

4. It is anticipated that transition to DTOD will have no significant impact upon passenger carriers since rates are not obtained or paid on a mileage basis, but rather on a per seat or per trip basis. While per seat cost and trip costs must consider distance, offerors will be free to establish their costs based on the distance calculation methods of their choice.

5. The DTOD/PC*MILER products will calculate both "shortest" and "practical" mileage. It will contain Stanford Point Location Codes, military locations and other worldwide locations required by DoD. Updates and version control DTOD and PC*MILER will be consistent with industry practices. Carriers and/or other parties who choose to use PC*MILER will have opportunities to provide feedback to ALK Associates, Inc., the provider of DTOD software, regarding routings, database suggestions such as distance differences, road preference suggestions, road re-classifications, new locations, etc.

6. Interested parties are invited to provide comments concerning the use of the DTOD to the address provided above. Comments will be accepted for a period of 60 days from the publication date of this notice.

7. Regulatory Flexibility Act. This change is related to public contracts and is designed to standardize distance calculation for line-haul transportation. This change is not considered rule making within the meaning of the Regulatory Flexibility Act, 5 U.S.C. 601-612.

8. Paperwork Reduction Act. The Paperwork Reduction Act, 44 U.S.C. 3051 *et seq.*, does not apply because no information collection requirement or recordskeeping responsibilities are imposed on offerors, contractors, or members of the public.

Francis A. Galluzzo,

ADCSOPS Transportation Services.

[FR Doc. 98-18021 Filed 7-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Termination of Preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Red River Chloride Control Project (RRCCP), Texas and Oklahoma

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

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: This notice announces the termination of work toward preparation

of an EIS for the RRCCP. A Draft Supplement to the Final EIS for the project was filed with the Environmental Protection Agency and published in the **Federal Register** on May 5, 1995 (EIS No. 950177). The final Supplement was scheduled for release on January 8, 1996, but was delayed until May 13, 1996, and again until August 1996 so that additional information received during the review process could be considered and incorporated into the document.

As a result of public review comments, opposition from natural resource agencies, and Washington level review, it has been determined that the final Supplement will *not* be released and filed.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions or comments concerning the proposed action should be addressed to Mr. David L. Combs, Chief, Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch, Tulsa District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 61, Tulsa, Oklahoma 74121, telephone 918-669-7188.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: During the National Environmental Policy Act process for the Supplement to the Final Environmental Impact Statement (SFEIS), several issues were identified as concerns by the public and commenting natural resource agencies. The major concerns were categorized into the following components: (1) hydrological, biological, and water quality issues concerning fish, aquatic invertebrates, algae/biofilm, aquatic macrophytes, wetland/riparian ecosystem components, along with continued function and integrity of the upper Red River ecosystem; (2) the Lake Texoma component, including chloride/turbidity relationships, chloride/fish reproduction issues, chloride/plankton community issues, chloride/nutrient dynamics issues, and impacts on lake sport fisheries, aesthetics, and recreational values; (3) a selenium component addressing selenium concentrations and impacts on biota; (4) changes in land use at the Area VI brine storage reservoir; (5) impacts on the potential to designate the upper Red River as a wild and scenic river; (6) man-made brines and associated reduction; (7) Section 401 water quality issues; (8) mitigation as it relates to indirect habitat losses resulting from irrigated cropland and direct impacts from construction of project components; (9) impacts on the commercial bait minnow fishery of the upper Red River; (10) Federally-listed threatened and endangered species; and (11) unquantifiable/undefined impacts.

In an attempt to resolve environmental concerns, the District participated in an Environmental Issue Resolution Process (EIRP) along with the project sponsor and the natural resource agencies. A steering committee was developed to oversee technical workgroups formed to address the major areas of concern which were identified as selenium accumulation, Lake Texoma productivity, and the upper Red River ecosystem. The ultimate goal was to develop an Environmental Operational Plan (EOP) acceptable to all agencies for inclusion into the SFEIS. The overall objective of the EOP was to protect against unacceptable environmental changes with the project.

Despite the efforts of all the agencies through the EIRP, areas of controversy regarding the potential for and/or the relative significance of impacts of the project remain for nearly every issue addressed during the process. Controversy remains regarding: (1) the amount of chloride loads being contributed by man-made sources; (2) the levels of significance of impacts to biota, specifically fishes, of the upper Red River due to reduction of chlorides and flow; (3) the use of surface storage impoundments and the potential for selenium accumulation; (4) the significance of chloride impact on lake turbidity in Lake Texoma and potential impacts on the lake fishery, and (5) the amount of mitigation lands required to mitigate project impacts.

Natural resource agency concerns for potential impacts associated with the RRCCP are warranted. However, the degree and severity of impacts are speculative and difficult to ascertain as many potential impacts are indirect and may or may not occur over the life of the project. Also, many of the impacts to the upper Red River ecosystem and Lake Texoma are difficult to address because of the complexity of these issues. Furthermore, many impacts may not be quantifiable prior to completion of extensive baseline data collection and long-term project monitoring. Adding to this difficulty is the fact that few long-term trend analyses have been conducted within the upper Red River Basin.

