (a) Identify the affected public and agency concerns; (b) facilitate an efficient EIS preparation process; (c) define the issues and alternatives that will be examined in detail in the EIS; and (d) save time in the overall process by helping to ensure that the draft EIS adequately addresses relevant issues. The USACE will host six (6) NEPA public scoping meetings at the following locations on the dates indicated between 6 p.m. and 8 p.m.:

*Tuesday, April 10, 2012:* Louisiana Department of Natural Resources, LaBelle Room-1st Floor, 617 North 3rd Street Baton Rouge, LA.

*Thursday, April 12, 2012:* Port of New Orleans, Auditorium 1st Floor, 1350 Port Of New Orleans Place New Orleans, LA.

*Tuesday, April 17, 2012:* Larose Civic Center, 307 East 5th Street, Cuttuff, LA.

*Thursday, April 19, 2012:* Boothville Elementary, #1 Oiler Drive Boothville, LA.

*Tuesday, April 24, 2012:* Waveland Civic Center, 335 Coleman Avenue Waveland, MS.

*Thursday, April 26, 2012:* St. Bernard Parish Council Chambers, 8201 W. Judge Perez Drive Chalmette, LA.

A Scoping Meeting Notice announcing the specific locations, driving directions, dates and times for scoping meetings is anticipated to be mailed to interested parties in March 2012.

**5. Coordination.** The USACE and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) have formally committed to work together to conserve, protect, and restore fish and wildlife resources while ensuring environmental sustainability of our Nation's water resources under the January 22, 2003, Partnership Agreement for Water Resources and Fish and Wildlife. The USFWS will provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report. Coordination will be maintained with the USFWS and the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) regarding threatened and endangered species under their respective jurisdictional responsibilities. Coordination will be maintained with the NMFS regarding essential fish habitat. Coordination will be maintained with the Natural Resources Conservation Service

regarding prime and unique farmlands. The U.S. Department of Agriculture will be consulted regarding the "Swampbuster" provisions of the Food Security Act. Coordination will be maintained with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concerning compliance with Executive Order 12898, "Federal Action to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations." Coordination will be maintained with the Advisory Counsel on Historic Preservation and the State Historic Preservation Officer. The Louisiana Department of Natural Resources will be consulted regarding consistency with the Coastal Zone Management Act. The Louisiana Department of Wildlife and Fisheries will be consulted concerning potential impacts to Natural and Scenic Rivers.

**6. Availability of Draft EIS.** The earliest that the draft EIS will be available for public review would be in 2016. The draft EIS or a notice of availability will be distributed to affected Federal, state, and local agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested parties.

Dated: March 13, 2012.

**Edward R. Fleming,**

*Colonel, U.S. Army, District Commander.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

#### **Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for Military Readiness Activities in the Northwest Training and Testing Study Area and To Announce Public Scoping Meetings; Correction**

**AGENCY:** Department of Navy, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice; correction.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of the Navy published a document in the **Federal Register** (77 FR 11497) on February 27, 2012, concerning public scoping meetings to support the development of an Environmental Impact Statement/ Overseas Environmental Impact Statement for the Northwest Training and Testing Study Area. The document contained an incorrect comment period closing date.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Kimberly Kler, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Northwest, 1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203, Silverdale,

Washington 98315-1101, Attention: NWTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager.

*Correction:* In the **Federal Register** (77 FR 11497) of February 27, 2012, on page 11498, in the third column, last paragraph, correct the comment period date to read:

Written comments must be postmarked no later than April 27, 2012, and should be mailed to: Ms. Kimberly Kler, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, Northwest, 1101 Tautog Circle, Suite 203, Silverdale, Washington 98315-1101, Attention: NWTT EIS/OEIS Project Manager.

Dated: March 16, 2012.

**J.M. Beal,**

*Lieutenant Commander, Office of the Judge Advocate, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. 2012-7018 Filed 3-22-12; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Application for New Awards; Training for Realtime Writers Program

**AGENCY:** Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Notice.

#### Overview Information

##### *Training for Realtime Writers Program*

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2012.

*Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number:* 84.116K.

#### **DATES:**

*Applications Available:* March 23, 2012.

