

to the GRR/EIS, as defined in section 1502.9(c) of the CEQ Regulations.

**John C. Morrow,**

*Lieutenant Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Notice of Availability of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Nebraska Highway 12 Niobrara East and West Project, Knox County, NE

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Omaha District, has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to analyze the direct, indirect and cumulative effects of a proposed Nebraska State Highway project, Nebraska Highway 12 Niobrara East and West Project by the Nebraska Department of Roads (NDOR). The Applied-for Project is the relocation and elevation (including additional bridges) of two segments of existing Nebraska Highway 12 (N-12) that are frequently flooded and have incurred damage due to high water levels associated with the Missouri River.

**DATES:** Written comments on the Draft EIS will be accepted on or after October 9, 2015, through November 23, 2015. Oral and/or written comments may also be presented at the Public Hearing to be held at 6:00 p.m. on Monday, November 9, 2015, at the Niobrara Secondary School, located at 247 NE-12, Niobrara, NE 68760.

**ADDRESSES:** Send written comments regarding the Applied-for Project and Draft EIS to Rebecca J. Latka, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District, Regulatory Branch, 1616 Capitol Avenue, Omaha, NE 68102-4901, or via email at [Rebecca.J.Latka@usace.army.mil](mailto:Rebecca.J.Latka@usace.army.mil). Requests to be placed on or removed from the mailing list should also be sent to this address.

Copies of the Draft EIS will be available for review at the addresses listed in the **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION** section.

Electronic copies of the Draft EIS may be obtained from the Nebraska Regulatory Office or its Web site at <http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/>

*Missions/RegulatoryProgram/Nebraska/EISHighway12.aspx.*

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Rebecca J. Latka, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, at 402-995-2681; fax 402-996-3842.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The purpose of the Draft EIS is to provide a full and fair discussion of the Applied-for Project and other reasonable alternatives to inform decision makers and the public of the environmental impacts of the Applied-for Project and the reasonable alternatives. NDOR has submitted a Section 404 (Clean Water Act) permit application containing a roadway design for Alternative A7 (the Applied-for Project) to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps). NDOR proposes to relocate N-12 east and west of Niobrara, NE., south of its existing location and construct a new roadway at a higher elevation with enhanced bridged sections to withstand existing and future flood events. The segment of N-12 that is in the bluffs, including the segment that goes through the Village of Niobrara, will remain the same. Two segments of N-12 within the existing Missouri River floodplain would be relocated. The west segment is approximately 6.2 miles long and extends from just east of Verdel, Nebraska, on the west end to 2 miles west of the bridge over the Niobrara River. The Applied-for Project would deviate from the existing alignment just east of Ponca Creek and would rejoin the existing alignment just north of County Road 892. The east segment is approximately 6 miles long and extends from just east of Spruce Avenue in Niobrara, NE., to approximately 1 mile east of Spur 54D (S-54D). In the east segment, the alignment would deviate from the existing alignment east of 4th Avenue in Niobrara, NE., and would reconnect with existing N-12 at approximately S-54D. A new connection to the Chief Standing Bear Memorial Bridge (N-14) and SD-37 would be developed, tying into the existing Highway 14 connection (which will be elevated as part of the project). Once the roads are completed, the existing N-12 roadway would be removed to the existing ground level. In addition to the Applied-for Project, the Draft EIS analyzes three alternatives: (1) Elevation Raise on Existing Alignment, (2) Elevation Raise on Parallel Alignment, (3) Base of Bluffs Alignment. The National Park Service, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Federal Highway Administration, and Knox County are serving as cooperating agencies. The Nebraska Game and Parks

Commission and Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality are participating as review agencies. Copies of the document are available at the following addresses:

1. Niobrara Public Library/Niobrara Civic Center, 25414 Park Avenue Ste 3, Niobrara, NE 68760-0015
2. Tyndall City Library, 110 W 17th Avenue, Tyndall, SD 57066
3. Verdel City Office, 202 Second St., Verdel, NE 68760
4. Verdigre City Public Library, 101 E 3rd Street, Verdigre, NE 68783
5. Springfield City Library, 605 8th Street, Springfield, SD 57062
6. Knox County Extension Office, 308 Bridge Street, Center, NE 68724
7. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lewis and Clark Visitor Center, 55245 Hwy 121, Crofton, NE 68730
8. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nebraska Regulatory Office, Lake Wehrspann Field Office, 8901 S. 154th Street, Omaha, NE 68138-3621
9. Corps of Discovery Welcome Center, 89705 Highway 81, Crofton, NE 68730

Dated: September 30, 2015.

**Joseph McMahan,**

*Chief Regulatory Field Support, Omaha District.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

#### Notice of Intent To Prepare an Integrated Feasibility Report & Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Yuba River, California, Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District (Corps), intends to prepare an integrated Feasibility Report & Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Yuba River Ecosystem Restoration Feasibility Study. The Corps will serve as the lead agency for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. The Yuba County Water Agency (YCWA) will serve as the non-federal sponsor. The feasibility study is evaluating opportunities for ecosystem restoration in the Yuba River watershed, located in portions of Sierra, Placer, Yuba, and Nevada counties.

