

3. Take final action on measures to amend the halibut and sablefish individual fishing quota program to allow transfer of privileges to surviving heirs, and to amend vessel ownership requirements for the program. The Council will also consider initiating an analysis for the North Pacific Loan Program, and receive a response from NMFS on enforcement concerns in the IFQ program.

4. Take final action on seabird avoidance measures in the halibut fisheries.

5. Take final action on a halibut catch sharing plan for International Pacific Halibut Commission halibut regulatory Area 4.

6. Review an initial management plan for the Sitka Sound halibut fishery.

7. Take final action on a regulatory amendment to create and define a halibut subsistence/personal use fishery category.

8. Review a ecosystem research initiative from the U.S. Department of the Interior.

9. Take final action on an amendment to the Gulf of Alaska Groundfish Fishery Management Plan to initiate improved retention and utilization measures.

10. Review a proposed rule for the groundfish and crab license limitation and community development programs and provide comments, and receive progress report on development of industry buyback program for crab fisheries.

11. Discuss and give staff further direction in development of a skipper reporting system.

12. Review and take action on a request to lengthen a vessel for safety reasons under the moratorium.

13. Consider extending existing Observer Program beyond 1997, review alternative observer program structures, and give staff further direction for analysis.

14. Review progress on meeting new requirements under the Magnuson-Stevens Act, including a progress report on essential fish habitat and direction to staff to initiate an analysis.

15. Review a bycatch proposal submitted by the Alaska Marine Conservation Coalition, consider further action.

16. Comment on NMFS proposal to draft a Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement on groundfish management in the Bering Sea/Aleutian Islands (BSAI) and Gulf of Alaska (GOA).

17. Consider final action on reporting requirements.

18. Under GOA groundfish issues, the following subjects will be discussed:

(a) Final action on an amendment to revise management authority of pelagic shelf rockfish.

(b) Initial review of an amendment to initiate rolling closures in the sablefish fisheries during the annual sablefish survey.

(c) Give further direction to staff for analysis of a trawl-only fishery for pollock.

(d) Give further direction to staff for analysis of trip limits for pollock in the Gulf of Alaska.

19. Under BSAI groundfish issues, the following subjects will be discussed:

(a) Final action on an amendment to allocate Atka mackerel to vessels using jig gear.

(b) Discussion and further direction to staff on gear storage and preemption issues.

(c) Discussion and direction to staff on shortraker/rougheye rockfish bycatch.

(d) Take final action on halibut discard mortality rates in the BSAI Pacific cod fishery for second half of 1997.

Special Accommodations

These meetings are physically accessible to people with disabilities. Requests for sign language interpretation or other auxiliary aids should be directed to Helen Allen, 907-271-2809, at least 5 working days prior to the meeting date.

Dated: May 28, 1997.

Bruce C. Morehead,

Acting Director, Office of Sustainable Fisheries, National Marine Fisheries Service.

[FR Doc. 97-14402 Filed 6-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3510-22-F

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Notice of Availability, Environmental Assessment (EA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FNSI) for the Disposal and Reuse of Fort Sheridan, IL

AGENCY: Department of Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1988, Public Law 100-526, directed the Defense Secretary's Commission on Base Closure and Realignment to recommend military installations for realignment or closure. The Commission recommended the closure of Fort Sheridan, Illinois. In accordance with the recommendation, Fort Sheridan closed on June 1, 1993.

This document evaluates the disposal and reuse alternatives of the surplus

property at Fort Sheridan, and the socioeconomic and environmental impacts of these actions. It serves as a companion document to the final environmental impact statement for the closure of Fort Sheridan issued in 1990. The result of the assessment was a finding of no significant impact.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Mr. Ray Haynes, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District, P.O. Box 59, Louisville, KY 40201-0059 or call (502) 582-6475.

Dated: May 27, 1997.

Richard E. Newsome,

Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (I, L&E).

[FR Doc. 97-14338 Filed 6-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the National Park Seminary Historic District (NPSHD) Located at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (WRAMC)

AGENCY: Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Department of the Army.

ACTION: Notice of Intent.

SUMMARY: The Army intends to prepare an EIS to assist it in deciding upon a plan of action for the NPSHD. The NPSHD, Forest Glen Annex, is located within the Forest Glen area of Montgomery County, Maryland, approximately 1.5 miles north of the District of Columbia. The Annex is bounded by the Capital Beltway (I-495) to the north, Rock Creek Park to the west, Brookville Road to the south, and the main line of the CSX Rail System to the east.

The NPSHD consists of a 26-acre parcel containing 24 buildings, which has been listed as a historic district on the National Register of Historic Places since 1972 and the Montgomery County Master Plan for historic preservation since 1991. The NPSHD is located on the north end of Forest Glen Annex and is bounded by the Capital Beltway (I-495) to the north, Smith Drive on the east, and Linden Lane to the south and west. The NPSHD is comprised of a collection of late 19th and early 20th century architecturally eclectic buildings and structures associated with a land development company and later with a private finishing school. The Army, after acquisition in 1942, utilized the property and its improvements as a

convalescent center through the late 1970's.

