

Bering Sea. It also has the largest auklet population in Alaska.

Constructability criteria include geologic stability, availability, and cost effectiveness of an armor rock and fill quarry sources. Environmental issues include effects to sea bird nesting habitat, fish and wildlife resources, social well being, cultural resources and justifiable and practicable mitigation measures. Other resources and concerns will be identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

*Scoping:* A copy of this notice and additional public information will be sent to interested parties to initiate scoping. All parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns, issues, studies, and alternatives that should be considered. A scoping meeting will be held on Little Diomed Island, AK, in the February/March 2007 time frame. The DEIS is scheduled for release in 2009.

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Wilmington Harbor—96 Act, Dredged Material Management Plan, New Hanover and Brunswick Counties, NC

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

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Wilmington District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is conducting a study to evaluate the long-term (20-year) dredged material placement needs and opportunities for Wilmington Harbor. The study area encompasses Wilmington Harbor and the Ocean Bar approach channels, which extend from the mouth of the Cape Fear River in Brunswick County, NC to a point just north of the Hilton Railroad Bridge in New Hanover County, near Wilmington, NC. The study will include the preparation of a Dredged Material Management Plan (DMMP) and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and will identify, evaluate, screen, prioritize, and ultimately optimize placement alternatives resulting in the recommendation of a plan for the

placement of dredged materials for at least the next 20 years.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions regarding the DMMP and DEIS should be directed to: Ms. Jenny Owens; Environmental Resources Section; U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington; Post Office Box 1890; Wilmington, NC 28402-1890; telephone: (910) 251-4757.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The USACE, Engineering Regulation (ER) 1105-2-100 mandates that the Corps Districts develop DMMP plans for all Federal navigation projects where there is an indication of insufficient capacity to accommodate maintenance dredging for the next 20 years. The ER further states that the Districts should consider options that provide opportunities for beneficial uses of dredged material. The DMMP process began with a Preliminary Assessment (PA) that was completed in February 1997. The PA identified dredged material placement shortfalls for Wilmington Harbor and recommended the development of a DMMP.

Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, options for dredged material management will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activity on the public interest. The decision will reflect the national concern for the protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit, which may reasonably be expected to accrue from the proposal, will be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors that may be relevant to the proposal will be considered, including wetlands; fish and wildlife resources; cultural resources; land use; water and air quality; hazardous, toxic, and radioactive substances; threatened and endangered species; regional geology; aesthetics; environmental justice; and the general needs and welfare of the public.

The alternatives currently being considered for the DMMP include, but are not limited to: offshore disposal in the EPA designated Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (ODMDS), beach disposal, upland disposal at Eagle Island, dike restoration and wetland creation at existing islands in the Harbor and establishment of sand recycling islands. Additional beneficial uses will also be investigated for the DMMP. The DEIS will address measures, alternatives and impacts to the selected or preferred alternative(s).

All private parties and Federal, State, and local agencies having an interest in the study are hereby notified of the

intent to prepare a DEIS and are invited to comment at this time. A scoping meeting was held on December 8, 2005 and all comments received as a result of the scoping meeting and this notice of intent will be considered in the preparation of the DMMP and DEIS.

The lead agency for this project is the U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington. Cooperating agency status has not been assigned to, nor requested by, any other agency.

The DEIS is being prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and will address the relationship of the proposed action to all other applicable Federal and State Laws and Executive Orders.

The DMMP and DEIS is currently scheduled to be available in October 2007.

Dated: December 6, 2006.

**John E. Pulliam, Jr.,**

*Colonel, EN, Commanding.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No: 84.031S]

### Office of Postsecondary Education, Institutional Development and Undergraduate Educational Services

**ACTION:** Notice Announcing Technical Assistance Workshops for fiscal year (FY) 2007 Developing Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSI) program.

**SUMMARY:** This notice provides information about seven one-day technical assistance workshops to assist institutions of higher education interested in preparing grant applications for FY 2007 new awards under the HSI program. Staff will present information about the purpose of the HSI program, selection criteria, application content, submission procedures, and reporting requirements.

Although the Department has not yet announced an application deadline date in the **Federal Register** for the FY 2007 competition, the Department is holding these workshops to give potential applicants guidance for preparing applications for the competition we expect to conduct in FY 2007. Specific requirements for the FY 2007 competition will be published in a separate **Federal Register** notice. This notice announces the technical assistance workshops only.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Josephine Hamilton, Team Leader or Carlin Hertz, Developing Hispanic-