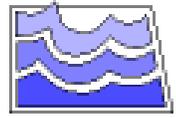


U.S. Army
Corps of
Engineers
St. Paul District

DEVILS LAKE STUDY NEWSLETTER

Issue #7, March 2002



North Dakota
State Water
Commission

Corps Releases Draft Integrated Planning Report/EIS

Public Meetings Scheduled for April 2002

The Corps of Engineers has recently distributed the draft Integrated Planning Report and Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Devils Lake Study. The draft report identifies longterm alternatives to address flooding problems associated with the rising levels of Devils Lake in North Dakota and the relevant consequences of implementing various alternatives. The report has been prepared to document study methodology, alternatives evaluated, and findings. A "preliminarily selected outlet plan" (Pelican Lake 300 cubic feet per second (cfs) outlet plan) is undergoing concurrent design as the report is being prepared and coordinated.

The document has been distributed to Federal and State agencies, interest groups, and individuals. The draft report has also been filed with the Environmental Protection Agency. A notice of availability appeared in the Federal Register on March 8, 2002, officially starting the Federal 45-day public review and comment period. Given this schedule, the comment period will end on April 22, 2002. Only written or email comments will be responded to and included in the final Report. Because of the urgency to make decisions about alternatives and construction, it is not anticipated that the Corps will grant any request for extension of the comment period.

As part of the study, public meetings will be conducted in cooperation with the North Dakota State Water Commission (NDSWC). Four public meetings in the Devils Lake and downstream areas are scheduled from April 8-10, 2002 (see specific meeting dates, times, and locations below). The purpose of these meetings will be to update the public on the findings reported in the draft report, to respond to questions, and to hear comments on the draft report.

The draft report does not contain a recommended plan at this time, but instead provides an array of alternatives along with their associated risks and consequences so as to facilitate open discussion. This draft report serves as a vehicle for continued public input into the project. Because of the unique situation at Devils Lake, the complex environmental issues, and the potential consequences of any action or inaction, it is imperative that the public be afforded the opportunity for input. This draft report is intended to assure that all alternatives are considered and a clear understanding of the full range of issues is presented.

Devils Lake Study Public Meetings

Location	Date	Time	Meeting Place
Valley City, ND	Monday, April 8, 2002	7:00 p.m.	Eagles Club 345 12th Avenue NE, Valley City
Spirit Lake Reservation	Tuesday, April 9, 2002	1:00 p.m.	Tribal Community Building Fort Totten
Devils Lake, ND	Tuesday, April 9, 2002	7:00 p.m.	Ramsey County Courthouse 524 4th Avenue, Devils Lake
Grand Forks, ND	Wednesday, April 10, 2002	2:00 p.m.	Grand Forks City Hall 255 N. 4th Street, Grand Forks

Each meeting is expected to last 2 hours. Individuals who need directions to the meeting place, or who require an auxiliary aid or service, should contact Kevin Bluhm, with the Corps of Engineers in St. Paul, MN, by April 5 at 651-290-5247.

How to Get More Information



Write, call, or e-mail

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Bismarck, ND 58505-0850



Internet Web Sites

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
www.mvp.usace.army.mil

North Dakota State Water Commission
www.water.swc.state.nd.us

Technical reports

All technical reports associated with the Devils Lake Study, including the Draft Integrated Planning Report/EIS, are available for review at:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District
(see left column)
North Dakota State Water Commission
(see left column)

The Draft Integrated Planning Report and EIS is available on the Corps web site (see left column) and from the information repositories listed below. A CD-ROM or hard copy of the report can be requested from the St. Paul District, Corps of Engineers (see left column).

Devils Lake Carnegie Library
701-662-2220

Fargo Public Library
701-241-1492

Griggs County Library
(Cooperstown)
701-797-2214

Tribal Community Center
701-766-4221

Valley City Public Library
701-845-3821

Grand Forks Library
701-772-8116

Lisbon Public Library
701-683-5174

Pembina State Museum
701-825-6840

Also available on the web site and at the repositories are the February 1999 Scoping Document, July 2001 Supplementary Scoping Document, and all project newsletters.

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Return Service Requested

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St. Paul District
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