# APPENDIX A REGULATORY CORRESPONDENCE

# Request for Early Input

# Environmental Assessment for the Proposed Construction and Operation of the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crime Center (DC3) Fort George G. Meade, Maryland

All Interested Parties: The U.S. Army Garrison, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland (FMMD) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), herein known as NEPA. The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) is responsible for issuing regulations (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] 1500-1508) and implementing the provisions of NEPA. CEQ regulations, in turn, are supplemented by procedures adopted on an agency-specific basis. For the Department of the Army (DA), the pertinent regulations are contained in 32 CFR Part 651, Environmental Analysis of Army Actions, which specifically includes in its list of Army actions that normally require an EA [32 CFR] 651.33 (c)] changes to established installation land use that generate impacts on the environment. An EA is intended to assist agency planning and decision-making. While required to assess environmental impacts and evaluate their significance, an EA is routinely used as a planning document to evaluate environmental impacts, develop alternatives and mitigation measures, and allow for agency and public participation (32 CFR 651.20). This EA will be developed pursuant to these laws and regulations. NEPA requires all Federal agencies to give appropriate consideration to potential environmental effects of proposed and alternative major actions in the planning and decision-making processes.

The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide DC3 with a new building that can consolidate their operations into one main, facility that encourages collaboration with other colocated agencies with similar missions on FMMD. The need for the Proposed Action is to facilitate optimal mission performance of the DC3. In 2015 the DC3 was directed the Secretary of the Air Force to terminate further leasing of commercial facilities and pursue funding for military construction on FMMD. Currently, DC3 leases 105,511 square feet of space in three separate buildings in Linthicum, Maryland. DC3 has occupied these three buildings since 2000. These leased facilities are aging, lack the proper security, and would require substantial upgrades by the Government for

In addition, DC3 encompasses two major missions: an operations program and an academy program. The full integration of the operations and academy in a co-located facility is necessary to ensure optimum mission performance.

The Proposed Action includes the construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square

foot DC3 facility within a

site design also includes a parking structure,
sidewalks, landscaping, stormwater management facilities, and utility service

The

connections. The building will serve

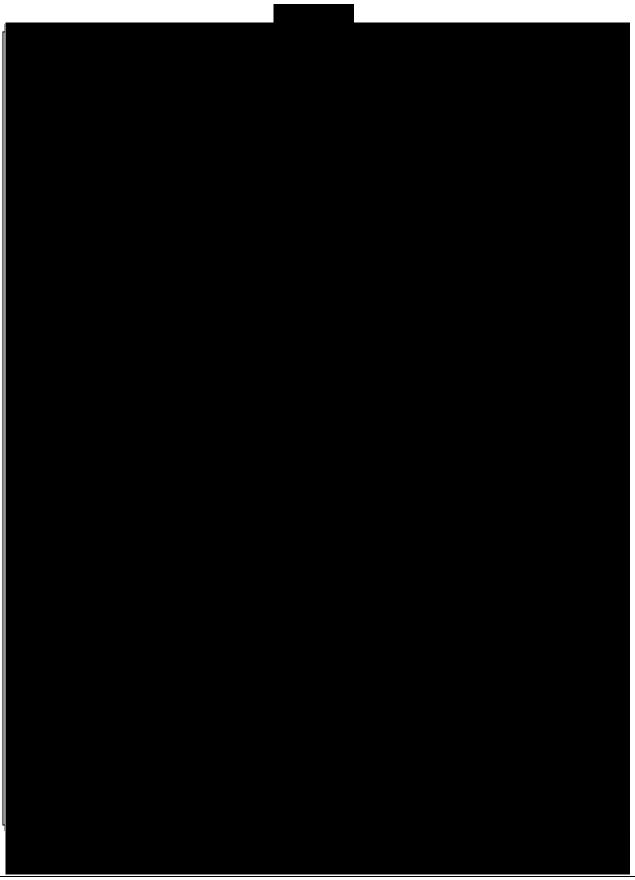
Under the No Action Alternative, the Proposed Action would not be implemented, and DC3 would continue to use their current leased, separate buildings in Linthicum, MD. The No Action Alternative does not address the needs of DC3 to securely consolidate their operations and collaborate with other co-located federal agencies with similar missions. Further, continued use of the current leased spaces would not meet the DC3's need to comply with the higher command's 2015 directive.

In accordance with 40 CFR 1500-1508, the Army invites you to provide early input on the Proposed Action to be considered in our analysis of each alternative in the forthcoming EA. This notice is being distributed to organizations known to have an interest in natural resource conditions at FMMD.

Additionally, once the draft EA is completed, your organization and the public will have an opportunity to review and provide comment during a 30-day review period, which will be announced in a notice published in local newspapers and on the FMMD website. All materials will be provided online on the FMMD website under Environmental Public Notices at the following link: <a href="https://home.army.mil/meade/index.php/my-fort/all-services/environmental">https://home.army.mil/meade/index.php/my-fort/all-services/environmental</a>. Additionally, printed copies of the draft EA will be made available at local libraries.

We appreciate your attention to this matter and request your review and written comment within 30 days of receipt of this letter. Should you require any additional information or have any questions, please contact the US Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District Project Manager, Ms. Connie Ramsey at Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

**Enclosure 2: Contact List** 



### **Enclosure 2 – Stakeholder Contact List**

Ms. Donna Buscemi
Chief, Environmental Planning Division
Office of Planning and Preliminary
Engineering
707 N. Calvert Street
Mail Stop C-301
Baltimore, MD 21202
DBuscemi@mdot.maryland.gov

Mr. Jason Dubow
Manager, Resource Conservation and
Management
Maryland State Clearinghouse
Maryland Office of Planning, Room 1104
301 West Preston Street
Baltimore, MD 21201-2365
mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov

Ms. Genevieve La Rouche
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field
Office
177 Admiral Cochrane Drive
Annapolis, MD 21401
genevieve\_larouche@fws.gov

Mr. Phillip King
United States Department of Agriculture
339 Busch's Frontage Road, Suite 301
Annapolis, MD 21409-5543
phillip.king@usda.gov

Ms. Lori Byrne
Maryland Department of Natural Resources
Wildlife and Heritage Service
Tawes State Office Building
580 Taylor Avenue
Annapolis, MD 21401
LBYRNE@dnr.state.md.us

Ms. Carrie Traver
Life Scientist
Office of Communities, Tribes, &
Environmental Assessment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency,
Region 3
1650 Arch Street - 3RA10
Philadelphia, PA 19103
215-814-2772
traver.carrie@epa.gov

Ms. Kathy Bishop
Office of the Secretary
Maryland Department of the
Environment
1800 Washington Blvd.
Baltimore, MD 21230
kathy.bishop@maryland.gov

Ms. Jennifer Greiner
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Patuxent Research Refuge
National Wildlife Visitor Center
10901 Scarlet Tanager Loop
Laurel, MD 20708-4027
Jennifer Greiner@fws.gov

Maryland Dept. of Housing & Community Development
Maryland Historical Trust
Division of Historical and Cultural
Programs
ATTN: Elizabeth J. Cole
100 Community Place
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023
beth.cole@maryland.gov

To: <u>kathy.bishop@maryland.gov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:39:39 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Ms. Bishop,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: <u>LBYRNE@dnr.state.md.us</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:37:29 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Ms. Byrne,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

From: Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)
To: mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:34:41 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Mr. Dubow,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: <u>Traver, Carrie</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:38:31 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Ms. Traver,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: <u>Jennifer Greiner@fws.qov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:41:00 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Ms. Greiner,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: <u>DBuscemi@mdot.maryland.gov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:31:21 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Ms. Buscemi,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: <u>beth.cole@maryland.gov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.qlodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date:Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:37:15 PMAttachments:SHPO Initial Coordination DC3 2023.pdf

Ms. Cole,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: <a href="mailto:phillip.king@usda.gov">phillip.king@usda.gov</a>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:36:23 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Mr. King,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, Maryland 21201

To: Beth Cole - MHT

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 20, 2023 10:41:57 AM
Attachments: Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 20Sep23.pdf

Ms. Cole,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to: Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her) U.S. Army Corps of Engineers 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, Maryland 21201



### **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

## US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Beth Cole Maryland Historical Trust 100 Community Place Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023

Dear Ms. Cole:

We are writing to you to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for a new undertaking at Fort Meade (FMMD), Anne Arundel County, Maryland (Figure 1).

**Description of the Undertaking:** The purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) with a new building that can consolidate their operations into one main, secure headquarters facility that encourages collaboration with other co-located agencies with similar missions on FMMD.

