



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

# News Release

Release No. CESWF-PA-03-053 Contact: Judy Marsicano

For Release: Immediate 10 Sep 03 Phone: (817) 886-1517

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## **Corps of Engineers seeks public comment on possible projects to reduce flood damages, restore damaged ecosystems**

FORT WORTH, TX — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers encourages the public to attend one of three open houses, scheduled for Sept. 16, 17 and 18, to learn about and comment on opportunities for flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration and recreation development in the lower Colorado River basin.

The Corps of Engineers is studying ways to reduce property damage and loss of life during major floods in the lower Colorado River basin. In the course of its study, the Corps must establish who and what in the river basin would be affected by alternative flood management projects or programs.

The study also will evaluate opportunities for restoring damaged land and waterways, improving water quality and providing recreation while implementing flood management projects. Some of the types of projects the Corps of Engineers would consider include flood control structures, buying and removing flood-prone homes, and restoring flood-damaged areas, oxbows and abandoned gravel mines on lands owned by willing participants.

The tool for gathering this information will be an 18-month Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) process, as required by the National Environmental Policy Act. The PEIS is required before the Corps of Engineers and its partners —the City of Austin, Wharton, Sunset Valley, Travis County and the Lower Colorado River Authority (LCRA) — can consider implementing specific projects.

The Corps of Engineers Fort Worth and Galveston district offices will conduct the meetings from 6 p.m. until 8 p.m. on:

- Sept. 16 at the LCRA Western District Complex, 8347 Ranch Road 1431 West, Buchanan Dam;
- Sept. 17 at Mark Rose Environmental Learning Center at McKinney Roughs, 1884 U.S. Highway 71 West, Cedar Creek; and
- Sept. 18 at Bay City Civic Center, 201 Seventh Street, Bay City.

These public scoping meetings to receive comments and input from the public and various agencies are important to the study process and preparation of the PEIS. The meeting format is open house with informational tables, maps and one-on-one discussions with project managers and technical staff.

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