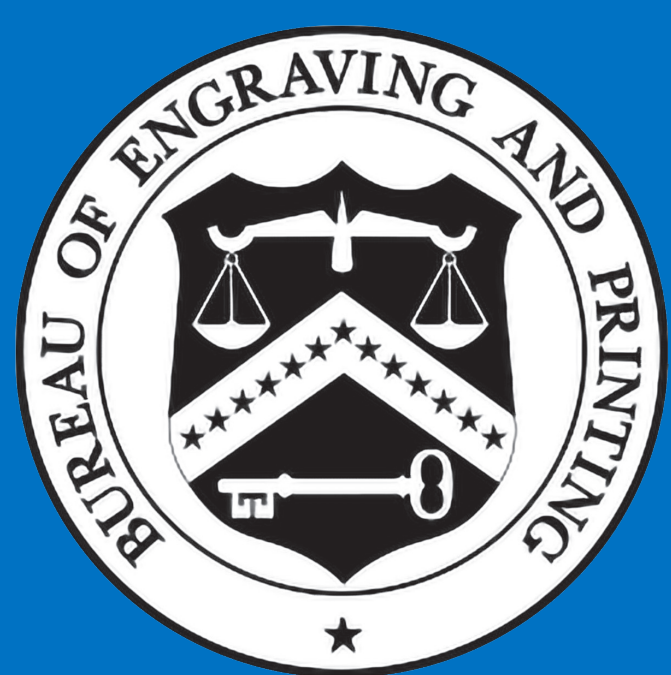


Welcome

Public Scoping Meeting

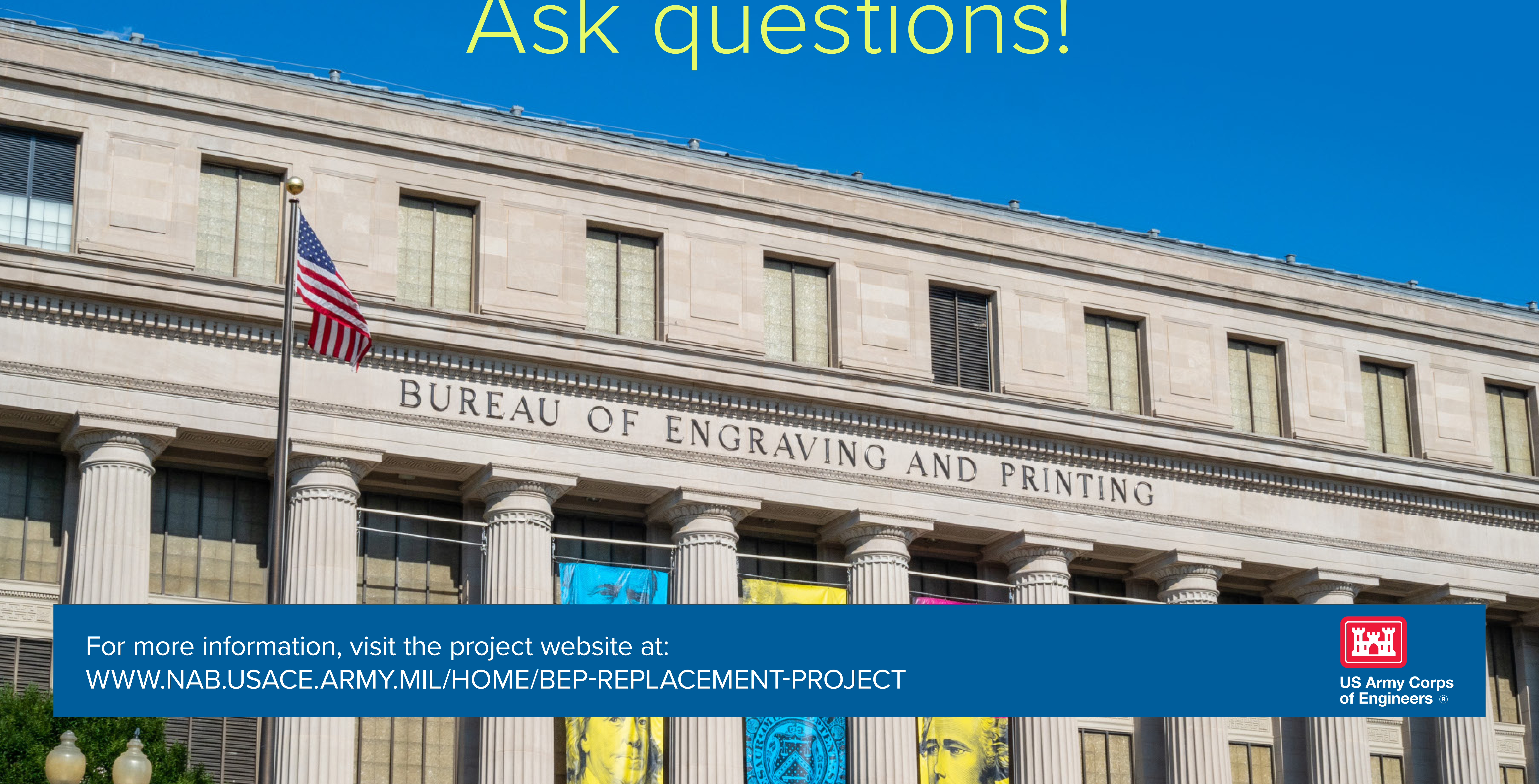
for the proposed



Replacement Currency Production Facility
at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

December 3, 2019

Learn about the project.
Offer comments.
Ask questions!



For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Henry A. Wallace Beltsville Agricultural Research Center



The Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) is part of the Northeast Area of the Agricultural Research Service, the US Department of Agriculture (USDA's) main scientific research agency. As the largest agricultural research center in the world, BARC encompasses nearly 7,000 acres of land northeast of the Nation's Capital.

