

Center, 8901 Rockville Pike, Wisconsin Avenue, Bethesda, MD 20889 (March 14, 2007).

**PURPOSE OF THE MEETING:** The purpose of the meeting is to discuss the mechanisms the Independent Review Group to Report on Rehabilitative Care and Administrative Processes at Walter Reed Army Medical Center and National Naval Medical Center (hereafter referred to as the "Independent Review Group") is using and will use to identify critical shortcomings in and opportunities to improve rehabilitative care, administrative processes, and quality of life for injured and sick members of the Armed Forces at the Walter Reed Army Medical Center (SRAMC) and the National Naval Medical Center (NNMC)—in order to make recommendations for corrective actions. This meeting is intended as one of these mechanisms as interested individuals and groups will be given an opportunity to provide relevant input directly to the Independent Review Group.

**AGENDA:** The Honorable John O. Marsh (Co-chair) will open both sessions and present a short summary of mechanisms the Independent Review Group is using and will use to identify shortcomings and opportunities for improvement. After comments from group members, members of the public invited to make oral presentations (in accordance with procedures described in this notice) will be given an opportunity to orally provide relevant information. The Honorable Togo West (Co-chair) will close each session, reviewing mechanisms members of the public may use to provide additional information to the Independent Review Group.

Members of the public wishing to provide input to the Independent Review Group at either open sessions should submit written statements in accordance with 41 CFR 102-3.140(C), section 10(a)(3) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act, and the procedures described in this notice. Written statements should be no longer than two type-written pages and must address the following detail: The issue, discussion, and a recommended course of action. Supporting documentation may be included as needed to establish the appropriate historical context and to provide any necessary background information.

Individuals submitting written statements must submit their statements to the Defense Health Board's Designated Federal Officer at the address detailed below and should provide a fax copy directly to the Independent Review Group Staff Director at 703-602-6989. If a written

statement is not received at least 1 calendar day prior to the sessions which are the subject of this notice, then it may not be possible to arrange for an opportunity to present at one of the sessions. Regardless of whether a written statement leads to oral presentation at one of the sessions, it will still be provided to the members of the Independent Review Group for their review.

The Designated Federal Officer will review all timely submissions with the Independent Review Group Co-Chairs and ensure they are provided to members of the Independent Review Group before the sessions that are subject to this notice. After reviewing the written statements, the Chairperson and the Designated Federal Officer may choose to invite those who submit statement to orally present their issues during the sessions.

The Designated Federal Officer, in consultation with the Independent Review Group Co-Chairs, may, if desired, allot a specific amount of time for members of the public to orally present their issues for review and discussion by the members of the Independent Review Group.

On March 1, 2007 the members of the Independent Review Group had an administrative working meeting to discuss administrative matters pertaining to the Independent Review Group, and to receive administrative information from the Department of Defense. During the meeting the members of the Independent Review Group indicated that they wanted to hold a public meeting at the earliest opportunity, and the earliest that a meeting could be scheduled was March 13-14, 2007. Since these dates are within the 15-calendar day notification window, the Committee Management Officer for the Department of Defense, pursuant to 41 CFR 102-3.150(b), grants the Independent Review Group a waiver to the 15-calendar day notification requirement.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Colonel Roger L. Gibson, Executive Secretary, Defense Health Board, Five Skyline Place, 5111 Leesburg Pike, Room 810, Falls Church, Virginia 22041-3206, (703) 681-3279, Ext. 123, ([roger.gibson@ha.osd.mil](mailto:roger.gibson@ha.osd.mil))

**Editorial note:** This document was received at the Office of the Federal Register March 7, 2007.

Dated: March 6, 2005.

**L.M. Bynum,**

*Alternate OSD Federal Register Liaison Officer, Department of Defense.*

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**BILLING CODE 5001-06-M**

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Defense Logistics Agency

#### Removal of Low-Activity Contamination

**AGENCY:** Defense National Stockpile Center (DNSC), Defense Logistics Agency.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability of environmental assessment and a draft finding of no significant impact for the removal of low-activity contamination.

**SUMMARY:** The Defense Logistics Agency announces the availability of the Environmental Assessment (EA) and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the removal of low-activity contamination resulting from storage of radioactive source material in the National Defense Stockpile of strategic and critical materials.

Stockpiles of commodities containing source material have been removed from DNSC depots at Curtis Bay, MD and Hammond, IN. At the Curtis Bay Depot, the commodities containing source material (columbium/tantalum, thorium nitrate, tungsten ore and concentrates, thorium hydroxide, thorium oxide, monazite sand, uranium pitchblende ore, and sodium sulfate) were previously stored in 16 of the original 59 warehouses. Since the middle 1980s, over 19,000 drums of thorium nitrate were stored in three warehouses. Previously the thorium nitrate stockpile was stored for short periods in six other warehouses on the site. At the Hammond Depot, the commodities containing source material (columbium/tantalum, thorium nitrate, monazite sands, sodium sulfate, and tungsten ore and concentrates) were previously stored in two of the three warehouses on the site. Cleanup of any residual contamination from storage of the commodities containing source material is one task DNSC must complete before its Nuclear Regulatory Commission license can be terminated.

Following evaluation of reasonable alternatives conducted by Oak Ridge National Laboratory on behalf of DNSC, DNSC proposes to remove residual contamination and transfer the contaminants to a regulated disposal site. This disposal will be performed in a manner that will be safe, secure, and environmentally sound and minimizes radiation exposure and potential for risk to workers, the public, and the environment.

**DATES:** Comments on the draft FONSI received by April 9, 2007 will be considered when preparing the final version of the FONSI.

