

Special Public Notice

Regulatory Division (1145) CEPOA-RD-SS Post Office Box 6898 JBER, Alaska 99506-0898 Issuance Date:
Expiration Date:
Identification No.:

October 23, 2014 November 24, 2014

SPN-2010-147, Multiple Waters

(In reply, refer to above number)

PROPOSED PIONEER RESERVE, LLC MITIGATION BANK INSTRUMENT MODIFICATION SPECIAL PUBLIC NOTICE EXPANSION OF PRIMARY AND SECONDARY SERVICE AREAS OF EXISTING SITES

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Alaska District (Corps) is seeking comments on a proposal from the Pioneer Reserve LLC Mitigation Bank (Pioneer) to modify the bank's service area currently servicing a portion of the Matanuska-Susitna Borough (MSB). Pioneer is requesting to expand their primary service areas for the two existing parcels in the umbrella mitigation banking instrument (MBI), the Seldon Reserve and the Edgerton Reserve. The proposed modification for the primary service areas is to utilize the 8-digit Hydrologic Unit Code (HUC) 19020505, Lower Susitna River sub-basin. The proposed secondary service area(s) would be expanded to the 6-digit HUC 190205, the Susitna River Basin. The sponsor is also proposing to include the "Cook Inlet" Level III ecoregions within the 6-digit HUCs adjacent to 190205, excluding the portions within the Municipality of Anchorage. A memorandum describing the proposed modification of the MBI has been received from the program sponsor, Pioneer Reserve LLC and is enclosed with this notice.

The term "mitigation bank" refers to a site or suite of sites, where resources (e.g., wetlands, streams, riparian areas) are restored, established, enhanced, and/or preserved for the purpose of providing compensatory mitigation for impacts authorized by Depart of the Army (DA) permits. In general, a mitigation bank sells compensatory mitigation credits to permittees whose obligation to provide compensatory mitigation is then transferred to the mitigation bank sponsor. The operation and use of a mitigation bank are governed by a MBI which is the legal document for the establishment, operation, and use of a mitigation bank. The term "service area" refers to the geographic area in which impacts can be mitigated at a specific mitigation bank, as designated in its MBI.

The Corps has convened an Interagency Review Team (IRT) comprised of Federal and State agencies. This team worked with Pioneer Reserve LLC to approve their MBI and will be reviewing this modification request. If this modification is approved, the changes to the service area would be incorporated as amendments to Pioneer Reserve LLC's MBI.

Additional information about Pioneer Reserve LLC may be obtained at www.edgertonreserve.com

<u>AUTHORITY:</u> Issuance of a Public Notice regarding proposed mitigation bank programs is required pursuant to the "Compensatory Mitigation for Losses of Aquatic Resources; Final Rule," as published in the April 10, 2008, Federal Register, Vol. 73, No. 70, Pages 19594 – 19705 (33 CFR Parts 325 and 332).

<u>COMMENT PERIOD:</u> Comments on the described proposal, with the reference number, should be made in writing and reach this office no later than the expiration date of this Special Public Notice to become part of the record and be considered in the decision. Address comments to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Regulatory Division, (Attn: Sheila Newman), Post Office Box 6898, JBER, Alaska 99506-0898.

You may view a copy of the request under the listing SPN-2010-147at www.poa.usace.army.mil/Missions/

Regulatory/Permits/SpecialPublicNotices.aspx

Any questions or requests for additional information should be directed to:

Sheila Newman by email at **Sheila.M.Newman@usace.army.mil**, by phone at (907) 753-5556, toll free in Alaska at (800) 478-2712 or at the address below:

Alaska District, Corps of Engineers Regulatory Division, CEPOA-RD-SS JBER, Alaska 99506-0898

> District Engineer U.S. Army, Corps of Engineers