

based upon magnitude of modifications proposed and potential controversy related to degree of initial short term impacts.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, the DEIS will be prepared to evaluate and compare ecosystem restoration, flood damage reduction, and recreation alternatives within and along Johnson Creek and its floodplain within the City of Arlington, Texas. In addition, the local cost share sponsor (City of Arlington) is proceeding with construction of Phase 1a of the project located between Randol Mill Road and Sanford Streets and has requested that the federal government reimburse a portion of their expenditures. The government's decision will be based upon analyses within the EIS to determine technical soundness and environmental acceptability of the proposal. The general study area will be bound on the upstream by Interstate Highway 20 and at the downstream at Interstate Highway 30.

**DATES:** A public scoping meeting will be held on July 31, 2008 beginning at 4:30 p.m.

**ADDRESSES:** The meeting will be held at the Bob Duncan Center, located within Vandergriff Park, 2800 South Center Street, Arlington, TX 76014.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions pertaining to the proposed action and DEIS can be addressed to: Ms. Amy Archambeau, Project Manager, CESWF-PER-PP, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, TX 76102-0300, (817) 886-1867.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The study area lies within an area of rapid growth in the Dallas-Fort Worth, Texas metropolitan area. Johnson Creek has experienced a history of flooding, bank and stream bed erosion and habitat degradation during the past 60 years that has led to several studies and local and federal actions to reduce damages. Following WRDA, 1999, a non-structural flood damage reduction and ecosystem restoration project was initiated that resulted in the acquisition and removal of 140 residential structures from the 25-year floodplain and acquisition of 155 acres of floodplain lands for restoration. Approximately 90 acres of this land was planted with a variety of native grasses, forbs, shrubs and trees to improve the riparian habitat along Johnson Creek.

Alternatives for ecosystem restoration, flood damage reduction, and recreation will be developed and evaluated based on ongoing fieldwork and data collection and past studies conducted

by the Corps of Engineers, the City of Arlington, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and U.S. Geological Survey. Ecosystem restoration alternatives will include bank protection; natural channel design restoring, protecting and expanding the riparian corridor; improving aquatic habitat including creating riffle-pool complexes; and constructing wetlands. It is anticipated that ecosystem restoration measures would improve water quality, improve aquatic and terrestrial habitat, and minimize erosion and scouring along and within Johnson Creek. Alternatives for flood damage reduction measures will be evaluated from both a non-structural and structural aspect. Non-structural measures will include acquisition and removal of structures or flood proofing. Structural measures will include channel modification by increasing widths and depths and straightening or a combination of these measures. Recreation measures will include multipurpose trails and passive recreation features, such as interpretive guidance and media and picnic areas. Recreation measures will be developed to a scope and scale compatible with proposed ecosystem restoration measures without significantly diminishing ecosystem benefits.

The public will be invited to participate in the scoping process, invited to attend public meetings, and given the opportunity to review the DEIS. The first public scoping meeting will be on (see **DATES & ADDRESSES**). Subsequent public meetings, if deemed necessary, will be announced in the local news media. Release of the DEIS for public comment is scheduled for December 2009. The exact release date, once established, will be announced through mailings to known interested individuals, agencies and officials and in the local news media.

Future coordination with other agencies and public scoping will be conducted to ensure full and open participation and aid in the development of the DEIS. All affected Federal, state, and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties are hereby invited to participate. Future coordination will also be conducted with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). The USFWS will furnish information on threatened and endangered species in accordance with the Endangered Species Act. In addition, the USFWS will also be requested to provide support with planning aid and to provide a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report. The State Historic Preservation Office will be consulted as required by Section 106

of the National Historic Preservation Act.

Dated: July 11, 2008.

**Jimmy D. Baggett,**

*Acting District Engineer.*

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**BILLING CODE 3710-20-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Army Corps of Engineers

#### Notice of Solicitation of Applications for Stakeholder Representative Members of the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee

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

**ACTION:** Solicitation of applications.

**SUMMARY:** The Commander of the Northwestern Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting applications for stakeholder representative membership on the Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC). Members are sought to participate on a committee to represent various categories of interests within the Missouri River basin. The MRRIC is being formed to advise the Corps on a study of the Missouri River and its tributaries and to provide guidance to the Corps with respect to the Missouri River recovery and mitigation activities currently underway. The Corps is required to establish the MRRIC by the U.S. Congress through the Water Resources Development Act of 2007 (WRDA), Section 5018.