*Deadline for Transmittal of Applications:* May 7, 2012.

*Deadline for Intergovernmental Review:* July 6, 2012.

#### **Full Text of Announcement**

##### **I. Funding Opportunity Description**

*Purpose of Program:* The objective of this program is to provide grants to institutions of higher education (IHEs) that meet certain qualifications, to promote training and placement of individuals, including individuals who have completed a court reporting training program, as realtime writers in order to meet the requirements for closed captioning of video programming set forth in section 713 of the Communications Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 613) and the regulations prescribed thereunder.

*Priorities:* This notice contains one absolute priority and three competitive preference priorities. In accordance with 34 CFR 75.105(b)(2)(iv), the absolute

priority is from section 872(a)(3) of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended (HEA), 20 U.S.C. 1161s(a)(3). The competitive preference priorities are from the notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs published in the **Federal Register** on December 15, 2010 (75 FR 78486), and corrected on May 12, 2011 (76 FR 27637).

*Absolute Priority:* For FY 2012 and any subsequent year in which we make awards from the list of unfunded applicants from this competition, this priority is an absolute priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(3), we consider only applications that meet this priority.

*Applicants must:* (1) Demonstrate they possess the most substantial capability to increase their capacity to train realtime writers; (2) demonstrate the most promising collaboration with educational institutions, businesses, labor organizations, or other community groups having the potential to train or provide job placement assistance to realtime writers; or (3) propose the most promising and innovative approaches for initiating or expanding training or job placement assistance efforts with respect to realtime writers.

An eligible entity receiving a grant must use the grant funds for purposes relating to the recruitment, training and assistance, and job placement of individuals, including individuals who have completed a court reporting training program, as realtime writers, including: (1) Recruitment; (2) the provision of scholarships (subject to the requirements in section 872(c)(2) of the HEA); (3) distance learning; (4) further developing and implementing both English and Spanish curricula to more effectively train individuals in realtime writing skills, and education in the knowledge necessary for the delivery of high quality closed captioning services; (5) mentoring students to ensure successful completion of the realtime training and providing assistance in job placement; (6) encouraging individuals with disabilities to pursue a career in realtime writing; and (7) the employment and payment of personnel for the purposes described.

*Competitive Preference Priorities:* Within this absolute priority, we give competitive preference to applications that address the following priorities.

There are three competitive preference priorities: Competitive Preference Priority 1—Improving Productivity; Competitive Preference Priority 2—Enabling More Data-Based Decision-Making; and Competitive Preference Priority 3—Technology.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(2)(i), we award one additional point for each competitive priority that an application meets. The maximum competitive preference points an application can receive under this competition is three.

**Note:** Applicants must include in the one-page abstract submitted with the application a statement indicating which competitive preference priority or priorities they are addressing.

These priorities are:

##### *Competitive Preference Priority 1—Improving Productivity (1 Additional Point)*

Projects that are designed to significantly increase efficiency in the use of time, staff, money, or other resources while improving student learning or other educational outcomes (i.e., outcome per unit of resource). Such projects may include innovative and sustainable uses of technology, modification of school schedules and teacher compensation systems, use of open educational resources (as defined in this notice), or other strategies.

##### *Competitive Preference Priority 2—Enabling More Data-Based Decision-Making (1 Additional Point)*

Projects that are designed to collect (or obtain), analyze, and use high-quality and timely data, including data on program participant outcomes, in accordance with privacy requirements (as defined in this notice), in one or more of the following priority areas:

(a) Improving postsecondary student outcomes relating to enrollment, persistence, and completion and leading to career success; and

(b) Providing reliable and comprehensive information on the implementation of Department of Education programs, and participant outcomes in these programs, by using data from State longitudinal data systems or by obtaining data from reliable third-party sources.

##### *Competitive Preference Priority 3—Technology (1 Additional Point)*

Projects that are designed to improve student achievement (as defined in this notice) or teacher effectiveness through the use of high-quality digital tools or materials, which may include preparing teachers to use the technology to improve instruction, as well as developing, implementing, or evaluating digital tools or materials.

#### *Definitions*

These definitions are from the notice of final supplemental priorities and definitions for discretionary grant programs, published in the **Federal**