

will be assessed to plan and inform efforts to improve or maintain the quality of service offered to the public. If this information is not collected, vital feedback from customers and stakeholders on the Agency's services will be unavailable.

The Agency will only submit a collection for approval under this generic clearance if it meets the following conditions:

- Information gathered will be used only internally for general service improvement and program management purposes and is not intended for release outside of the agency (if released, procedures outlined in Question 16 will be followed);
- Information gathered will not be used for the purpose of substantially informing influential policy decisions;<sup>1</sup>
- Information gathered will yield qualitative information; the collections will not be designed or expected to yield statistically reliable results or used as though the results are generalizable to the population of study;
- The collections are voluntary;
- The collections are low-burden for respondents (based on considerations of total burden hours, total number of respondents, or burden-hours per respondent) and are low-cost for both the respondents and the Federal Government;
- The collections are non-controversial and do not raise issues of concern to other Federal agencies;
- Any collection is targeted to the solicitation of opinions from respondents who have experience with the program or may have experience with the program in the near future; and
- With the exception of information needed to provide remuneration for participants of focus groups and cognitive laboratory studies, personally identifiable information (PII) is collected only to the extent necessary and is not retained.

If these conditions are not met, the Agency will submit an information collection request to OMB for approval through the normal PRA process.

To obtain approval for a collection that meets the conditions of this generic clearance, a standardized form will be submitted to OMB along with supporting documentation (e.g., a copy of the comment card). The submission will have automatic approval, unless OMB identifies issues within 5 business days.

The types of collections that this generic clearance covers include, but are not limited to:

- Customer comment cards/complaint forms
- Small discussion groups
- Focus Groups of customers, potential customers, delivery partners, or other stakeholders
- Cognitive laboratory studies, such as those used to refine questions or assess usability of a website;
- Qualitative customer satisfaction surveys (e.g., post-transaction surveys; opt-out web surveys)
- In-person observation testing (e.g., website or software usability tests)

The Agency has established a manager/managing entity to serve for this generic clearance and will conduct an independent review of each information collection to ensure compliance with the terms of this clearance prior to submitting each collection to OMB.

If appropriate, agencies will collect information electronically and/or use online collaboration tools to reduce burden.

Small business or other small entities may be involved in these efforts, but the Agency will minimize the burden on them of information collections approved under this clearance by sampling, asking for readily available information, and using short, easy-to-complete information collection instruments.

Without these types of feedback, the Agency will not have timely information to adjust its services to meet customer needs.

If a confidentiality pledge is deemed useful and feasible, the Agency will only include a pledge of confidentiality that is supported by authority established in statute or regulation, that is supported by disclosure and data security policies that are consistent with the pledge, and that does not unnecessarily impede sharing of data with other agencies for compatible confidential use. If the agency includes a pledge of confidentiality, it will include a citation for the statute or regulation supporting the pledge.

There is no change in the information being collected. There is no change to the burden associated with this collection.

The Office of Management and Budget is particularly interested in comments which:

1. Evaluate whether the proposed collection of information is necessary for the proper performance of the functions of the agency, including whether the information will have practical utility;

2. Evaluate the accuracy of the agency's estimate of the burden of the proposed collection of information, including the validity of the methodology and assumptions used;

3. Enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and

4. Minimize the burden of the collection of information on those who are to respond, including through the use of appropriate automated, electronic, mechanical, or other technological collection techniques or other forms of information technology, e.g., permitting electronic submissions of responses.

#### Analysis

*Agency:* Department of Homeland Security, (DHS).

*Title:* Generic Clearance for the Collection of Qualitative Feedback on Agency Service Delivery.

*OMB Number:* 1600-0014.

*Frequency:* On Occasion.

*Affected Public:* Private Sector.

*Number of Respondents:* 184,902.

*Estimated Time per Respondent:* 1 Hour.

*Total Burden Hours:* 300,000.

**Robert Dorr,**

*Executive Director, Business Management Directorate.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

[FWS-R8-NWRS-2021-N011;  
FXRS12610800000-212-FF08RSDC00]

#### Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration Program II, Phase I (TETRP II Phase I)

**AGENCY:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent to prepare an environmental impact statement.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge, along with the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Border Field State Park, propose to act in partnership to prepare a joint draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report to evaluate the impacts on the human environment related to restoring coastal wetlands within the Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve at the southwestern corner of San Diego County, California. We are providing this notice to open a public scoping period and announce our intent to

<sup>1</sup> As defined in OMB and agency Information Quality Guidelines, "influential" means that "an agency can reasonably determine that dissemination of the information will have or does have a clear and substantial impact on important public policies or important private sector decisions."

conduct public scoping meetings in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act, and its implementing regulations.

**DATES:** To ensure consideration in our reviews, we are requesting submission of new information no later than July 12, 2021.

The draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report is scheduled for release in October 2021. The final environmental impact statement is scheduled for completion by March 2022, with the record of decision expected to be issued in April 2022.