BARC was founded in 1910 as an experimental farm for the then-Bureau of Animal Industry (BAI). The campus was expanded during the New Deal era to include new divisions under the BAI and additional bureaus under the USDA.

Specific research topics have changed over the century, but the general themes have remained the same. Research at BARC currently focuses on:

- Animal and plant sciences
- Sustainable agriculture
- Nutrition, food quality, and food safety
- Plant genetics and diversity
- Pests and diseases

BARC is split into multiple farm sections; the Proposed Action would be located in the 200 Building Area Cluster of the Central Farm. This area housed poultry research from 1914 to 2012.

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process and Schedule

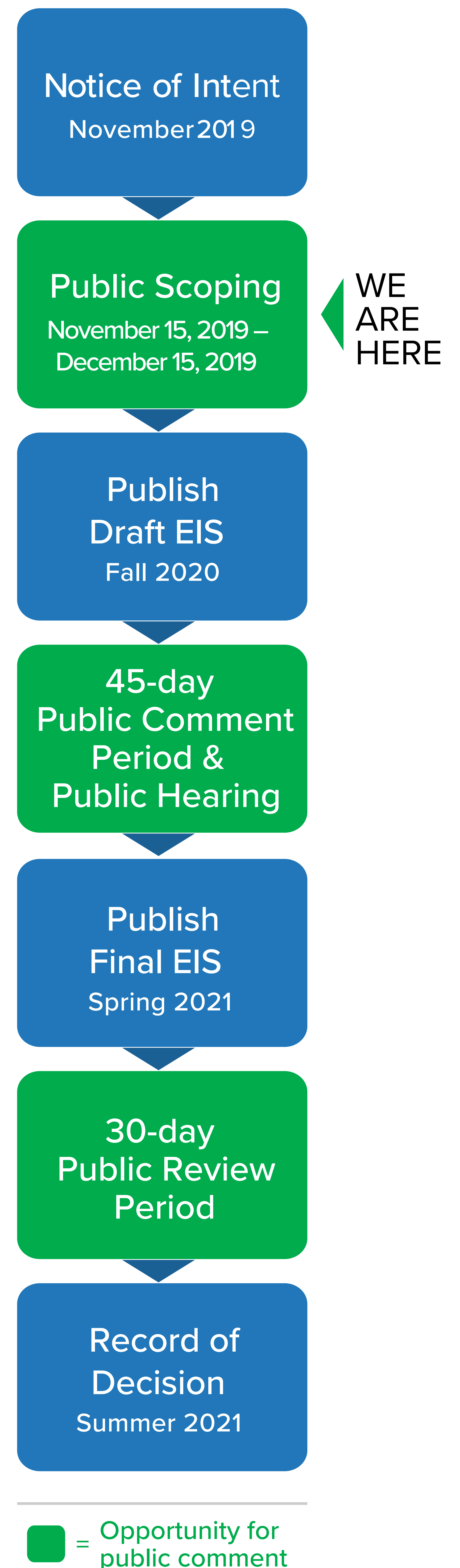
NEPA requires Federal agencies to consider the impacts of their Proposed Actions on the human environment prior to making any decision on action implementation.

