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[FR Doc. 97-8176 Filed 3-31-97; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**Department of the Navy**

**Notice of Intent To Prepare an
Environmental Impact Statement for
the Continued Use of the Pinecastle
Target Range, Ocala National Forest,
Marion County, Florida**

SUMMARY: Per Section 102(2)(c) of the
National Environmental Policy Act of
1969 as implemented in the Council on

Environmental Quality regulations (40
CFR parts 1500-1508), the Department
of the Navy announces its intent to
prepare an Environmental Impact
Statement (EIS) for the Continued Use of
the Pinecastle Target Range, Ocala
National Forest, Marion County,
Florida. The U.S. Department of
Agriculture (USDA) Forest Service is a
cooperating agency in the preparation of
the EIS.

The 5,825-acre range, located on
USDA Forest Service property in the
Ocala National Forest, is operated by the
Navy under a special use agreement
from the USDA Forest Service. The
agreement expires December 31, 1999,
and the EIS will examine environmental
impacts resulting from renewal of the
agreement.

The objective of the EIS is to describe
the existing conditions at the range,
describe the alternatives for reuse or
closure of the range, and evaluate the
environmental impacts from various
renewal or closure alternatives. A
biological assessment and Section 7
consultation pursuant to the
Endangered Species Act are being
completed. Environmental issues that
will be addressed in the EIS include air
quality, water quality, noise, safety,
wetland impacts, endangered species
impacts, cultural resources impacts, and
socioeconomic impacts.

The Navy will hold two scoping
meetings to solicit input on significant
issues that should be addressed in the
EIS. The first meeting will be held on
Thursday, April 17, 1997, from 5:00
p.m. until 9:00 p.m. at the Umatilla
Community Center, 1 South Central
Avenue, Umatilla, FL. The second
meeting will be held on Tuesday, April
29, 1997, from 5:00 p.m. until 9:00 p.m.
at the Ocala City Auditorium, 836 N.E.
Sanchez Avenue, Ocala, FL. Navy
representatives will accept comments
from members of the public at the
meeting. It is important that Federal,
state, local agencies, and interested
individuals take this opportunity to
identify environmental concerns that
should be addressed in the EIS.

ADDRESSES: Agencies and the public are
encouraged to provide written
comments in addition to, or, in lieu of,
oral comments at the scoping meeting.
To be most helpful, comments should
clearly describe specific issues or topics
which the EIS should address. Written
comments must be postmarked by May
29, 1997 and should be mailed to
Commanding Officer, Southern
Division, Naval Facilities Engineering
Command, P.O. Box 190010, North
Charleston, South Carolina 29419-9010
(Attn: Mr. Tom Burst, Code 064TB).

Written comments may be submitted to
Mr. Burst via facsimile at (803) 820-
7472.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Mr.
Tom Burst at (803) 820-5590.

Dated: March 27, 1997.

M.A. Waters,

*LCDR, JAGC, USN, Alternate Federal Register
Liaison Officer.*

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BILLING CODE 3810-FF-P

**Notice of Public Hearing for the Draft
Environmental Impact Statement for
Disposal and Reuse of the Naval
Weapons Industrial Reserve Plant,
Calverton, NY**

SUMMARY: Per Council on Environmental
Quality Regulations (40 CFR Parts 1500-
1508), implementing procedural
provisions of the National
Environmental Policy Act, the
Department of the Navy has prepared
and filed, on March 14, 1997, with the
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
a Draft Environmental Impact Statement
(DEIS) for the disposal and subsequent
reuse of the Naval Weapons Industrial
Reserve Plant (NWIRP), Calverton, New
York. The DEIS addresses the
environmental consequences of disposal
of NWIRP Calverton, and
implementation of the proposed
Community Reuse Plan for the base
prepared by the Calverton Air Facility
Joint Planning and Redevelopment
Commission, an entity established by
the Riverhead Town Board. The DEIS
evaluates environmental effects of three
reuse alternatives which represent a
reasonable range of alternative
redevelopment intensities for the base if
the decision is made to dispose of the
property.

ADDRESSES: The Department of the Navy
will hold a public hearing to inform the
public of the DEIS findings and to
solicit comments. The hearing will be
held on Thursday, April 17, 1997,
beginning at 7:30 p.m., at the Ramada
East End, 1830 Route 25, Riverhead,
New York. Please call the point of
contact below or the Ramada Inn in the
case of inclement weather.

Federal, state, local agencies and
interested parties are invited and urged
to attend or be represented at the
hearing. Oral statements will be heard
and transcribed by a stenographer;
however, to assure the accuracy of the
record, all statements should be
submitted in writing. All statements,
both oral and written, will become part
of the public record on this action and
will be given equal consideration.