

and analogs thereof. Also disclosed are pharmaceutical compositions and kits comprising at least one lipoic acid compound.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

Department of the Army; Corps of Engineers

Intent To Prepare a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) for *El Rio Antiguo, Rillito River, a Feasibility Study of a Portion of the Rillito River in the City of Tucson, Pima County, AZ*

AGENCY: Army Corps of Engineers, DoD.

ACTION: Notice of intent.

SUMMARY: The Los Angeles District of the U.S. Corps of Engineers (the Corps) will initiate analyses of foreseeable environmental impacts from actions potentially to be implemented on a reach of the Rillito River. The Corps will prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to accompany the Feasibility Report. Pima County will participate in the Feasibility Study.

The Rillito River flows from east to west along the south face of the Catalina Mountains, and is tributary to the Santa Cruz River. The study area extends from the confluence of Pantano and Tanque Verde Washes, which happens to coincide with Craycroft Road, downstream to Campbell Road. About 4.8 river miles lie between those limits. Except for a region on the south side approximately one mile long, all existing banks have been stabilized with soils cement. The study area will extend on the north side to include uplands in a region known locally as "the bend", and on the south side to encompass lands potentially to be acquired along Alvernon Way and at Campbell Road. Approximately 925 acres lie within the roughly defined study area, and of that about 525 acres would be called uplands. A habitat restoration project on the south bank of the Rillito (Continuing Authorities Program, section 1135 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1986, as amended) has been initiated within the proposed study area. Refinements of the study area, both additional inclusions and exclusions, can be expected during the course of the Feasibility Study as appropriate to the general study objectives.

The proposed project emphasizes opportunities to restore riparian habitat,

address matters of surface and groundwater quality, explore aquifer recharge along the Rillito, restoration of natural riverbed conditions, fashion localized seasonal wetlands (known in the southwest by the Spanish noun *ciénegas*) at opportune places in the river bottom, and create venues appropriate for recreational educational uses of the river. Flood damage reduction on the Rillito itself and washes entering it from foothills of the Catalinas will also constitute aspects of the Feasibility Study.

ADDRESSES: District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Los Angeles District, ATTN: Dr. John E. Moeur, Regional Planning Section, CESPL-PD-RP, PO Box 532711, Los Angeles, California 90053-2325.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. John E. Moeur, Environmental Manager, telephone (213) 452-3874.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

1. Authorization

The Feasibility Study for El Rio Antiguo has two distinct Congressional authorities. The more recent, House Resolution 2425 (dated 17 May 1994), directs:

* * * the Secretary of the Army * * * to review reports of the Chief of Engineers on the State of Arizona * * * in the interest of flood damage reduction, environmental protection and restoration, and related purposes.

Congress previously authorized similar endeavors through section 6 of the Flood Control Act of 1938. The 75th Congress of the United States passed what became Public Law 761. This legislation states, in part:

* * * the Secretary of War [Secretary of the Army since 1947] is hereby authorized and directed to cause preliminary examinations and surveys * * * at the following locations: * * * Gila River and tributaries, Arizona, * * *

2. Background

The Rillito River now appears as a broad dry, wash most of the year. Summer thunderstorms in its watershed may cause it run modestly, or in genuine flood, but it soon reverts to a dry desert wash.

It environs were much different a century and a half ago. A description written in 1910 portrays it before the Civil War as an unbroken gallery forest along the Rillito dominated by cottonwoods, willows, Arizona ash, Arizona walnut, diverse underbrush species adapted to the Sonoran Desert, interspersed with grasslands of sacaton and big galleta grass. Beavers dammed the Rillito in many places. Where water

infiltrated somewhat faster, cienegas formed along the riverbed.

Diversions of surface waters, and then extraction by pumps of water from subsurface strata caused profound regional changes in hydrology starting about the turn of the last century. Thereafter, the Rillito began to decline.

3. Proposed Action

No explicit proposed alternative has yet been identified. The Feasibility Study to be evaluated by this EIS will evaluate impacts of viable alternatives once they have been framed in light of the topography, hydrology, biotic communities, and preferences of the local sponsor. A No action Alternative will form the basis for comparison for these evaluations. The EIS will address at least sixteen diverse kinds of resources important to the Sonoran Desert biome: Aesthetics, agriculture, air quality, biology, cultural, geology, groundwater recharge, hazardous wastes, land use, physical environment, recreation and education, safety, socioeconomic, sound and noise, transportation and communications, and water quality. The public will be afforded ample opportunity to comment on these analyses prior to taking any action to implement any alternative that may then be under consideration.

4. Scoping Process

The Corps will conduct a scoping meeting to aid in determining the importance of pertinent environmental issues. Participation of all interested Federal, State, and County resource agencies, as well as Native American peoples, groups with environmental interests, and all interested individuals is encouraged. Public involvement will be most beneficial and worthwhile in identifying pertinent environmental issues, offering useful information such as published or unpublished data, direct personal experience or knowledge which inform decision making, assistance in defining the scope of plans which ought to be considered, and recommending suitable mitigation measures warranted by such plans. Those wishing to contribute information, ideas, alternatives for actions, and so forth can furnish these contributions in writing to the points of contact indicated above, or by attending public scoping opportunities.

The scoping period will conclude 60 days after publication of this NOI and concurrent publication in newspapers circulated in the greater Tucson area.

