

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army****Notice of Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for Mission and Master Planning Actions at Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, GA**

AGENCY: Department of the Army, DoD.
ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The United States Army announces its intent to proceed with an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to address known and reasonably anticipated changes in missions and operations at Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield. This is necessary to analyze the cumulative socioeconomic and environmental impacts associated with a number of recent personnel stationing actions and changes in how the Army trains and deploys our nation's Soldiers. When the EIS is completed, it will also be used by Army decision makers as an important resource to consult when making future decisions about future land uses and operations at Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Melissa Kendrick, National Environmental Policy Act Specialist, Directorate of Public Works, Prevention and Compliance Branch, Environmental Division, 1550 Frank Cochran Drive, Building 1137-A, Fort Stewart, Georgia 31314-4928. Written comments may be mailed to that address or e-mailed to *Melissa.B.Kendrickus.army.mil*. For media queries please contact Fort Stewart Public Affairs Office at (912) 435-9874 during normal business hours (9 a.m. to 5 p.m.).

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield, located in southeastern Georgia, is the largest Army installation east of the Mississippi River covering approximately 280,000 acres. Updates to the installation's mission and master planning process will allow the installation to continue to train Soldiers, protect valuable environmental and cultural resources, and minimize negative impacts to neighboring communities. The Army's intent in moving forward with this EIS is to provide decision makers with a comprehensive planning tool, a public information source, and a reference for mitigation.

The proposed action involves constructing ranges and facilities to support military units assigned to Fort Stewart, accommodating current and future training requirements, and the updating of operational and management plans for training lands

and infrastructure. The EIS will address the effects of the proposed activities beginning in FY11 and extending through FY14. Construction projects include ranges, cantonment expansion, Georgia Highway 144 by-pass, widening of Highway 144, and other transportation improvements on Fort Stewart. The EIS will also include an assessment of Fort Stewart's alternative energy potential and will evaluate alternative energy projects which may be implemented at Fort Stewart in the future.

Alternatives may consist of different locations on the installation for specific projects or modifications to those projects. Range projects will be located on areas currently dedicated to military training. The size of the cantonment area may increase. Alternatives will be developed during preparation of the Draft EIS and as a result of public input and environmental analysis.

Several areas present the potential for significant impacts. Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield land provides known or potential habitat for protected plant and wildlife species. Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield provides habitat for 40 percent of the protected red-cockaded woodpecker in Georgia and intensively manages installation land to protect their habitat. Approximately 60 percent of the installation has been surveyed for cultural resources. As a result of these surveys, numerous sites have been recommended as eligible or potentially eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. Another issue of concern is that approximately 30 percent of the installation is potentially wetlands.

The EIS will analyze the potential impacts of the proposed action and the alternatives. Impacts analyzed will include a wide range of environmental resource areas including, but not limited to, air quality, traffic, noise, water resources, biological resources, cultural resources, socioeconomic, utilities, land use, solid and hazardous materials/waste, and cumulative environmental effects. Additional resources and conditions may be identified as a result of the scoping process initiated by this Notice of Intent (NOI).

The public will be invited to actively participate in the EIS process, which includes three scoping meetings to provide input on the proposed actions and alternatives. The public will also be invited to review and comment on the Draft EIS. Dates and times for these public involvement opportunities will be announced in the local news media. Comments from the public will be considered before any decision is made regarding implementing the proposed

action at Fort Stewart/Hunter Army Airfield.

The public scoping period will last for 30 days following the publication of this NOI in the **Federal Register**. Comments from the public will be considered before any decision is made regarding implementing the proposed action.

Dated: March 20, 2009.

Addison D. Davis, IV,

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Environment, Safety and Occupational Health).

[FR Doc. E9-7320 Filed 4-2-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Notice of Availability for the Final Environmental Impact Statement/ Environmental Impact Report and a Draft General Conformity Determination for the Middle Harbor Redevelopment Project, Port of Long Beach, Los Angeles County, CA**

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

ACTION: Notice of availability.

SUMMARY: On May 19, 2008, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, Regulatory Division (Corps) in coordination with the Port of Long Beach (POLB) completed and published the Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the Middle Harbor Redevelopment Project (Project) in the Port of Long Beach. The Corps and POLB considered all comments received in preparing the Final EIS/EIR, which is available for a 30-day review (April 3, 2009 through May 3, 2009). The Final EIS/EIR includes a draft general conformity determination (see Appendix A-4), pursuant to Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act. A general conformity determination is necessary because Project construction would require Federal action (i.e., issuance of a Corps permit for activities proposed in navigable waters and waters of the U.S.) and not all the Federal action's direct and indirect emissions would be below specified de minimis thresholds (40 CFR 93.153(b)). Pursuant to the general conformity regulations (40 CFR part 93, subpart B), general conformity determinations do not have to be included in the EIS and can be separately noticed, but the draft general conformity determination for the Federal action associated with the

Project is being included in the Final EIS/EIR in this case.

