



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Fort Worth District

Public Notice

Information Paper on Preparing an Alternatives Analysis

Regulatory Program

Since its early history, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has played an important role in the development of the nation's water resources. Originally, this involved construction of harbor fortifications and coastal defenses. Later duties included the improvement of waterways to provide avenues of commerce. An important part of our mission today is the protection of the nation's waterways through the administration of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program.

Section 10

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is directed by Congress under Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899 (33 USC 403) to regulate *all work or structures in or affecting the course, condition or capacity of navigable waters of the United States*. The intent of this law is to protect the navigable capacity of waters important to interstate commerce.

Section 404

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is directed by Congress under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (33 USC 1344) to regulate the *discharge of dredged and fill material into all waters of the United States, including wetlands*. The intent of the law is to protect the nation's waters from the indiscriminate discharge of material capable of causing pollution and to restore and maintain their chemical, physical and biological integrity.

PUBLIC NOTICE

PREPARING AN ALTERNATIVES ANALYSIS UNDER SECTION 404 OF THE CLEAN WATER ACT

The Fort Worth District has prepared an Information Paper to assist applicants in preparing Alternative Analyses. In its evaluation of permit applications to discharge dredged or fill material into waters of the U.S. (WOUS), including wetlands, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is required to analyze alternatives to the proposed project that achieve its purpose. USACE conducts this analysis pursuant to two main requirements – the 404(b)(1) Guidelines (Guidelines)1 and the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)2.

USACE also considers alternatives as part of its public interest review evaluation. This document is intended to assist permit applicants in formatting information into an “Alternatives Analysis” that includes the key items that must be evaluated for permit decisions.

To view this document, please click on the following link
[Preparing an Alternatives Analysis](#)

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