

depressions, channel widening, levees, floodwalls, vegetative berms, low-water dams, and dry dam storage. Structures might be raised or removed from the floodway fringe. Computer models would be used to predict water drainage patterns that would guide future planning in placing structures out of the floodway fringe. The Mill Creek models and data take a composite view of hydrology, hydraulic, and water quality processes occurring in the watershed. This includes future development effects, floodplain locations, erosion, storm water management, and point and non-point sources. Models would be used to compare different types, placement, or of combinations of flood reduction measures to minimize damage to existing and future structures.

3. The Mill Creek watershed is home to the state and Federally listed Nashville Crayfish (*Orconectes shoupi*). This endemic crayfish evolved in Mill Creek and is rarely found outside this watershed. Accelerated development within the watershed has reduced and fragmented the aquatic and riparian habitat of not only this endangered species, but also other native aquatic and riparian communities as well. The Mill Creek models and data would evaluate the impact of changing hydraulics and hydrology on the aquatic ecosystem. The Mill Creek model would be used to find stream locations where restoration and habitat protection measures would be the most successful. Preliminary restoration alternatives under consideration include restoration of wetlands, aquatic, riparian, and terrestrial habitats, sediment management structures, and bank stabilization. Land use changes could be considered to provide a continuous stream corridor that could include a greenway. The study aims to improve the overall health of the stream and its corridor and protect ecologically sensitive habitat of the endangered Nashville crayfish, while also reducing flood damage.

4. Key proposed project features to be evaluated in the DEIS include the following:

a. Flood Damage Reduction measures including peak flow retention structures, low-water dams, channel widening, levees, flood proofing or removing structures out of the floodplain.

b. Protection, enhancement, expansion, or creation of aquatic, riparian, and connected terrestrial habitat for listed species and increased ecosystem diversity.

c. The effects of modifying the flow of Mill Creek on streamside public, private, and commercial properties; fish

spawning and nesting areas; adjacent low lying farmlands; creek bank erosion; cultural, archaeological, and historic sites; and overall changes to the hydraulics and hydrology of Mill Creek.

d. Development and use of computer models that predict flooding, identify placement of habitat structures and streambank protection features, and forecast effects of future development on the existing water resources within the watershed.

5. This notice serves to solicit scoping comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received during the comment period will be considered in the NEPA process. Comments are used to assess impacts on fish and wildlife, endangered species, historic properties, water quality, water supply and conservation, economics, aesthetics, wetlands, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, general environmental effects, cumulative effects, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people. Public meetings may be held, however, times, dates, or locations have not been determined.

6. This notice also serves to initiate the public involvement requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106, implemented by regulations at 36 CFR part 800, requires the Corps of Engineers to consider the effects of its undertakings on historic properties. If required, appropriate architectural and archaeological investigations will be conducted within those areas affected by the proposed activities and resulting findings will be coordinated with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer and other offices as necessary.

7. Other Federal, state and local approvals required for the proposed work include coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, including a Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report and consultation under section 7 of the Endangered Species Act; and state section 401 Water Quality Certification.

8. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the DEIS include flood damage reduction measures and ecosystem modifications that impact fisheries, endangered species, recreation, economics, water quality, historic and cultural resources, stream bank erosion, future development demands, and

cumulative impacts. A DEIS should be available in April 2005.

Byron G. Jorns,

Lieutenant Colonel, Corps of Engineers, District Engineer.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

National Assessment Governing Board; Meeting

AGENCY: National Assessment Governing Board; U.S. Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice of Teleconference Meeting.

SUMMARY: This notice sets forth the schedule and proposed agenda of a forthcoming teleconference meeting of the Reporting and Dissemination Committee of the National Assessment Governing Board. This notice also describes the functions of the Board. Notice of this meeting is required under section 10(a)(2) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act.

DATES: December 11, 2003.

Time: 10 a.m., adjournment, approximately, 12 noon.

Location: National Assessment Governing Board; 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite #825, Washington, DC 20001.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Munira Mwalimu, Operations Officer, National Assessment Governing Board, 800 North Capitol Street, NW., Suite #825, Washington, DC 20002-4233, telephone: (202) 357-6938.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The National Assessment Governing Board is established under section 302 of the National Assessment of Educational Progress Act (Pub. L. 107-279).

The Board is established to formulate policy guidelines for the National Assessment of Educational Progress. The Board is responsible for selecting subject areas to be assessed, developing assessment objectives, identifying appropriate achievement goals for each grade and subject tested, developing guidelines for reporting and disseminating results, establishing standards and procedures for interstate and national comparisons, planning and executing the initial public release of reports, and exercising final authority on the appropriateness of all assessment items. On Thursday, December 11, 2003 the Reporting and Dissemination Committee will hold a teleconference meeting from 10 a.m. to 12 noon to review and approve background