



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
NORFOLK DISTRICT  
FORT NORFOLK  
803 FRONT STREET  
NORFOLK VA 23510-1011

November 20, 2018

Planning and Policy Branch  
Environmental Analysis Section

**RE: Initiation of NEPA Scoping and NEPA Scoping Comment Period for the Florida Keys Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study**

To Whom It May Concern:

This scoping letter is being promulgated by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) in compliance with public coordination requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). The purpose of this correspondence is to formally initiate the scoping process as defined by 40 CFR 1501.7 for the Florida Keys Coastal Storm Risk Management (CSRМ) Feasibility Study (previously identified as the Monroe County CSRМ Feasibility Study). The Corps is the lead federal agency for this study and Monroe County is the nonfederal sponsor.

The study authority is Public Law 84-71, June 15, 1955 which authorizes an examination and survey of the coastal and tidal areas of the eastern and southern United States, with particular reference to areas where severe damages have occurred from hurricane winds and tides. The purpose of the project is to reduce potential damages caused by coastal storms and improve human safety and coastal resiliency in the Florida Keys. The study area extends from the Key Largo, Florida vicinity to Key West, Florida. A map of the approximate study area is included as Attachment 1.

Potential measures being considered include, but are not limited to the following: structural alternatives (such as tidal gates and backflow preventers), non-structural alternatives (such as flood proofing, relocation, and elevation of structures), and Natural and Nature-Based Features (such as living shorelines, mangrove, coral and wetland plantings).

The purpose of the scoping period is to commence the public process for the generation of a NEPA document to assess the effects of the alternatives associated with the Florida Keys CSRМ Feasibility Study. The NEPA document that will be prepared will be either an Environmental Assessment or an Environmental Impact Statement for this study. Scoping will aid in determining the scope of the analysis and any potentially significant issues. This process is also to help identify alternatives and information needed to evaluate alternatives.

A series of public meetings is scheduled for this study in order to solicit public scoping comments. The following table identifies the dates and locations of each meeting:

Florida Keys Coastal Storm Risk Management Feasibility Study Public Meeting Schedule			
Date	Location	Time	Reserved Venue
Monday, 12/03/2018	Key West, FL	6-8pm	Key West Commission Room Harvey Government Center, 1200 Truman Avenue, Key West Florida 33040
Tuesday, 12/04/2018	Marathon, FL	11-1pm	Marathon Commission Room Marathon Government Center, 2798 Overseas Highway, Marathon, FL 33050
Tuesday, 12/04/2018	Key Largo, FL	6-8pm	Holiday Inn Key Largo 99701 Overseas Hwy, Key Largo, FL 33037

We welcome your views, questions, comments, concerns and suggestions. The Corps believes that this study will benefit significantly from your involvement. Written scoping comments for the Florida Keys CSR M Feasibility Study are to be provided no later than January 8, 2019. If it is determined that preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is required, the Corps will publish a Notice of Intent to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement in the Federal Register and the NEPA public scoping comment period will be extended. Written comments or inquiries regarding the Florida CSR M Feasibility Study should be addressed to Ms. Kimberly Koelsch; email: Kimberly.C.Koelsch@usace.army.mil; Telephone: 757-201-7837. Thank you in advance for your participation.

Sincerely,



Alicia M. Logalbo  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Norfolk District  
Chief, Environmental Analysis Section  
Planning and Policy Branch



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
NORFOLK DISTRICT  
FORT NORFOLK  
803 FRONT STREET  
NORFOLK VA 23510-1011

November 20, 2018

Attachment 1: Map of Approximate Study Area