During the EIRP process, the District funded additional studies to more adequately address natural resource agency concerns and the severity of impacts. However, most study findings were unable to definitively quantify the magnitude of impacts, if any, attributable to the project. Consequently, there are still several unresolved issues that may only be resolved following long-term collection

of baseline data, construction of the project, and long-term monitoring.

The project was reCOORDINATED with the resource agencies in accordance with the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA), and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) issued a Draft FWCA Report for the project dated August 1994. The Service's position is, "The project not proceed as formulated due to unmitigable impacts to important fish and wildlife resources. Other alternatives, such as desalinization, effluent reclamation, and water blending, should be evaluated and incorporated into a limited project that meets the water requirements of the basin. Control of chlorides at Areas IV, XIII, and XIV should not be pursued as proposed due to their anticipated significant contribution to impacts to: (1) the Red River aquatic community; (2) the Lake Texoma sport fishery; (3) the Sandy Sanders Wildlife Management Area; (4) Federally-listed species; and (5) migratory birds and other resources from selenium contamination at the proposed brine storage sites. In July 1996, the USFWS furnished an Interim Final Supplemental FWCA report for the project. The Service's position with respect to the project remains unchanged.

Timothy L. Sanford,

Colonel, U.S. Army District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 98-18020 Filed 7-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-39-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the South River, Raritan River Basin, Combined Flood Control and Environmental Restoration Project, Middlesex County, New Jersey

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for proposed measures to provide flood control protection and environmental restoration in the South River, Raritan River Basin, New Jersey. For this Notice of Intent, the Corps is considering protection measures to reduce damages caused by flooding and coastal storms. The EIS will be prepared according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act

of 1969, as amended, (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), and consistent with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's policy to facilitate public understanding and scrutiny of agency proposals. This notice of intent is published as required by the President's Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing the provisions of NEPA, 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions regarding the action can be addressed to Mark H. Burlas, Project Environmental Manager, phone (212) 264-4663, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, Planning Division, 26 Federal Plaza New York, New York 10278-0090.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Authorization

This study is authorized by a U.S. House of Representatives resolution dated May 13, 1993. The reconnaissance report, completed in May 1995, identified a potential plan of improvement that consists of two levees, each approximately 10,000 feet long along opposite banks of the South River. The levees would protect the communities of South River and Sayerville from a 100-year flood.

For environmental restoration, we identified a plan of improvement to restore the quality of the salt marsh near the Washington Canal. The plan would involve the replacement of low quality vegetation in 250 acres of wetlands to restore an important habitat.

2. Location of the Proposed Action

This study area is located within the lower Raritan River Basin in Middlesex County, New Jersey. The South River is the first major tributary of the Raritan River, located approximately 8.3 miles upstream of the Raritan River's mouth at the Raritan Bay.

The South River is formed by the confluence of Matchaponix and Manalapan Brooks, just above Duhernal Lake, and flows northward from Duhernal Lake Dam for a distance of approximately seven miles, at which point it splits into the old South River and the Washington Canal. It flows through the Townships of East Brunswick and Old Bridge, and the Boroughs of South River and Sayerville.

3. Reasonable Alternative Actions

In addition to the "No Action" alternative, the flood control component of the feasibility study will evaluate alternatives such as buy-outs, storm gates and flood walls to avoid and minimize impacts to coastal wetlands, as well as various levee layouts and heights. The environmental restoration

component will analyze alternatives to restore degraded coastal marshes and tidal ecosystems.

4. Significant Issues Requiring In-Depth Analysis

1. Coastal Wetlands Impacts; 2. Impacts to Aquatic Resources; 3. Archaeological and Cultural Resources Impacts; 4. Hydrology Impacts; 5. Economic Impacts.

5. Environmental Review and Consultation

Review will be conducted as outlined in the Council on Environmental Quality regulations dated November 29, 1983 (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508) and U.S. Army Corps of Engineer regulation ER 200-2-2 dated March 4, 1988.

6. Public Scoping Meeting

A public scoping meeting is tentatively scheduled for July 16, 1998, at the South River Public Library, (55 Appleby Avenue, South River, New Jersey 08816) from 5:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.

7. Estimated Date of DEIS Availability

February 2000.

Gregory D. Showalter,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 98-18027 Filed 7-7-98; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-06-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Raritan Bay and Sandy Hook Bay, Combined Flood Control and Shore Protection Project, Union Beach, Monmouth County, New Jersey

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The New York District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is preparing a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for proposed measures to provide flood control and storm damage protection in Union Beach, New Jersey. For this Notice of Intent, the Corps is considering protection measures to reduce damages caused by flooding and coastal storms. The EIS will be prepared according to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers procedures for implementing the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, (NEPA), 42 U.S.C. 4332(2)(C), and consistent with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineer's policy to facilitate