For major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) must be prepared

- Preparation of an EIS is a multi-step process
- *Public participation is an essential part of NEPA!*

The EIS will include the following information:

- Purpose of and need for the **Proposed Action**
- Description of Proposed Action and **reasonable alternatives** (including no action)
- Existing **environmental conditions** of alternative locations
- **Impact analysis** for each alternative
- **Mitigation measures** to reduce or avoid adverse effects



Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Public Participation and Scoping

Public participation is an essential part of the National Environmental Policy Act process

- Public scoping is an early step in the process
- Public scoping comments help determine the alternatives and the issues considered in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- Please tell us of any thoughts or concerns you may have about the Proposed Action, alternatives, or potential environmental impacts
- Your input matters and will be carefully considered by the government

This is only the first opportunity to participate

- When ready, the Draft EIS will be available for public review for 45 days
- Another public meeting will be held to receive comments on the Draft EIS
- The Final EIS will be available for public review for 30 days prior to the government making a decision on the Proposed Action, as detailed in the Record of Decision (ROD)

How to Comment

To be notified of the publication of the Draft EIS and Final EIS, please ask to be added to the mailing list.

At tonight's meeting:

- Fill out a comment form and place it in the comment box
- Speak with the stenographer

During the scoping period:

- Email: BEP-EIS@usace.army.mil
- Visit the project website at: www.nab.usace.army.mil/home/bep-replacement-project
- Mail written comments to: Mr. Harvey Johnson, US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District Programs and Project Management Division, 2 Hopkins Plaza, 10th Floor, Baltimore, MD 21201



Comments must be sent by 11:59 p.m. on December 15, 2019, if sent electronically, or postmarked by December 15, 2019, if mailed.

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Environmental Resource Areas Considered

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) welcomes your input on the environmental issues to be addressed in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).

Resource areas to be analyzed in the EIS include:

- Land use
- Aesthetics and visual resources
- Air quality
- Noise
- Geology, soils, and topography
- Water resources, including wetlands
- Biological resources
- Cultural resources
- Socioeconomics and environmental justice
- Traffic and transportation
- Utilities
- Hazardous and toxic materials and waste
- Cumulative effects

With support from the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), BEP is evaluating a potential site at the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) for the Proposed Action. The site under consideration is an approximately 105-acre parcel of land near the intersection of Poultry Road and Powder Mill Road. Studies are ongoing for the following resource areas:

- Streams and Wetlands
- Soil and Groundwater
- Historic Buildings / Structures
- Archaeological Sites
- Landscapes / Viewsheds
- Traffic and Utilities
- Topography and Geotechnical
- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Forest Resources

