

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Office of the Secretary****Submission for OMB Review;
Comment Request****ACTION:** Notice.

The Department of Defense has submitted to OMB for clearance, the following proposal for a new collection of information under the provisions, of the Paperwork Reduction Act (44 U.S.C. Chapter 35).

DATES: Consideration will be given to all comments received by November 15, 2001.

Title and OMB Number: West Point Engineering Graduates Surveys; OMB Number 0702-[To Be Determined].

Type of Request: New Collection.

Number of Respondents: 519.

Responses Per Respondent: 1.

Annual Responses: 519.

Average Burden Per Response: 25 minutes.

Annual Burden Hours: 218.

Needs and Uses: An assessment of perceptions of graduates on the effectiveness of the U.S. Military Academy programs and curricula is needed for periodic accreditation by the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology. The information collected will be used to evaluate programs/curricula and make changes deemed advisable. The information will be collected via seven surveys, each with content appropriate to graduates of engineering and engineering and engineering-related courses of study at the U.S. Military Academy. The surveys will go to graduates currently serving as officers in the U.S. Army and to graduates not currently serving. Respondents will be allowed to choose between completing a mailed survey or an Internet-based survey.

Affected Public: Individuals or Households.

Frequency: On Occasion (Every Three Years).

Respondent's Obligation: Voluntary.

OMB Desk Officer: Mr. Edward C. Springer.

Written comments and recommendations on the proposed information collection should be sent to Mr. Springer at the Office of Management and Budget, Desk Officer for DoD, Room 10236, New Executive Office Building, Washington, DC 20503.

DOD Clearance Officer: Mr. Robert Cushing. Written requests for copies of the information collection proposal should be sent to Mr. Cushing, WHS/DIOR, 1215 Jefferson Davis Highway, Suite 1204, Arlington, VA 22202-4302.

Dated: October 10, 2001.

Patricia L. Toppings,

Alternate OSD Federal Register, Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.

[FR Doc. 01-25925 Filed 10-15-01; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 5001-08-M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army**

Notice of Intent To Prepare a Supplemental Draft Environmental Impact Statement (SDEIS) for the National Training Center (NTC) Land Expansion Proposal at Fort Irwin, California and Notice of Substitution of Lead Agency

AGENCY: U.S. Army National Training Center and Fort Irwin, Department of the Army, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent and notice of substitution of lead agency.

SUMMARY: Fort Irwin proposes to expand upon existing maneuver land in order to meet training needs for force-on-force and live fire training of heavy brigade and battalion-sized task forces. The advances in weapon systems (e.g., longer engagement ranges) require units to cover and operate over more ground (50km x 100km, as opposed to the 26km x 58km maneuver space currently available). The need for additional maneuver land at the NTC was identified because of changes in doctrine, equipment, and tactics. The need was validated and quantified by two Land Use Requirement Studies (LURS). The studies indicated a shortfall of approximately 193,000 acres. In 1997, a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) was released for the proposed project. The DEIS examined several different alternatives and identified the preferred alternative as the "Silurian Valley Alternative," an alternative that consisted of acquiring lands that lay primarily to the east and north of the present boundaries of Fort Irwin. After examining the impacts and feasibility of the alternatives contained within the DEIS, it was determined that no alternative in the 1997 DEIS, including the preferred alternative, met the Army's project goals and requirements.

As such, new alternatives have been formulated that now must be examined in a supplement to the 1997 DEIS. The new alternatives consist of various configurations of land that is to the east, west and south of the existing boundaries and will also utilize land within Fort Irwin boundaries that are currently off limits to mechanized training. Due to the age of the 1997 DEIS

and the data contained therein, the supplement will also update all existing condition information for the study area and, as such, constitutes a complete redraft in addition to being a supplemental document.

The preferred alternative involves acquisition of approximately 110,000 new acres on the east and southwest sides of the existing NTC and the return to training use of approximately 22,000 acres in the south that are currently set aside on the NTC. While the proposed land expansion is less than the 193,000 acres identified in the LURS, it satisfies the most critical needs for additional maneuver land, while taking into account the Army's environmental stewardship responsibilities.

