

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
DEPARTMENT OF THE NAVY

EARLY NOTICE AND PUBLIC REVIEW OF A PROPOSED ACTIVITY IN A FLOODPLAIN

Pursuant to Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, the United States Department of the Navy (Navy) gives notice that the Navy is conducting an evaluation of a proposed action, which may involve maintenance and demolition in a floodplain to determine the potential effects that its activity in the floodplain would have on the human environment. The Navy will be identifying and evaluating practicable alternatives to locating the action in the floodplain and the potential impacts on the floodplain from the proposed action, as required by Executive Order 11988.

The proposed action is to perform maintenance and repairs of facilities at Bugg Spring (Okahumpka), FL. The project involves the repair of the hoist rail and supporting steel on the floating crane barge; replace four steel pontoons with poly pontoons on a floating walkway; Repair and de-water approximately 10 poly pontoons on the barge to correct the listing of the crane barge; Demolition of a loading dock structure, Building 41; Repair asphalt near loading ramp to eliminate a safety hazard; Repair a portion of the asphalt loading area. As required by EO 11988, a more detailed description of the proposed action is available below.

There are three primary purposes for this notice. First, people who may be affected by activities in floodplain and wetlands and those who have an interest in the protection of the natural environment should be given an opportunity to express their concerns and provide information about these areas. Commenters are encouraged to offer alternative sites outside of the floodplain and wetlands, alternative methods to serve the same project purpose, and methods to minimize and mitigate impacts. Second, an adequate public notice program can be an important public educational tool. The dissemination of information and request for public comment about floodplain and wetlands can facilitate and enhance Federal efforts to reduce the risks and impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of these special areas. Third, as a matter of fairness, when the Federal government determines it will participate in actions taking place in floodplain and wetlands, it must inform those who may be put at greater or continued risk.

Interested parties may submit written comments no later than **5:00 PM Eastern Time on DEC 05 2023** by email to erik.s.anderson22.civ@us.navy.mil or by mail postmarked no later than **DEC 05 2023** to:

NSA Orlando
Erik Anderson, Public Affairs, Environmental, NAVFAC SE
NAS JACKSONVILLE, NAVFAC SE EV
P.O. Box 30A, BDLG 919
NAS Jacksonville, FL 32212-0030

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The Proposed Action is to perform maintenance and repairs of facilities at Bugg Spring (Okahumpka), FL (Figure 1). The project involves the repair of the hoist rail and supporting steel on the floating crane barge; replace four steel pontoons with poly pontoons on a floating walkway; Repair and de-water approximately 10 poly pontoons on the barge to correct the listing of the crane barge; Demolition of a loading dock structure, Building 41; Repair asphalt near loading ramp to eliminate a safety hazard; Repair a portion of the asphalt loading area. The majority of the Proposed Action will occur within, or immediately adjacent to, existing flood plain (Zone A). Implementation of the Proposed Action would include use of all applicable best management practices, such as installation and proper maintenance of erosion control measures and barrier protections, and any impacts to water resources are not expected.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide an improved and safe facility in support of the Navy's mission objectives at Bugg Spring. The Proposed Action is needed because the current facilities are old and failing, and require sustainment in order to continue the Navy's mission objectives.

The Navy is proposing the action in a floodplain because the existing facilities to be repaired and/or removed are within the boundaries of floodplains associated with Bugg Spring. To access these facilities and structures, the maintenance and demolition activity must be located within the floodplains. To conduct the maintenance in another location out of the floodplain would defeat the purpose of providing an improved and safe facility and would jeopardize NSA Orlando's ability to support of the Navy's mission objectives at Bugg Spring.

Interested parties may submit written comments no later than 5:00 PM Eastern Time on NOV DD 2023 by email to david.t.rauth.civ@us.navy.mil or by mail postmarked no later than NOV DD 2023 to:

NSA Orlando

Tom Rauth, Acting-Installation Environmental Program Director

NAS JACKSONVILLE, NAVFAC SE EV

P.O. Box 30A, BDLG 919

NAS Jacksonville, FL 32212-0030

Figure 1 – Bugg Spring

