U.S. Marine Corps designed and contracted construction of a small boat basin in a narrow lagoon between the Santa Margarita and San Luis Rey Rivers to support an amphibious training base. This included four jetties, which were later extended. Another dam was constructed on the Santa Margarita River to control flooding in 1949.

The presence of the coastal structures, such as jetties and breakwaters, has resulted in the disruption of sediment transport, creating a variety of localized shoreline effects. Sediment tends to accumulate at the beach north of the harbor, within the harbor entrance, and south of the harbor south jetty. However, erosion tends to occur downcoast of the labor. Damages reported by residents consist mainly of inundation damages and damages to revetment. These damages occur when storm wave conditions coincident with high tidal elevations or storm surge causes an elevated sea surface and higher wave run-up elevation. The majority of damages in Oceanside occurred during storms in 1977–1978, 1982–83, 1988, 1993–1994, and 1997–1998. In addition to high waves and water surface elevations, damage is intensified by shoreline erosion and beach retreat. Oceanside has historically experienced a narrow beach, but has recently undergone accelerated erosion. A large volume of material has been placed back on the beach during construction and maintenance dredging, but a deficit in sand for the beach still exists. The average recession of Oceanside Beach from 1940–1999 is approximately 60 meters or 1.1 m/yr. In 1974, the USACE issued a position paper on beach erosion that tentatively indicated that the harbor was the primary cause of erosion.

3. Alternatives

The Feasibility Study will focus on the problems and needs caused by beach erosion. In general, alternative plans will focus on reducing the beach erosion and improving sand accumulation through either construction or management project features such as groins, reefs, and/or dredge and disposal. Other features may include coordinated environmental enhancement of the lagoons or river mouths in the project area.

The primary undesirable impacts of concern from any of the alternatives will likely be related to temporary turbidity and displacement of sand dwelling organisms and their predators. These will be addressed in the study as part of the plan formulation of the Feasibility Study, and potential impacts will be analyzed in the DEIS.

4. Scoping Process

Participation of all interested Federal, State, and County agencies, groups with environmental interests, and any interested individuals is encouraged. Public involvement will be most beneficial and worthwhile in identifying the scope of pertinent, significant environmental issues to be addressed; identifying and eliminating from detailed study issues that are not significant; offering useful information such as published or unpublished data; providing direct personal experience or knowledge which informs decision making; and recommending suitable mitigation measures to offset potential impacts from the proposed action or alternatives.

5. Public Scoping Meeting

The specific date, location, and time of the public scoping meeting will be announced in the local news media at least two weeks prior to the meeting. A separate notice of this meeting will be sent to all parties on the study mailing list. The purpose of the scoping meeting will be to gather information from the general public or interested organizations about issues and concerns that they would like to see addressed in the DEIS. Comments may be delivered in writing or verbally at the meeting or sent in writing to the Los Angeles District at the address given above.

Dated: May 20, 2002.

Richard G. Thompson,

Colonel, Corps of Engineers, District Engineer.

[FR Doc. 02–13683 Filed 5–30–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–KF–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Hillsboro Aquifer Storage & Recovery Pilot Project adjacent to the Hillsboro Canal, Palm Beach County, FL

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Jacksonville District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), intends to prepare an integrated Pilot Project Design Report and Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for the Hillsboro Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) Pilot Project. The study is a cooperative effort between the Corps and the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD), which is also a cooperating agency for this DEIS. One of the recommendations of the final report of the Central & South Florida (C&SF) Comprehensive Review Study (Restudy) was the Hillsboro ASR Pilot Project. This project will determine the feasibility of using ASR technology for water storage, and the capacity and treatment capabilities of the impoundment and horizontal wells. It will also collect scientific data to address the uncertainties associated with the ASR technology and for future optimization and design studies.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Ms. Rebecca Weiss, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Environmental Branch, P.O. Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL 32232–0019, or by telephone at 904–899–5025.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: a. *Authorization:* Section 101(a)(16) of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999 (WRDA 1999) (Pub. L. 106–53) authorized construction of the two pilot projects, Lake Okeechobee Aquifer Storage and Recovery (ASR) and Hillsboro ASR. Although these two pilot projects were authorized separate from the Central and Southern Florida Project, they are also integral elements of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP) as authorized in Title VI or WRDA 2000 (Pub. L. 105–541, Section 601). Therefore, these two projects were included in the CERP Design Agreement between the USACE and the local sponsor, the South Florida Water Management District (SFWMD) and required design studies are now proceeding.

b. *Project Scope:* The Pilot project will determine the feasibility of ASR technology for water storage at the site, the water quality characteristics of source waters, native subsurface waters and recovered waters and appropriate water treatment requirements, the efficiency of horizontal collection wells technology, and recommend operational goals for a full scale ASR project at the Hillsboro site. The pilot project includes the construction of 3 ASR wells into the upper Floridian Aquifer with design capacities of 5 million gallons a day per well, a 50-acre impoundment structure with a subsurface horizontal well seepage and groundwater collection system, pre-injection and post recovery water treatment facilities, and other associated piping, treatment systems, and monitoring wells between the surface collection and discharge sites.

