

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers****Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Renourishment of the Brunswick County Beaches—Caswell Beach, Oak Island, and Holden Beach Portion, Brunswick County, NC**

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: Recent storms, in addition to natural coastal processes, have seriously eroded the oceanfront beaches of the Caswell Beach, Oak Island, and Holden Beach communities, located adjacent to the Atlantic Ocean, in Brunswick County, North Carolina. The proposed project will renourish the beach and dunes for approximately 11.8 miles of Caswell Beach and Oak Island, and 7.1 miles of Holden Beach, using beach compatible sand from one or more offshore borrow sources. Benefits that will accrue from the proposed beach renourishment include the protection of developed property from future storm and erosion damages, and the maintenance and enhancement of the Brunswick County Beaches tourism industry.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

Questions about the proposed action and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) can be answered by: Mr. Jeff Richter; Environmental Resources Branch; U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington; Post Office Box 1890; Wilmington, NC 28402-1890; telephone (910) 251-4636.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: Project alternatives being considered include other methods of storm damage reduction and property protection, different project designs, various sand borrow sites, and no action. Hydraulic pipeline dredges are to be used to dredge and pump sand from the selected offshore borrow site(s) to the beach. As the discharge site moves along the beach away from the dredge, bulldozers move the sand and shape the new beach.

All private parties and Federal, State, and local agencies having an interest in the study are hereby notified of the intent to prepare a DEIS and are invited to comment at this time. Also, a scoping letter requesting input to the study was sent to all known interested parties on January 24, 2000. Based on comments received to date, a scoping meeting will not be needed. All comments received as a result of this notice of intent and

the scoping letter will be considered in the preparation of the DEIS.

Significant issues to be analyzed in the DEIS include: (1) Dredging of benthic resources; (2) impact on primary nursery areas, anadromous fish, threatened and endangered sea turtles and piping plovers, and marine mammals; and (3) impacts to intertidal invertebrates, nektonic and benthic species, and other marine species occurring near the subject beaches.

The lead agency for this project is the U.S. Army Engineer District, Wilmington. Cooperating agency status has not been assigned to, nor requested by, any other agency.

The DEIS is being prepared in accordance with the requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, and will address the relationship of the proposed action to all other applicable Federal and State Laws and Executive Orders.

The DEIS is currently scheduled to be available in July 2004.

Dated: August 8, 2003.

Charles R. Alexander, Jr.,

Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.019A]

Office of Postsecondary Education; Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program; Notice Inviting Applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2004

Purpose of Program: The Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program offers opportunities to faculty members of institutions of higher education for research and study in modern foreign languages and area studies.

For FY 2004 the competition for new awards focuses on projects designed to meet the priority we describe in the PRIORITY section of this application notice.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education.

Applications Available: August 26, 2003.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: October 20, 2003.

Estimated Available Funds: The Administration has requested \$1,575,000 for Fulbright-Hays Faculty Research Abroad Fellowship Program new awards for FY 2004. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow

enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$20,000–\$100,000.

Estimated Average Size of Fellowship Awards: \$47,727.

Estimated Number of Awards: 33 fellowships.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: The institutional project period is 18 months beginning July 1, 2004. Faculty may request funding for 3–12 months.

Page Limit: The application narrative is where the faculty applicant addresses the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate the application. The faculty applicant must limit the narrative to the equivalent of no more than 10 pages, and the references to the equivalent of no more than 2 pages, using the following standards:

- A “page” is 8.5” x 11”, on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.
- Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures, and graphs.

- Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

The page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; the assurances and certifications; or the bibliography. However, the faculty applicant must include the complete response to the selection criteria in the application narrative.

We will reject an application if—

- You apply these standards and exceed the page limit; or
- You apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 81, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99; and (b) The regulations for this program in 34 CFR part 663.

Priority

This competition focuses on projects designed to meet a priority in the regulations for this program (34 CFR 663.21(d)), which provides that priorities may be established for projects focusing on certain geographic areas in addition to certain other categories.