Since that time, Walter Reed Army Medical Center has utilized the NPSHD for administrative and logistical purposes such as offices and storage. In 1991, WRAMC determined that the NPSHD was excess to its needs. A recent review by Walter Reed Army Medical Center has revealed that retention of the real property comprising Forest Glen Annex, in its entirety, is necessary to meet mission requirements.

Consistent with its obligations under the National Environmental Policy Act, 42 U.S.C. 4321 et seq.; the regulations published by the Council on Environmental Quality, 40 CFR Part 1500-1508; and Army Regulation 200-2, the U.S. Army intends to prepare an EIS to assist it in deciding on a plan for the reuse and/or disposal of the NPSHD. The purpose of the statement is to ensure that the U.S. Army makes an informed decision, based on full and informed public participation. The EIS will identify all relevant direct, indirect and cumulative environmental impacts associated with the alternatives considered.

Alternatives: The range of alternatives will address a series of options for reuse and/or disposal of the land and the buildings, structures and facilities within the NPSHD. Alternatives to be considered include the following:

a. No Action. The property would remain in caretaker status with the Department of the Army. Minimal maintenance and repairs would be accomplished.

b. Complete demolition of buildings. The Army would document the historical significance of the structures through detailed photographs and drawings as required under a Memorandum of Agreement negotiated between the Army, the Maryland Historical Trust, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation. Upon completion of the required documentation, the buildings would be torn down and the land retained by Walter Reed Army Medical Center.

c. Partial demolition of buildings and reuse of remaining rehabilitated structures. The buildings that would be torn down would be documented as described above. Remaining buildings would be rehabilitated and reutilized as described in the EIS.

d. Complete rehabilitation of all structures. All structures located within the historic district will be rehabilitated for future use.

e. Excess, disposal, and sale at fair market value to a private entity.

Scoping: This notice shall initiate a period of public scoping that is intended to invite the participation of all interested members of the public as well as other public agencies. Comments received during the scoping period will be used to assist the Army in identifying significant issues of public concern regarding potential impacts on the quality of the human environment. The scoping period will be followed by development of a reasonable range of reuse alternatives to be incorporated in a draft EIS. The draft EIS will be published and made available for public review and comment prior to its finalization. After review of the draft EIS, the U.S. Army will address public comments in a final EIS that will be released for additional review prior to publication of a Record of Decision (ROD). The ROD will identify the action chosen for implementation. Interested members of the public may be precluded from challenging the adequacy of the final EIS if they fail to participate in the process in a meaningful manner.

The Army will arrange a public scoping meeting within 30 days of the publication of this Notice of Intent at a place and time to be announced in the legal sections of the "Washington Post," "Washington Times," and "Montgomery Journal" newspapers. Interested members of the public are invited to provide written comments to Mr. Ben Smith at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, ATTN: MCAT-PA (Ben Smith), 6900 Georgia Avenue, NW, Washington, DC 20307-5001 no later than 15 days following the public scoping meeting.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Please contact Mr. Ben Smith, Public Affairs Officer, Walter Reed Army Medical Center, at (202) 782-7177.

Richard E. Newsome,
Acting Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health), OASA (I&E).

[FR Doc. 97-14390 Filed 6-2-97; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Availability of the Revised Final Environmental Impact Statement for the Disposal of Chemical Agents and Munitions Stored at Pine Bluff Arsenal, AR

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: This announces the availability of the Revised Final

Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) on the construction and operation of the proposed chemical agent disposal facility at Pine Bluff Arsenal, Arkansas. The proposed facility will be used to demilitarize all stockpiled chemical agents and munitions currently stored at Pine Bluff Arsenal. The Revised Final EIS examines the potential impacts of on-site incineration, alternative locations within the Pine Bluff Arsenal, and the "no action" alternative. The "no action" alternative is considered to be a deferral of the demilitarization with continued storage of agents and munitions at Pine Bluff Arsenal.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: In its Record of Decision (53 FR 5816-5817, dated February 26, 1988) for the Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement on the Chemical Stockpile Disposal Program, the Department of the Army selected on-site disposal by incineration at all eight chemical munition storage sites within the continental United States as the method by which it will destroy its lethal chemical stockpile. On March 29, 1989, the Department of the Army published a Notice of Intent in the **Federal Register** (54 FR 12944-12945) which provided notice that, pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act and implementing regulations, it would prepare a draft site-specific EIS for the proposed Pine Bluff chemical agent disposal facility. In 1995, the Department of the Army prepared a Draft EIS to assess the site-specific health and environmental impacts of on-site incineration of chemical agents and munitions stored at the Pine Bluff Arsenal. A Notice of Availability was published on June 9, 1995, in the **Federal Register** (60 FR 30537) which provided notice that the Draft EIS was available for comment. All comments from the Draft EIS were considered and responses included in the Final EIS. A Notice of Availability for the Final EIS was published on October 18, 1996, in the **Federal Register** (61 FR 54437). After publication, the Army revised the Final EIS by performing an additional review of the potential impacts. This Revised Final EIS includes a discussion of that review. After a 30-day waiting period the Army will publish a Record of Decision.

WAITING PERIOD: Comments will be accepted during this 30-day waiting period, which begins with the Environmental Protection Agency's publication of the notice of availability.

COPIES: To obtain copies of the Revised Final EIS, contact the Program Manager for Chemical Demilitarization (PMCD), Data and Document Control Center, at