

<u>Civil Works Branch</u> **Public Notice**

Alaska District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Date <u>Jan 5, 2015</u> Identification No. <u>ER-_15-01</u> Please refer to the identification number when replying.

Environmental Assessment Craig Navigation Feasibility Study and Environmental Assessment Craig, Alaska

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is proposing to construct navigation improvements at Craig, Alaska to relief overcrowded harbor conditions.

The recommended plan consists of a 10.1-acre basin protected by an "L-shape" breakwater that is approximately 1,933 feet in length. This design includes an overlapping gap in the western alignment to provide for fish passage. This design provides protection against waves from all westerly and northerly directions. This basin would be able to accommodate approximately 145 vessels depending on configuration and has an estimated total project cost of \$37.9 million.

The proposed construction of a new harbor as discussed in this document would have minor but largely controllable short-term environmental impacts. However, in the long term it would help improve the overall quality of the human environment. This assessment supports the conclusion that the proposed project does not constitute a major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment

Information on the proposed action and anticipated environmental effects are discussed in the EA. The EA and unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) are available for your review and comment in compliance with the Council on Environmental Quality's regulation for implementing the procedural provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act. The EA is available on the Corps' website at: <u>http://www.poa.usace.army.mil</u>. Click on the Reports and Studies button and look under Documents Available for Review, Civil Works. The EA is also available on the City of Craig website at: <u>www.craigak.com</u> and look for the Tweets section showing the link to the document or click on Items of Interest and Public Notices.

The comment period will close 30 days from the date of this notice. Written comments received on or before this date will become part of the official record. Please send electronic comments to <u>CraigHarbor.POA@usace.army.mil</u>. No public meeting is scheduled for this action. If you believe a meeting should be held, please send a written request to the address below during the 30-day review period explaining why you believe a meeting is necessary.

The FONSI will be signed upon review of comments received and resolution of significant objections. Please submit comments regarding the proposed action to the following address:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District ATTN: CEPOA-EN-CW-ER P.O. Box 6898 Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska 99506-0898

Notice is hereby given that the Corps will be applying for State Water Quality certification from the Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation (ADEC). ADEC may certify there is a reasonable assurance this proposed action and any discharge that might result will comply with the Clean Water Act, Alaska Water Quality Standards, and other applicable State laws. ADEC's certification may authorize a mixing zone and/or a short-term variance under 18 AAC 70. ADEC may also deny or waive certification.

Any person desiring to comment on this proposed action with respect to water quality certification may submit written comments to ADEC at the address below within 30 days from the date on this public notice.

Alaska Department of Environmental Conservation WQM/401 Certification 555 Cordova Street Anchorage, AK 99501-2617 Telephone: (907) 269-7564 FAX (907) 269-7508

Please contact Mr. Christopher Floyd of the Environmental Resources Section at (907) 753-2700 or write to the Corps' address if you would like additional information concerning the proposed project. Comments or requests for further information may also be submitted electronically at the e-mail address: <u>CraigHarbor.POA@usace.army.mil</u>.

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Michael Noah Chief, Environmental Resources Section