

**DATES:** *Effective Date:* November 6, 2012.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Pursuant to 5 U.S.C. 4314(c) (1–5), the Department of the Air Force (AF) announces the appointment of members to the AF's Senior Executive Service (SES) Pay Pool and Performance Review Board (PRB). Appointments are made by the authorizing official. Each board member shall review and evaluate performance scores provided by the SES' immediate supervisor. Performance standards must be applied consistently across the AF. The board will make final recommendations to the authorizing official relative to the performance of the executive.

The members of the 2012 Performance Review Board for the U.S. Air Force are:

1. Board President—Gen. Rice, Commander, Air Education and Training Command.
2. Lt. Gen. Hesterman, Military Deputy for Readiness, Office of the Secretary of Defense, Personnel & Readiness.
3. Lt. Gen. Davis, Military Deputy, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisitions.
4. Mr. Corsi, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Manpower, Personnel and Services.
5. Mrs. Westgate, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Strategic Plans and Program.
6. Dr. Butler, Executive Director, Air Force Materiel Command.
7. Ms. Young, Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Logistics, Installations & Mission Support.
8. Mr. Exley, Auditor General, Army Audit Agency.
9. Ms. McKay, Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service.
10. Mr. Williams, Principle Deputy Director for Air Force Studies & Analyses, Assessments & Lessons Learned.
11. Dr. Meink, Director, Signals Intelligence Systems, National Reconnaissance Office.
12. Mr. Murphy, Director, Intelligence Development, Intelligence Systems Support Office.
13. Mr. Cluck, Director for Acquisitions, U.S. Special Operations Command.

Additionally, all career status Air Force Tier 3 SES members not included in the above list are eligible to serve on the 2012 Performance Review Board and are hereby nominated for inclusion on an ad hoc basis in the event of absence(s).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Please direct any written comments or requests for information to Ms. Erin Moore, Deputy Director, Senior

Executive Management, AF/DPS, 1040 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330–1040 (PH: 703–695–7677; or via email at [erin.moore@pentagon.af.mil](mailto:erin.moore@pentagon.af.mil)).

**Tommy W. Lee,**

*Acting Air Force Federal Register Liaison Officer, DAF.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001–10–P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare an Integrated Water Supply Storage Reallocation Report; Environmental Impact Statement for Missouri River Municipal and Industrial (M & I) Reallocation and Hold Public Meetings

**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 (NEPA), as amended and the 1958 Water Supply Act, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Omaha District, intends to prepare an integrated Municipal and Industrial (M&I) Water Supply Storage Reallocation Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Missouri River. The purpose of the study is to determine if changes to the current allocation of storage for M&I water supply may be warranted, and what the effects of making those changes would be on other authorized project purposes. If found to be feasible, storage could be allocated for purposes specific to M&I water supply storage, allowing for non-federal entities to acquire the rights to storage on a long-term or permanent basis via water supply contracts with the Corps of Engineers.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For additional information on the NEPA process, or to be added to the mailing list, contact Eric Laux, by mail: CENWO–PM–AC, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102, or by telephone: (402) 995–2682. For additional information on the Reallocation Study, contact Gwyn Jarrett, by mail: CENWO–PM–AA, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102, or by telephone: (402) 995–2717.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

*Geographic Area.* The study area will encompass the six mainstem reservoirs and river proper from the headwaters of Fort Peck Reservoir, Ft. Peck, MT to St. Louis, MO.

*Project Scope.* The demand for M&I water has increased in recent years and the Corps has received numerous requests for intakes and permission to withdraw water as a result of this demand. The Corps of Engineers is pursuing this study to evaluate the long-term Missouri River main stem water storage reallocation need in order to respond to the current and future water supply needs.

The 1944 Flood Control Act, as amended, directed the USACE to allocate the river's resources among the authorized Missouri River project purposes; which are: fish and wildlife, flood control, irrigation, navigation, hydropower, recreation, water quality, and water supply. Although water supply is one of the several purposes of the Missouri River main stem projects, no specific allocation of storage has been made for M&I. The Water Supply Act of 1958 provides the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works (ASA[CW]) the discretion to make a change in the use of storage in an existing reservoir project from its present use to M&I water supply (reallocation) and allows the secretary to enter into agreements for long term or permanent storage at Corps reservoir projects.

While water rights are conveyed by the state, the rights to water supply storage in a Corps reservoir may be acquired by non-federal entities on a long-term or permanent basis via a water supply contract with the Corps of Engineers. The cost of acquiring the right to storage would be based on the ASA (CW)'s determination of appropriate costs to be borne by the non-federal entities, as would be spelled out in the Decision Document that would result from the study.

The Reallocation Study will take a comprehensive, systems approach to evaluate present and future M&I storage needs along the Missouri River from the headwaters of Ft. Peck, MT to St. Louis, MO. In contemplating an allocation of storage to M&I to meet needs in the basin, the Reallocation Report/EIS will discuss and evaluate the following: (1) Identify current and future water demand and potential need for reallocated storage to support demand; (2) evaluate the impacts on the project purposes and existing users and whether or not compensation would be required; (3) determine environmental effects of any proposed action and whether or not mitigation would be required; (4) determine the price to be charged the purchasers of reallocated storage; and (5) determine appropriate compensation, if any, to existing users/beneficiaries. In addition to reallocation

alternatives, other alternative sources of water supply will also be evaluated and compared to the use of Missouri River storage.

