

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army****Army Science Board Plenary Meeting****AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice of open meeting.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the Federal Advisory Committee Act of 1972 (5 U.S.C., Appendix, as amended), the Sunshine in the Government Act of 1976 (U.S.C. 552b, as amended) and 41 Code of the Federal Regulations (CFR 102-3. 140 through 160, the Department of the Army announces the following committee meeting:

*Name of Committee:* Army Science Board (ASB).

*Date(s) of Meeting:* January 15 & 16, 2008.

*Time(s) of Meeting:* 0800-1700, January 15, 2008.

0800-1600, January 16, 2008.

*Place of Meeting:* University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Inn and Conference Center, Adelphi, MD. 3501 University Boulevard E, Adelphi, MD.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** For information please contact Ms. Sharon Harvey at [sharon.harvey1@us.army.mil](mailto:sharon.harvey1@us.army.mil) or (703) 604-7466 or Mr. Wayne Joyner at [wayne.joyner@saalt.army.mil](mailto:wayne.joyner@saalt.army.mil) or (703) 604-7490.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** *Proposed Agenda:* The Army Science Board will meet on January 15 & 16, 2008 at the University of Maryland University College (UMUC) Inn and Conference Center. Purpose of the meeting on both days is to allow each study; Generation Force Functional Census, Institutionalized Lifecycle Management of Innovation Organizations, Information Operations, and Persistent CSR to collect data and hold discussions as it relates to each individual study.

**Brenda S. Bowen,**

*Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.*

[FR Doc. E7-24151 Filed 12-12-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-08-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army****Conservation Measures for Transfer of Federal Land at Parks Reserve Forces Training Area, Dublin, CA****AGENCY:** Department of the Army, DoD.**ACTION:** Notice of requirement.

**SUMMARY:** Pursuant to the proposed conservation measures found within the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Biological Opinion #1106F1752 dated December 18, 2006, acceptance of any portion of the 170.5-acre land exchange property located at Parks Reserve Forces Training Area (PFRTA), Dublin, CA is conditioned on the developer engaging the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Section 7 or Section 10 Endangered Species Act consultation prior to the development of the aforementioned land. This consultation requirement is because of the potential loss of habitat and potential for take of the endangered San Joaquin Kit Fox (*Vulpes macrotis mutica*), the threatened California red-legged frog (*Rana aurora draytonii*), and the threatened California tiger salamander (*Ambystoma californiense*).

**ADDRESSES:** Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army CTSC, Camp Parks, 790 5th Street, Dublin, CA 94568-5201.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Amy Phillips, (925) 875-4298, [amy.phillips@usar.army.mil](mailto:amy.phillips@usar.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** A Request for Proposal (RFP) regarding the 170.5-acre land exchange property will be available upon request.

**Kevin R. Riedler,**

*Colonel, U.S. Army, Commanding.*

[FR Doc. E7-24193 Filed 12-12-07; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 3710-08-P**

**DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE****Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for Expansion of Lake Worth Inlet (Palm Beach Harbor), FL**

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

**COOPERATING AGENCY:** Port of Palm Beach District, Riviera Beach, Florida.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps (Corps) of Engineers intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for expansion, including widening and deepening of existing channels and turning basins in Lake Worth Inlet (Palm Beach Harbor). The project is a cooperative effort between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (lead Federal agency) and Port of Palm Beach District (non-Federal sponsor and cooperating agency).

**ADDRESSES:** Ms. Catherine L. Brooks, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, Planning Division, Environmental Section, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32207.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Catherine L. Brooks at (904) 232-2130.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Authority for the proposed study was received under the House Resolution of June 25, 1998. An expedited Reconnaissance Report completed in 2001 by the Corps, concluded based on preliminary findings, there was a federal interest in pursuing harbor improvements.

*Alternatives:* The project's expansion alternatives include no action, creation of channel flares, wideners, deepening, turning basin, or a combination of the considered alternatives. Alternatives being considered for disposal of dredged material include Peanut Island (with possible off-load to another use or location), ocean disposal in the Palm Harbor Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site (which may require expansion or modification), beach placement (if there is sufficient beach compatible material), artificial reef (if there is sufficient suitable rock) and any other disposal or beneficial use options that may become available.

*Issues:* The EIS will consider impacts on coral reefs and other hardbottom communities, sea grasses, protected species, shore impacts, health and safety, water quality, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, energy conservation, socio-economic resources, navigation, and other impacts identified through scoping, public involvement and interagency coordination.

*Scoping:* The scoping process will involve Federal, State, County and municipal agencies and other interested persons and organizations. A public and agency scoping meeting will be held on January 9, 2008, at 3 p.m. at the Port of Palm Beach, One East 11<sup>th</sup> Street, Riviera Beach, FL 33404.

*Public Involvement:* We invite the participation of affected Federal, State and local agencies, affected Native-American Tribes, and other interested private organizations and individuals. In addition to the agency and public scoping meeting on January 9, 2008, and receipt of written comments at various stages of the Feasibility Study, there will be a public meeting on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement following its preparation. The date, time, and location will be announced.