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT

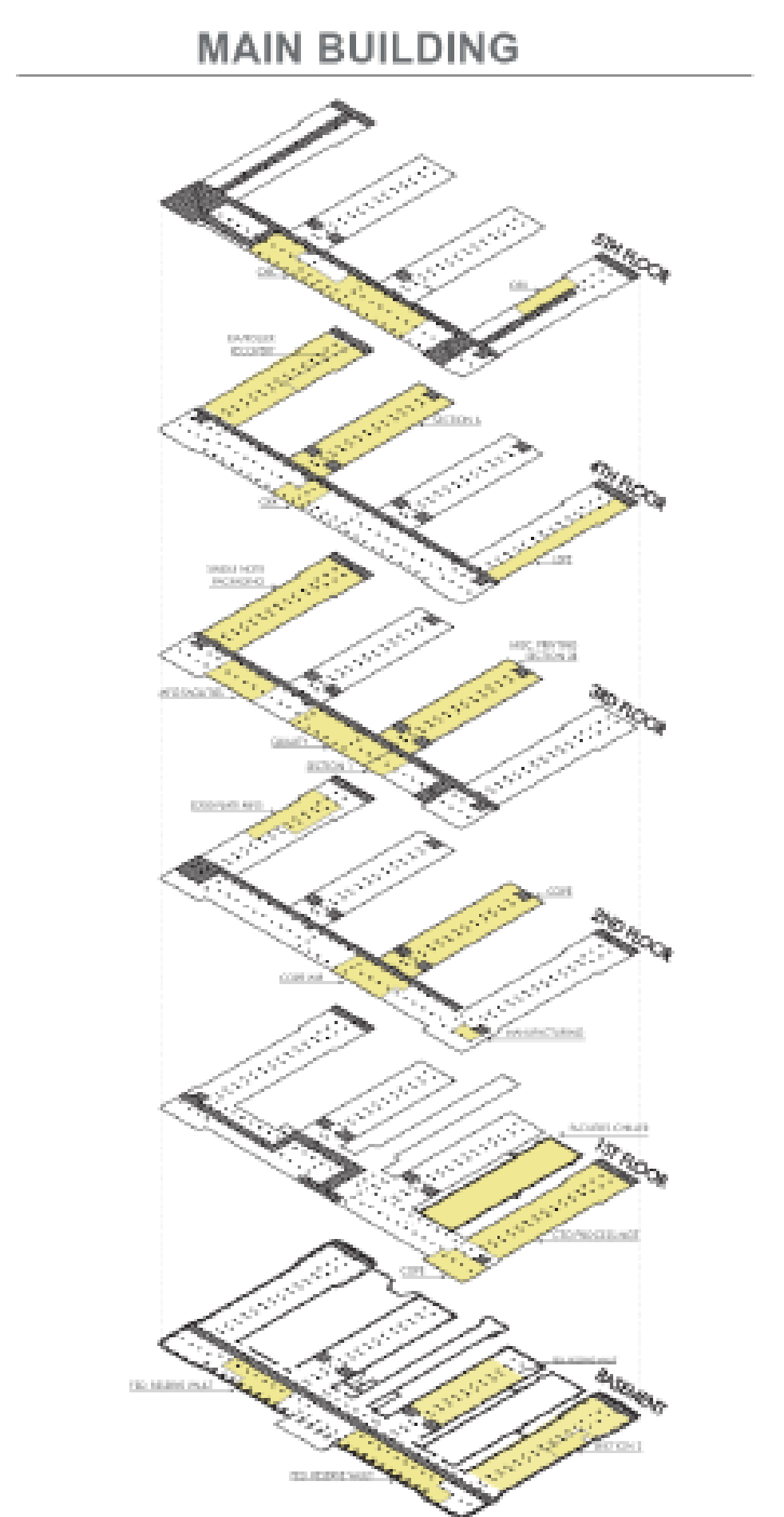


US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Purpose and Need for the Proposed Action

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing's (BEP's) Washington, DC, Currency Production Facility (DC facility) is more than 100 years old and limits BEP's ability to modernize its operations.