*Scoping and agency meetings.* Public concerns on issues, studies needed, alternatives to be examined, procedures and other related matters will be addressed during scoping. This process will be the key to preparing a concise EIS and clarifying the significant issues to be analyzed in depth. Public meetings are scheduled as follows:

August 20, 2012—Nebraska City, NE: Lied Lodge and Conference Center, 2700 Sylvan Road.

August 21, 2012—St. Joseph, MO: Stoney Creek Inn and Conference Center, 1201 North Woodbine Road.

August 22, 2012—St. Louis, MO: Marriott West, 660 Maryville Centre Drive.

August 23, 2012—Sioux City, IA: Holiday Inn, 701 Gordon Drive.

August 27, 2012—Pierre, SD: Best Western Ramkota, 920 W. Sioux Avenue.

August 28, 2012—Bismarck, ND: Best Western Doublewood Inn and Conference Center, 1400 E Interchange Avenue.

August 29, 2012—Glasgow, MT: Fort Peck Visitor Center, Highway 24 South 17 miles to Fort Peck.

Dated: July 11, 2012.

**Gwyn Jarrett,**  
Project Manager.

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement To Reduce Avian Predation on Juvenile Salmonids Through Management of Double-Crested Cormorants in the Columbia River Estuary

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District (Corps), intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to reduce avian predation on juvenile salmonids through management of double-crested cormorants (*Phalacrocorax auritus*; hereafter, cormorant used alone refers to double-crested cormorant) in the Columbia River Estuary (CRE). Recent increases in

the number of cormorants nesting in the CRE has led to concerns over their potential impact on the recovery of federally-listed threatened and endangered Columbia River basin salmonids (*Oncorhynchus* spp.; i.e., salmon and steelhead). In 2010 and 2011, the cormorant colony at East Sand Island (ESI) in the CRE consumed about 19.2 and 22.6 million out-migrating juvenile salmonids, which equates to about 18 percent of the entire out-migrating salmon for those years. A portion of the salmonids consumed are listed under the Endangered Species Act (ESA). Managing cormorants to reduce predation on salmonids would complement other recovery efforts to address the threats that caused these fish to be listed under the ESA and would contribute to the overall recovery of listed salmonids in the Columbia River basin.

**DATES:** The Corps expects to release the DEIS for public review and comment in the fall of 2013.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Ms. Sondra Ruckwardt, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, P.O. Box 2946, Portland, OR 97208, by phone at 503-808-4691 or by email at:

[sondra.k.ruckwardt@usace.army.mil](mailto:sondra.k.ruckwardt@usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Corps will prepare a DEIS to reduce avian predation on juvenile salmonids through management of cormorants in the CRE.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers responsibilities for cormorant management are identified under Public Law 106-53, Section 582c “(1) NESTING AVIAN PREDATORS—In conjunction with the Secretary of Commerce and the Secretary of the Interior, and consistent with a management plan to be developed by the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, the Secretary [of the Army] shall carry out methods to reduce nesting populations of avian predators on dredge spoil islands in the Columbia River under the jurisdiction of the Secretary.”

The Corps is currently preparing a draft management plan that will include effective alternatives to reduce salmonid consumption by cormorants at ESI. The management plan is necessary to implement avian predation management actions provided for in the 2008 Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS) Biological Opinion (BiOp) (NOAA Fisheries 2008), the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative included in the 2008 BiOp and the 2010 FCRPS Supplemental BiOp (NOAA Fisheries 2010) to facilitate achievement of adult

escapement goals identified for ESA-listed salmonids in the Columbia Basin.

The increase in consumption of juvenile salmonids by cormorants is the result of an unprecedented increase of cormorants on ESI where the number of breeding pairs increased by 1,400 percent between 1989 and 2007.

Reducing cormorant predation in the CRE, in combination with other initiatives that aim to improve juvenile salmonid survival, is anticipated to increase population growth rates of ESA-listed salmonids in the Columbia River basin.

The Corps will evaluate alternatives for their ability to reduce cormorant predation on ESA-listed Columbia River salmonids in the CRE. The preliminary range of alternatives will include, but are not limited to reducing the ESI colony by 25 percent, by 50 percent and by 75 percent by a variety of methods. Some of these methods may include dissuasion techniques, habitat alterations and lethal removal. Also, per the National Environmental Policy Act regulations the Corps will also analyze a No Action alternative (status quo). Preliminary analyses of the benefits of reducing bird numbers with the preliminary action alternatives indicate increases in population growth rates for three of the thirteen ESA-listed salmonids by 0.5 to 1.5 percent. Any additional alternatives will be developed through public involvement and best available scientific information.

*Scoping Process:* a. The Corps invites affected Federal, State, local agencies, Native American tribes and other interested organizations and individuals to participate in the development of the DEIS. The Corps anticipates conducting public scoping meetings for the DEIS in late summer of 2012 although the exact date, time and location of these meeting have not been determined yet. Once meeting arrangements have been made, the Corps will publicize this information. The Corps will provide notice to the public of additional opportunities for public input on the EIS during review periods for the draft and final EIS.

b. Significant issues to be analyzed in the DEIS include, but are not limited to: avian predation of juvenile salmonids, management of the largest double-crested cormorant colony in the Western Region, potential impacts to fisheries outside the CRE, potential impacts to commercial and recreational fisheries and potential impacts to tribal fisheries.

c. The Corps will serve as the lead Federal agency in preparation of the DEIS. A decision will be made during the scoping process whether other