The Final EIS/EIR, including the draft general conformity determination, is available for public review during the next 30 days at the Port of Long Beach, 925 Harbor Plaza, Long Beach, California and on the Port's Web site: <http://www.portoflosangeles.org>. In addition, the Final EIS/EIR, including the draft general conformity determination, is available at the Long Beach Public Library, Main Branch, 101 Pacific Avenue, Long Beach, CA 90822.

Any comments received by the Corps and POLB on the Final EIS/EIR or the included draft general conformity determination during the next 30 days will be considered fully before the Corps makes a final general conformity determination and finalizes the Record of Decision (ROD) for the Federal action associated with the Project. The Corps will publish a notice of a final general conformity determination in the Federal Register within 30 days of rendering a final decision. The public can request from the Corps copies of the ROD, which includes responses to comments on the Final EIS/EIR, including any on the draft general conformity determination, following publication of a final general conformity determination and upon execution of the ROD.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Questions or comments concerning the Final EIS/EIR or the included draft general conformity determination should be provided by May 3, 2009 to Antal Szijj, Senior Project Manager, North Coast Branch, Regulatory Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 2151 Alessandro Drive, Suite 110, Ventura, California 93001, (805) 585-2147.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: None.

Aaron O. Allen,

Acting Chief, Regulatory Division, Los Angeles District.

[FR Doc. E9-7524 Filed 4-2-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Navy

Notice of Partially Closed Meeting of the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel

AGENCY: Department of the Navy, DoD.

ACTION: Notice.

SUMMARY: The Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel will meet to receive ethics training and discuss top areas of concern that the Secretary of the Navy

should address. The discussion of such information would be exempt from public disclosure as set forth in section 552b(c)(5), (6), and (7) of title 5, United States Code. For this reason the executive session of this meeting will be closed to the public.

DATES: The open session of the meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 21, 2009, from 8:15 a.m. to 10:15 a.m. The closed executive Session will also be held on Thursday, April 21, 2009, from 10:30 a.m. to 2 p.m.

ADDRESSES: The meeting will be held in the Pentagon Conference Center, Room B8, 1000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350-1000. The meeting will be handicap accessible.

For Access: Public access is limited due to the Pentagon Security requirements. Any individual wishing to attend will need to contact CDR Marc Gage at 703-695-3042 or LCDR Victor Spears at 703-695-3573 no later than April 14, 2009. Members of the public who do not have Pentagon access will be required to also provide Name, Date of Birth and Social Security number by April 14, 2009, in order to obtain a visitor badge. Public transportation is recommended as public parking is not available.

Members of the public wishing to attend this event must enter through the Pentagon's Metro Entrance between 8:15 a.m. and 8:35 a.m. where they will need two forms of identification in order to receive a visitors badge and meet their escort. Members of the Public will then be escorted to Pentagon Conference Center, Room B8, to attend the open sessions of the Advisory Panel. Members of the Public shall remain with designated escorts at all times while on the Pentagon Reservation. Members of the public will be escorted back to the Pentagon Metro Entrance at 10:15 a.m.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Colonel Caroline Simkins-Mullins, SECNAV Advisory Panel, Office of Program and Process Assessment 1000 Navy Pentagon, Washington, DC 20350, telephone: 703-697-9154.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This notice of meeting is provided per the Federal Advisory Committee Act, as amended (5 U.S.C. App.). The executive session of this meeting will consist of discussions of ethics training for the Secretary of the Navy Advisory Panel. The proposed closed session from 10:15 a.m. to 2 p.m. will include a discussion of top areas of concern that the Secretary of the Navy should address. Discussion of such information cannot be adequately segregated from other topic, which precludes opening the

executive session of this meeting to the public.

Accordingly, the Secretary of the Navy has determined in writing that the public interest requires that all sessions of this meeting be closed to the public because it will be concerned with matters listed in sections 552b(c)(5), and (7) of the title 5, United States Code.

Dated: March 31, 2009.

A.M. Vallandingham,

Lieutenant Commander, Judge Advocate General's Corps, U.S. Navy, Federal Register Liaison Officer.

[FR Doc. E9-7533 Filed 4-2-09; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Office of Postsecondary Education; Overview Information; American Indian Tribally Controlled Colleges and Universities (TCCU), and Alaska Native-Serving and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions (ANNH) Programs; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY 2009)

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 84.031T, 84.031N and 84.031W.

DATES: Applications Available: April 3, 2009.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: May 4, 2009.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: July 2, 2009.

Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The TCCU and the ANNH programs authorized by Title III, Part A of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (HEA), as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008 (HEOA), Public Law 110-315, provide grants to eligible institutions of higher education (IHEs) to help them become self sufficient and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen their academic quality, institutional management and fiscal stability. Section 371 of the HEA makes funds available in FY 2009 to certain minority-serving institutions eligible for Title III Part A programs including an additional \$30 million to the TCCU program, of which \$7 million is available for new awards; and \$15 million to the ANNH program, of which \$10 million is available for new awards. Awards under these programs are hereafter referred to as "TCCU—Section 371 and ANNH—Section 371."

Program Authority: 20 U.S.C. 1057-1059d and Public Law 110-84.