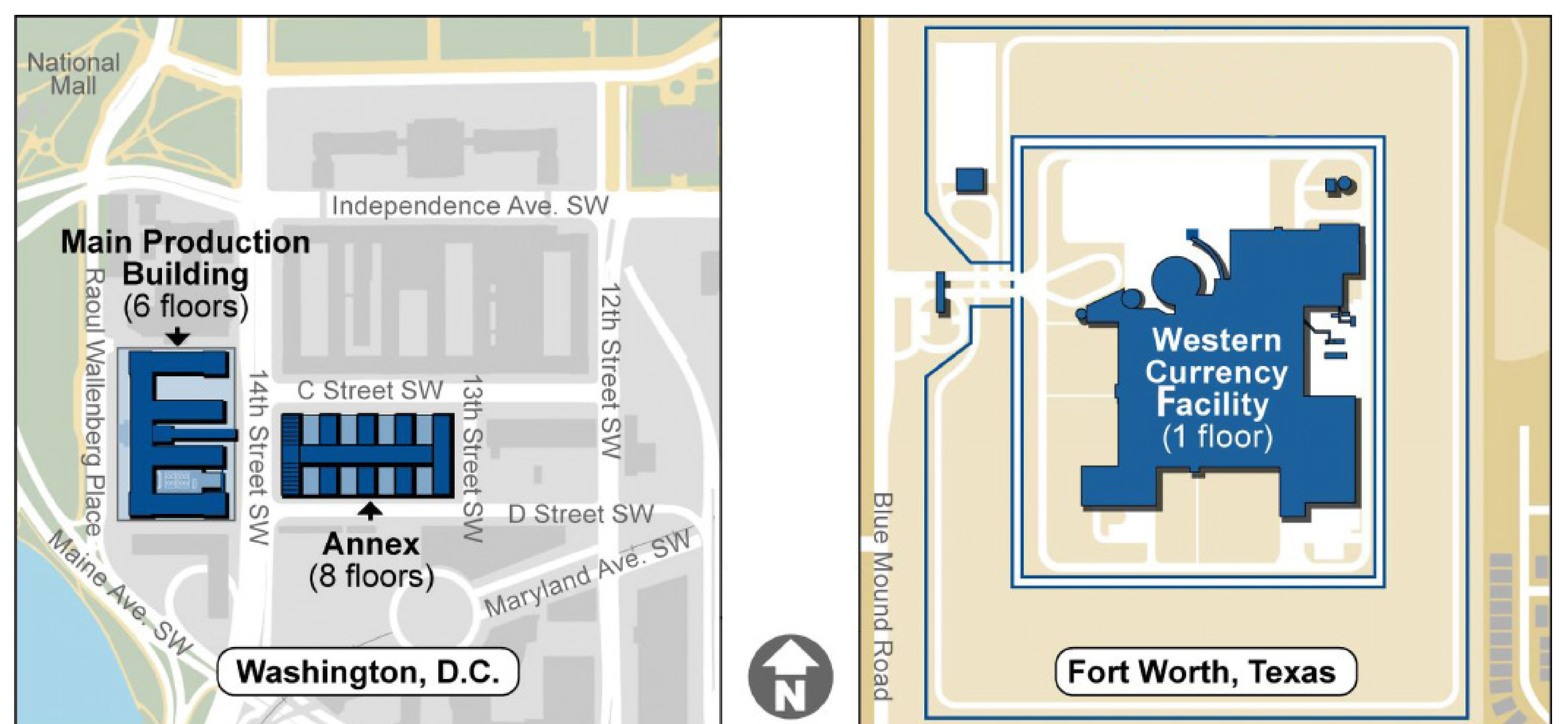
- Currency production and raw materials storage takes place on or between multiple floors and buildings, reducing efficiency and impacting worker safety
- Configuration of space hinders operational flexibility and security
- Antiquated utility and infrastructure systems are functionally inadequate and costly to maintain



BEP's Western Currency Facility (WCF) in Fort Worth, Texas, was built in 1990 to provide redundancy and produce about 25 percent of US monetary notes each fiscal year. Due to operational shortfalls at the DC facility, the WCF now manufactures more than 60 percent of the shared note production.

A smaller, more efficient, modern production facility would streamline the manufacturing process, increase worker safety, and comply with required security standards.

The Proposed Action would reduce BEP's operational footprint by approximately 30 percent.



Sources: National Park Service and GAO. | GAO-18-338

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps of Engineers®

Developing the Proposed Action

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) carefully considered a wide range of alternatives and funding options to modernize its currency production operations.

The Government Accountability Office (GAO) reviewed BEP's facility planning process and concurred with the agency's finding that new construction was the best course of action.

Siting criteria, employee surveys and interviews, and facility walk-throughs were some of the techniques used to evaluate potential sites for a new replacement currency production facility.

BEP's planning process for the Proposed Action started more than 10 years ago.

