



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SAVANNAH DISTRICT
100 W. OGLETHORPE AVENUE
SAVANNAH, GEORGIA 31401-3604

October 31, 2019

PUBLIC NOTICE
Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: Notice of Availability of the Final Integrated Post Authorization Analysis Report (PAAR) and Supplemental Environmental Assessment (SEA), Fish Passage at New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam (NSBLD), and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) that evaluated proposed changes to the Fish Passage feature of the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP). This SEA supplements the July 2012 Final Environmental Impact Statement (FEIS) for the SHEP

Notice of the following is hereby given:

1. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, notice is hereby given that the Savannah District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has supplemented the 2012 SHEP FEIS with an environmental assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the fish passage mitigation feature at New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam. The recommended modifications to the NSBLD includes removal of the lock and dam and construction of a fish passage feature that includes a river-wide in-channel fish passage consisting of a fixed crest weir with a rock ramp sloping upstream from the existing dam location, and includes a low-lying floodplain bench on the Georgia side of the Savannah River to provide additional high flow conveyance. The existing lock and dam will be removed to the foundation, down to elevation 91.2 feet NAVD88. The resulting concrete rubble will be disposed of at a landfill facility, or recycled as construction material. The weir design will be 500 feet in width with an average crest elevation of 108.2 feet NAVD88 (109.0 NGVD29). A floodplain bench, approximately 275 feet in width, will be excavated down to elevation 110 feet NAVD88.
2. This Public Notice is issued in accordance with provisions of Title 33 CFR Parts 336.1(b)(1) and 337.1, which establish policy, practices, and procedures to be followed on federal actions involving the disposal of dredged or fill material into waters of the United States.
3. The Final PAAR SEA and FONSI modifies the Fish Passage feature in a manner that meets Title I, Water Resources Development Act of 2016, Section 1319 which still meets the Fish Passage mitigation requirements of the SHEP. Copies of the documents can be downloaded from the District website at: <https://go.usa.gov/xVWxq> or obtained through email request to the following

address: CESAS-PD@usace.army.mil, or by contacting Ms. Robin Armetta at (912) 652-6148.

4. A public engagement event is scheduled for November 13, 2019, between 6:00 and 7:30 p.m. at the Boathouse Community Center, 101 Riverfront Drive, Augusta, GA 30901. The purpose of the public engagement is to announce the final decision on the selected plan for the fish passage at the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam. Unlike past meetings where USACE officials were seeking public input to incorporate into the report, the intent of this meeting is to deliver the final decision, as articulated in the report. Officials will remain available for a limited period to answer questions in order to provide clarity on the decision process.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rebecca Weiss". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Rebecca J. Weiss
Acting Chief, Planning Branch