



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers** ®  
Portland District

# **PUBLIC NOTICE**

## **DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

**Mount St. Helens Long-Term Sediment Management Plan for  
Flood Risk Reduction  
Grade Building Structures Pilot Project  
Cowlitz County, Washington**

CENWP-PM-E-10-05

Issue Date: March 23, 2010  
Expiration Date: April 21, 2010

### **30 Day Notice**

Interested parties are hereby notified that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, proposes to implement a Grade Building Structures (GBS) Pilot Project as part of the Long-Term Sediment Management Plan for the Mount St. Helens Flood Risk Reduction project.

The purpose of the pilot project is to test the sediment retention performance of several types of grade building structures. These structures will be built in the sediment plain above the Sediment Retention Structure (SRS) for the purpose of increasing the efficiency of sediment deposition in the plain and decreasing the volume of sediment available for deposition in the Cowlitz River system. The GBS concept was proposed as one of several potential measures for managing the sediment eroding from the debris avalanche on Mount St Helens that is being transported through the North Fork Toutle River, mainstem Toutle River, and into the lower 20 miles of the Cowlitz River system. The results of the pilot project will help determine how efficient these structures would be to trap sediment in the sediment plain. The results also will be important for determining if the GBS measure can be applied as a long-term tool for sediment management. The pilot project will be funded under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act, also known as the Federal Stimulus Package.

**Environmental Documents:** A draft Environmental Assessment addressing the impacts associated with the activity is enclosed for public review and comment. The draft is also available on the Corps website: [https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/pm/e/en\\_plan\\_assess.asp](https://www.nwp.usace.army.mil/pm/e/en_plan_assess.asp).

**State Water Quality Certification:** Pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act, the Corps submitted a request to the Washington Department of Ecology (WDOE) for Water Quality Certification. A Joint Public Notice is included to inform all interested parties of the request and to seek comments from the public, local, state, federal, and tribal agencies.

**Additional Information and Comments:** Questions or comments regarding the draft EA should be directed to Jim Stengle, (503) 808-4767, via e-mail at [james.b.stengle@usace.army.mil](mailto:james.b.stengle@usace.army.mil), or at the address below. Written comments in response to this notice must be mailed by the above closing date and sent to.

District Engineer  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineer-Portland District  
Attn: CENWP-PM-E / Jim Stengle  
P.O. Box 2946  
Portland, Oregon 97208-2946

In your response, please refer to the above public notice number, title and date. Should no response be received postmarked by the above closing date, a *no* comment response will be assumed.