



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Portland District

# PUBLIC NOTICE

## Scoping Notice

Issue Date: October 11, 2006

Expiration Date: December 11, 2006

Corps of Engineers Action ID: 200500116

60 Day Notice

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### **Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Port of Vancouver Columbia Gateway Project in the Vancouver, Washington**

**SUMMARY:** The United States (U.S.) Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is initiating the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The EIS is required because a Department of the Army (DA) permit would be required under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 for substantial impacts to waters of the U.S. anticipated during the development of an approximately 500-acre development of docking and industrial facilities at the Port of Vancouver (Port).

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Dr. Jan Stuart, Project Manager, Portland District, Corps of Engineers, CENWP-OD-G, 333 SW. First Avenue, P.O. Box 2946, Portland, Oregon 97208-2946, phone: (503) 808-4393; email [janice.f.stuart@nwp01.usace.army.mil](mailto:janice.f.stuart@nwp01.usace.army.mil).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** The Port has submitted an application to the Corps for a DA permit to develop a multi-faceted port facility that would impact waters of the U.S. during the development and operation. The purpose of these facilities is to enhance the import and export opportunities within the Lower Columbia River region.

The proposed action would require permits for the discharge of dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S., including wetlands, under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act; and placement of structures within navigable waters of the United States under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Before making permitting decisions, the Corps is required to evaluate potential effects on the human environment under the NEPA.

The Corps will to comply with the Endangered Species Act and the National Historic Preservation Act before a permit can be issued. At a minimum, two alternatives would be evaluated in the EIS, including No Action Alternative and the development of approximately 500 acres of Port-owned property adjacent to the Columbia River alternative. Significant issues to be analyzed in the EIS include effects the proposed action may have on wetlands, endangered species, air quality, water quality and quantity, noise, transportation, public facilities and other public interest factors.

The railroad improvements to serve the existing facilities at the Port and the NW 26th Avenue extension will be analyzed under separate NEPA processes. Both projects are independent of the development of multi-faceted Port development project.

The Corps conducted a public scoping meeting for this EIS on September 12, 2006. If you provided comments at or in response to the scoping meeting, those comments are part of the administrative record and you do not need to resubmit them. Affected Federal, state, and local agencies; Indian tribes; and other interested organizations and individuals are asked to provide input to the Corps on the scope of this EIS. To ensure consideration, input on the scope should be provided to the Corps by December 11, 2006. The Corps will provide notice to the public of additional opportunities for public input on the EIS during review periods for the draft and final EIS.

Figure 1. Project Vicinity Map

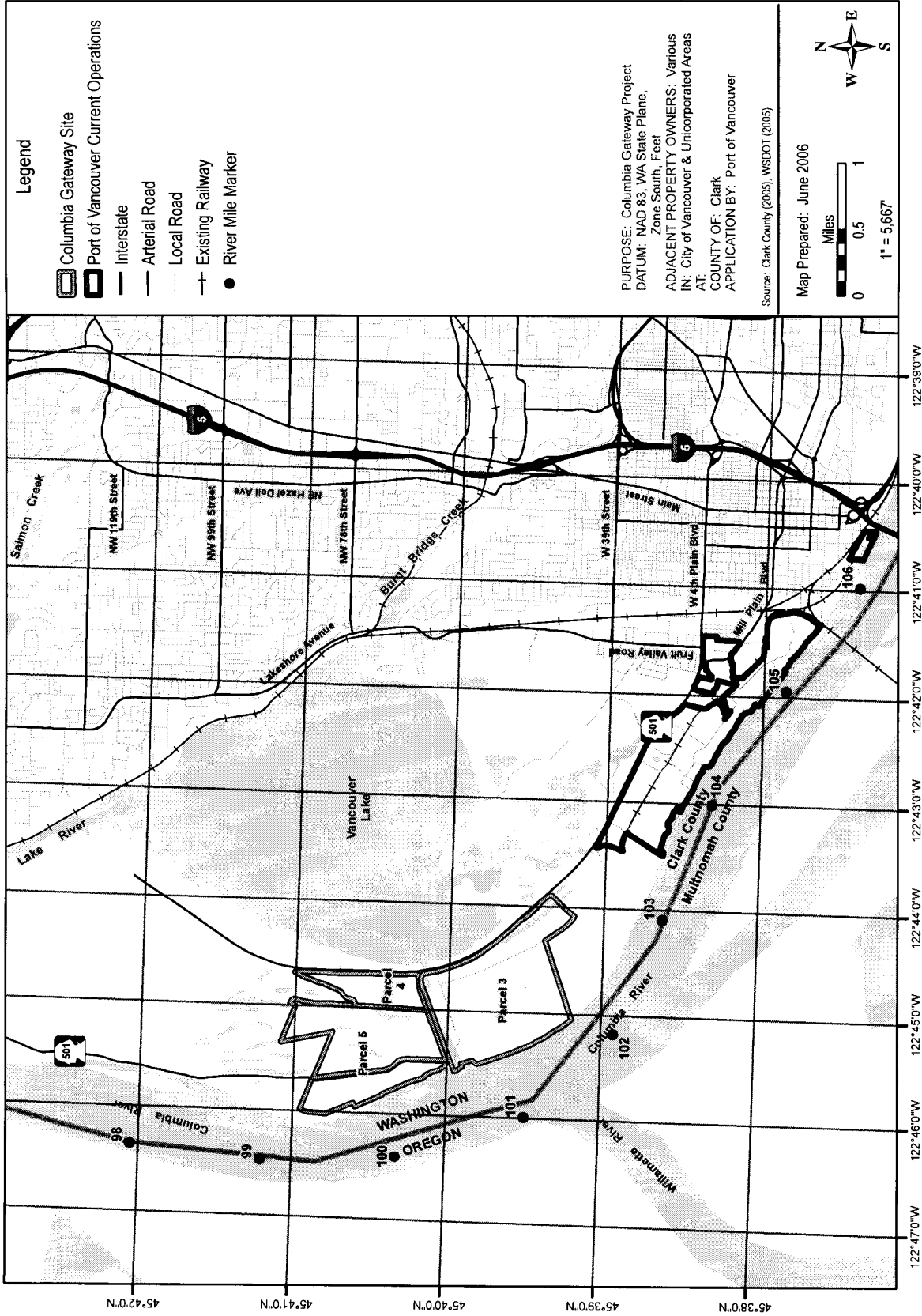


Figure 2. Parcel 3 Terminal