The Proposed Action includes the construction	and operation of a new, approximately 238,800
square foot DC3 facility within a	
. The site design also includes a parking stru	acture,
sidewalks, landscap	ing, stormwater management facilities, and utility
service connections. The building will	

Area of Potential Effect (APE): The APE will be the limits of disturbance (LOD) for the construction of the new facility and those areas from which the new construction will be visible.

**Identification of Historic Properties**: The undertaking will not be located within the established Fort Meade Historic District or disturb any previously identified archaeological sites on the installation.

There are no buildings on FMMD that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). FMMD has five historic properties that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. The historic architectural properties are the Fort Meade Historic District, three bridges/culverts built by German prisoners of war during WWII, and the water treatment plant (Building 8688). There are 13 contributing buildings in the Fort Meade Historic District (not including historic interwar privatized housing), none of which are within the APE.

There are 41 known archaeological sites on FMMD, but none are listed in the NRHP. All the sites have been evaluated for NRHP eligibility and only one site, 18AN1240, was found to be eligible. Thirty-three other sites have been evaluated for NRHP eligibility and were found ineligible. The

remaining seven sites are historic cemeteries, which were evaluated in the 2007 Integrated Cultural Resources Management Plan (ICRMP) update and found to be ineligible for the NRHP, although they will be maintained due to the presence of buried human remains and recommended for avoidance. None of these sites are within the APE.

**Determination of Effects:** No historic properties have been identified within the APE; therefore, none will be affected.

In compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Fort Meade is also completing an Environmental Assessment (EA).

Fort Meade is seeking your concurrence with our determination that no historic properties will be adversely affected by the proposed undertaking. We appreciate your feedback on this undertaking. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact Connie Ramsey, via email at <a href="mailto:Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil">Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil</a> or via phone at 410-962-7833, or Jerald Glodek, via email at <a href="mailto:jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil">jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</a> or via phone at 301-677-9179.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight

**Environmental Division Chief** 

### Enclosures





From: Bonnie Baden -MDP-

To: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Glodek, Jerald W CIV USARMY USAG (USA)

**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Maryland Historical Trust Project Review Determinations

Date: Wednesday, October 11, 2023 2:08:46 PM

Attachments: 202303872.pdf

202303745.pdf 202303842.pdf 202303772.pdf

Good afternoon Ms. Ramsey and Mr. Glodek,

The Trust's reviews of the proposed Cyber Crimes Center and Child Development Center at Fort Meade are attached for your use and files.

Thank you, Bonnie



Bonnie Baden Administrative Specialist II Office of Preservation Services Maryland Historical Trust Maryland Department of Planning (410) 697-9535 MHT.Maryland.gov





### Bonnie Baden -MDP- <bonnie.baden@maryland.gov>

# Fwd: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

1 message

 Thu, Sep 14, 2023 at 9:41 AM

# F/ARMY, DLH - ELR, Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, AN Co

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From: Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Ariel.B.Poirier@usace.army.mil>

Date: Tue, Sep 12, 2023 at 1:38 PM

Subject: Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

To: beth.cole@maryland.gov <beth.cole@maryland.gov>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil>, rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil <rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil>, Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil </re>

Ms. Cole,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil, 301-677-9179.

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Thank you,

Ariel

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that this undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

n historic properties.

202303772



# DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

Amy Exclour

September 12, 2023

ECEITATE SEP 13 2023

BY:

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Beth Cole Maryland Historical Trust 100 Community Place Crownsville, Maryland 21032-2023

Dear Ms. Cole:

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that this undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

We are writing to you to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) for a new undertaking at Fort Meade (FMMD), Anne Arundel County, Maryland (Enclosure1).

Description of the Undertaking: The purpose of the Proposed Action is to design, construct and operate a permanent, medium-size standard design Child Development Center (CDC) facility on FMMD to help alleviate the deficit of childcare services available to the families of active-duty military as well as staff of tenants on post, military retirees, and other eligible units and agencies off post. The total need of the family childcare program on FMMD is 1,200 spaces, where one space is comparable to providing daycare service to one child. FMMD has four existing CDC's, but the demand for childcare exceeds the ability of these facilities to fully meet those needs.

The Proposed Action includes the design, construction and operation of a new, approximately 26,450 square foot (SF) CDC V facility at FMMD (Enclosure 2). The design is for a standard-design CDC having a capacity of 232 children who are six weeks to five years of age. The medium CDC is a Center of Standardization (COS) standard floor plan that incorporates all required rooms, square footage, and functions required by the Army Standard for CDC's. The building will be a single-story steel frame structure with brick masonry exterior walls with a standing seam metal hipped roof to match the Fort Meade Installation Planning Standards (IPS). The CDC would have outdoor play areas with age-appropriate child development equipment, safety surfacing, and fencing. Sustainability and energy enhancement measures would be included to meet the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) Silver requirement. In total, the project includes the 26,450 SF building, 23,873 SF of the playground areas, and no more than 110 parking spaces. The parking spaces would be maximized for available space to achieve as close to or equal to the authorized number of parking stalls.

Area of Potential Effect (APE): The APE will be the limits of disturbance (LOD) for the construction of the new facility and those areas from which the new construction will be visible.

**Identification of Historic Properties**: The undertaking will not be located within the established Fort Meade Historic District or disturb any previously identified archaeological sites on the installation.

For instances

There are no buildings on FMMD that are listed in the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP). FMMD has five historic properties that have been determined eligible for listing in the NRHP. The historic architectural properties are the Fort Meade Historic District, three bridges/culverts built by German prisoners of war during WWII, and the water treatment plant (Building 8688). There are 13 contributing buildings in the Fort Meade Historic District (not including historic interwar privatized housing), none of which are within the APE.

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight

**Environmental Division Chief** 

Enclosures

Enclosure 1: Location Map of Fort Meade

Enclosure 2: Proposed Action Location on Fort Meade





202303842

Beth Cole -MDP- <beth.cole@maryland.gov>

### Comments on a Proposed Child Development Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

1 message

Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) < Ariel. B. Poirier@usace.army.mil>

Mon, Sep 18, 2023 at 8:44

To: Beth Cole - MHT <beth.cole@maryland.gov>

Cc: "Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)" <Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army

"rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil" <rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil>

Ms. Cole,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Child Development Center (CDC) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA). ANG.

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We appreciate your time and consideration.

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Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connic.L.Ramsey@usacc.army.mil.

Thank you,

Ariel

Ariel Poirier (she/her)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

2 Hopkins Plaza

Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Office: 410.962.4993

Cell: 443.831.5670

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that there are no historic properties affected by this undertaking.



Army

Beth Cole -MDP- <beth.cole@maryland.gov>

202303872

DEH/EUR

### Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland 1 message

Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) < Ariel.B. Poirier@usace.army.mil>

To: Beth Cole - MHT <beth.cole@maryland.gov>

Cc: "Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)" <Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil>,

"rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil" <rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil>

Ms. Cole,



Wed, Sep 20, 2023 at 10:41

BY:\_\_\_\_

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connic.L.Ramsey@usacc.army.mil.

Thank you,

Ariel

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that this undertaking will have no adverse effect on historic properties.

Ariel Poirier (she/her)

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

2 Hopkins Plaza

Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Office: 410.962,4993

Cell: 443.831.5670

570 26 23 26 26 23 From: <u>sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov</u>

To: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

Cc: sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov

**Subject:** [Non-DoD Source] Acknowledgment of Clearinghouse Project: MD20230920-0776

**Date:** Friday, September 22, 2023 12:49:17 PM

Hello Ms. Connie Ramsey & Ms. Ariel Poirier,

The following link includes the State Clearinghouse Review Process Acknowledgment letter for your project, Early Input on Draft Environmental Assessment: Proposed Action Includes Construction and Operation of a New, +/- 238,800 Sq. Ft. DC3 (Department of Defense Cyber Crimes Center) Facility to

U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Meade.

Click this link to view the acknowledgment letter,

https://apps.planning.maryland.gov/EMIRC\_Files/MD20230920-0776.zip . This is a 1 MB file.

Thank you.

Sylvia Mosser, Planner sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov 410-767-4487

Myra Barnes, Lead Clearinghouse Coordinator myra.barnes@maryland.gov

<u>Please take our customer service survey.</u>



September 22, 2023

Ms. Connie Ramsey, Biologist, Installation Support Branch, Planning Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District 2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE REVIEW PROCESS

**State Application Identifier:** MD20230920-0776 **Reviewer Comments Due By:** October 17, 2023

Project Description: Early Input on Draft Environmental Assessment: Proposed Action Includes Construction

and Operation of a New, +/- 238,800 Sq. Ft. DC3 (Department of Defense Cyber Crimes

Center) Facility to

of U.S. Army Garrison, Fort Meade

**Project Address:** , Fort Meade, MD 20755

Project Location: Anne Arundel County
Clearinghouse Contact: Sylvia Mosser

Dear Ms. Ramsey:

Thank you for submitting your project for intergovernmental review. Participation in the Maryland Intergovernmental Review and Coordination (MIRC) process helps ensure project consistency with plans, programs, and objectives of State agencies and local governments. MIRC enhances opportunities for approval and/or funding and minimizes delays by resolving issues before project implementation.