- 65 percent of employees live in Maryland; 43 percent of them in Prince George's County
 - Highly skilled workforce and Federal government presence in Washington, DC
 - Evaluated nearly 100 different sites in the National Capital Region
 - 31 sites met BEP prerequisite criteria (e.g., access to commercial airports and interstate roadways)
 - 6 of 31 sites were under Federal ownership; these sites were considered in accordance with Executive Order 13327, Federal Real Property Asset Management and related Directives
- **US Department of Agriculture and Congressional support** for unused, previously developed 100-acre Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) site
 - **2018 Farm Bill** provided authority to transfer the parcel to the Department of the Treasury for use by BEP to construct the Proposed Action



Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Overview of the Proposed Action

The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) proposes to design and construct a smaller, more efficient, modern currency production facility at Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC) on land authorized for transfer under the 2018 Farm Bill.

Should BEP implement the Proposed Action, construction would start in 2021/2022 and be followed by the phased transition of personnel and operations from BEP's Washington, DC production facility from 2025 to 2029.

About the Proposed Action

- Manufacturing, warehouse, storage, security, and administrative operations
- Development footprint between 850,000 and 1 million square feet
- Building height range of 30 to 40 feet
- On-site air and wastewater treatment
- 1,440 employees working in shifts (6:30 am, 2:30 pm, and 10:30 pm)
- Site access from Powder Mill Road
- Enhance and incorporate forest buffer zones
- Low impact development/green infrastructure techniques and designs



The Proposed Action would be comparable in function to BEP's Western Currency Facility in Fort Worth, Texas



Site of Proposed Action Alternative

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Natural Resources



The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) would comply with applicable laws and regulations that protect significant natural resources such as wetlands, trees, and wildlife.

The Clean Water Act provides the basic structure for regulating water pollution and enforcing quality standards for surface waters.

- Section 404 says that any project resulting in discharge to waters of the US, including wetlands, requires a permit
- Section 401 says that any project resulting in discharge into navigable waters must obtain state certification that water quality requirements will be met

The Maryland Forest Conservation Act (MFCA) was enacted to minimize the loss of forest resources during land development.

As part of the site planning process, the MFCA requires a step-wise approach for this purpose:

- Survey for 'specimen' trees, defined as more than 30 inches in diameter at breast height
- Prepare a Forest Stand Delineation for review/approval by the Maryland Department of Natural Resources
- Prepare a Forest Conservation Plan to include avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures
- Enact a long-term protection agreement such as conservation easement or deed restriction

BEP is surveying for and delineating the extent of natural resources that could be impacted by the Proposed Action and Alternatives.

Working with Federal and State regulators, mitigation and monitoring requirements would be established based on the type, quality, and total acreage of resources impacted.

The information in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) will form the foundation of any related permits or approvals.

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Cultural Resources

The National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) requires Federal agencies to consider potential effects on historic properties.

What is a historic property?

A historic property is any prehistoric or historic district, site, building, structure, or object that is eligible for listing or already listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP).

- The Proposed Action and Alternatives would be located in the Central Farm of BARC, which is eligible for listing in the NRHP.

What is Section 106?

Section 106 requires that Federal undertakings, or actions, take into account effects on historic properties and consult with interested parties such as the State Historic Preservation Office, federally recognized Indian Tribes, Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, local governments, and other individuals/organizations with an interest or concern.

- BEP's compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be coordinated with and integrated into the EIS.

Should BEP implement the Proposed Action, adverse impacts on cultural resources would be avoided to the extent possible.



- Cultural resource specialists are evaluating above-ground resources (e.g. buildings, objects, structures, landscapes) and surveying for below-ground resources (e.g., artifacts and sites) to determine their potential eligibility for listing on the NRHP
- If the Proposed Action and Alternatives would result in an adverse effect to any historic properties, avoidance, minimization, and mitigation measures will be implemented