**ADDRESSES:** You may submit written comments and materials by one of the following methods:

- *U.S. Mail:* Brian Collins, USFWS, San Diego NWR Complex, 1080 Gunpowder Point Drive, Chula Vista, CA 91910.
- *Email:* [fw8plancomments@fws.gov](mailto:fw8plancomments@fws.gov); please include "TETRP NOI" in the email subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Brian Collins, Refuge Manager, at [brian\\_collins@fws.gov](mailto:brian_collins@fws.gov) or 760-431-9440 extension 273. Individuals who use telecommunication devices for the deaf (TDD) may call the Federal Relay Service at 1-800-877-8339 between 8 a.m. and 8 p.m., Eastern Time, Monday through Friday.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's (Service) Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge and the California Department of Parks and Recreation's Border Field State Park propose to prepare a draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report to evaluate the effects of restoring 80 to 85 acres (ac) of coastal wetlands within the Tijuana Estuary, north of Monument Road and south of the existing tidal inlet, in southwestern San Diego County. We are requesting comments concerning the scope of the analysis and identification of relevant information and studies.

**Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action**

The purpose of the Tijuana Estuary Tidal Restoration Program II, Phase I (TETRP II Phase I) project is to restore native coastal habitats and functions to a portion of the southern arm of the Tijuana Estuary consistent with the recommendations presented in the Tijuana Estuary—Friendship Marsh Restoration Feasibility Study prepared in 2008. The need for the proposed action is to reverse ongoing degradation of coastal resources essential to the long-term survival of listed species, migratory birds, fish, and other aquatic

resources, while also increasing the estuary's tidal prism to improve water quality and maintain continuous tidal exchange through the tidal inlet.

**Preliminary Proposed Action and Alternatives**

Two action alternatives and the no action alternative will be evaluated in the draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report. Both action alternatives would reconfigure a portion of the southern arm of the Tijuana Estuary to establish coastal wetlands supported by an extensive system of tidal channels intended to increase the estuary's tidal prism and enhance estuarine function within the system. The project site would be excavated to establish elevations with appropriate inundation frequencies to support specific coastal wetland habitat types. Suitable excavated material would be beneficially used to establish and/or reconfigure transitional areas located along the southern edge of the restoration area and/or the barrier dunes to the west, increasing resiliency to sea-level rise. Additionally, some of the excavated material may be suitable for nearshore disposal.

Alternative 1 (Maximum Tidal Prism) is currently identified as the proposed action. This alternative, which would restore approximately 85 ac of coastal habitat, would maximize deeper intertidal habitats, by expanding tidal channels and intertidal mudflat.

Alternative 2 (Reduced Impact Alternative), which would restore approximately 80 ac of coastal habitat, has been designed to preserve existing native plant communities, including high salt marsh and transition zone throughout the project site. The primary tidal connection to Alternative 2 is the existing South Beach Slough, which would be deepened to increase tidal flows into the proposed restoration site.

The primary differences between the two action alternatives include the amount of intertidal mudflat restored versus salt marsh habitat; the total acreage of restored versus preserved habitats; and the number of connections to existing tidal channels.

Under the No Action Alternative, restoration of the estuary would not be implemented. No sediment or vegetation would be removed and no establishment of habitat for the enhancement of biological and hydrological functions within the project site would occur.

**Summary of Expected Impacts**

Based on our initial evaluation of the proposed action and alternatives, the

following impacts would be expected: Conversion of existing upland habitat to coastal wetlands; replacement of high salt marsh habitat with low salt marsh habitat; short-term disturbance to listed and sensitive avian species; temporary increases in dust and other air pollutants during construction; changes to the area's existing fluvial hydrology; temporary impacts to water quality during excavation; temporary and permanent changes to existing public access; and temporary increases in construction traffic on the roadways within the Tijuana River Valley.

**Anticipated Permits and Authorizations**

The following permits and other authorizations are anticipated to be required:

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Clean Water Act (CWA) section 404 Nationwide Permit 27 and others, if appropriate;
- San Diego Regional Water Quality Control Board CWA section 401 water quality certification;
- California Coastal Commission consistency determination in compliance with section 930.34 *et seq.* of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) federal consistency regulations for actions on Refuge lands and a coastal development permit for actions on Border Field State Park;
- Refuge special use permit to the California Department of Parks and Recreation for construction access and activities on Refuge lands;
- Consultation pursuant to section 7 of the Federal Endangered Species Act with the Service and National Marine Fisheries Service;
- Consultation with Tribes and the State Historic Preservation Officer pursuant to section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act;
- Consultations with NOAA Fisheries for essential fish habitat under the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act, and for marine mammals pursuant to the Marine Mammal Protection Act.

**Schedule for the Decision-Making Process**

Processing of the environmental impact statement from the public scoping stage to the signing of the record of decision, is expected to take approximately 1 year. Subsequent actions will involve the processing of all required permits needed to implement restoration, which is not expected to occur until additional funding is identified for project implementation.

