



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BALTIMORE DISTRICT

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Chesapeake Bay Native Oyster Master Plan discussed at scoping meetings

Baltimore, Md. — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) will host two public scoping meetings on Feb. 8 and 9, 2005, to solicit comments and concerns from the public on the Chesapeake Bay Native Oyster Master Plan. Members of the study teams will present an overview of the master plan, history of restoration efforts and current study activities.

The Corps is working with the Maryland Department of Natural Resources (MD DNR) to develop a master plan for native oyster (*Crassostrea virginica*) restoration in Maryland waters. As part of this effort, the Corps is drafting an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS), in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). An EIS is an evaluation of environmental impacts a project could have and helps officials plan actions and make decisions for federally funded projects.

The public are invited to attend the following meetings:

February 8, 2005

7 – 8:30 p.m.

Anne Arundel Community College
Center for Applied Learning and
Technology
Room 100
101 College Parkway
Arnold, Maryland 21012

February 9, 2005

7 – 8:30 p.m.

Cambridge-South Dorchester High
School, Room E124
2475 Cambridge Bypass
Cambridge, MD 21613

The draft final of the EIS is scheduled for public review in fall 2005.