

News Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-06-019

For Release: Immediate 8 Feb 06

Phone: (817) 886-1517

Contact: Judy Marsicano

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers seeks public comment on a draft environmental assessment for the East Fork Water Reuse Project at Lavon Lake, Collin County, Texas

FORT WORTH, Texas - The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is currently accepting comments on the Draft Environmental Assessment, a National Environmental Policy Act document, for the alternatives pertaining to the proposed implementation of the East Fork Water Reuse Project by the North Texas Municipal Water District.

The preferred alternative would consist of constructing a diversion pump station near the East Fork of the Trinity River, a 2,000-acre constructed wetland complex on Seagoville Ranch, a 43-mile-long conveyance pipeline with a 40-foot-wide permanent easement in Kaufman, Rockwall, and Collin Counties, and an outfall structure on Corps property at Lavon Lake. Project component impacts would include: 1) conversion of approximately 42,265 square feet of levee and bottomland hardwood habitat to a diversion pump station; 2) conversion of approximately 2,000 acres of existing wetland, pasture, old-field and black willow swamp to an emergent wetland complex; 3) excavation of approximately 40,000 cubic yards of existing soil from pipeline crossings on 99 streams, open water areas, and wetlands; and 4) conversion of approximately 13.5 acres of wooded habitat, 21.3 acres of cleared existing easement, 0.8 acres of periodically flooded open area, and 0.5 acres of open water area of Lavon Lake to a pipeline easement and outfall structure. To mitigate for project impacts, the NTMWD would plant approximately 31 acres of woody vegetation, 87 acres of grassland vegetation, and 1.4 acres of wetland vegetation on federal property at Lavon Lake.

Written comments on the Draft EA will be accepted through March 8, 2006 by sending them directly to Jeffry A. Tripe, CESWF-PER-EE, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas, 76102-0300, or by e-mail at Jeffry.A.Tripe@swf02.usace.army.mil. Copies of the Draft EA and Draft Finding of No Significant Impact may be requested in writing at the above address, by telephone at (817) 886-1716, or visit the Fort Worth District website at www.swf.usace.army.mil.