Maryland Gubernatorial Executive Order 01.01.1998.04, Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy, encourages federal agencies to adopt flexible standards that support "Smart Growth." In addition, Federal Executive Order 12072, Federal Space Management, directs federal agencies to locate facilities in urban areas. Consideration of these two Orders should be taken prior to making final site selections. A copy of Maryland Gubernatorial Executive Order 01.01.1998.04, Smart Growth and Neighborhood Conservation Policy is available upon request.

We have forwarded your project to the following agencies and/or jurisdictions for their review and comments: <a href="mailto:the-">the</a> Maryland Departments of General Services, Transportation, the Environment, and Natural Resources; the Maryland Military Department; Anne Arundel County; and the Maryland Department of Planning, including the Maryland Historical Trust. A composite review and recommendation letter will be sent to you by the reply due date. <a href="Your project has been assigned a unique State Application Identifier that you should use on all documents and correspondence">to respondence. Please be assured that we will expeditiously process your project.

Ms. Connie Ramsey

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State Application Identifier #: MD20230920-0776

If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov. Thank you for your cooperation with the MIRC process.

Sincerely

Mys 4. Burs for

Jason Dubow, Manager

Resource Conservation and Management

JD:SM

23-0776\_NFP.NEW.docx



October 27, 2023

Ms. Connie Ramsey, Biologist, Installation Support Branch, Planning Division U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District 2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

### STATE CLEARINGHOUSE RECOMMENDATION

**State Application Identifier:** MD20230920-0776

**Applicant:** U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District

**Project Description:** Early Input on Draft Environmental Assessment: Proposed Action Includes Construction and Operation of a New, +/- 238,800 Sq. Ft. DC3 (Department of Defense Cyber Crimes Center) Facility to U.S. Army Garrison,

Fort Meade

**Project Address:** Fort Meade, MD 20755

**Project Location:** Anne Arundel County

**Recommendation:** Consistent with Qualifying Comments

Dear Ms. Ramsey:

In accordance with Presidential Executive Order 12372 and Code of Maryland Regulation 34.02.02.04-.07, the State Clearinghouse has coordinated the intergovernmental review of the referenced project. This letter constitutes the State process review and recommendation. This recommendation is valid for a period of three years from the date of this letter.

Review comments were requested from the <u>Maryland Departments of General Services</u>, <u>Natural Resources</u>, <u>Transportation</u>, and the <u>Environment</u>; the <u>Maryland Military Department</u>; <u>Anne Arundel County</u>; and the <u>Maryland Department of Planning</u>, including the <u>Maryland Historical Trust</u>. <u>The Maryland Department of General Services</u>; the Maryland Military Department; and Anne Arundel County did not have comments.

The Maryland Department of Natural Resources; and the Maryland Department of Planning, including the Maryland Historical Trust found this project to be consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives.

The Maryland Department of Planning provided the following comments: "The proposed facility appears to be consistent with Fort Meade's mission. The project is located within a Priority Funding Area."

The Maryland Historical Trust has determined that the project will have "no effect" on historic properties and that the federal and/or State historic preservation requirements have been met.

Ms. Connie Ramsey October 27, 2023

Page 2

State Application Identifier: MD20230920-0776

The Maryland Department of the Environment (MDE) found this project to be generally consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives, but included certain qualifying comments summarized below and enclosed.

- "Construction, renovation and/or demolition of buildings and roadways must be performed in conformance with State regulations pertaining to 'Particulate Matter from Materials Handling and Construction' (COMAR 26.11.06.03D), requiring that during any construction and/or demolition work, reasonable precaution must be taken to prevent particulate matter, such as fugitive dust, from becoming airborne.
- 2. During the duration of the project, soil excavation/grading/site work will be performed; there is a potential for encountering soil contamination. If soil contamination is present, a permit for soil remediation is required from MDE's Air and Radiation Management Administration. Please contact the New Source Permits Division, Air and Radiation Management Administration at (410) 537-3230 to learn about the State's requirements for these permits.
- 3. Emissions from mobile sources are one of the primary contributors to both climate change and local air pollution, vehicles powered by electricity are one way to reduce the impacts of these emissions. A variety of funding initiatives are becoming available to allow for the faster adoption of electric vehicles, any funding opportunity that can help with this should be examined, especially for electric vehicle charging or refueling infrastructure.
- 4. Any above ground or underground petroleum storage tanks, which may be utilized, must be installed and maintained in accordance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations. Underground storage tanks must be registered and the installation must be conducted and performed by a contractor certified to install underground storage tanks by the Land and Materials Administration in accordance with COMAR 26.10. Contact the Oil Control Program at (410) 537-3442 for additional information.
- 5. Any solid waste including construction, demolition and land clearing debris, generated from the subject project, must be properly disposed of at a permitted solid waste acceptance facility, or recycled if possible. Contact the Solid Waste Program at (410) 537-3315 for additional information regarding solid waste activities and contact the Resource Management Program at (410) 537-3314 for additional information regarding recycling activities.
- 6. The Solid Waste Program should be contacted directly at (410) 537-3315 by those facilities which generate or propose to generate or handle hazardous wastes to ensure these activities are being conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations. The Program should also be contacted prior to construction activities to ensure that the treatment, storage or disposal of hazardous wastes and low-level radioactive wastes at the facility will be conducted in compliance with applicable State and federal laws and regulations.
- 7. The proposed project may involve rehabilitation, redevelopment, revitalization, or property acquisition of commercial, industrial property. Accordingly, MDE's Brownfields Site Assessment and Voluntary Cleanup Programs (VCP) may provide valuable assistance to you in this project. These programs involve environmental site assessment in accordance with accepted industry and financial institution standards for property transfer. For specific information about these programs and eligibility, please contact the Land Restoration Program at (410) 537-3437.
- 8. Borrow areas used to provide clean earth back fill material may require a surface mine permit. Disposal of excess cut material at a surface mine may require site approval."

Additional MDE comments are enclosed.

The Maryland Department of Transportation found this project to be generally consistent with their plans, programs, and objectives, but included certain qualifying comments summarized below.

Ms. Connie Ramsey October 27, 2023

Page 3

State Application Identifier: MD20230920-0776

divided roadway with left-turn storage lanes in both directions. We recommend a full traffic impact study be provided to be able to determine the build condition and necessary mitigation at the intersection."

The State Application Identifier Number <u>must</u> be placed on any correspondence pertaining to this project.

Please remember, you must comply with all applicable state and local laws and regulations. If you need assistance or have questions, contact the State Clearinghouse staff person noted above at 410-767-4490 or through e-mail at sylvia.mosser@maryland.gov.

Thank you for your cooperation with the MIRC process.

Sincerely,

Myra Barnes, Lead Clearinghouse Coordinator

MB:SM

**Enclosure: Additional MDE Comments** 

cc:

Tanja Rucci - DGS Amanda Redmiles - MDE Tyson Byrne - MDOT Tony Redman - DNR Taylor Bensley - MILT Stephen Walker - ANAR Sarah Diehl - MDPLS Beth Cole - MHT

23-0776 CRR.CLS.docx

#### MDE Comments for MD20230918-776

Please be advised that based on MDE's Digital Flood Insurance Rate Maps, the property in MD20230920-0776 is in close proximity to Flood Zone AE (100-year Floodplain). This property owner should follow local floodplain ordinances and Federal Emergency Management Agency's guidelines and standards.

It is advised that the owner consider climate resiliency for this property, which could include but not limited to the following steps (https://toolkit.climate.gov/):

- Explore Hazards: Identify climate and non-climate stressors, threats, and hazards and how they could affect assets (people and infrastructure).
- Assess vulnerability and risks: Evaluate assets vulnerability and estimate the risk to each asset.
- Investigate options: Consider possible solutions for your highest risks, check how others have responded to similar issues, and reduce your list to feasible actions.
- Prioritize and plan: Evaluate costs, benefits, and capacity to accomplish each action integrating the highest value actions into a stepwise plan.
- Take action: Move forward with your plan and check to see if your actions are increasing your resilience with monitoring.

The owner is advised to contact Dave Guignet, State National Flood Insurance Program Coordinator, of MDE's Stormwater, Dam Safety, and Flood Management Program, at (410) 537-3775 for additional information regarding the regulatory requirements for Floodplains and Storm Surges.