**DATES:** The agency must receive completed applications no later than August 22, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Mail completed applications to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Northwestern Division (Attn: MRRIC), 1616 Capitol Avenue, Suite 365, Omaha, NE 68102-4909 or e-mail completed applications to [Missouri.Water.Management@nwd02.usace.army.mil](mailto:Missouri.Water.Management@nwd02.usace.army.mil). Please put "MRRIC" in the subject line.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mary S. Roth, 402-996-3852.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The establishment of the MRRIC is in the public interest and will provide support to the Corps in performing its duties and responsibilities under the Endangered Species Act, 16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*; Sec. 601(a) of the Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) of 1986, Public Law 99-662; Sec. 334(a) of WRDA 1999, Public Law 106-53, and

Sec. 5018 of WRDA 2007, Public Law 110–114. The Federal Advisory Committee Act, 5 U.S.C. App. 2, does not apply to the MRRIC.

A Charter for the MRRIC has been developed and should be reviewed prior to applying for a stakeholder representative membership position on the Committee. The Charter and application forms are available electronically at <http://www.moriverrecovery.org/mrrp/f?p=136:3>. The first meeting of MRRIC is anticipated to be October 1, 2008.

*Purpose and Scope of the Committee.* The duties of MRRIC cover two areas:

1. The Committee will provide guidance to the Corps, and affected Federal agencies, State agencies, or Native American Indian Tribes on a study of the Missouri River and its tributaries to determine the actions required to mitigate losses of aquatic and terrestrial habitat, to recover federally listed species protected under the Endangered Species Act, and to restore the river's ecosystem to prevent further declines among other native species. This study is identified in Section 5018(a) of the WRDA. It will result in a single, comprehensive plan to guide the implementation of mitigation, recovery, and restoration activities in the Missouri River Basin. This plan is referred to as the Missouri River Ecosystem Restoration Plan (MRERP). For more information about the MRERP go to <http://www.moriverrecovery.org/mrrp/f?p=136:11>.

2. The MRRIC will also provide guidance to the Corps with respect to the Missouri River recovery and mitigation plan currently in existence, including recommendations relating to changes to the implementation strategy from the use of adaptive management; coordination of the development of consistent policies, strategies, plans, programs, projects, activities, and priorities for the Missouri River recovery and mitigation plan. Information about the Missouri River Recovery Program is available at <http://www.moriverrecovery.org/mrrp/f?p=136:1>.

3. Other duties of MRRIC include exchange of information regarding programs, projects, and activities of the agencies and entities represented on the Committee to promote the goals of the Missouri River recovery and mitigation plan; establishment of such working groups as the Committee determines to be necessary to assist in carrying out the duties of the Committee, including duties relating to public policy and scientific issues; facilitating the resolution of interagency and

intergovernmental conflicts between entities represented on the Committee associated with the Missouri River recovery and mitigation plan; coordination of scientific and other research associated with the Missouri River recovery and mitigation plan; and annual preparation of a work plan and associated budget requests.

*Administrative Support.* To the extent authorized by law and subject to the availability of appropriations, the Corps will provide funding and administrative support for the Committee.

*Committee Membership.* Federal agencies with programs affecting the Missouri River may be members of the MRRIC through a separate process with the Corps. States and Federally recognized Native American Indian tribes, as described in the Charter, are eligible for Committee membership through an appointment process. Interested State and Tribal government representatives should contact the Corps for information about the appointment process.

In accordance with the Charter for the MRRIC, stakeholder membership is limited to 28 people, with each member having an alternate. Members and alternates must be able to demonstrate that they meet the definition of "stakeholder" found in the Charter of the MRRIC. Stakeholder members and alternates must represent an interest category listed below, with a maximum of two members and two alternates representing any one category:

- a. Navigation;
- b. Irrigation;
- c. Flood Control;
- d. Fish and Wildlife;
- e. Recreation;
- f. Water Quality;
- g. Water Supply;
- h. Agriculture;
- i. Conservation Districts;
- j. Waterways Industries;
- k. Major Tributaries;
- l. Thermal Power;
- m. Hydropower;
- n. At Large/Other Interests (e.g., cultural and historic preservation);
- o. Local Government; and
- p. Environmental/Conservation Organizations.

Terms of stakeholder representative members of the MRRIC are three years. There is no limit to the number of terms a member may serve.

Members and alternates of the Committee shall not receive any compensation for carrying out the duties of the MRRIC. Travel expenses incurred by members of the Committee shall not be reimbursed by the Federal Government.

