d. The Corps anticipates formally consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), and with the State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The CDFG, as the project proponent, will need to obtain a CWA waiver and a consistency certification from the California Coastal Commission in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

6. Scoping Meeting Date, Time, and Location. A public scoping meeting to receive input on the scope of the DEIS/EIS will be conducted on August 16, 2012, from 4:00–7:00 p.m. at the Fiji Gateway entrance to the Ballona Wetlands (13720 Fiji Way, Marina del Rey, CA 90292, across from Fisherman’s Village and Los Angeles County Department of Beaches and Harbors), and circulated in late 2012. A public hearing will be held after its publication to field comments on the document.

David J. Castanon,
Chief, Regulatory Division, Corps of Engineers.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
Department of the Army, Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement for the Proposed Westbrook Project, Corps Permit Application Number SPK–2005–00938

AGENCY: Department of the Army, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, DOD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District, (Corps) received a Department of the Army permit application from Westpark S.V. 400, LLC (Applicant) to fill approximately 9.6 acres of waters of the United States to construct the proposed Westbrook Project in Placer County, CA, in June 2011. The Corps, as the lead agency responsible for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), determined that the proposed project may result in significant impacts to the environment, and that the preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) is required.

The Applicant proposes to implement a moderate scale, mixed-use, mixed-density master planned community. The Westbrook Project, as proposed, would include a mixture of land uses, including new residential neighborhoods, elementary school, parks and several neighborhood serving retail centers. The Westbrook Project would involve approximately 146 acres of low-density residential, 84 acres of medium-density residential, 28 acres of high-density residential and 43 acres of commercial land uses. Other proposed land uses include a 10-acre elementary school site, approximately 16 acres for three neighborhood parks, and approximately 37 acres of open space for the preservation of natural resources areas.

The proposed project site is approximately 400 acres and contains approximately 13 acres of waters of the United States. The project, as proposed, would result in direct impacts to approximately 9.6 acres of waters of the United States. These acres do not include direct impacts from the proposed action or impacts anticipated to result from offsite infrastructure that may be determined to be required as part of the project through the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) process.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION: Formally consulting with the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), and with the State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The CDFG, as the project proponent, will need to obtain a CWA waiver and a consistency certification from the California Coastal Commission in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Act. The Corps anticipates formally consulting with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service under Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, the National Marine Fisheries Service under Section 305(b)(2) of the Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), and with the State Historic Preservation Officer under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. The CDFG, as the project proponent, will need to obtain a CWA waiver and a consistency certification from the California Coastal Commission in accordance with the Coastal Zone Management Act.

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David J. Castanon,
Chief, Regulatory Division, Corps of Engineers.

The USACE will evaluate alternatives including the no action alternative, the proposed action alternative, and other on-site and off-site alternatives. The proposed project and the alternatives to its proposed size, design, and location will be developed through the EIS process.

The proposed project would result in direct impacts to approximately 9.6 acres of waters of the United States and would avoid approximately 2.9 acres of these waters of the United States. Waters of the U.S. on-site include two intermittent streams, seasonal wetlands, wetland swales, and vernal pools.

The proposed site for the Westbrook community is in unincorporated Placer County, CA, immediately west of the City of Roseville’s existing city limits. The proposed project site is approximately 6 miles west of Interstate 80 and State Route 65, 10 miles northeast of the City of Sacramento, 10 miles east of State Route 99, 5 miles west of downtown Roseville, and 4 miles east of the Sutter County line. The proposed project site is bordered on the west by Fiddyment Road and is approximately 1.2 miles north of Baseline Road. The property to the north was previously authorized for development under permit SPK–2002–00666 (Westpark/Fiddyment Ranch) or is under review in the case of Creekview (SPK–2006–00650). The property to the south, directly adjacent to Baseline Road, is currently under review (Sierra Vista Specific Plan, SPK–2006–01050 and Placer Vineyards, SPK–1999–00737). The proposed project site was once a part of the Sierra Vista Specific Plan area, but the landowners at the time withdrew their application for a Section 404 permit and the area was dropped from analysis under the Sierra Vista EIS in 2008. A new permit application was received for the proposed Westbrook project on June 9, 2011.

The Corps’ public involvement program includes several opportunities to provide oral and written comments on the Westbrook project through the EIS drafting process. Affected federal, state, and local agencies, Indian tribes, and other interested private organizations and parties are invited to participate. Significant issues to be analyzed in depth in the EIS include impacts to waters of the United States, including vernal pools and other wetlands; agricultural resources; cultural resources; threatened and endangered species; transportation; air quality; surface water and groundwater; hydrology and water quality; socioeconomic effects; and aesthetics.