Operational plans for the test pilot are to collect surface water from horizontal wells under the 50-acre impoundment, treat collected water to drinking water standards, and inject water into the

Floridan Aquifer System for a minimum of two cycle tests. Each cycle test includes a period of water storage followed by a period of recovery and discharge. Recovered water will be monitored and treated, if needed, to insure compliance with appropriate water quality standards prior to discharge into surface water or canal.

c. *Preliminary Alternatives:* Formulation of alternative plans will involve the selection of the most suitable site for the ASR wells, impoundment depth and configuration, collection well configuration, water treatment technologies, investigation of intake and discharge sites, and investigation of best configuration of surface facilities of the project.

The Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluation of the pilot project will include an evaluation of adverse environmental impacts, including but not limited to, water quality, socio-economic, archaeological and biological. In addition to adverse impacts, the evaluation will also focus on how well the plans perform with regard to specific technologic performance measures.

d. *Issues:* The EIS will consider impacts on water quality, ecosystem habitat, threatened and endangered species, health and safety, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, water availability, flood protection, and other potential impacts identified through scoping, public involvement, and interagency coordination.

e. *Scoping:* Initial project scoping began in January 2001 at a public meeting in Palm Beach County. Additional workshops have been held in West Palm Beach on January 2002 to identify additional public concerns related to ASR and regional implementation. A scoping letter will be issued in May 2002 to interested parties. In addition, all parties are invited to participate in the scoping process by identifying any additional concerns on issues, studies needed, alternatives, procedures, and other matters related to the scoping process. At this time, there is no plan for a public scoping meeting.

f. *Public Involvement:* We invite the participation of affected Federal, state and local agencies, affected Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties.

g. *Coordination:* The proposed action is being coordinated with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS) and the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, with the FWS under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, and with the State Historic Preservation Officer.

h. *Other Environmental Review and Consultation:* The proposed action would involve evaluation for compliance with guidelines pursuant to Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act; application (to the State of Florida) for Water Quality Certification pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act; certification of state lands, easements and right of ways, and determination of Coastal Zone Management Act consistency.

i. *Agency Role:* As cooperation agency, non-Federal sponsor, and leading local expert, SFWMD will provide information and assistance on the resources to be impacted and alternatives.

j. *DEIS Preparation:* The integrated Pilot Project Design Report, including a DEIS, is currently estimated for publication in June 2003.

Dated: May 15, 2002.

James C. Duck,

Chief, Planning Division.

[FR Doc. 02–13687 Filed 5–30–02; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 3710–AJ–M

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement on the Future Dredging of Capron Shoal for the Fort Pierce Shore Protection Project in St. Lucie County, FL

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

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Jacksonville District intends to prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for further dredging at Capron Shaol to renourish the Fort Pierce Shore Protection Project (SPP) in St. Lucie County, FL.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr. William J. Lang Jr., U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Planning Division, Environmental Branch, PO Box 4970, Jacksonville, FL, 32232–0019, by e-mail *William.j.lang@usace.army.mil,* or by telephone at 904–232–2615.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

a. *Project background and Authorization.* Fort Pierce Inlet, originally cut by local interests in 1921, affects the littoral transport of sand north and south of the inlet. The north has accreted while there's been a significant loss of sand to the south. Accordingly, the Fort Pierce SPP, authorized by the River and Harbor Act of 1965, provided for restoration of 1.3 miles of shoreline south of Fort Pierce Inlet and for subsequent periodic renourishment as needed. Since 1971 more than 2 million cubic yards (cy) of beach nourishment and maintenance dredge sand has been placed on the beach. The project provides for a fifty-foot protective berm extending 1.3 miles south of Fort Pierce Inlet. Extension of the project an additional one mile has been addressed in the Environmental Assessment (EA) dated August 1998. Groins are being considered for the eroding area south of the inlet and will be addressed in an EA.

b. *Need or Purpose.* This Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) evaluates the potential impacts of further dredging of Capron Shoal. The environmental analysis will incorporate the results of studies/surveys of bryozoans, reef (hard bottom) and borrow area impacts. This EIS fulfills term and condition 4 of the March 12, 1999 Joint Stipulation for Entry of Dismissal of the Case Winston, et al., vs. Lt. Gen. Ballard.

c. *Proposed Solution and Forecast completion Date.* Sand dredged from Capron Shoal would be used for placement on the Ft. Pierce Beach SPP as needed and appropriate.

d. *Prior EAs, EISs.* EAs were completed in 1998; 1993-revised 94 & 95 and in 1978 specifically for the nourishment of Ft. Pierce Beach SPP. In addition to National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documents prepared specifically for the Ft. Pierce Beach SPP; a 1993 EIS associated with the widening/deepening of the Ft. Pierce navigation channel; and, EAs for channel maintenance dredging were also prepared when sand from the channel was to be placed on Fort Pierce Beach.

e. *Alternatives.* A reevaluation of alternatives, including structural alternatives to minimize the frequency and extent of dredging and beach placement will be done. Alternatives will include the No Action alternative. This EIS will analyze reasonable alternatives to dredging at Capron Shoal, including potential alternatives that would avoid or minimize the need for dredging.

f. *Issues.* Those issues identified in b above shall be addressed in depth as well as the effects on Federally listed threatened and endangered species, essential fish habitat and community response to beach restoration impacts. Additionally, health and safety, water quality, aesthetics and recreation, fish and wildlife resources, cultural resources, energy conservation, socio-economic resources, and other impacts