The owner is advised to contact Matthew C. Rowe, CC-P, Assistant Director of MDE's Water and Science Administration, at (410) 537-3578 for additional information regarding Climate Change and Resiliency.





### Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

1 message

Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) <Ariel.B.Poirier@usace.army.mil>

Wed, Sep 20, 2023 at 10:34 AM

To: "mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov" <mdp.clearinghouse@maryland.gov>
Cc: "Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)" <Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil>, "rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil" <rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil>

Mr. Dubow,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Connie Ramsey, Baltimore District Project Manager, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil.

Thank you,
Ariel
Ariel Poirier (she/her)

### U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

2 Hopkins Plaza

Baltimore, Maryland 21201

Office: 410.962.4993

Cell: 443.831.5670



To: <a href="mailto:dfrazier@astribe.com">dfrazier@astribe.com</a>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:19:01 PM

Attachments: Absentee Shawnee Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Frazier-Smith,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

I nank you,		
Ariel		

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



#### **DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**

# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Devon Frazier-Smith
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Absentee Shawnee Tribe of Indians of Oklahoma
2025 South Gordon Cooper Drive
Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

Dear Mr. Frazier-Smith,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square feet facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and those areas from which the construction would be visible. The Army anticipates

the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the facility may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be available for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight

**Environmental Division Chief** 

Enclosure:



To: <u>tina.orbaker@gmail.com</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil; rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Wednesday, September 13, 2023 6:17:52 AM
Attachments: Cayuga Nation Tribal Initial Coordination DC3 1.pdf

### Ms. Orbaker,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank you	,		
Ariel			

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 13, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Tina Orbaker Alternative Federal Representative Cayuga Nation P.O. Box 803 Seneca Falls, NY 13148

Dear Ms. Orbaker,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and those areas from which the construction would be visible. The Army anticipates

the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the facility may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be available for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>klucas@delawarenation-nsn.gov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:20:42 PM **Attachments:** Delaware Nation Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Ms. Lucas,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

\_\_\_\_\_

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



## US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Katelyn Lucas Historic Preservation Assistant Delaware Nation P.O. Box 825 Anadarko, Oklahoma 73005

Dear Ms. Lucas,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot DC3 facility and to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

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If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: sbachor@delawaretribe.org

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:22:41 PM
Attachments: Delaware Tribe Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Ms. Bachor,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Susan Bachor Deputy Director Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Delaware Tribe of Indians 126 University Circle Stroud Hall, Room 437 East Stroudsburg, PA 18301

Dear Ms. Bachor,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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in Figure 1 and those areas from which the construction would be visible. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the facility may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: pbarton@estoo.net

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil; rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:24:01 PM

Attachments: Eastern Shawnee Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Barton,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



## US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Paul Barton Eastern Shawnee Tribe of Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 70500 E. 128 Road Wyandotte, OK 74730

Dear Mr. Barton,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the facility may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

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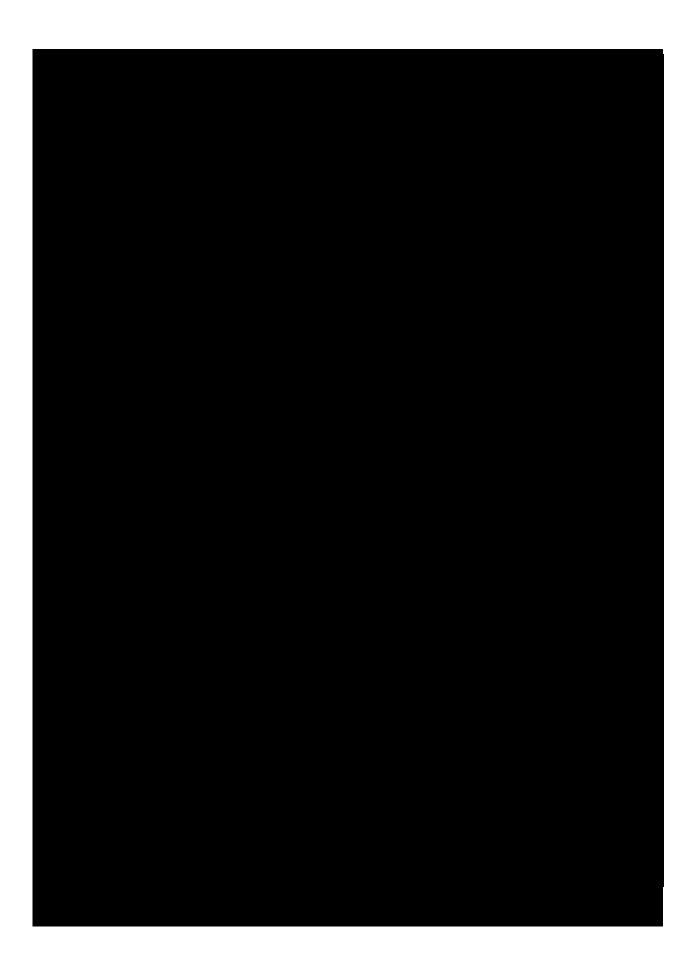
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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: Bergevin, Jesse

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

 Date:
 Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:25:22 PM

 Attachments:
 Oneida Nation Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Bergevin,

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Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Jesse Bergevin Oneida Indian Nation Historic Resource Specialist 1256 Union Street P.O. Box 662 Oneida NY, 13421

Dear Mr. Bergevin,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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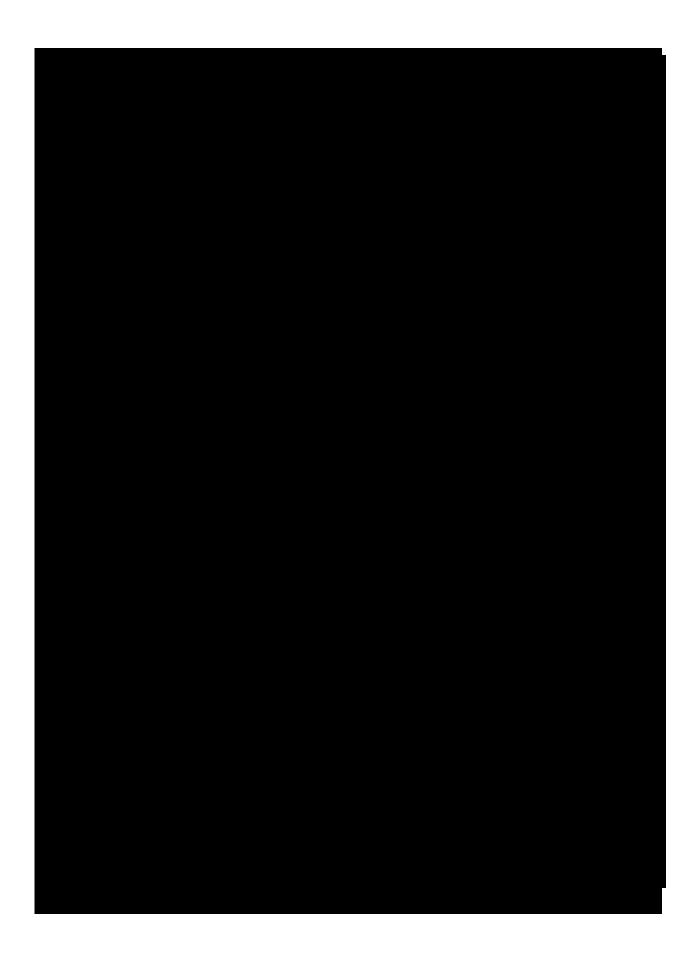
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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>sdanfor3@oneidanation.org</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date:Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:27:01 PMAttachments:Oneida Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Ms. Cutback,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thanl	k you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Stacie Cutback Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin P.O. Box 365 Oneida WI, 54155

Dear Ms. Cutback,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



From: Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

To: Oneida THPO@oneidanation.org

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.i.marson.civ@armv.mil; Jerald.w.qlodek.civ@armv.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date:Wednesday, September 13, 2023 6:29:02 AMAttachments:Oneida Tribal Initial Coordination DC3 1.pdf

## Good morning,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 13, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Oneida Tribe of Indians of Wisconsin P.O. Box 365 Oneida WI, 54155

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>ononcomm@gmail.com</u>

Cc: rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

 Date:
 Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:28:55 PM

 Attachments:
 Onondaga Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Gonyea,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank	you,
Ariel	

\_\_\_\_\_

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Tony Gonyea Onondaga Indian Nation Historic Preservation Office 4040 Route 11 Nedrow, NY 13120

Dear Mr. Gonyea,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and those areas from which the construction would be visible. The Army anticipates

the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the facility may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be available for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