5. Public Scoping Meeting

The Corps and the local sponsor invite all interested parties to a public

scoping meeting to discuss project goals and offer ideas essential to developing alternatives to achieve those goals. An initial public meeting for the proposed El Rio Antiguo study is scheduled for the evening of Tuesday, November 13, 2001. Please gather at 6 PM in the 1st Evangelical Free Church, located at 4700 N. Swan Road, in Tucson, Arizona. Individuals, organizations, and agencies who wish to offer information or data relevant to anticipated project objectives, alternatives, impacts, mitigation, or any similar consideration may do so by attending the public scoping meeting. If that means for communication proves infeasible, then kindly mail the information to any of the three addresses noted above.

Luz D. Ortiz,

Army Federal Register Liaison Officer.

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DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

[CFDA No. 84.116M]

Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education—Special Focus Competition: US-Brazil Higher Education Consortia Program (Institutional Cooperation and Student Mobility in Postsecondary Education Between the United States and Brazil); Notice inviting applications for New Awards for Fiscal Year (FY) 2002.

Purpose of Program: To provide grants or enter into cooperative agreements to improve postsecondary education opportunities by focusing on problem areas or improvement approaches in postsecondary education.

Eligible Applicants: Institutions of higher education or combinations of institutions and other public and private nonprofit institutions and agencies.

Applications Available: November 9, 2001.

Deadline for Transmittal of Applications: March 29, 2002.

Deadline for Intergovernmental Review: May 28, 2002.

Estimated Available Funds: \$300,000. The estimated amount of funds available for awards is based on the Administration's request for this program for FY 2002. The actual level of funding, if any, depends on final congressional action. However, we are inviting applications to allow enough time to complete the grant process if Congress appropriates funds for this program.

Estimated Range of Awards: \$25,000-\$30,000 for FY 2002; \$190,000-\$210,000 for 4-year duration of grant.

Estimated Average Size of Awards: \$30,000 for FY 2002; \$200,000 for 4-year duration of grant.

Estimated Number of Awards: 10.

Note: The Department is not bound by any estimates in this notice.

Project Period: Up to 48 months.

Applicable Regulations: The Education Department General Administrative Regulations (EDGAR) in 34 CFR parts 74, 75, 77, 79, 80, 82, 85, 86, 97, 98, and 99.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: This program is a Special Focus Competition under the Fund for the Improvement of Postsecondary Education (Title VII, Part B of the Higher Education Act of 1965, as amended) to support projects addressing a particular problem area or improvement approach in postsecondary education. The competition also includes an invitational priority to encourage proposals designed to support the formation of educational consortia of American and Brazilian institutions to encourage cooperation in the coordination of curricula, the exchange of students, and the opening of educational opportunities between the United States and Brazil. The invitational priority is issued in cooperation with Brazil. These awards support only the participation of US institutions and students in these consortia. Brazilian institutions participating in any consortium proposal responding to the invitational priority may apply, respectively, to the Coordination of Improvement of Personnel of Superior Level (CAPES), Brazilian Ministry of Education, for additional funding under a separate but parallel Brazilian competition.

Priority

Invitational Priority

We are particularly interested in applications that meet the following invitational priority:

Projects that support consortia of institutions of higher education that promote institutional cooperation and student mobility between the United States and Brazil.

Under 34 CFR 75.105(c)(1) we do not give an application that meets the priority a competitive or absolute preference over other applications.

Methods for Applying Selection Criteria

The Secretary gives equal weight to the listed criteria. Within each of the criteria, the Secretary gives equal weight to each of the factors.

Selection Criteria

In evaluating applications for grants under this program competition, the Secretary uses the following selection criteria chosen from those listed in 34 CFR 75.210.

(1) The significance of the proposed project, as determined by—

(a) The extent to which the proposed project involves the development or demonstration of promising new strategies that build on, or are alternatives to, existing strategies;

(b) The likely utility of the products (such as information, materials, processes, or techniques) that will result from the proposed project, including the potential for their being used effectively in a variety of other settings; and

(c) The importance or magnitude of the results or outcomes likely to be attained by the proposed project, especially improvements in teaching and student achievement.

(2) The quality of the design of the proposed project, as determined by—

(a) The extent to which the goals, objectives, and outcomes to be achieved by the proposed project are clearly specified and measurable; and

(b) The extent to which the design of the proposed project is appropriate to, and will successfully address, the needs of the target population or other identified needs.

(3) The adequacy of resources, as determined by—

(a) The extent to which the costs are reasonable in relation to the objectives, design, and potential significance of the proposed project;

(b) The potential for continued support of the project after Federal funding ends, including, as appropriate, the demonstrated commitment of appropriate entities to such support; and

(c) The relevance and demonstrated commitment of each partner in the proposed project to the implementation and success of the project.

(4) The quality of the project personnel, as determined by—

(a) The qualifications, including relevant training and experience, of key project personnel; and

(b) The extent to which the applicant encourages applications for employment from persons who are members of groups that have traditionally been underrepresented based on race, color, national origin, gender, age, or disability.

For Applications Contact: Education Publications Center (ED Pubs), P.O. Box 1398, Jessup, MD 20794-1398. Telephone (toll free): 1-877-433-7827. FAX: (301) 470-1244. If you use a