

The project area extends from the confluence of the Kill Van Kull, Arthur Kill, and Lower Newark Bay, west and south toward Piles Creek. This includes the Elizabethport Reach, Gulfport Reach, and the North of Shooters Island Reach.

The project area shoreline (and vicinity) has undergone extensive industrial and residential development. The New Jersey shoreline has been almost completely developed with riprap and ship-berthing areas. The Staten Island shoreline has also been developed, although to a much lesser extent. Industrial development is heaviest along the North of Shooters Island and Elizabethport reaches.

The waterways are intensively used navigation channels, and with the recent dredging and reoccupation of the Howland Hook Marine Terminal (located within the project area), previously one of New York Harbor's most active marine terminals, activity will increase above present levels. Although much of the project area shoreline has been developed and the Arthur Kill is heavily used for commercial navigation, the project area still contains a variety of biological and natural resources. These resources include migratory and resident fish and shellfish populations as well as the heron rookeries. While fish and wildlife resources use the area year round, recreational opportunities are generally limited.

A deepened and realigned channel in the Arthur Kill will permit existing facilities to efficiently accommodate the larger ocean-going vessels calling on the Port.

**Simeon Hook,**

*Acting Chief, Planning Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Corps of Engineers

#### **Public Notice of Availability for the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement and General Reevaluation Report of the Green Brook Flood Control Project in the Green Brook Sub-Basin of the Raritan River Basin, Middlesex, Union and Somerset Counties in the State of New Jersey**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (NYDCOE), in coordination with the project sponsor, the New Jersey Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP), has conducted a General Reevaluation Study and prepared a Supplemental Impact Statement for an authorized flood protection project in the Green Brook Sub-Basin of the Raritan River in New Jersey. A Final Environmental Impact Statement and a Record of Decision were prepared for the project in 1980. This report has been prepared in association with the Reevaluation Study and is a supplement to the 1980 Final Environmental Impact Statement.

The project proposes to provide flood protection to residents in Somerset, Middlesex and Union Counties through the use of levees, flood-proofing, flood walls, detention basins and stream channelization. The plan also provides for a mitigation plan for environmental impacts. The project is divided into three separate portions of the Sub-basin: the upper portion, the lower portion and the Stony Brook portion. The proposed flood protection measures which were described in the DSEIS for the upper portion of the Sub-basin have been deferred at the request of the local sponsor, pending further study.

The Draft Supplement Environmental Impact Statement (DSEIS) was filed on January 6, 1997. The DSEIS was released for public review from January 6, 1997 through March 7, 1997. This review period included four formal public meetings and numerous informal information sessions with various groups. The public coordination process confirmed the need for the project. However, the coordination process identified concerns with the proposed construction of the detentions basins in the upper portion of the basin in the Boroughs of Berkeley Heights, Watchung, and Scotch Plains. The local sponsor, NJDEP, has asked the NYDCOE to defer construction of the upper portion of the project at this time but to continue work on the lower and Stony Brook portions of the project. Accordingly, this final document is considered a decision document for construction implementation of the lower and Stony Brook portions of the basin only.

#### **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Mr. Bill Richardson, ATTN: CENAN-PL-ES, Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, 26 Federal Plaza, New York, NY 10278-0090, Tel. (212) 264-2199.

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **Background**

The Green Brook Sub-basin is a component of the Raritan River drainage basin in north central New Jersey. The Green Brook Sub-Basin has a 65 square mile watershed. The Sub-Basin is located between the Watchung Mountains and the Raritan River in Middlesex, Somerset, and Union Counties.

In response to resolutions of the United States Senate Public Works Committee adopted 15 September 1955 and 10 July 1972 to adopt recommendations for flood control, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District prepared a feasibility report and a final environmental impact statement in August 1980. A project similar to "Plan A" as described in the 1980 feasibility study was authorized for construction under the Water Resources Development Act of 1986.

The flood problems of the Green Brook Sub-Basin result from a combination of natural hydrologic and hydraulic features coupled with dense development within the floodplains. The Green Brook flows southwest from the slopes of the Watchung Mountains. The path of the streams within the sub-basin flow from relatively undeveloped mountains through a broad flat floodplain which is largely suburban and industrialized. Streams included in the study are: Ambrose Brook, Bound Brook, Bonygutt Brook, Municipal Brook, Stony Brook, Blue Brook, Cedar Brook, and Middle Brook. Flood damages in the tri-county basin are quite severe due to the level of development within the sub-basin. Notable storms which have caused flood conditions in the sub-basin occurred in May 1968, August 1971, August 1973, July 1975, September 1979, July 1984, and October 1996.

The Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (FSEIS) describes in the impacts of the proposed project on environmental and cultural resources in the study area. The FSEIS also applies guidelines issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (Pub. L. 96-217). An evaluation for the purposed actions on the waters of the United States was performed pursuant to the guidelines of the Administrator, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. The results of the evaluation are presented in the SEIS.

This Notice of Availability is being sent to organizations and individuals known to have an interest in the project.

Please bring this notice to the attention of any other individuals with an interest in this matter. Copies of the FSEIS and General Reevaluation Report are available upon request for review at the following locations:

Berkeley Heights Public Library, 290 Plainfield Avenue, Berkeley Heights, New Jersey.  
 Bound Brook Public Library, 402 Ease High Street, Bound Brook, New Jersey.  
 Bridgewater Public Library, Box 6700, Bridgewater, New Jersey.  
 Dunellen Public Library, New Market Road, Dunellen, New Jersey.  
 Fanwood Public Library, North Avenue and Tillotson Road, Fanwood, New Jersey.  
 Middlesex Public Library, 1300 Mountain Avenue, Middlesex, New Jersey.  
 North Plainfield Public Library, 6 Rockview Avenue, North Plainfield, New Jersey.  
 Piscataway Public Library, 500 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, New Jersey.  
 Plainfield Public Library, 8th and Park Avenue, Plainfield, New Jersey.  
 Scotch Plains Public Library, 1927 Bartle Avenue, Scotch Plains, New Jersey.  
 South Plainfield Public Library, 2840 Plainfield Avenue, South Plainfield, New Jersey.  
 Summit Public Library, 75 Maple Street, Summit, New Jersey.  
 Watchung Public Library, 12 Stirling Road, Watchung, New Jersey.

**John Sassi, P.E.,**

*Chief, Planning Division.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army

#### Corps of Engineers

##### Inland Waterways Users Board

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, Pub. L. 92-463, announcement is made of the next meeting of the Inland Waterways Users Board. The meeting will be held on November 20, 1997, in Charleston, West Virginia, at the Holiday Inn Charleston House, 600 Kanawha Boulevard East, Charleston, West Virginia, (Tel. 304-344-4092). Registration will begin at 12:30 PM and the meeting is scheduled to adjourn at 4:00 PM. The meeting is

open to the public. Any interested person may attend, appear before, or file statements with the committee at the time and in the manner permitted by the Committee.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Norma T. Edwards, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, CECW-PD, Washington, DC 20314-1000.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** None.

**Gregory D. Showalter,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**ACTION:** Proposed collection; comment request.

**SUMMARY:** The Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, invites comments on the proposed information collection requests as required by the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before December 8, 1997.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and requests for copies of the proposed information collection requests should be addressed to Patrick J. Sherrill, Department of Education, 600 Independence Avenue, S.W., Room 5624, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Patrick J. Sherrill (202) 708-8196.

Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 3506 of the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35) requires that the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) provide interested Federal agencies and the public an early opportunity to comment on information collection requests. OMB may amend or waive the requirement for public consultation to the extent that public participation in the approval process would defeat the purpose of the information collection, violate State or Federal law, or substantially interfere with any agency's ability to perform its statutory obligations. The Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes this

notice containing proposed information collection requests prior to submission of these requests to OMB. Each proposed information collection, grouped by office, contains the following: (1) Type of review requested, e.g., new, revision, extension, existing or reinstatement; (2) Title; (3) Summary of the collection; (4) Description of the need for, and proposed use of, the information; (5) Respondents and frequency of collection; and (6) Reporting and/or Recordkeeping burden. OMB invites public comment at the address specified above. Copies of the requests are available from Patrick J. Sherrill at the address specified above.

The Department of Education is especially interested in public comment addressing the following issues: (1) is this collection necessary to the proper functions of the Department, (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner, (3) is the estimate of burden accurate, (4) how might the Department enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected, and (5) how might the Department minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Dated: October 3, 1997.

**Linda Tague,**

*Acting Deputy Chief Information Officer, Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

### Office of Educational Research and Improvement

*Type of Review:* Reinstatement.

*Title:* 1998 Field Test for Schools and Staffing Survey (SASS): LEA, Administrator, School, Teacher and Finance.

*Frequency:* One Time.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or households; Not-for-profit institutions; State, local or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

*Reporting Burden and Recordkeeping:*

Responses: 2,800.

Burden Hours: 3,834.

*Abstract:* The National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) will use the field test to assess data collection procedures and new questions that are planned for the next full-scale SASS in 1999-2000. Policy makers, researchers, and practitioners at the national, state, and local levels use SASS data. Respondents include public and private school principals, teachers, and school and LEA staff persons.

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