NT O

REPLY TO ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

NEW YORK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS JACOB K. JAVITS FEDERAL BUILDING NEW YORK, N.Y. 10278-0090

Notice of Availability of Environmental Assessment

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District (District) announces the availability of the Draft Environmental Assessment for the Segments B2 and B3 Levee and Floodwall Construction, Green Brook Flood Damage Reduction Project, Middlesex Borough, NJ (EA).

The District is proposing to construct the Segments B2 and B3, a levees and floodwalls along the Bound Brook in the Middlesex Borough, Middlesex County, NJ as part of the Green Brook Flood Damage Reduction Project (GBFDRP). The EA serves as a supplement to the *Final Environmental Impact Statement* (FEIS) for the Proposed Plan for the Green Brook Flood Control in the Green Brook – Sub-Basin, Somerset, Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey, filed August, 1980 and the Final Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Plan for the Green Brook Flood Control in the Green Brook Sub-Basin, Somerset, Middlesex and Union Counties, New Jersey (FSEIS), filed in May 1997.

The purpose of the EA is to address the significance of potential impacts the construction of the two segments will have on the Indiana bat (*Myotis sodalis*), a federal and state endangered species, the northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), a federal threatened species and to assess compliance with General Conformity of the Clean Air Act. At the time the 1908 FEIS and 1997 FSEIS were filed, Indiana and northern long-eared bats were not identified as endangered species within the GBFDRP area. The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency revised the General Conformity rules of the Clean Air Act in April 2010, requiring an updated General Conformity analysis for the project.

The EA will be posted on the Green Brook Flood Damage Reduction Project link on the New York District's website:

 $\underline{http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/Missions/CivilWorks/ProjectsinNewJersey/GreenBrookSubBasin/GreenBrookReports.aspx}$

For further project information contact: Robert Greco

Project Manager

New York District Corps of Engineers

(917) 790-8394

robert.greco@usace.army.mil

To request a copy of the Draft Environmental Assessment and submit written comments, contact:

Kimberly Rightler Project Biologist

New York District Corps of Engineers

Attn: CENAN-PL-E 26 Federal Plaza

New York, NY 10278-0090

(917) 790-8722

kimberly.a.rightler@usace.army.mil

Comments received by May 30, 2016 regarding the DEA will assist in the agency's evaluation of the project changes and will be reflected in the project record.