The EA and draft FONSI are available for review on the DNSC Web site (<https://www.dnsc.dla.mil/EAandDraftFONSI.asp>). Comments should be sent to Mr. Michael Pecullan, 8725 John J. Kingman Road, Suite 3229, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-6221. Comments may also be faxed to Mr. Pecullan at (703) 767-7716.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Mr. Michael Pecullan, Phone (703) 767-7620 or E-Mail: [michael.pecullan@dla.mil](mailto:michael.pecullan@dla.mil).

Dated: March 6, 2007.

**Essie Schloss,**

*Deputy Administrator, Defense National Stockpile Center.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

### Fish and Wildlife Service

## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

#### South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project, San Francisco Bay, CA

**AGENCIES:** Fish and Wildlife Service, Interior; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

**ACTION:** Notice of availability: Draft environmental impact statement/environmental impact report; request for comments.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) and the California Department of Fish and Game (CDFG) are proposing a restoration plan for 15,100 acres (6,111 hectares) of former commercial salt ponds in south San Francisco Bay. This South Bay Salt Pond (SBSP) Restoration Project would use a combination of restored tidal marsh, managed ponds, flood control measures and public access features to meet the three goals of the plan: to restore wildlife habitat, to provide flood protection and to provide wildlife-oriented public access. The ponds are located at the Don Edwards San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge and at the Eden Landing State Ecological Reserve.

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) includes program-level evaluation of the SBSP long-term alternatives as well as project-level analysis of the first phase of restoration (the Phase 1 actions).

The Draft EIS/EIR has been prepared jointly by the Service, the U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers (Corps) and the CDFG to analyze the impacts of the SBSP. The EIS/EIR presents a limited evaluation of the potential impacts associated with the list of possible South San Francisco Bay Shoreline Study (Shoreline Study) actions. The Shoreline Study area includes the SBSP Restoration Project area as well as shoreline and floodplain areas in the counties of Alameda, San Mateo, and Santa Clara. The Corps and non-Federal sponsors will prepare an EIS/EIR for the Shoreline Study, which will tier off of this EIS/EIR and cover specific project-level actions.

Note that the Draft SBSP EIS/EIR is being submitted for public review under separate Federal and State processes. The following addresses and due dates are applicable to the Federal NEPA review process:

**DATES:** For the Federal process, written comments under the National Environmental Policy Act should be received on or before April 23, 2007. We will hold two public meetings in March 2007 to solicit comments on the draft Environmental Impact Statement. Dates, times, and addresses for the public meetings follow.

- March 28, 2007, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., NASA Research Center, Building 943 (Eagle Room), Moffett Field, CA 94035.
- March 29, 2007, 6 p.m. to 8 p.m., Centennial Hall, 22292 Foothill Boulevard, Room 4, Hayward, CA 94541.

Call Anna Schneider at (510) 286-1015 if directions are needed. Persons needing reasonable accommodations in order to attend and participate in these public meetings should contact Anna Schneider at (510) 286-1015 sufficiently in advance of the meeting to allow time to process the request.

**ADDRESSES:** Written comments and requests for information should be sent to Clyde Morris, Refuge Manager, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR, 9500 Thornton Avenue, Newark, CA 94560. Written comments may also be sent by facsimile to (510) 792-5828 or through the public comments link on the South Bay Salt Pond Restoration Project Web site, at [http://www.southbayrestoration.org/Question\\_Comment.html](http://www.southbayrestoration.org/Question_Comment.html). All comments received, including names and addresses, will become a part of the administrative record and be made available to the public.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Questions regarding the Federal National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process may be directed to Clyde Morris, Refuge Manager, Don Edwards San Francisco Bay NWR, at the

above address; telephone (510) 792-0222, or Yvonne LeTellier, Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1455 Market Street, San Francisco, CA 94103; (415) 503-6744. Questions related to the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) process may be directed to John Krause, California Department of Fish and Game, Region 3 Headquarters, P.O. Box 47, Yountville, CA 94599; telephone (707) 944-5500.

#### SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

##### Availability of Documents

Individuals wishing copies of the Draft EIS/EIR should contact the Service by letter, facsimile to the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex or contact through the restoration project Web site (see **ADDRESSES**). The document is also available for public inspection, by appointment, during regular business hours, at the San Francisco Bay National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Fremont, California, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, San Francisco, California, the California Dept. of Fish and Game, Region 3 Headquarters, 7329 Silverado Trail, Napa, CA 94558, and the Santa Clara Valley Water District, 5750 Almaden Expressway, San Jose, California, 95118. Copies are also available for public review at:

- *Alviso Branch Library:* 5050 North First St., San José, CA 95002, (408) 263-3626;
- *City of Mountain View Library:* 585 Franklin Street, Mountain View, CA 94041, (650) 903-6337;
- *Palo Alto Main Library:* 1213 Newell Road, Palo Alto, CA 94303, (650) 329-2436;
- *Menlo Park Library:* 800 Alma Street, Menlo Park, CA 94025, (650) 330-2500;
- *Sunnyvale Public Library:* 665 West Olive Avenue, Sunnyvale, CA 94086, (408) 730-7300;
- *Hayward Public Library:* 835 C Street, Hayward, CA 94541, (510) 293-8685; and
- *Fremont Main Library:* 2400 Stevenson Blvd, Fremont, CA 94538, (510) 745-1400.

The document may also be viewed on the restoration project Web site <http://www.southbayrestoration.org>.

##### Background

On March 16, 2003, the State of California and the Service acquired 15,100 acres of commercial salt ponds from Cargill, Inc. in South San Francisco Bay which are the subject of the SBSP. The purpose of the acquisition was to protect, restore and enhance the property for fish and wildlife, as well as to provide