

Scoping will be conducted to identify environmental, safety and occupational health issues to be addressed in the EIS. Public scoping meetings will be held as a part of the process. The scoping meetings will be held in Kodiak and Anchorage, Alaska and Lompoc, CA. Exact dates, locations and times of the scoping meetings will be advertised at a later date.

Public input and comments are solicited concerning the environmental safety and occupational health issues related to the proposed action. To ensure the program office will have sufficient time to fully consider public input on issues, written comments should be mailed to ensure receipt no later than thirty days after public release.

As a part of the decision-making process, the U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command (USASMDC) is managing the preparation of the EIS for flight-testing of GMD on behalf of the MDA. Comments concerning the public scoping process or the EIS process should be addressed to: U.S. Army Space and Missile Defense Command, ATTN: SMDC-EN-V (Mrs. Julia Hudson-Elliott), 106 Wynn Drive, Huntsville, AL 35805, or by e-mail at gmdetreis@smdc.army.mil.

Dated: March 26, 2002.

L.M. Bynum,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 02-7629 Filed 3-26-02; 1:49 pm]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Office of the Secretary; Conference Meeting of the United States Strategic Command, Strategic Advisory Group

AGENCY: Department of Defense.

ACTION: Notice of closed meeting.

SUMMARY: The United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) Strategic Advisory Group (SAG) will meet in closed session on April 18 and 19, 2002.

The mission of the SAG is to provide timely advice on scientific, technical, intelligence, and policy-related issues to the Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Strategic Command. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss strategic issues that relate to the development of the Single Integrated Operational Plan.

The meeting will involve classified information and access must be strictly limited to personnel having requisite clearances and specific need-to-know. In accordance with section 10(d) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (5

USC, App. 2), the meeting will be closed to the public.

DATES: April 18 and 19, 2002.

ADDRESSES: U.S. Strategic Command, 901 SAC Boulevard, Suite 1F7, Offutt Air Force Base, NE 68113-6030.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Connie Druskis, USSTRATCOM SAG, (402) 294-4102.

Dated: March 22, 2002.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 02-7390 Filed 3-27-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army

Availability for Exclusive, Partially Exclusive, or Non-Exclusive Licensing of U.S. Patent Concerning Noise Abatement Technology

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: The Department of the Army announces the general availability of exclusive, partially exclusive or non-exclusive licenses relative to a noise abatement technology as described in U.S. Patent No. 4,928,573, Fansler, et al., May 29, 1990, entitled "Silencer for sabotaged projectiles." Licenses shall comply with 35 U.S.C. 209 and 37 CFR 404.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Michael D. Rausa, U.S. Army Research Laboratory, Office of Research and Technology Applications, ATTN: AMSRL-DP-T/Bldg. 459, Aberdeen Proving Ground, Maryland 21005-5425, Telephone: (410) 278-5028.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-7521 Filed 3-27-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed University of California at Merced and Associated Infrastructure Projects, Corps Permit Application Numbers 199900203 and 200100570

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The University of California and County of Merced propose to construct a major university campus and associated infrastructure in Merced County, California. The project as proposed would impact over 92 acres of waters of the United States, including vernal pools and other associated wetlands.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and DEIS can be answered by Ms. Nancy Haley, (916) 557-7772, ucmerced@spk.usace.army.mil, 1325 J Street, Room 1480, Sacramento, CA 95814-2922.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The applicants have applied for Department of the Army permits under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to construct a tenth University of California campus to support 25,000 full-time equivalent students and associated infrastructure. The proposed campus would be 2,000 acres in size, and comprised of a Main Campus (910 acres), Merced Irrigation District canals and easements (70 acres), a Campus Land Reserve (340 acres), and a Campus Natural Reserve (750 acres).

The Main Campus would consist of an academic core, student support services, student and faculty housing, campus support, on-campus research facilities, athletic and recreation facilities, and parking. The Campus Land Reserve is proposed for future growth of the University facility. The Campus Natural Reserve would be preserved and managed to maintain and enhance its natural environmental functions and values. Over 86 acres of waters of the United States would be directly impacted by this project. Additional indirect impacts to waters would likely occur; however those impacts have not yet been quantified.

Construction of the first phase of the UC Merced Campus is proposed to begin in 2002, on about 110 acres of the existing Merced Hills Golf Course located at the southern end of the proposed Main Campus. The applicant has stated that construction of the first phase will not involve any placement of dredged or fill material into any waters of the United States, including wetlands.

The proposed project is located east of Lake Road, and Yosemite Lake, approximately two miles northeast of the City of Merced, Merced County, California.

Alternatives to be examined for the campus include: Bellevue Ranch site, Castle Airport site, City of Merced in-fill sites, and various configurations on, and/or adjacent to, the proposed project site.