*Application for Stakeholder Membership.* Persons who believe that

they are or will be affected by the Missouri River recovery and mitigation activities and are not employees of federal agencies, tribes, or state agencies, may apply for stakeholder membership on the MRRIC. Applications for stakeholder membership may be obtained electronically at <http://www.moriverrecovery.org>. Completed applications may be emailed or mailed to the location listed (see **ADDRESSES**). In order to be considered, each application must include:

1. The name of the applicant and the primary stakeholder interest category that person wishes to represent;
2. A written statement describing how the applicant meets the criteria for membership (described below) and how their contributions will fulfill the roles and responsibilities of MRRIC;
3. Evidence that demonstrates that the applicant represents an interest in the Missouri River basin;

4. In the interest of transparency and openness, the applicant must disclose any affiliations with the involved federal agencies listed below such as recent or current consulting contracts, current employment contracts, or familial relations to any current agency staff or appointees.

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.
- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation.
- National Park Service.
- U.S. Geological Survey.
- U.S. Bureau of Indian Affairs.
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.
- Western Area Power Administration.
- U.S. Forest Service.
- Federal Highway Administration.
- Maritime Administration.
- National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution.
- U.S. Department of Interior.
- U.S. Department of Commerce.
- U.S. Department of Agriculture.
- U.S. Department of Energy.
- U.S. Department of Transportation.

To be considered, the application must be complete and received by the close of business on August 22, 2008, at the location indicated (see **ADDRESSES**). Full consideration will be given to all complete applications received by the specified due date.

Persons wishing to apply as alternates are strongly encouraged to coordinate with other individuals applying for membership. Where possible, alternates should apply with the individual

seeking membership in an interest area. Alternates must apply in the same manner as stakeholder members and should include a recommendation from a member applicant.

#### *Application Review Process.*

Committee stakeholder applications will be forwarded to the MRRIC Planning Group, which assisted in the development of the Charter. The MRRIC Planning Group will provide membership recommendations to the Corps. The Corps is responsible for appointing stakeholder members. The MRRIC Planning Group and the Corps will consider applications using the following criteria:

- Ability to commit the time required.
- Commitment to make a good faith (as defined in the Charter) effort to seek balanced solutions that address multiple interests and concerns.
- Agreement to support and adhere to the approved MRRIC Charter and Operating Procedures to be adopted by the Committee.
- Demonstration of a formal designation or endorsement by an organization, local government, or constituency as its preferred representative.
- Demonstration of an established communication network to keep constituents informed and efficiently seek their input when needed.
- Ability to contribute to the overall balance of representation on MRRIC.

All applicants will be notified in writing as to the final decision about their application.

**Certification.** I hereby certify that the establishment of the MRRIC is necessary and in the public interest in connection with the performance of duties imposed on the Corps by the Endangered Species Act and other statutes.

Dated: July 9, 2008.

**Lawrence J. Cieslik,**

*Deputy Director, Programs—Missouri River, Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

**AGENCY:** Department of Education.

**SUMMARY:** The Acting Leader, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, 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 September 16, 2008.

**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 Acting Leader, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management, 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: July 14, 2008.

**James Hyler,**

*Acting Leader, Information Collection Clearance Division, Regulatory Information Management Services, Office of Management.*

### Office of Special Education and Rehabilitative Services

*Type of Review:* New.

*Title:* Targeted Evaluations of State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) Agency Practices.

*Frequency:* One time.

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

*Reporting and Recordkeeping Hour Burden:*

Responses: 80.

Burden Hours: 100.

**Abstract:** The Rehabilitation Services Administration (RSA) is sponsoring a 24-month study entitled, "Targeted Evaluation of State Vocational Rehabilitation (VR) agency practices, which will collect information about VR agency practices in several areas. As part of the study, RSA plans to conduct a one-time survey of state VR agencies to collection information about their use of quality assurance procedures and third-party cooperative arrangements. The study will identify promising practices, analyze the effects of specific practices on VR program outcomes and consumers served, and provide information to assist RSA in its efforts to help state agencies ensure effective and efficient delivery of VR services. A third topic included in the study will be addressed through other activities.

Requests for copies of the proposed information collection request may be accessed from <http://edicsweb.ed.gov>, by selecting the "Browse Pending Collections" link and by clicking on link number 3756. When you access the information collection, click on "Download Attachments" to view. Written requests for information should be addressed to U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Avenue, SW., LBJ, Washington, DC 20202–4537. Requests may also be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@ed.gov) or faxed to 202–401–0920. Please specify the complete title of the information collection when making your request.

Comments regarding burden and/or the collection activity requirements should be electronically mailed to [ICDocketMgr@ed.gov](mailto:ICDocketMgr@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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## DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

### Notice of Proposed Information Collection Requests

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**DATES:** Interested persons are invited to submit comments on or before September 16, 2008.