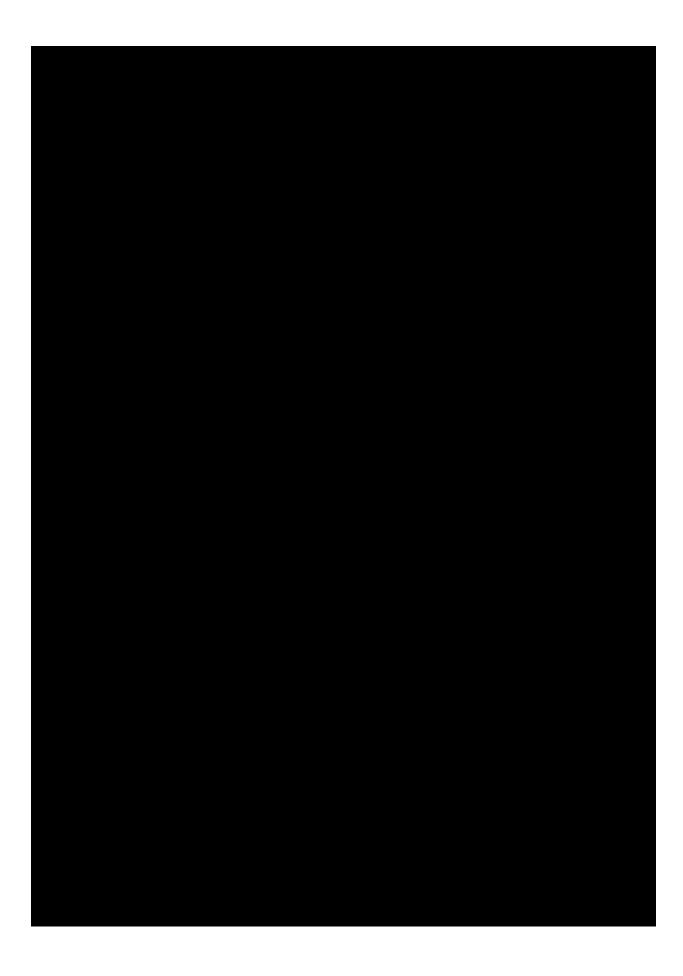
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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: wechohawk@pawneenation.org

Cc: Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil; rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:30:34 PM
Attachments: Pawnee Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Reed,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thank you,	
Ariel	

-----

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Matt Reed Historic Preservation Officer Pawnee Nation of Oklahoma 657 Harrison Street Pawnee, Oklahoma 74058

Dear Mr. Reed,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

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As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be available for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

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Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>darren.bonaparte@srmt-nsn.gov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil; rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:32:28 PM

Attachments: Saint Regis Mohawk Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

#### Mr. Bonaparte,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Darren Bonaparte Saint Regis Mohawk Tribe Tribal Historic Preservation Officer 412 State Route 37 Akwesasne, NY 13655

Dear Mr. Bonaparte,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>wtarrant@sctribe.com</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil; rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

Date: Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:35:49 PM
Attachments: Seneca-Cayuga Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Tarrant,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thank you,	
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. William Tarrant Seneca-Cayuga Tribe of Oklahoma Tribal Historic Preservation Officer P.O. Box 45322 Grove, OK 74345

Dear Mr. Tarrant,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: joe.stahlman@sni.org

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.qlodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

 Date:
 Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:33:58 PM

 Attachments:
 Seneca Nation Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Stahlman,

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Thank yo	ou,		
Ariel			

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Joe Stahlman Tribal Historic Preservation Officer Seneca Nation of Indians 90 Ohi yo' Way Salamanca, New York 14779

Dear Mr. Stahlman,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>nathan.allison@mohican-nsn.gov</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:38:43 PM

Attachments: Stockbridge Munsee Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Allison,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

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Thank	you,
Ariel	

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Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Nathan Allison, Representative Stockbridge Munsee Community of Wisconsin N8476 Mo He Con Nuck Road Bowler, Wisconsin 54416

Dear Mr. Allison,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and those areas from which the construction would be visible. The Army anticipates the APE would include areas where the construction and operation of the facility may directly or indirectly cause changes in the character or use of historic properties.

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be available for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>tonseneca@aol.com</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil; Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

 Date:
 Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:40:06 PM

 Attachments:
 TonawandaTribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Ms. Abrams,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank you,		
Ariel		

-----

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Ms. Christine Abrams Administration Office Tonawanda Band of Seneca 7027 Meadville Road Basom, New York 14013

Dear Ms. Abrams,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

The Army will be preparing the EA under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 United States Code Section 4321 et seq.), the Council on Environmental Quality regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500–1508), and the Army's regulations implementing NEPA (32 CFR Part 651). This project is in the early stages of planning. As soon as more detailed project information has been developed, formal tribal consultation will be initiated.

The purpose of this EA is to inform decision-makers, tribes, stakeholders, and the public of the potential environmental consequences and any associated mitigations, as applicable. Affected Native American tribes and interested persons, organizations, and agencies will have multiple opportunities to provide input on the proposed project. The following resources are evaluated in this EA: land use; airspace; noise; air quality; water resources; biological resources; cultural resources; geology, topography, and soils; hazardous and toxic materials and waste (HTMW); traffic and transportation; infrastructure and utilities; socioeconomics, environmental justice, and protection of children; and human health and safety.

At this early stage in the analysis, the geographic boundaries of the Area of Potential Effects (APE) for this undertaking are conservatively estimated to be the project boundary depicted in Figure 1 and those areas from which the construction would be visible. The Army anticipates

As we are beginning the analysis of the above-referenced resource areas, I would like to invite your input on the anticipated APE for this undertaking. As discussed previously, more information about specific project plans will be available for review as they are developed to better assist in evaluating the impacts the proposed project may create. I understand that information that you provide on tribal religious or cultural items will be offered voluntarily in the spirit of assisting with our decision making for the project. Based on the available information regarding the proposed action, we welcome any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and should be evaluated in the EA.

Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

Determinations on the Army's process to identify historic properties within the APE and evaluation and effects determinations made in accordance with Section 106 of the NHPA will be made in consultation with all affected Native American tribes, as well as the State Historic Preservation Offices, and the interested public.

If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



To: <u>bprintup@hetf.orq</u>

Cc: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); rebecca.i.marson.civ@armv.mil; Jerald.w.qlodek.civ@armv.mil

**Subject:** Comments on a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

 Date:
 Tuesday, September 12, 2023 1:41:27 PM

 Attachments:
 Tuscarora Tribal Initial Coordination DC3.pdf

Mr. Printup,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation for the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project located in northeastern corner of Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

We are deeply committed to ensuring that your voice is heard, and your issues and concerns are addressed promptly. We also understand the need to protect sacred and traditional knowledge and will ensure the utmost confidentiality and protection of that information. We appreciate your time and consideration.

Please direct any comments or questions you have to the undersigned below, or to:

Jerald Glodek, Cultural Resource Manager, Fort George G. Meade, <u>Jerald.w.glodek.civ@army.mil</u>, 301-677-9179.

Thank you,		
Ariel		

Ariel Poirier (she/her)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, Maryland 21201



# US ARMY INSTALLATION COMMAND HEADQUARTERS UNITED STATES ARMY GARRISON 4551 LLEWELLYN AVENUE, SUITE 5000 FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-5115

September 12, 2023

Directorate of Public Works

Mr. Bryan Printup, Representative Tuscarora Nation Tuscarora Community Center 5226 Walmore Road Lewiston NY, 14092

Dear Mr. Printup,

The Army recognizes its responsibilities to maintain Government-to-Government relationship with all tribes affected by activities on Army Installations and our federal trust responsibility for those lands. In the interest of early and frequent communication under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (NHPA), as amended, pursuant to 36 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR) Part 800.3(f)(2) and as part of the Department of Defense's policy for Government-to-Government consultation with Native American tribes, I am writing to inform you that the Army is beginning the scoping process to prepare an Environmental Assessment (EA) for a new undertaking on Fort Meade, Maryland (FMMD), to include construction and operation of a new, approximately 238,800 square foot facility to support the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) within FMMD. This correspondence would serve to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the NHPA.