## Public Scoping Process

This notice of intent initiates the 45-day scoping process, which guides the development of the draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report. The scoping process is designed to elicit comments from the public, public agencies, Tribal governments, and other interested parties on the scope of the draft environmental impact statement. All interested parties are encouraged to provide written comments and to participate in upcoming public scoping meetings. The details about upcoming public scoping meetings will be posted on the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge website at [www.fws.gov/refuge/Tijuana\\_Slough/what\\_we\\_do/resource\\_management.html](http://www.fws.gov/refuge/Tijuana_Slough/what_we_do/resource_management.html) (click on "TETRP II Phase I"). Requests to be contacted about scheduled scoping opportunities should be submitted via any of the contact methods provided under **ADDRESSES** or **FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT**, above.

## Request for Identification of Potential Alternatives, Information, and Analyses Relevant to the Proposed Action

The Service requests comments concerning the scope of the analysis and identification of relevant information and studies. All interested parties are invited to provide input related to the identification of potential alternatives, information, and analyses relevant to the Proposed Action in writing or during the public scoping meeting. All written comments should be submitted via any of the methods provided under **ADDRESSES**.

## Lead and Cooperating Agencies

The Service is the lead agency for the environmental impact statement, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will participate as a cooperating agency. The California Department of Parks and Recreation will serve as the lead State agency for those components of the project that are under the jurisdiction of the State of California.

## Decision Maker

The Decision Maker is the Service's Regional Director for the Department of the Interior Region 8.

## Nature of Decision To Be Made

The Regional Director, after considering the analysis and information provided in the final environmental impact statement, as well as the comments received throughout the review process, will select the alternative that best achieves the purpose and need for the intended

action. The decision, which will be documented in the record of decision, will also consider the consistency of the action with agency policies, regulations, and applicable laws, and the contribution the action will make towards achieving the purposes for which the Tijuana Slough National Wildlife Refuge was established, while also contributing to the mission and goals of the National Wildlife Refuge System.

## Public Availability of Comments

Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to withhold your personal identifying information from public review, we cannot guarantee that we will be able to do so.

## Authority

This document is published under the authority of the National Environmental Policy Act regulations pertaining to the publication of a notice of intent to issue an environmental impact statement (40 CFR 1501.9(d)).

**Martha Maciel,**

*Acting Regional Director, Sacramento, California.*

[FR Doc. 2021-11251 Filed 5-26-21; 8:45 am]

**BILLING CODE 4333-15-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Geological Survey

**[GX21LR000F60100; OMB Control Number 1028-0053]**

### Agency Information Collection Activities; Submission to the Office of Management and Budget for Review and Approval; Nonferrous Metals Surveys

**AGENCY:** U.S. Geological Survey (USGS), Interior.

**ACTION:** Notice of information collection; request for comment.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) are proposing to renew an Information Collection.

**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before June 28, 2021.

**ADDRESSES:** Send your comments on this Information Collection Request

(ICR) to the Office of Management and Budget's Desk Officer for the Department of the Interior by email at [OIRA\\_Submission@omb.eop.gov](mailto:OIRA_Submission@omb.eop.gov); or via facsimile to (202) 395-5806. Please provide a copy of your comments to U.S. Geological Survey, Information Collections Officer, 12201 Sunrise Valley Drive, MS 159, Reston, VA 20192; or by email to [gs-info\\_collections@usgs.gov](mailto:gs-info_collections@usgs.gov). Please reference OMB Control Number 1028-0053 in the subject line of your comments.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** To request additional information about this ICR, contact Elizabeth S. Sangine by email at [escottssangine@usgs.gov](mailto:escottssangine@usgs.gov), or by telephone at 703-648-7720. You may also view the ICR at <https://www.reginfo.gov/public/do/PRAMain>.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** In accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, we provide the general public and other Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on new, proposed, revised, and continuing collections of information. This helps us assess the impact of our information collection requirements and minimize the public's reporting burden. It also helps the public understand our information collection requirements and provide the requested data in the desired format.

A **Federal Register** notice with a 60-day public comment period soliciting comments on this collection of information was published on October 29, 2020, 85 FR 68592. We did not receive any public comments in response to that notice.

We are again soliciting comments on the proposed ICR that is described below. We are especially interested in public comments addressing the following issues: (1) Is the collection necessary to the proper functions of the USGS; (2) will this information be processed and used in a timely manner; (3) is the estimate of burden accurate; (4) how might the USGS enhance the quality, utility, and clarity of the information to be collected; and (5) how might the USGS minimize the burden of this collection on the respondents, including through the use of information technology.

Comments that you submit in response to this notice are a matter of public record. Before including your address, phone number, email address, or other personal identifying information in your comment, you should be aware that your entire comment—including your personal identifying information—may be made publicly available at any time. While you can ask us in your comment to