



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
FORT WORTH DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P. O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102-0300

April 20, 2015

Public Notice

Willis Creek, Brownwood, Texas, Section 205 Study

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Fort Worth District, in partnership with the City of Brownwood, Texas, is conducting the Willis Creek Section 205 Feasibility Study under the Continuing Authorities Program (CAP), Section 205 of the Flood Control Act of 1948, as amended. In 2003, USACE conducted the Pecan Bayou, Brownwood, Texas, Interim Feasibility Study, which resulted in an approved General Investigation (GI) report, "Pecan Bayou, Brownwood, Texas, Interim Feasibility Report and Integrated Environmental Assessment", recommending the National Economic Development (NED) Plan, involving channel improvements to Willis Creek, as well as associated environmental mitigation, be pursued under CAP (Section 205). A Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) was executed for the proposed NED Plan in that report.

The 2003 NED Plan included a 15,680-foot hydraulic channel modification on Willis Creek within the City of Brownwood, as well as a 2,000-foot diversion channel designed to reduce environmental impacts along the stream channel. The upper segment of the modification would begin near Asbury Street, and extend approximately 6,400 feet downstream, at which point, the diversion channel would be excavated across an open field. The diversion channel would reconnect to Willis Creek approximately 500 feet upstream of 4th Street. The modified channel would continue downstream, approximately 7,880 feet to the terminus of the plan approximately 1,600 feet east of Quail Creek Court. Environmental mitigation was included in the NED Plan for adverse impacts to fish and wildlife habitat by the proposed channel modifications. The modification would also require box culvert modifications to the 14th Street and 4th Street bridges, side slope modifications at the Austin Avenue Bridge, and some storm drain and utility relocations.

The Willis Creek, Brownwood, Texas, Section 205 Study will allow USACE to verify the existing conditions within the study area (Enclosure) and the previous NED Plan identified in 2003. A Supplemental Environmental Assessment (EA), pursuant to Section 102 of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) as implemented by the regulations promulgated by the Council on Environmental Quality (40 Code of Federal Regulations Parts 1500-1508 and USACE Engineering Regulation 200-2-2), will be prepared to describe the project alternatives and the affected environment, as well as analyze the potential direct, indirect, and cumulative environmental effects of the action alternatives.

Our office would like to solicit any input you may have within the proposed study area to assist us as we progress through the NEPA process. We look forward to receiving your comments as we move forward. Please address any comments to Ms. Amanda McGuire, Environmental Resources Planner, P.O. Box 17300, Fort Worth, Texas 76102-0300 or Amanda.Mcguire@usace.army.mil. Thank you for your interest and cooperation.

Sincerely,



Eric W. Verwers
Director, Regional Planning and
Environmental Center

for

Enclosure

Willis Creek Brownwood, Texas