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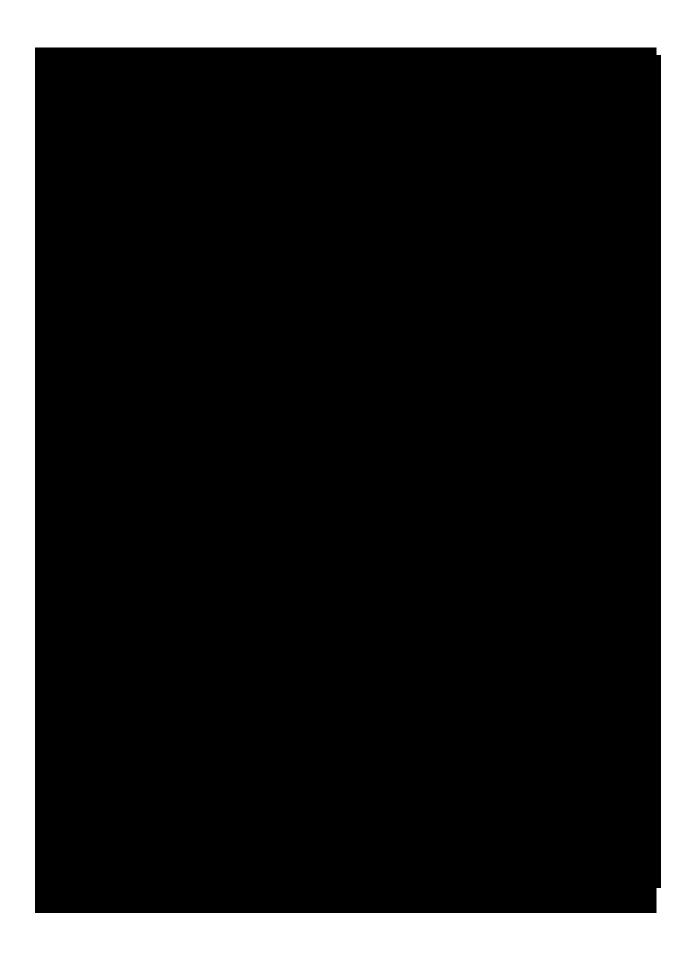
Any information pertaining to whether this action has the potential to affect tribal trust, subsistence, and/or cultural resources or if tribal rights and/or any protected resources may be affected by this proposed action would be greatly appreciated. Any general comments you may have on the proposed action and proposed alternatives, including discussing possible actions that would benefit your tribe, would also be welcome. I would be happy to answer any questions you may have about the project at this stage. Feel free to connect with me about the project via the contact information listed below. All information provided will be treated with the utmost confidentiality and in accordance with your wishes of how and whether this information can be used. I am also interested in locating any official tribal histories or historical reference materials that are more accurate and/or preferred by your tribe.

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If you have questions or concerns, or require further information, please feel free to contact our Cultural Resource Manager, Jerald Glodeck, at 4216 Roberts Avenue, Fort Meade, Maryland, 20755, by phone at 301-677-9179 or by email: <a href="mailto:Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil">Jerald.W.Glodek.civ@army.mil</a>.

Sincerely,

George B. Knight



From: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

To: genevieve larouche@fws.gov

Cc: Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Marson, Rebecca J CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA);

julie.m.adkins7.civ@army.mil; Deeley, Sabrina M

Subject: Section 7 Initial Coordination for a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, October 17, 2023 3:35:00 PM

Attachments: Species List Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office 20231017.pdf

MA Consistency Letter Northern Long-eared Bat Rangewide Determination Key 2023-10-17.pdf

Request for Early Input FMMD DC3 EA 15Sep23.docx

Dear Ms. LaRouche,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

Attached with this email is the Official Species List for the Proposed Action area, as well as the results of the most recent dKey available for the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) available on the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website. We understand the Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office has been working with Fort Meade to conduct bat surveys over this past summer. We would welcome feedback on incorporating any of those results into the EA, as well as understanding how those results may inform any Conservation Measures that could be implemented for the Proposed Action.

We appreciate your time and consideration. Please let me know if there is any additional information that you need for this consultation.

Thank you,

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Acting Section Chief, Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

Office: 410.962.7783 Cell: 443.310.2722



# United States Department of the Interior



#### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive Annapolis, MD 21401-7307 Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127

In Reply Refer To: October 17, 2023

Project code: 2023-0081174 Project Name: DC3 Fort Meade

Federal Nexus: yes

Federal Action Agency (if applicable): Air Force

**Subject:** Technical assistance for 'DC3 Fort Meade'

#### Dear Connie Ramsey:

This letter records your determination using the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) system provided to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) on October 17, 2023, for 'DC3 Fort Meade' (here forward, Project). This project has been assigned Project Code 2023-0081174 and all future correspondence should clearly reference this number. **Please carefully review this letter. Your Endangered Species Act (Act) requirements are not complete.** 

### **Ensuring Accurate Determinations When Using IPaC**

The Service developed the IPaC system and associated species' determination keys in accordance with the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (ESA; 87 Stat. 884, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 1531 et seq.) and based on a standing analysis. All information submitted by the Project proponent into the IPaC must accurately represent the full scope and details of the Project. **Failure to accurately represent or implement the Project as detailed in IPaC or the Northern Longeared Bat Rangewide Determination Key (Dkey), invalidates this letter.** 

### **Determination for the Northern Long-Eared Bat**

Based on your IPaC submission and the standing analysis for the Dkey, your project has reached the determination of "May Affect" the northern long-eared bat.

#### **Next Steps**

Your action may qualify for the Interim Consultation Framework for the northern long-eared bat. To determine if it qualifies, review the Interim Consultation Framework posted here <a href="https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/interim-consultation-framework-northern-long-eared-bat">https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/interim-consultation-framework-northern-long-eared-bat</a>. If you

determine it meets the requirements of the Interim Consultation Framework, follow the procedures outlined there to complete section 7 consultation.

If your project does **not** meet the requirements of the Interim Consultation Framework, please contact the Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office for further coordination on this project. Further consultation or coordination with the Service is necessary for those species or designated critical habitats with a determination of "May Affect".

#### Other Species and Critical Habitat that May be Present in the Action Area

The IPaC-assisted determination for the northern long-eared bat does not apply to the following ESA-protected species and/or critical habitat that also may occur in your Action area:

• Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* Candidate

You may coordinate with our Office to determine whether the Action may cause prohibited take of the species listed above.

### **Action Description**

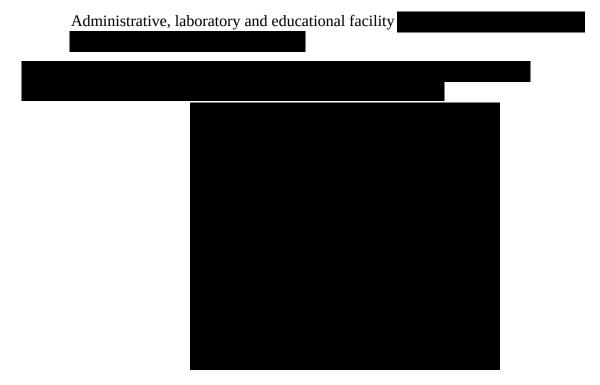
You provided to IPaC the following name and description for the subject Action.

#### 1. Name

DC3 Fort Meade

### 2. Description

The following description was provided for the project 'DC3 Fort Meade':



## **DETERMINATION KEY RESULT**

Based on the answers provided, the proposed Action is consistent with a determination of "may affect" for the Endangered northern long-eared bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*).

### **QUALIFICATION INTERVIEW**

1. Does the proposed project include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, intentional take of the northern long-eared bat or any other listed species?

**Note:** Intentional take is defined as take that is the intended result of a project. Intentional take could refer to research, direct species management, surveys, and/or studies that include intentional handling/encountering, harassment, collection, or capturing of any individual of a federally listed threatened, endangered or proposed species?

No

2. Do you have post-white nose syndrome occurrence data that indicates that northern long-eared bats (NLEB) are likely to be present in the action area?

Bat occurrence data may include identification of NLEBs in hibernacula, capture of NLEBs, tracking of NLEBs to roost trees, or confirmed acoustic detections. With this question, we are looking for data that, for some reason, may have not yet been made available to U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Yes

3. Does any component of the action involve construction or operation of wind turbines?

**Note:** For federal actions, answer 'yes' if the construction or operation of wind power facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for a federal agency action (federal permit, funding, etc.).

Nο

4. Is the proposed action authorized, permitted, licensed, funded, or being carried out by a Federal agency in whole or in part?

Yes

5. Is the Federal Highway Administration (FHWA), Federal Railroad Administration (FRA), or Federal Transit Administration (FTA) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

6. Are you an employee of the federal action agency or have you been officially designated in writing by the agency as its designated non-federal representative for the purposes of Endangered Species Act Section 7 informal consultation per 50 CFR § 402.08?

**Note:** This key may be used for federal actions and for non-federal actions to facilitate section 7 consultation and to help determine whether an incidental take permit may be needed, respectively. This question is for information purposes only.

Yes

7. Is the lead federal action agency the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC)? Is the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) or Federal Communications Commission (FCC) funding or authorizing the proposed action, in whole or in part?

No

- 8. Is the lead federal action agency the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission (FERC)? *No*
- 9. Have you determined that your proposed action will have no effect on the northern longeared bat? Remember to consider the <u>effects of any activities</u> that would not occur but for the proposed action.

