



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**

Walla Walla District
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Contact:
Public Affairs Office

Phone:
(509) 527-7020

Corps holding information meeting on Snake River dredging

Walla Walla, Wash. – Planners from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will host a meeting on March 3, to present information on proposed maintenance of the lower Snake River navigation channel, according to a Walla Walla District project manager.

“We’ll hold the meeting here at the Walla Walla District Headquarters, 201 North Third Avenue, from 12:30-4 p.m.,” said Jack Sands, dredging study manager. “The meeting is being held in response to a request from a stakeholder group and we wanted to extend the invitation to others who might also be interested. Our current proposal is for this work to occur during the 2004-2005 winter in-water work window.”

The Corps will provide information on the various aspects of its proposed maintenance dredging activities at nine locations in the Lower Granite and Little Goose reservoirs in Washington and Idaho. Topics include in-river sediment transportation, effects of dredging on fish listed under the Endangered Species Act, water quality provisions and the status of the Programmatic Dredged Material Management Plan/Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement.

The purpose of the maintenance dredging is to restore the authorized depth of the Federal navigation channel, remove sediment from port areas and provide for recreational use. The Corps proposes to use the dredged material to provide a planting bench for the establishment of riparian habitat; and create shallow and mid-depth habitat for juvenile salmon. The proposed dredged material disposal would provide about 1.3 acres to be used as a planting bench for riparian habitat and about four acres of shallow water habitat for juvenile salmon.

Public Affairs Office, Walla Walla District Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 201 N. Third Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876
Phone (509) 527-7020 FAX (509) 527-7824 CELL (509) 520-1468
Website: www.nww.usace.army.mil E-mail: cenww-pa@usace.army.mil

A meeting agenda and other information is available online at
www.nww.usace.army.mil/maintenance_dredging or by calling Sands at (509) 527-7287.

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