



## **PUBLIC NOTICE**

Planning Branch 1455 Market Street San Francisco, CA 94103-1398 Notice of Intent to Prepare a Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton (John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels) Navigation Improvement Project, California

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The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will hold two public meetings to receive input from members of the public on the scope of the Joint Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton (John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels) Navigation Improvement Project, California. The public scoping meetings will be held on:

March 26, 2008 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

at

Contra Costa County Administration Bldg. Room
101
651 Pine Street
Martinez, California

April 2, 2008 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.

at

Cesar Chavez Central Library Stewart-Hazelton Room 605 N. El Dorado Street Stockton, California

Please visit our project website for additional information, meeting materials, and future updates: http://www.spn.usace.army.mil/projects/stockton\_navigation

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), San Francisco District, the Port of Stockton, and the Contra Costa County Water Agency are preparing an Environmental Impact Statement/Environmental Impact Report (EIS/EIR) to evaluate the efficiency of the movement of goods along the existing deep draft navigation route extending from the San Francisco Bay to the Port of Stockton. The proposed action consists of altering the depth of the deep draft navigation route. The authority for the San Francisco Bay to Stockton Navigation Improvement Project was provided under House Document 208, House Report 89-973 cited in Section 301 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1965, Pub. L. 89-298, § 204, 79 Stat. 1073.

The San Francisco Bay to Stockton Improvement Project includes the John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels, which extend 75 nautical miles from the Pacific Ocean, just outside the Golden Gate, to the Port of Stockton. The project is divided into two separate reaches, with the John F. Baldwin Ship Channel extending from the Golden Gate to Chipps Island, and the Stockton Ship Channel extending from Chipps Island to the Port of Stockton. Portions of the reaches have been deepened in the past; however, not all reaches attained authorized dimensions. Currently, the Corps is reevaluating the authorized Federal project to determine the extent to which changes to channel dimensions are warranted.

Based on the need for improved efficiency of the movement of goods, the proposed action is to alter the depth of the John F. Baldwin and Stockton Ship Channels. The following are some of the alternatives that will be evaluated in the EIS/EIR: modify the shipping channels to authorized depths, modify the shipping channels to alternate depths, and alternative transport methods.