

issued to FWS on January 31, 1997. Permit 1,027 authorizes FWS takes of adult and juvenile, endangered, Sacramento River winter-run chinook salmon (*Oncorhynchus tshawytscha*) associated with artificial propagation and captive broodstock programs. Permit 1,027 replaces Permit 747, which was amended to expire on January 31, 1997 (61 FR 68721, December 30, 1996). FWS has proposed to develop a genetic testing protocol to identify the origin of returning adults so as to prevent hybridization problems. FWS has also proposed to acquire a hatchery facility on the mainstem Sacramento River to avoid imprinting problems. Until the proposed genetic testing protocol has been reviewed and approved by NMFS, and the mainstem river hatchery facility has been acquired, tested with non-winter-run chinook salmon, and approved by NMFS, the collection of ESA-listed adult fish for broodstock is not authorized. Any captured hatchery progeny suspected of being spring-run/winter-run hybrids will be destroyed. To monitor the propagation program, carcasses of the adult, ESA-listed fish that return to spawn in the wild will be collected from the mainstem Sacramento River and Battle Creek and sampled for tissues and tags. Permit 1,027 expires on July 31, 2001.

Issuance of the permits, as required by the ESA, was based on a finding that such permits: (1) Were requested in good faith, (2) will not operate to the disadvantage of the ESA-listed species that is the subject of the permits, and (3) are consistent with the purposes and policies set forth in section 2 of the ESA and the NMFS regulations governing ESA-listed species permits.

Dated: February 3, 1997.

Robert C. Ziobro,

*Acting Chief, Endangered Species Division,  
Office of Protected Resources, National  
Marine Fisheries Service.*

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## DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

### Department of Army

#### Corps of Engineers

#### **Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson Water Resources Feasibility Study in Howard County, Maryland**

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is initiating the Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson Water Resources Feasibility Study for the watersheds of the Patapsco River basin. The riparian and aquatic environmental integrity of the Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson watersheds have been severely degraded by urbanization, inadequate infrastructure and industrial encroachment. Potential environmental restoration of streambanks, wetlands and forest buffers could restore riparian and aquatic habitat, improve water quality, restore stream channel stability, and reduce erosion and sedimentation. A DEIS will be integrated into the feasibility study to document existing conditions, project actions, and project effects and products. Howard County is the non-Federal sponsor for the project. The Maryland Department of the Environment has also contributed matching grant funds to the county for this study.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:**

Questions about the proposed action and DEIS can be addressed to Ms. Kathryn Conant, Study Manager, Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CENAB-PL-P, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, telephone (410) 962-5175. E-mail address: kathryn.j.conant@ccmail.nab.usace.army.mil.

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 1. The U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Public Works and Transportation, authorized the Baltimore Metropolitan Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson Water Resources Study, in a resolution adopted April 30, 1992.

2. The areas proposed for environmental restoration are known as the Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson watersheds and are located in highly developed eastern portions of Howard County, Maryland. The most significant problems in the Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson watersheds are the loss of aquatic and riparian habitat and the instability of the stream channels. This excessive degradation includes: flashy stormwater flows which cause streambank erosion and sedimentation, encroachment of development which limits riparian habitat and wetlands, and polluted runoff which contributes to poor water quality. These factors negatively impact the aquatic and riparian environment in the present and the future.

3. In September 1996, the Corps and Howard County executed a feasibility cost-sharing agreement to prepare a study on both the Deep Run and Tiber-

Hudson watersheds. This watershed study is being conducted to investigate the feasibility of restoring habitat and the environmental integrity of both of these watersheds. The purpose of this study is to develop an ecosystem restoration plan that will address improvements to aquatic and terrestrial habitat, water quality, and recreation. The goal of this study is to implement the watershed restoration plan that will improve the aquatic and riparian ecosystem within the Deep Run and Tiber-Hudson watersheds. To achieve this goal, the Corps will further define the problems, needs, and opportunities in these watersheds; analyze and forecast environmental resource conditions; formulate, evaluate, and compare alternative plans for multiple sites; develop detailed designs and costs at selected sites; and recommend a cost effective plan for these watersheds.

4. Throughout the feasibility study, potential restoration projects will be identified, evaluated, and selected on a watershed basis. To achieve the proposed watershed restoration plan, the alternatives to be evaluated will include stabilization of eroding stream channels, creation of wetlands, restoration of floodplains, and construction of stormwater detention ponds and retrofits. Habitat structures would also be installed, if necessary, to restore aquatic habitat and provide added cover for spawning. Stream restoration alternatives may include stabilization techniques, such as rootwads, plantings, and geotubes. Where feasible, fish blockages may be removed to allow for resident and migratory passage.

5. The decision to implement these actions will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activities on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit that reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal will be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable costs. The Baltimore District is preparing a DEIS that will describe the impacts of the proposed projects on environmental and cultural resources in the study area and the overall public interest. The DEIS will be in accordance with NEPA and will document all factors that may be relevant to the proposal, including the cumulative effects thereof. Among these factors are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, recreation, water supply and conservation, water

quality, energy needs, safety, and the general needs and welfare of the people. If applicable the DEIA will also apply guidelines issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (Pub. L. 95-217).

