

Notice of Availability: Section 509 Invasive Carp Program Management Plan, Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment, Finding of No Significant Impact

NASHVILLE DISTRICT

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Nashville District prepared a Draft Program Management Plan (PgMP) and a Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PgEA) and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) to identify potential impacts to the human environment associated with a pilot project program designed to manage and prevent the spread of invasive carp populations in the Tennessee and Cumberland River basins and the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway.

A Scoping Letter was mailed on September 15, 2022, to solicit comments from other governmental agencies and officials, Indian Tribes, the public, private individuals, and other interested parties. Comments were taken into consideration and assisted in the evaluation of the program. The programmatic EA evaluates the No Action Alternative (no installation of pilot deterrent projects) and Implementation of the pilot program (up to 10 temporary pilot projects). An initial draft of the EA indicated the pilot program would not cause significant adverse effects on the quality of the human environment; therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement would not be required.

The EA discusses potential environmental effects of the pilot program and the no action alternative under the following categories: Aquatic Fauna; Aquatic Flora; Terrestrial Resources; Water Quality; Threatened and Endangered Species; Archeological and Historic Resources; Navigation; Recreation; Aesthetics; Health and Safety; Hazardous, Toxic, and Radiological Waste; Floodplains; Socioeconomics; Air Quality; and Cumulative Effects.

This letter serves as a Notice of Availability for reviewing the draft programmatic EA and unsigned FONSI. The draft report is prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (42 U.S.C. §§ 4321-4370h), Council on Environmental Quality Regulations (40 C.F.R. §§

1500- 1508), and the Corps' implementing regulation, ER 200-2-2, 1988 (33 C.F.R. § 230), Policies and Procedures for Implementing NEPA. Electronic copies of the documents can be found at: <https://usace.contentdm.oclc.org/digital/collection/p16021coll7/id/26243>.

Public Meetings are currently scheduled for the following dates and locations:

Tennessee

August 15, 2024, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m. Central Standard Time
TWRA Regional Office
5105 Edmondson Pike, Nashville, TN 37211

Alabama

August 27, 2024, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m., Central Standard Time
Lauderdale Co. Extension Office
802 Veterans Dr., Florence, AL 35630

Virtual Meeting

August 29, 2024, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m., Central Standard Time

Webex Meeting Number: 2760 421 0969

To Join by Browser
Stephen.l.logan@usace1.webex.com

1-844-800-2712 Toll Free
1-669-234-1177 US Toll
Access code: 2760 421 0969

We request comments be sent by email to CorpsLRNPlanningPublicCom@usace.army.mil no later than September 12, 2024 (45 days from the date of this letter), to ensure consideration in the final documents. If you are unable to access an email account, you may send written comments to the address listed on the letterhead, ATTN: CELRN-PMP (Chip Hall). Your participation is greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Valerie McCormack
Chief, Project Planning Branch