



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Portland District

EXTENSION

OF COMMENT PERIOD FOR

PUBLIC NOTICE

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

**COOS BAY NORTH JETTY
INTERIM REPAIR
COOS COUNTY, OREGON**

CENWP-PM-E-08-02

Issue Date: March 24, 2008

Expiration Date: April 23, 2008

New Expiration Date: May 8, 2008

45 Day Notice

(Original 30-Day Notice extended for 15 days)

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE), Portland District, proposes an interim repair of the Coos Bay North Jetty. The purpose of the proposed action is to repair three damaged areas on the North Jetty in order to strengthen the jetty structure and extend its functional life. These three areas have been damaged by winter storms and include: (1) a low area with active overtopping from stations 53+00 to 61+00; (2) a seaward scalloped area from stations 62+00 to 64+00; and (3) a root jetty breach area near station 45+00. The proposed action will prevent jetty failure, which would have a substantial impact on marine use of the area. The major impacts of a jetty failure would be as a result of sediment moving into the navigation channel and blocking commercial navigation travel as well as recreational use of the channel.

In accordance with the Council on Environmental Quality's National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) regulations [Federal Register 40 CFR 1508.9(a)], a draft Environmental Assessment (EA) is prepared by a federal agency when a proposed action is not covered by a categorical exclusion or otherwise exempt from NEPA. Federal agencies use the EA to determine whether the proposed action has the potential to cause significant environmental effects.

A draft EA for the Coos Bay North Jetty Interim Repair has been prepared to ensure that NEPA compliance is addressed. Since issuance of the public notice and draft environmental assessment for public comment on March 24, 2008, the project description in the draft EA has been modified. Changes include removal of barging stone as a delivery method and closure of the overland staging area and the Foredune Road. The overland staging area will be closed from August 21, 2008 and the Foredune Road will be closed from September 16, 2008 until the completion of the project or at the latest March 15, 2009. A temporary construction entrance will be provided to the overland staging area from North Spit Road, located adjacent to the east of the overland staging area, will allow trucks to enter the overland staging area without impacting public use of the Foredune Road prior to the road closure on September 16, 2008. The overland staging area is a 10-acre cleared parking area on the North Spit located about 7 miles north of the north jetty on BLM property. The Foredune Road runs from the overland staging area to the North Jetty. Closure of the overland staging area and Foredune Road will impact recreational activities at the North Spit by limiting access to the beach and to some upland areas of North Spit. This closure is necessary to guarantee the safety of the public and contractors during construction activities. Other sand roads and horse trails on the North Spit will remain open during construction activities. The beach will remain open to all uses but access will be restricted to foot traffic accessing the beach from the north of the project. Signs will be placed along the foredune crest at access points over the length of

the Foredune Road to alert the public to the construction activities and limit access. The Corps will restrict public access to the southern portion of the North Spit by placing temporary signs and fencing at the Corps' property line.

Completion of this EA will involve consideration of all public comments. The expiration date of this public notice is being extended by 15 days to allow for public review of the changes to the EA. Upon completion of the EA, the Corps will make a determination of significance. The final decision will be posted to the Corps' Environmental Resources Branch website at https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/pm/e/en_plan_assess.asp. In addition to this public review process, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, is planning to hold a public information meeting in Coos Bay prior to construction. More information will be provided in an upcoming News Release that will be posted on the Corps' website at <https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/home.asp>.

Environmental Documents: A draft Environmental Assessment addressing the impacts associated with the project *and including the changes described above* is available for public review and comment on the Corps' Environmental Resources Branch website at https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/pm/e/en_plan_assess.asp.

State Water Quality Certification: State Water Quality Certification, pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, is being requested from the Oregon Department of Environmental Quality. A Section 404 (b) (1) Evaluation was prepared and has been submitted to the Oregon DEQ.

Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972: A consistency determination was prepared and submitted to Oregon Department of Land Conservation and Development on March 24, 2008.

Additional Information and Comments: Questions or comments regarding the environmental documents should be directed to Wendy Briner, Environmental Resources Branch, telephone (503) 808-4781, or at the address below. Comments on this notice must be mailed by the above close date to:

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineer District, Portland
Attn: CENWP-PM-E
P.O. Box 2946
Portland, Oregon 97208-2946

In your response, please refer to the above public notice number, title and date.

Should no response be received by the above closing date, a "no comment" response will be assumed.