If you think that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, answer "No" below and continue through the key. If you have determined that the northern long-eared bat does not occur in your project's action area and/or that your project will have no effects whatsoever on the species despite the potential for it to occur in the action area, you may make a "no effect" determination for the northern long-eared bat.

**Note:** Federal agencies (or their designated non-federal representatives) must consult with USFWS on federal agency actions that may affect listed species [50 CFR 402.14(a)]. Consultation is not required for actions that will not affect listed species or critical habitat. Therefore, this determination key will not provide a consistency or verification letter for actions that will not affect listed species. If you believe that the northern long-eared bat may be affected by your project or if you would like assistance in deciding, please answer "No" and continue through the key. Remember that this key addresses only effects to the northern long-eared bat. Consultation with USFWS would be required if your action may affect another listed species or critical habitat. The definition of <a href="Effects of the Action">Effects of the Action</a> can be found here: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions">https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions</a>

No

10. Does the action area contain any caves (or associated sinkholes, fissures, or other karst features), mines, rocky outcroppings, or tunnels that could provide habitat for hibernating northern long-eared bats?

No

11. Is suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat present within 1000 feet of project activities?

(If unsure, answer "Yes.")

**Note:** If there are trees within the action area that are of a sufficient size to be potential roosts for bats (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches (12.7 centimeter) dbh), answer "Yes". If unsure, additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions">https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions</a>

Yes

12. Will the action cause effects to a bridge?

No

13. Will the action result in effects to a culvert or tunnel?

Nο

14. Does the action include the intentional exclusion of northern long-eared bats from a building or structure?

**Note:** Exclusion is conducted to deny bats' entry or reentry into a building. To be effective and to avoid harming bats, it should be done according to established standards. If your action includes bat exclusion and you are unsure whether northern long-eared bats are present, answer "Yes." Answer "No" if there are no signs of bat use in the building/structure. If unsure, contact your local U.S. Fish and Wildlife Services Ecological Services Field Office to help assess whether northern long-eared bats may be present. Contact a Nuisance Wildlife Control Operator (NWCO) for help in how to exclude bats from a structure safely without causing harm to the bats (to find a NWCO certified in bat standards, search the Internet using the search term "National Wildlife Control Operators Association bats"). Also see the White-Nose Syndrome Response Team's guide for bat control in structures

No

- 15. Does the action involve removal, modification, or maintenance of a human-made structure (barn, house, or other building) **known or suspected to contain roosting bats?** *No*
- 16. Will the action cause construction of one or more new roads open to the public?

For federal actions, answer 'yes' when the construction or operation of these facilities is either (1) part of the federal action or (2) would not occur but for an action taken by a federal agency (federal permit, funding, etc.).

Yes

17. Will any new road go through any area of contiguous forest that is greater than or equal to 10 acres in total extent?

**Note:** "Contiguous forest" of 10 acres or more may includes areas where multiple forest patches are separated by less than 1,000 feet of non-forest if the forested patches, added together, comprise at least 10 acres.

Yes

18. For every 1,000 feet of new road that crosses between contiguous forest patches, will there be at least one place where bats could cross the road corridor by flying less than 33 feet (10 meters) between trees whose tops are at least 66 feet (20 meters) higher than the road surface?

Yes

- 19. Will the proposed action involve the creation of a new water-borne contaminant source (e.g., leachate pond pits containing chemicals that are not NSF/ANSI 60 compliant)? *No*
- 20. Will the proposed action involve the creation of a new point source discharge from a facility other than a water treatment plant or storm water system?

No

21. Will the action include drilling or blasting?

No

- 22. Will the action involve military training (e.g., smoke operations, obscurant operations, exploding munitions, artillery fire, range use, helicopter or fixed wing aircraft use)?

  No
- 23. Will the proposed action involve the use of herbicides or pesticides other than herbicides (e.g., fungicides, insecticides, or rodenticides)?

  No
- 24. Will the action include or cause activities that are reasonably certain to cause chronic nighttime noise in suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat? Chronic noise is noise that is continuous or occurs repeatedly again and again for a long time.

**Note:** Additional information defining suitable summer habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions">https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions</a> **No** 

25. Does the action include, or is it reasonably certain to cause, the use of artificial lighting within 1000 feet of suitable northern long-eared bat roosting habitat?

**Note:** Additional information defining suitable roosting habitat for the northern long-eared bat can be found at: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions">https://www.fws.gov/media/northern-long-eared-bat-assisted-determination-key-selected-definitions</a> **Yes** 

26. Will the action use only downward-facing, full cut-off lens lights (with same intensity or less for replacement lighting)

when installing new or replacing existing permanent lights? Or for those transportation agencies using the Backlight, Uplight, Glare (BUG) system developed by the Illuminating Engineering Society, will all three ratings (backlight, uplight, and glare) be as close to zero as is possible, with a priority of "uplight" of 0?

Yes

27. Will the action direct any temporary lighting away from suitable northern long-eared bat roosting habitat during the active season?

**Note:** Active season dates for northern long-eared bat can be found here: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas.">https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas.</a>

Yes

28. Will the action include tree cutting or other means of knocking down or bringing down trees, tree topping, or tree trimming?

Yes

29. Does the action include emergency cutting or trimming of hazard trees in order to remove an imminent threat to human safety or property? See hazard tree note at the bottom of the key for text that will be added to response letters

**Note:** A "hazard tree" is a tree that is an immediate threat to lives, public health and safety, or improved property and has a diameter breast height of six inches or greater.

No

- 30. Are any of the trees proposed for cutting or other means of knocking down, bringing down, topping, or trimming suitable for northern long-eared bat roosting (i.e., live trees and/or snags ≥3 inches dbh that have exfoliating bark, cracks, crevices, and/or cavities)? Yes
- 31. [Semantic] Does your project intersect a known sensitive area for the northern long-eared

**Note:** The map queried for this question contains proprietary information and cannot be displayed. If you need additional information, please contact your <u>state agency or USFWS field office</u>

Automatically answered

Yes

## PROJECT QUESTIONNAIRE

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which trees will be removed - round up to the nearest tenth of an acre. For this question, include the entire area where tree removal will take place, even if some live or dead trees will be left standing.

33

In what extent of the area (in acres) will trees be cut, knocked down, or trimmed during the inactive (hibernation) season for northern long-eared bat? Note: Inactive Season dates for spring staging/fall swarming areas can be found here: https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas

33

In what extent of the area (in acres) will trees be cut, knocked down, or trimmed during the <a href="mailto:active">active</a> (non-hibernation) season for northern long-eared bat? **Note:** Inactive Season dates for spring staging/fall swarming areas can be found here: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas">https://www.fws.gov/media/inactive-season-dates-swarming-and-staging-areas</a>

0

Will all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees (trees ≥3 inches diameter at breast height, dbh) be cut, knocked, or brought down from any portion of the action area greater than or equal to 0.1 acre? If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, select 'Yes' if the cumulative extent of those areas meets or exceeds 0.1 acre.

Yes

Enter the extent of the action area (in acres) from which all potential NLEB roost trees will be removed. If all NLEB roost trees will be removed from multiple areas, entire the total extent of those areas. Round up to the nearest tenth of an acre.

33

For the area from which all potential northern long-eared bat (NLEB) roost trees will be removed, on how many acres (round to the nearest tenth of an acre) will trees be allowed to regrow? Enter '0' if the entire area from which all potential NLEB roost trees are removed will be developed or otherwise converted to non-forest for the foreseeable future.

0

Will any snags (standing dead trees) ≥3 inches dbh be left standing in the area(s) in which all northern long-eared bat roost trees will be cut, knocked down, or otherwise brought down?

No

Will all project activities by completed by April 1, 2024?

No

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers

Name: Connie Ramsey Address: 2 Hopkins Plaza

City: Baltimore

State: MD Zip: 21201

Email connie.l.ramsey@usace.army.mil

Phone: 4109627783

## LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Air Force

Name: Christopher Aiken

Email: Christopher.Aiken@us.af.mil

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# United States Department of the Interior



### FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive Annapolis, MD 21401-7307 Phone: (410) 573-4599 Fax: (410) 266-9127

In Reply Refer To: October 17, 2023

Project Code: 2023-0081174 Project Name: DC3 Fort Meade

Subject: List of threatened and endangered species that may occur in your proposed project

location or may be affected by your proposed project

## To Whom It May Concern:

The enclosed species list identifies threatened, endangered, proposed, and candidate species, as well as proposed and final designated critical habitat, that may occur within the boundary of your proposed project and/or may be affected by your proposed project. The species list fulfills the requirements of the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) under section 7(c) of the Endangered Species Act (Act) of 1973, as amended (16 U.S.C. 1531 *et seq.*).