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®

Traffic and Transportation

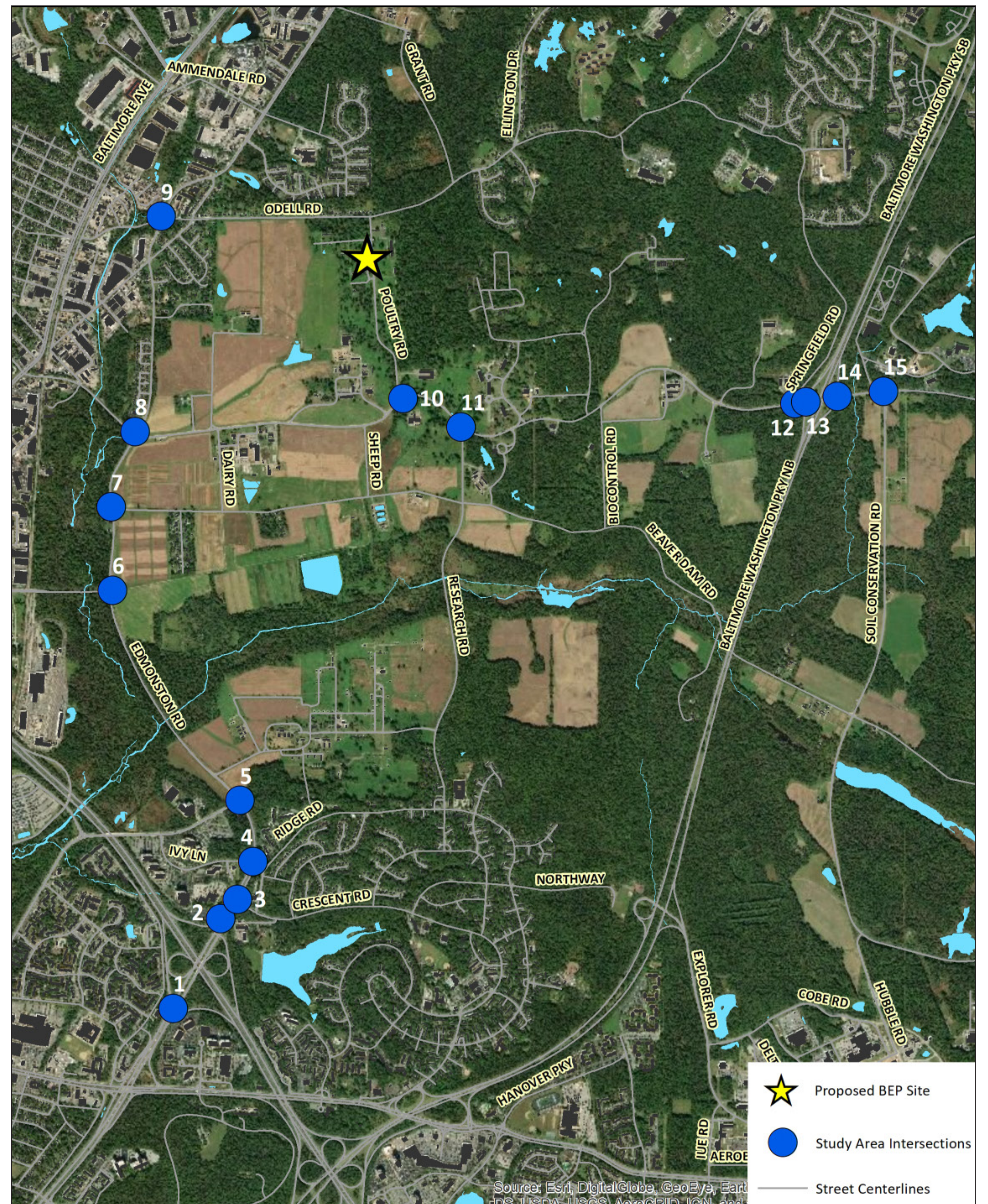
The Bureau of Engraving and Printing (BEP) is analyzing the potential impacts on traffic and transportation that could result from the Proposed Action and Alternatives.

In consultation with the Maryland-National Capital Park and Planning Commission, BEP defined the study area and identified data needs to support the analysis.



The study area covers routes between the Capital Beltway and Baltimore Washington Parkway and the Beltsville Agricultural Research Center (BARC), including 15 intersections.

Traffic data were collected for numerous roadways and intersections.



BEP staff completed a Commuting Pattern Survey to help identify their potential points of origin and modes of transportation should the Proposed Action be constructed at BARC.

The next step will be to assess future roadway conditions, with and without the Proposed Action, to identify potential effects on future traffic volumes and flows that may require management.

Replacement Currency Production Facility



Beltsville Agricultural Research Center

For more information, visit the project website at:
WWW.NAB.USACE.ARMY.MIL/HOME/BEP-REPLACEMENT-PROJECT



US Army Corps
of Engineers®