The applicant reports that the project area supports suitable habitat for certain federally-listed branchiopods, including the threatened vernal pool fairy shrimp (Branchinecta lynchii) and endangered Conservancy fairy shrimp (Branchinecta conservatio) and vernal pool tadpole shrimp (Lepidurus packardi). The suitable habitat for branchiopods within the project area includes vernal pools and depressional seasonal wetlands (including depressional areas within wetland swales).

The Applicant reports that there are historic properties within the Westbrook
project area. The Corps will review this information, determine eligibility and initiate the appropriate state and tribal consultations as required under Section 106 of the NHPA as outlined in the Corps’ Interim Guidance to 33 CFR part 325 Appendix C.

It is anticipated that the Draft EIS will be made available to the public between November 2012 and May 2013.

Dated: July 11, 2012.

William J. Leadly, Colonel, U.S. Army, District Engineer.

DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

Applications for New Awards; American Overseas Research Centers Program

AGENCY: Office of Postsecondary Education, Department of Education.

ACTION: Notice.

Overview Information

American Overseas Research Centers Program

Notice inviting applications for new awards for fiscal year (FY) 2012.

Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Number: 84.274A.

Dates:


Full Text of Announcement

I. Funding Opportunity Description

Purpose of Program: The American Overseas Research Centers (AORC) program provides grants to consortia of institutions of higher education (IHES) to establish or operate an AORC that promotes postgraduate research, exchanges, and area studies. AORC grants may be used to pay all or a portion of the cost of establishing or operating a center or program, including: The cost of operation and maintenance of overseas facilities; the cost of organizing and managing conferences; the cost of teaching and research materials; the cost of acquisition, maintenance, and preservation of library collections; the cost of bringing visiting scholars and faculty to the center to teach or to conduct research; the cost of faculty and staff stipends and salaries; the cost of faculty, staff, and student travel; and the cost of publication and dissemination of materials for the scholarly and general public.

Priorities: Under this competition we are particularly interested in applications that address the following priority.

Invitational Priority: For FY 2012, this priority is an invitational priority. Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1), we do not give an application that meets this priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

This priority is:

Projects that propose outreach and related activities designed to inform scholars and faculty at community colleges and minority-serving institutions of potential fellowship and other research and professional development opportunities at the Overseas Centers and encourage and facilitate the participation of these individuals in the Centers’ programs.


Applicable Regulations: (a) The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 81, 82, 84, 86, 97, 98 and 99. (b) The Education Department suspension and debarment regulations in 2 CFR part 3485.

Note: The regulations in 34 CFR part 86 apply to institutions of higher education only.

II. Award Information

Type of Award: Discretionary grants.

Estimated Available Funds: $650,000.

Estimated Awards: $65,000.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: $65,000 per year.

Maximum Award: We will reject any application that proposes a budget exceeding $65,000 for a single budget period of 12 months. The Assistant Secretary for the Office of Postsecondary Education may change the maximum amount through a notice published in the Federal Register.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 48 months.

III. Eligibility Information

1. Eligible Applicants: Consortia of United States institutions of higher education that receive more than 50 percent of their funding from public or private United States sources, have a permanent presence in the country in which the center is located, and are organizations described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1993, which are exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of such Code.

2. Cost Sharing or Matching: This program does not require cost sharing or matching.

IV. Application and Submission Information


2. Content and Form of Application Submission: Requirements concerning the content of an application, together with the forms you must submit, are in the application package for this program.

Page Limit: The application narrative (Part III of the application) is where you, the applicant, address the selection criteria that reviewers use to evaluate your application. You must limit the application narrative to the equivalent of no more than 25 pages, using the following standards:

• A “page” is 8.5” x 11” on one side only, with 1” margins at the top, bottom, and both sides.

• Double space (no more than three lines per vertical inch) all text in the application narrative, including titles, headings, footnotes, quotations, references, and captions, as well as all text in charts, tables, figures and graphs.

• Use a font that is either 12-point or larger or no smaller than 10 pitch (characters per inch).

• Use one of the following fonts: Times New Roman, Courier, Courier New or Arial. An application submitted in any other font (including Times Roman or Arial Narrow) will not be accepted.

The page limit does not apply to the cover sheet; the budget section, including the narrative budget justification; the assurances and certifications; or the one-page abstract: the resumes, the bibliography, or the letters of support. However, the page limit does apply to all of the application narrative section (your complete response to the selection criteria). We will reject your application if you exceed the page limit or if you apply other standards and exceed the equivalent of the page limit.

3. Submission Dates and Times:
