DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Office of the Secretary
Reserve Forces Policy Board; Notice of Federal Advisory Committee Meeting

AGENCY: Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness, Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of Federal Advisory Committee meeting.

SUMMARY: The Department of Defense (DoD) is publishing this notice to announce that the following Federal Advisory Committee meeting of the Reserve Forces Policy Board (RFPB) will take place.

DATES: The RFPB will hold a meeting on Wednesday, December 13, 2017 from 8:10 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. The portion of the meeting from 8:10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. will be open to the public. The portion of the meeting from 8:10 a.m. to 2:15 p.m. will be open to the public.

ADDRESSES: The RFPB meeting address is the Pentagon, Room 3E863, Arlington, VA.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Alexander Sabol, (703) 681–0577 (Voice), 703–681–0002 (Facsimile), Alexander.J.Sabol.Civ@Mail.Mil (Email). Mailing address is Reserve Forces Policy Board, 5113 Leesburg Pike, Suite 601, Falls Church, VA 22041. Web site: http://rfpb.defense.gov/. The most up-to-date changes to the meeting agenda can be found on the Web site.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This meeting is being held under the provisions of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Government in the Sunshine Act of 1976 (5 U.S.C. 552b, as amended), and 41 CFR 102–3.140 and 102–3.150.

Purpose of the Meeting: The purpose of the meeting is to obtain, review, and evaluate information related to strategies, policies, and practices designed to improve and enhance the capabilities, efficiency, and effectiveness of the Reserve Components.

Agenda: The RFPB will hold a meeting from 8:10 a.m. to 3:50 p.m. The portion of the meeting from 8:10 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. will be closed to the public and will consist of remarks to the RFPB from following invited speakers: The Deputy Secretary of Defense will address key national military strategy challenges facing our Nation and priorities for adapting the force and the use of the Reserve Components to accomplish these challenges. The Commander, U.S. Northern Command will discuss the readiness, availability, and use of the National Guard and Reserve within the Northern Command with their increased emphasis on the homeland security missions for the Reserve Component members. The Acting Secretary of the U.S. Army will discuss the Army’s posture, status on the Report of the National Commission on the Future of the Army recommendations, and plans to adapt the Total Army to meet future challenges. The Institute for Defense Analysis (IDA) will brief the findings of the current IDA study on the Reserve Components performance during Operation Enduring Freedom. Major General Sheila Zuehlike, USAFR (Retired), Subcommittee on Enhancing DoD’s Role in the Homeland Board Member and RADMIL David Dermanelian, USCG, J7, Director, Exercises and Training, USCYBERCOM will discuss the USCYBERCOM’s Service’s cyber training and certification program, and the use of the National Guard and Reserve to meet the cyber threats. The portion of the meeting from 1:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. will be open to the public and will consist of briefings from the following: The Chief of the Air Force Reserve will discuss the Air Force Reserve goals, readiness objectives, and challenges for the “Operational Reserve” as part of the Total Force. The Adjutant General of Texas National Guard and the Director of the Joint Staff, Joint Force Headquarters of Texas National Guard will discuss the recent Texas domestic operations involving the Texas National Guard during Hurricane Harvey. The National Chair, Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve will discuss the Employer Support of the Guard and Reserve’s mission of facilitating and promoting a cooperative culture of employer support for National Guard and Reserve. The Chair of the RFPB’s Subcommittee on Supporting & Sustaining Reserve Component Personnel will present to the RFPB the subcommittee’s proposed recommendations to the Secretary of Defense concerning the OUSD P&ER Duty Status Reform proposal and the co-sponsored National Guard Bureau’s and OASD Manpower & Reserve Affairs Reserve Integration’s study on the Reserve Component Travel Pay.

Meeting Accessibility: Pursuant to section 10(a)(1) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.140 through 102–3.165, and subject to the availability of space, the meeting is open to the public from 1:00 p.m. to 3:50 p.m. Seating is on a first-come, first-served basis. All members of the public who wish to attend the public meeting must contact Mr. Alex Sabol, the Designated Federal Officer, no later than 12:00 p.m. on Tuesday, December 12, 2017. The meeting is being held under the provisions of the FACA, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c), and 41 CFR 102–3.155, the DoD has determined that the portion of this meeting scheduled to occur from 8:10 a.m. to 12:05 p.m. will be closed to the public. Specifically, the Under Secretary of Defense (Personnel and Readiness), in coordination with the Department of Defense FACA Attorney, has determined in writing that this portion of the meeting will be closed to the public because it is likely to disclose classified matters covered by 5 U.S.C. 552b(C)(1).

Written Statements: Pursuant to section 10(a)(3) of the FACA and 41 CFR 102–3.105(j) and 102–3.140, interested persons may submit written statements to the RFPB about its approved agenda or at any time on the RFPB’s mission. Written statements should be submitted to the RFPB’s Designated Federal Officer at the address, email, or facsimile number listed in the FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT section. If statements pertain to a specific topic being discussed at the planned meeting, then these statements must be submitted no later than five (5) business days prior to the meeting in question. Written statements received after this date may not be provided to or considered by the RFPB until its next meeting. The Designated Federal Officer will review all timely submitted written statements and provide copies to all the RFPB members before the meeting that is the subject of this notice. Please note that since the RFPB operates under the provisions of the FACA, all submitted comments and public presentations will be treated as public documents and will be made available for public inspection.
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Department of the Army, Army Corps of Engineers

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Detroit Dam Downstream Passage Project

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) intends to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The purpose of this EIS is to analyze effects to the human environment associated with the Corps efforts to enhance juvenile passage of Endangered Species Act (ESA) listed Upper Willamette River (UWR) spring Chinook salmon and winter steelhead through Detroit Dam to reaches downstream of the dam; and to modify temperatures in the North Santiam and main stem Santiam Rivers, below Detroit Dam, with the objective of replicating pre-reservoir water temperatures. These actions are part of the Corps implementation of the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) and U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) 2008 Biological Opinions (BiOp) for the continued operations and maintenance of the Willamette Valley Project. The Corps will serve as the lead federal agency for purposes of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

DATES: Written comments for consideration in the development of the scope of the NEPA EIS are due to the addresses below no later than January 8, 2018. Comments may also be made at the public scoping meetings as noted below.

ADDRESSES: Mailed comments may be sent to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, P.O. Box 2946, Attn: CENWP–PM–E, Portland, Oregon 97206–2946. Email comments to: detroit.fish.passage@usace.army.mil. Allcomments and materials received, including names and addresses, will become part of the administrative record and may be released to the public.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: For questions regarding the Project, the EIS, or special accommodations for scoping process participation, please contact Kelly Janes, Environmental Resources Specialist; (503) 808–4771.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

Project Background. The Corps’ Detroit and Big Cliff dams and reservoirs are located in Linn and Marion Counties in the Oregon Cascades, in the North Santiam River sub-basin of the Willamette River basin near the city of Detroit, Oregon. The Detroit and Big Cliff dams, both completed in 1953, form a complete barrier to upstream fish passage. This lack of access for UWR spring Chinook salmon and steelhead to the high-quality habitat upstream is a critical limiting factor for the recovery and contributes to a high or very high extinction risk. Additionally, the dam poses a significant barrier and risk for downstream migrating juvenile fish. Finally, construction and operation of Detroit Dam has altered the pre-dam seasonal thermal regimes in the North Santiam River. Detroit Dam operations have resulted in cooler downstream water temperatures in the spring and summer then were experienced before the dam was built. Detroit Dam operations also result in warmer downstream temperatures in the fall and winter compared to pre-dam conditions. The altered temperature regime negatively affects the productivity of UWR spring Chinook salmon and winter steelhead in the lower North Santiam River, and has been identified as one of the most critical limiting factors for species recovery.

Detroit and Big Cliff dams and reservoirs are included in the 13 multipurpose dams and reservoirs the Corps operates and maintains in the Willamette River Basin in Oregon, collectively referred to as the Willamette Project. The listing of several species under the ESA required the Corps to perform an assessment of the effects of operating the Willamette Project on listed species. Based on this assessment, the NMFS released a BiOp in 2008, which identified measures that it believed would avoid jeopardizing the existence of ESA listed fish in the Willamette basin, referred to as measures in the Reasonable and Prudent Alternative (RPA). Measure 4.12.3 of the RPA requires downstream fish passage at Detroit Dam. Measure 5.2 of the RPA requires the minimization of water quality effects associated with temperature of Detroit and Big Cliff dams by making structural modifications or major operational changes. The BiOp acknowledges that, if feasible, there might be cost-savings and reduced effects if addressing both RPA measures were achieved through one construction project.

Proposed Project. The Corps is developing a project to provide downstream juvenile fish passage for UWR Chinook and steelhead as well as to provide temperature control at Detroit Dam. The purposes of the proposed project is to enhance juvenile passage of UWR spring Chinook and winter steelhead on the North Santiam to reaches downstream of the dams and to modify temperatures on the North Santiam and main stem Santiam Rivers, below Detroit Dam, with the objective of replicating pre-reservoir water temperatures for UWR spring Chinook and UWR winter steelhead habitat.

Alternatives. The project will be developed in a manner that is consistent with sound engineering practice and meets all applicable federal environmental laws. In addition to the No Action Alternative, in which case dam operations will continue in the absence of the Project, structural and operational alternatives considered will include, but are not limited to: Optimizing operations, upgrading current structures, and constructing new structures adjacent to the Detroit Dam in Detroit Reservoir. Additional alternatives could be developed during the scoping and evaluation process.

Scoping Process/Public Involvement. The Corps invites all affected federal, state, and local agencies, affected Native American Tribes, other interested parties, and the general public to participate in the NEPA process during development of the EIS. The purpose of the public scoping process is to provide information to the public, narrow the scope of analysis to significant environmental issues, serve as a mechanism to solicit agency and public input on alternatives and issues of concern, and ensure full and open participation in scoping of the Draft EIS. Two public scoping meetings are scheduled for December 2017. The specific dates, times, and locations of the meetings are provided below.

Upon completion of the scoping process, the Draft EIS will be circulated for public review and comment. The Corps expects to release the Draft EIS for public review and comment in 2019. The Corps will issue a Notice of Availability in the Federal Register announcing the release of the Draft EIS for public comment through the local news media. Documents and other important information related to the EIS will be available for review on the Corps’ project Web site.