6. The public involvement program will include workshops, meetings, and other coordination with interested private individuals and organizations, as well as with concerned Federal, state and local agencies. Coordination letters and newsletters have been sent to appropriate agencies, organizations, and individuals on an extensive mailing list. Additional public information will be provided through print media, mailings, and radio and television announcements.

7. In addition to the Corps, Howard County and the Maryland Department of the Environment, other participants that will be involved in the study and DEIS process include the following: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency; U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service; U.S. Forest Service; U.S. Geological Survey; Natural Resource Conservation Service; and Maryland Department of Natural Resources. The Baltimore District invites potentially affected Federal, state, and local agencies, and other organizations and entities to participate in this study.

8. The DEIS is scheduled to be available for public review in the spring of 1998.

Dr. James E. Johnson,  
Chief, Planning Division.

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## Corps of Engineers

### Intent to Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Upper North Branch Potomac River Environmental Restoration Feasibility Study, Maryland and West Virginia

**AGENCY:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

**ACTION:** Notice of intent.

**SUMMARY:** In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is initiating the Upper North Branch Potomac River Environmental Restoration Feasibility Study. The riparian and aquatic environmental integrity of this has been severely degraded by urbanization, acid mine drainage and industrial encroachment. Potential environmental restoration of streambanks and remediation of wetlands and forest

buffers could restore several acres of riparian and aquatic habitat, in addition to improving water quality, low base flows, and sedimentation. A DEIS will be integrated into the feasibility study to document existing conditions, project actions, and project effects and products. The non-Federal sponsors for the project are the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, the West Virginia Division of Natural Resources and the West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection.

#### FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and DEIS can be addressed to Ms. Erika Hieber, Study Manager, Baltimore District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, ATTN: CENAB-PL-P, P.O. Box 1715, Baltimore, Maryland 21203-1715, telephone (410) 962-4633. E-mail address: erika.j.hieber@ccmail.nab.usace.army.mil

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** 1. The U.S. House of Representatives, Committee on Public Works and Transportation, authorized the North Branch Potomac River Water Resources Feasibility Study in a resolution adopted May 13, 1993.

2. The Upper North Branch watershed of the Potomac River extends from the Potomac River headwaters down to the Jennings Randolph Lake. The study area includes portions of Garret and Allegeny counties in Maryland, and portions of Grant and Mineral Counties in West Virginia. A particular focus of this study is the Corps of Engineers' multi-purpose Jennings Randolph Lake. The most significant problems in the Upper North Branch watershed are acid mine drainage, the loss of biodiversity, and water quality degradation. As a result, environmental resources and aquatic habitats have become degraded.

3. A watershed study is being conducted to investigate the feasibility of restoring the habitat and environmental integrity of the Upper North Branch watershed. The purpose of this study is to develop an ecosystem restoration plan that will address improvement of aquatic and terrestrial habitat, water quality, and recreation. The goal of this study is to improve the aquatic and riparian ecosystem within the Upper North Branch watershed. To achieve this goal, the Corps will further define the problems and opportunities in the Upper North Branch watershed; analyze and forecast environmental resource conditions; formulate, evaluate, and compare alternative plans for multiple sites; develop detailed designs and costs at selected sites; and recommend a cost effective plan for the Upper North Branch watershed. The

proposed environmental restoration plan would potentially include a evaluation of acid mine drainage sites that individually contribute to a significant amount of the acid loading in the watershed. To accomplish the proposed environmental restoration plan, an alternative analysis will be conducted. The analysis would include an evaluation of passive and active acid mine drainage treatment and control technologies that would improve degraded aquatic habitat and water quality by neutralizing acidity, decreasing metal concentrations, and raising pH levels.

4. The decision to implement these actions will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact of the proposed activities on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal will be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable costs. The Baltimore District is preparing a DEIS which will describe the impacts of the proposed projects on environmental and cultural resources in the study area and the overall public interest. The DEIS will be in accordance with NEPA and will document all factors which may be relevant to the proposal, including the cumulative effects thereof. Among these factors are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, and the general needs and welfare of the people. If applicable, the DEIS will also apply guidelines issued by the Environmental Protection Agency, under the authority of Section 404(b)(1) of the Clean Water Act of 1977 (Public Law 95-217).

5. The public involvement program will include workshops, meetings, and other coordination with interested private individuals and organizations, as well as with concerned Federal, state and local agencies. Coordination letters and newsletters have been sent to appropriate agencies, organizations, and individuals on an extensive mailing list. Additional public information will be provided through print media, mailings, and radio and television announcements.

6. In addition to the Corps, the Maryland Department of Natural Resources, West Virginia Division of Natural Resources, West Virginia Division of Environmental Protection, and other participants that will be involved in the study and DEIS process