The Department of the Army has assumed responsibility for the SDEIS and has replaced the Bureau of Land Management as lead agency for this project. The Bureau of Land Management shall hereafter act as a cooperating agency to the project.

ADDRESSES: Direct written inquiries or comments concerning the proposed land expansion of the NTC and Fort Irwin to: NTC Land Expansion Program, Mr. Tim Reischl, NTC Site Manager, AFZJ-SP Strategic Planning Division, P.O. 105004, Fort Irwin, CA 92310.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. Tim Reischl at (760) 380-3872 by fax at (760) 380-2294 or Mr. Gary Ethridge at (909) 695-1999.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The SDEIS will consider reasonable alternatives including expansion (1) only to the east, (2) the east and south, (3) to the east and southwest and (4) to the east and west. The no action (continue operations with existing ranges and facilities) alternative required by National Environmental Policy Act will be evaluated. Other reasonable alternatives will also be considered.

Significant issues: The primary issues to be analyzed in this SDEIS include: Endangered species issues (potential impacts to two listed species—desert tortoise and Lane Mountain Milk vetch), air quality including PM₁₀ standards, noise (aircraft/range firing), soil erosion, water quality, cultural resources, and other issues raised during public scoping.

Scoping: The SDEIS is being prepared as a supplement to the draft EIS published in 1997. The supplement considers other land and alternatives that were not considered in the DEIS. As such, an additional scoping meeting will be conducted on November 29, 2001, 2-5 p.m. and 6-9 p.m. in the Barstow City Hall Council Chambers, 220 E. Mountain View Avenue, Barstow.

Additional, the public will be notified through media and proper channels of the date, time and location. A mailing list has been prepared for public scoping and review throughout the process of preparation of this SDEIS. This list includes local, state and Federal officials having jurisdictional expertise or other interests in the project; concerned citizens; conservation groups; and local news media.

To comment by electronic mail or for more information, see the web site at www.fortirwinlandexpansion.com.

Dated: October 10, 2001.

Raymond J. Fatz,

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

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board

AGENCY: Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of open meeting.

SUMMARY: In accordance with Section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act (Public Law 92-463), announcement is made of the forthcoming meeting of the Chief of Engineers Environmental Advisory Board (EAB). The meeting is open to the public.

DATES: The meeting will be held from 8 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Friday, November 2, 2001.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be in room 142C, 4155 Clay Street, Vicksburg, Mississippi.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Ellen Cummings, Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC 20314-1000, (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. It will include a summary report of a workshop on sustainability, discussion of the definition of sustainability and what it means for the Corps, how this relates to studies and projects such as the proposed Yazoo Backwater Pump, and

future research efforts at the Engineering Research and Development Center.

Local security measures will be in place. Additionally, interested parties will be required to present two forms of photo identification in order to access the meeting room.

Dated: October 11, 2001.

Charles M. Hess,

Chief, Operations Division, Directorate of Civil Works.

[FR Doc. 01-25985 Filed 10-15-01; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

AGENCY: Department of Education.

SUMMARY: The Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, 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 17, 2001.

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 Leader, Regulatory Information Management Group, Office of the Chief Information Officer, publishes that 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.

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 11, 2001.

John Tressler,

*Leader, Regulatory Information Management,
Office of the Chief Information Officer.*

Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

Type of Review: Extension.

Title: Lists of Hearing Officers and Mediators.

Frequency: When modifications are deemed necessary.

Affected Public: State, Local, or Tribal Gov't, SEAs or LEAs.

Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:

Responses: 75,560.

Burden Hours: 15,292.

Abstract: Under Part B of the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act, each public educational agency receiving Part B funds must keep a list of persons who serve as hearing officers. The State keeps a list of mediators. These lists serve to provide interested parties with information about hearing officers and mediators qualifications.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, or should be addressed to Vivian Reese, Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., Room 4050, Regional Office Building 3, Washington, DC 20202-4651. Requests may also be electronically mailed to the internet address OCIO_RIMG@ed.gov or faxed to 202-708-9346. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be directed to Sheila Carey at (202) 708-6287 or via her internet address Sheila.Carey@ed.gov. Individuals who use a telecommunications device for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Information Relay Service (FIRS) at 1-800-877-8339.

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