**DATES:** Written comments should be submitted by November 9, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments should be sent to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

Sacramento District, Attn: Michael Fong, CESPK-PD-RP, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions about the feasibility study and the DEIS may be addressed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, Attn: Michael Fong, CESPK-PD-RP, 1325 J Street, Sacramento, CA, 95814-2922 or submitted by email to [Michael.R.Fong@usace.army.mil](mailto:Michael.R.Fong@usace.army.mil). Requests to be placed on the mailing list should also be sent to this address.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

1. *Study Purpose.* The Corps, in cooperation with YCWA, is conducting a cost-shared feasibility study to identify and respond to problems and opportunities associated with ecosystem restoration in the Yuba River watershed. The authority to study the Sacramento River Basin, including the Yuba River watershed, for flood control and allied purposes, was granted in the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1962, Public Law 87-874, Section 209. A reconnaissance study of ecosystem restoration opportunities in the Yuba River watershed was conducted in 2014 under the authorization of the Energy and Water Development Appropriations Act of 2014, Division D of Public Law 113-76, the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2014. The Civil Works study process provides a systematic and rational framework for developing and analyzing alternative plans. This feasibility study will be conducted under the SMART Planning framework, an efficient, risk-informed process.

2. *Study Area.* The Yuba River Watershed is located in northern California on the western slopes of the Sierra Nevada Mountain Range. The watershed encompasses 1,340 square miles in portions of Sierra, Placer, Yuba, and Nevada counties. The Yuba River is a tributary of the Feather River which, in turn, flows into the Sacramento River near the town of Verona, California. The study area begins in the city of Marysville and extends upstream approximately 90 miles, past Sierra City, California, in Sierra County.

The Yuba River flows through forest, foothill chaparral, and agricultural lands. Levees are absent from most of its course except for near the river's confluence with the Feather River. At that point, the Yuba River is bounded by setback levees for approximately six miles.

The primary watercourses of the upper Yuba River watershed are the South, Middle, and North Yuba rivers. The Middle Yuba River flows into the North Yuba River and together they are referred to as the upper Yuba River.

Current conditions in the Yuba River watershed are largely defined by the legacy of historic gold mining and presence of dams.

3. *Scoping Process.* A series of public Scoping meetings will be held in October and November 2015 to present information and receive comments from the public. These meetings are intended to initiate the process to involve concerned individuals, non-governmental organizations, interested parties, and local, State, and Federal agencies. Public Scoping meetings will be held as follows:

Meeting #1—Wednesday, October 28, 2015, 1:00 p.m.–3:00 p.m. at John E. Moss Federal Building Stanford Room (650 Capitol Mall, Sacramento, CA 95814).

Meeting #2—Thursday, October 29, 2015, 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. at Nevada County Library Community Room (980 Helling Way, Nevada City, CA 95959).

Meeting #3—Wednesday, November 4, 2015, 5:00 p.m.–7:00 p.m. at Yuba County Government Center Marysville and Wheatland Conference Room (915 8th Street, Marysville, CA 95901).

Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the integrated Feasibility Report & DEIS include effects on hydraulics, wetlands and other waters of the U.S., vegetation and wildlife resources, special-status species, aesthetics, cultural resources, recreation, land use, fisheries, water quality, air quality, noise, transportation, socioeconomics, and cumulative effects of related projects in the study area.

The Corps will coordinate with State and Federal resource agencies in order to comply with all pertinent environmental laws, regulations, and policies. Moreover, the Corps will coordinate with effected Native American Tribes to address their concerns and to ensure compliance with all applicable Federal statutes, executive orders, and Corps policies.

4. *Availability.* The integrated feasibility report & DEIS is scheduled to be available for public review and comment in December 2016. A 45-day public review period will be provided for individuals and agencies to review and comment on the DEIS. All interested parties are encouraged to respond to this notice and provide a current address if they wish to be notified of the DEIS circulation.

Dated: October 1, 2015.

**Michael J. Farrell,**

*COL, U.S. Army, District Commander.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Navy

[Docket ID: USN-2013-0032]

### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**AGENCY:** Department of the Navy, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** In compliance with the *Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995*, the Department of the Navy announces a proposed public information collection and seeks public comment on the provisions thereof. Comments are invited on: (a) Whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information shall have practical utility; (b) the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed information collection; (c) ways to enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (d) ways to minimize the burden of the information collection on respondents, including through the use of automated collection techniques or other forms of information technology.

**DATES:** Consideration will be given to all comments received by December 8, 2015.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit comments, identified by docket number and title, by any of the following methods:

- *Federal eRulemaking Portal:* <http://www.regulations.gov>. Follow the instructions for submitting comments.
- *Mail:* Department of Defense, Office of the Deputy Chief Management Officer, Directorate of Oversight and Compliance, Regulatory and Audit Matters Office, 9010 Defense Pentagon, Washington, DC 20301-9010.

*Instructions:* All submissions received must include the agency name, docket number and title for this **Federal Register** document. The general policy for comments and other submissions from members of the public is to make these submissions available for public viewing on the Internet at <http://www.regulations.gov> as they are received without change, including any personal identifiers or contact information.

Any associated form(s) for this collection may be located within this same electronic docket and downloaded for review/testing. Follow the instructions at <http://www.regulations.gov> for submitting comments. Please submit comments on any given form identified by docket number, form number, and title.