



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

SAN FRANCISCO DISTRICT

PUBLIC NOTICE

Planning Branch
1455 Market Street
San Francisco, CA 94103-1398

**Notice of Intent to Prepare a Joint Environmental Impact
Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the San Francisco Bay to
Stockton (John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels) Navigation
Improvement Project, California**

PROJECT CONTACT: Nancy Ferris
Phone: (415) 503-6865/E-mail: SPNETPA@usace.army.mil

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold a public meeting to receive input from members of the public on the scope of the Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton (John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels) Navigation Improvement Project, California. The public scoping meetings will be held on:

**March 26, 2008
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

at

Contra Costa County Administration Bldg.
Room 101
651 Pine Street
Martinez, California

**April 2, 2008
5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.**

at

Cesar Chavez Central Library
Stewart-Hazelton Room
605 N. El Dorado Street
Stockton, California

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), San Francisco District, the Port of Stockton, and the Contra Costa County Water Agency are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) to evaluate the efficiency of the movement of goods along the existing deep draft navigation route extending from the San Francisco Bay to the Port of Stockton. The proposed action consists of altering the depth of the deep draft navigation route. The authority for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton Navigation Improvement Project was provided under House Document 208, House Report 89-973 cited in Section 301 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1965, Pub. L. 89-298, § 204, 79 Stat. 1073.

The San Francisco Bay to Stockton Improvement Project includes the John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels, which extend 75 nautical miles from the Pacific Ocean, just outside the Golden Gate, to the Port of Stockton. The project is divided into two separate reaches, with the John F. Baldwin Ship Channel extending from the Golden Gate to Chipps Island, and the Stockton Ship Channel extending from Chipps Island to the Port of Stockton. Portions of the reaches have been deepened in the past; however, not all reaches attained authorized dimensions. Currently, the Corps is reevaluating the authorized Federal project to determine the extent to which changes to channel dimensions are warranted.

Based on the need for improved efficiency of the movement of goods, the proposed action is to alter the depth of the John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels. The following are some of the alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR: modify the shipping channels to authorized depths, modify the shipping channels to alternate depths, and alternative transport methods.

The Corps is seeking participation and input of all interested federal, state, and local agencies, Native American groups, and other concerned private organizations or individuals through this public notice. The purpose of the public scoping meetings is to solicit comments regarding the potential impacts, environmental issues, and alternatives associated with the proposed action. Public participation will help to define the scope of the environmental analysis in the EIS/EIR; identify other significant issues; provide other relevant information; and recommend mitigation measures.

Comments will be accepted through April 30, 2008. All interested persons are encouraged to provide written comments on the scope of the EIS/EIR. Written comments and requests for additional information regarding the proposed action should be addressed to:

Department of the Army
San Francisco District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
1455 Market Street, 15th Floor
San Francisco, CA 94103-1398
Fax: (415) 503-6692

Contact: Nancy Ferris
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