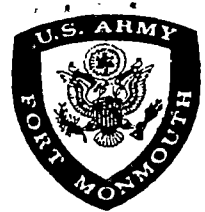


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DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Headquarters, U.S. Army Garrison Fort Monmouth
Fort Monmouth, New Jersey 07703 - 5101



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

February 5, 2004

Directorate of Public Works

Subject: Fort Monmouth Residential Communities Initiative

Clifford G. Day, Supervisor
U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service
New Jersey Field Office
927 North Main Street
Heritage Square, Building D
Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232

Dear Mr. Day:

The U.S. Army is preparing an Environmental Assessment for the implementation of the Residential Communities Initiative (RCI) program at Fort Monmouth, in northeastern Monmouth County, New Jersey. The RCI program will privatize the management, operation, and maintenance of housing and ancillary supporting facilities at Fort Monmouth. The purpose of the Environmental Assessment is to evaluate the potential effects of the implementation of the RCI program at Fort Monmouth on the natural and human environment.

Under the proposed action, Fort Monmouth would convey all existing on-post family housing units and selected ancillary supporting facilities to a private development entity to provide affordable, quality housing, through a combination of replacement of and improvement to existing housing units. The installation currently has 667 family housing units. Fort Monmouth proposes that the development entity modernize 179 units, demolish 270 units, and build 218 new units, resulting in an end-state inventory of 399 family housing units. The initial development plan would be implemented over a 10-year period beginning in 2004. The Army would grant the development entity a free 50-year lease of approximately 151 acres of land.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act, Endangered Species Act, and Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, an evaluation of the potential effects (both beneficial and adverse) associated with implementing this action is required. We are requesting your input concerning any biological concerns regarding this action, such as the presence of federally listed threatened or endangered species, or critical habitat. For quick reference, the affected area can be found on the Long Branch United States Geological Service quadrangle or on the attached location map of Fort Monmouth.

I would like to thank you in advance for your cooperation with this matter. Your prompt consideration and response would be greatly appreciated. Please provide any comments on issues you feel the Army should consider in its Environmental Assessment to the RCI Office (c/o Dinker Desai, DPW Building 167, Fort Monmouth, NJ 07703). You are urged to provide input by March 5, 2004. Should you require additional information or have any questions, please contact Mr. Dinker Desai, Environmental Engineer, at 732-532-1475 or email: dinkerrai.desai@mail1.monmouth.army.mil.

Sincerely,

James Ott
Director of Public Works

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- Print your name and address on the reverse so that we can return the card to you.
- Attach this card to the back of the mailpiece, or on the front if space permits.

1. Article Addressed to:

US Fish + Wildlife Service
 New Jersey Field Office
 Attn: Clifford G. Day
 927 North Main St
 Heritage Square, Building D
 Pleasantville, New Jersey 08232

2. Article Number (Copy from sending label)

7001 2510 0006 7782 1568

A. Received by (Please Print Clearly) *JINA SIRPINO* B. Date of Delivery *2/11/04*

C. Signature

Jina Sirpino Agent
 Addressee

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DIRECTORATE OF PUBLIC WORKS
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FORT MONMOUTH, N.J. 07703