*Coordination:* The proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and NOAA-National Marine Fisheries Service (under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act) and the Wildlife Coordination Act (FWS only). The proposed action is also being coordinated with the Florida State

Historic Preservation Officer, the U.S. Coast Guard, and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

*Other Environmental Review and Consultation:* The proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act, water quality certification (application to the State of Florida) pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, certification of state lands, easements, and rights-of-way, determination of Coastal Zone Management Act Consistency, and the use of the Ocean Dredged Material Disposal Site for Palm Beach Harbor pursuant to the Marine Protection, Research, and Sanctuaries Act (Ocean Dumping Act).

*Agency Role:* As the cooperating agency, non-Federal sponsor and leading local expert, the Port of Palm Beach will provide information and assistance on the resources to be impacted, mitigation measures and alternatives. Other agencies having either regulatory authority or special expertise may also be invited to become a cooperating agency in preparation of the EIS.

*Draft EIS Preparation:* It is estimated that the Draft EIS will be available to the public by November 2008. As the study and EIS develop, additional information will be posted under Palm Beach County on the Jacksonville District's Environmental Documents web page at: <http://planning.sj.usace.army.mil/envdocs/envdocsb.htm>. The status of any Florida Department of Environmental Protection application submitted for permit of this action will be posted on the internet at: <http://www.dep.state.fl.us/beaches/permitting/permits.htm>.

Dated: December 6, 2007.

**Marie G. Burns,**

*Acting Chief, Planning Division.*

[FR Doc. E7-24150 Filed 12-12-07; 8:45 am]

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Regulatory Guidance Letter (RGL) 07-02: Exemptions for Construction or Maintenance of Irrigation Ditches and Maintenance of Drainage Ditches under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA)**

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

**ACTION:** Notice of availability.

**SUMMARY:** The Corps issued RGL 07-02 to further explain the regulatory exemptions for construction or maintenance of irrigation ditches and maintenance of drainage ditches consistent with Section 404(f) of the CWA (33 U.S.C. 1251 et seq.) and implementing regulations. Specifically, the RGL clarifies when Section 404(f) exempts from permitting requirements discharges of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States associated with the construction and maintenance of irrigation ditches and maintenance of drainage ditches. The RGL also clarifies how certain terms in the regulations at 33 CFR 323.4 are applied in the context of the Sections 404(f) exemptions, including irrigation ditch, drainage ditch, construction, and maintenance. In addition, the guidance provides a framework for determining the applicability of the exemptions and the recapture provision, consistent with the CWA and implementing regulations. This RGL was effective July 4, 2007.

**DATES:** Comments must be received on or before February 11, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Submit your comments, identified by docket number COE-2007-0038, by one of the following methods:

- *http://www.regulations.gov:* Follow the on-line instructions for submitting comments.
- *E-mail:* Kimberly.S.McLaughlin@usace.army.mil. Include the docket number, COE-2007-0038 in the subject line of the message.
- *Mail:* 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314.
- *Hand Delivery:* 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314. Such deliveries are only accepted during normal hours of operation, and special arrangements should be made for deliveries of boxed information.

*Instructions:* Direct your comments to docket number COE-2007-0038. The Corps's policy is that all comments received will be included in the public docket without change and may be made available online at [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov), including any personal information provided, unless the comment includes information claimed to be Confidential Business Information (CBI) or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Do not submit information that you consider to be CBI or otherwise protected through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or e-mail. The [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) Web site is an "anonymous access" system, which means the Corps will not know your identity or contact information unless you provide it in the body of

your comment. If you send an e-mail comment directly to the Corps without going through [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) your e-mail address will be automatically captured and included as part of the comment that is placed in the public docket and made available on the Internet. If you submit an electronic comment, the Corps recommends that you include your name and other contact information in the body of your comment and with any disk or CD-ROM you submit. If the Corps cannot read your comment due to technical difficulties and cannot contact you for clarification, the Corps may not be able to consider your comment. Electronic files should avoid the use of special characters, any form of encryption, and be free of any defects or viruses.

*Docket:* All documents in the docket are listed in the [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) index. Although listed in the index, some information is not publicly available, e.g., CBI or other information whose disclosure is restricted by statute. Certain other material, such as copyrighted material, will be publicly available only in hard copy. Publicly available docket materials are available either electronically in [www.regulations.gov](http://www.regulations.gov) or in hard copy at 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314. The Public Reading Room is open from 8:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Kim McLaughlin, Regulatory Community of Practice (CECW-CO), U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Headquarters, 441 G Street, NW., Washington, DC 20314; telephone number: (202) 761-7763; fax number: (202) 761-5096; e-mail address: [Kimberly.S.McLaughlin@usace.army.mil](mailto:Kimberly.S.McLaughlin@usace.army.mil).

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. General Information**

The Corps is requesting public comment on RGL 07-02, which is available at: <http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecwo/reg/rpls/rgl07-02.pdf>.

At the same time, the Corps appreciates that the public has considerable interest in the issues addressed in this guidance. The Corps is particularly interested in hearing from the public regarding their actual experience with implementing the guidance. The Corps is providing a 60-day public comment period, and encourages the public to provide comments informed by actual experience. To assure the public of our commitment to carefully consider their comments, and to address issues that