The Infrastructure project would include construction of a major north-south arterial north of Yosemite Road, portions of two additional minor arterial roadways and collector streets, and utility lines (storm drainage, sewer, potable water, fire and irrigation water, telecommunications, electric and gas) within the rights-of-way secured for those roadways. A storm water collection system would be constructed parallel to the major arterial roadway.

Although this infrastructure is needed for the campus, it is proposed to be located and configured in such a manner as to allow the development of a campus community adjacent to the campus.

The infrastructure would directly impact over 6 acres of waters of the United States. Indirect impacts have not yet been quantified. This project is located north of Yosemite Road, and parallel to Lake Road, northeast of the City of Merced, Merced County, California.

No alternatives to the infrastructure have been identified to date. However, the proposed infrastructure, alternatives to its proposed size, design and location will be considered in the Section 404(b)(1) analysis that will be prepared for this application.

The Corps' public involvement program includes several opportunities to provide oral and written comments. Affected Federal, state, local agencies, Indian tribes and other interested private organizations and parties are invited to participate. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the DEIS include, loss of waters of the United States, including vernal pools and other wetlands; cultural resources; threatened and endangered species; surface water and groundwater; water quality; socio-economic effects; aesthetics. The DEIS for both the Infrastructure and the UC Merced projects will be combined into one document to facilitate public review and analysis.

The Corps has initiated formal consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act for eight, Federally threatened and endangered species and one species proposed for listing that may be affected by this project. In addition, the Corps will be consulting with the State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act regarding potential impacts to sites listed, or eligible for listing, on the National Register of Historic Places.

Two scoping meetings will be held on April 18, 2002, at the Merced Civic Center. The first meeting will be held

from 3:00p.m. to 5:00p.m., with the second from 7:00p.m. to 9:00p.m.

The estimated date when the DEIS will be made available to the public is Fall 2002.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-7523 Filed 3-27-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-EH-P

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board; Meeting

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

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Pub. L. 92-463), announcement is made of the forthcoming meeting. The meeting is open to the public.

Name of Committee: Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board (EAB).

Date: April 11, 2002.

Location: Florence Room at the Four Points by Sheraton Hotel, 1 Plaza Square, Rock Island, IL.

Time: 8:00 AM to 3:30 PM. Central Daylight Savings Time.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ellen Cummings, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC 20314-1000; Ph: 202-761-4558.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Board advises the Chief of Engineers on environmental policy, identification and resolution of environmental issues and missions, and addressing challenges, problems and opportunities in an environmentally sustainable manner. The theme of this meeting is environmental sustainability within the Corps of Engineers Military and Civil Works functions. It will include a discussion of the Corps of Engineers Operating Principles and draft guidance on the incorporation of sustainability into Corps projects, such as the current study of navigation on the Upper Mississippi River and Illinois Waterways System. Time will be provided for public comment. Each speaker will be limited to no more than three minutes in order to accommodate as many people as possible within the limited time available. However, this is not a public meeting on the Upper Mississippi River-Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study, per se. If you wish to receive electronic notice of future meetings you may subscribe to a

list server at: http://www.usace.army.mil/inet/functions/cw/hot_topics/eab.htm.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. 02-7522 Filed 3-27-02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710-92-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Stabilization of In-Water Facilities at the Fox Island Laboratory, Tacoma, WA and Public Scoping Meeting

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: Pursuant to Section 102(2)(c) of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, as implemented by the Council on Environmental Quality regulations (40 CFR parts 1500-1508), the Department of the Navy announces its intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to evaluate the potential environmental consequences of the stabilization of in-water facilities at the Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock Division (NSWCDD) Fox Island Laboratory (FIL) near Tacoma, WA.

DATES AND ADDRESSES: A public scoping meeting will be held to receive oral and/or written comments on environmental concerns that should be addressed in the EIS. The public scoping meeting will be held on Wednesday, April 17, 2002, from 6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. at the Nichol's Community Center, 690 9th Ave, Fox Island, WA. All written comments must be postmarked by May 17, 2002, and be mailed to: Commander, Engineering Field Activity, Northwest, Naval Facilities Engineering Command, 19917 7th Ave NE, Poulsbo, WA 98370, Attn: Code 05EC3.KK (Mrs. Kimberly Kler), telephone (360) 396-0927, fax (360) 396-0854, E-Mail klerkh@efanw.navfac.navy.mil.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. William Baxley, (Code 0670), Naval Surface Warfare Center Carderock Division, 8010 North Ocean Drive, Dania, FL 33004; telephone (954) 926-4015, fax (954) 926-4031, E-Mail baxleywe@nswccd.navy.mil.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The NSWCDD FIL needs to provide stable and safe in-water facilities, in order to meet its mission requirements. The facility, consisting of four barges, a pier, and associated mooring components has sustained substantial weather-related