New information based on updated surveys, changes in the abundance and distribution of species, changed habitat conditions, or other factors could change this list. Please feel free to contact us if you need more current information or assistance regarding the potential impacts to federally proposed, listed, and candidate species and federally designated and proposed critical habitat. Please note that under 50 CFR 402.12(e) of the regulations implementing section 7 of the Act, the accuracy of this species list should be verified after 90 days. This verification can be completed formally or informally as desired. The Service recommends that verification be completed by visiting the IPaC website at regular intervals during project planning and implementation for updates to species lists and information. An updated list may be requested through the IPaC system by completing the same process used to receive the enclosed list.

The purpose of the Act is to provide a means whereby threatened and endangered species and the ecosystems upon which they depend may be conserved. Under sections 7(a)(1) and 7(a)(2) of the Act and its implementing regulations (50 CFR 402 *et seq.*), Federal agencies are required to utilize their authorities to carry out programs for the conservation of threatened and endangered species and to determine whether projects may affect threatened and endangered species and/or designated critical habitat.

A Biological Assessment is required for construction projects (or other undertakings having similar physical impacts) that are major Federal actions significantly affecting the quality of the human environment as defined in the National Environmental Policy Act (42 U.S.C. 4332(2) (c)). For projects other than major construction activities, the Service suggests that a biological

evaluation similar to a Biological Assessment be prepared to determine whether the project may affect listed or proposed species and/or designated or proposed critical habitat. Recommended contents of a Biological Assessment are described at 50 CFR 402.12.

If a Federal agency determines, based on the Biological Assessment or biological evaluation, that listed species and/or designated critical habitat may be affected by the proposed project, the agency is required to consult with the Service pursuant to 50 CFR 402. In addition, the Service recommends that candidate species, proposed species and proposed critical habitat be addressed within the consultation. More information on the regulations and procedures for section 7 consultation, including the role of permit or license applicants, can be found in the "Endangered Species Consultation Handbook" at:

https://www.fws.gov/sites/default/files/documents/endangered-species-consultation-handbook.pdf

**Migratory Birds**: In addition to responsibilities to protect threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act (ESA), there are additional responsibilities under the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (MBTA) and the Bald and Golden Eagle Protection Act (BGEPA) to protect native birds from project-related impacts. Any activity, intentional or unintentional, resulting in take of migratory birds, including eagles, is prohibited unless otherwise permitted by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (50 C.F.R. Sec. 10.12 and 16 U.S.C. Sec. 668(a)). For more information regarding these Acts, see https://www.fws.gov/program/migratory-bird-permit/whatwe-do.

The MBTA has no provision for allowing take of migratory birds that may be unintentionally killed or injured by otherwise lawful activities. It is the responsibility of the project proponent to comply with these Acts by identifying potential impacts to migratory birds and eagles within applicable NEPA documents (when there is a federal nexus) or a Bird/Eagle Conservation Plan (when there is no federal nexus). Proponents should implement conservation measures to avoid or minimize the production of project-related stressors or minimize the exposure of birds and their resources to the project-related stressors. For more information on avian stressors and recommended conservation measures, see https://www.fws.gov/library/collections/threats-birds.

In addition to MBTA and BGEPA, Executive Order 13186: *Responsibilities of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds*, obligates all Federal agencies that engage in or authorize activities that might affect migratory birds, to minimize those effects and encourage conservation measures that will improve bird populations. Executive Order 13186 provides for the protection of both migratory birds and migratory bird habitat. For information regarding the implementation of Executive Order 13186, please visit https://www.fws.gov/partner/council-conservation-migratory-birds.

We appreciate your concern for threatened and endangered species. The Service encourages Federal agencies to include conservation of threatened and endangered species into their project planning to further the purposes of the Act. Please include the Consultation Code in the header of this letter with any request for consultation or correspondence about your project that you submit to our office.

## Attachment(s):

- Official Species List
- USFWS National Wildlife Refuges and Fish Hatcheries
- Wetlands

# **OFFICIAL SPECIES LIST**

This list is provided pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act, and fulfills the requirement for Federal agencies to "request of the Secretary of the Interior information whether any species which is listed or proposed to be listed may be present in the area of a proposed action".

This species list is provided by:

Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office 177 Admiral Cochrane Drive Annapolis, MD 21401-7307 (410) 573-4599

## **PROJECT SUMMARY**

Project Code: 2023-0081174
Project Name: DC3 Fort Meade
Project Type: Military Development

Project Description: Administrative, laboratory and educational facility



## **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT SPECIES**

There is a total of 2 threatened, endangered, or candidate species on this species list.

Species on this list should be considered in an effects analysis for your project and could include species that exist in another geographic area. For example, certain fish may appear on the species list because a project could affect downstream species.

IPaC does not display listed species or critical habitats under the sole jurisdiction of NOAA Fisheries<sup>1</sup>, as USFWS does not have the authority to speak on behalf of NOAA and the Department of Commerce.

See the "Critical habitats" section below for those critical habitats that lie wholly or partially within your project area under this office's jurisdiction. Please contact the designated FWS office if you have questions.

1. <u>NOAA Fisheries</u>, also known as the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS), is an office of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration within the Department of Commerce.

## **MAMMALS**

NAME STATUS

Northern Long-eared Bat *Myotis septentrionalis*No critical habitat has been designated for this species.
Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9045</a>

Endangered

### **INSECTS**

NAME

Monarch Butterfly *Danaus plexippus* 

Candidate

No critical habitat has been designated for this species. Species profile: <a href="https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743">https://ecos.fws.gov/ecp/species/9743</a>

### CRITICAL HABITATS

THERE ARE NO CRITICAL HABITATS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA UNDER THIS OFFICE'S JURISDICTION.

YOU ARE STILL REQUIRED TO DETERMINE IF YOUR PROJECT(S) MAY HAVE EFFECTS ON ALL ABOVE LISTED SPECIES.

# USFWS NATIONAL WILDLIFE REFUGE LANDS AND FISH HATCHERIES

Any activity proposed on lands managed by the <u>National Wildlife Refuge</u> system must undergo a 'Compatibility Determination' conducted by the Refuge. Please contact the individual Refuges to discuss any questions or concerns.

THERE ARE NO REFUGE LANDS OR FISH HATCHERIES WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

## **WETLANDS**

Impacts to <u>NWI wetlands</u> and other aquatic habitats may be subject to regulation under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, or other State/Federal statutes.

For more information please contact the Regulatory Program of the local <u>U.S. Army Corps of Engineers District</u>.

Please note that the NWI data being shown may be out of date. We are currently working to update our NWI data set. We recommend you verify these results with a site visit to determine the actual extent of wetlands on site.

THERE ARE NO WETLANDS WITHIN YOUR PROJECT AREA.

## **IPAC USER CONTACT INFORMATION**

Agency: Army Corps of Engineers

Name: Connie Ramsey Address: 2 Hopkins Plaza

City: Baltimore

State: MD Zip: 21201

Email connie.l.ramsey@usace.army.mil

Phone: 4109627783

## LEAD AGENCY CONTACT INFORMATION

Lead Agency: Air Force

Name: Christopher Aiken

Email: Christopher.Aiken@us.af.mil

Phone: 4109811130

From: <u>Deeley, Sabrina M</u>

To: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)
Cc: Adkins, Julie M CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA)

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] RE: [EXTERNAL] Section 7 Initial Coordination for a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on

Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Tuesday, November 21, 2023 10:49:27 AM

#### Good morning,

Thank you for your email and our meeting earlier this month.

The DoD has the responsibility to work towards conservation, recovering species, and preserving and restoring habitats. The Endangered Species Act 7(a)1 states that federal agencies shall conserve the ecosystems upon which endangered and threatened species depend may be conserved. The Sikes Act stipulates that the DoD should develop a program, facilitated by INRMPs, for the conservation and rehabilitation of natural resources on military installations. Therefore, as we discussed, we recommend that the installation to the maximum extent practicable:

- Plans to avoid tree clearing in the spring/summer
- Minimizes the footprint of construction to preserve trees- <u>to include consideration of</u> <u>alternatives with taller buildings with parking garages and alternative locations on installation</u>
- Plant native and pollinator-friendly species, use bioswales, etc.
- Use bird-friendly windows and minimum nighttime lighting

By avoiding clearing trees during the spring and summer, the installation can avoid direct impacts to reproductive bats and birds. Where possible, the installation should try to preserve or replace as many trees as possible. Northeastern bat communities have drastically changed in recent decades, as many species have undergone large population losses due to white-nose syndrome. The U.S. and Canada have lost three billion birds over the last 50 years. Climate change combined with habitat degradation and loss are threatening many formerly-common forest songbirds, such as the wood thrush (Hylocichla mustelina). The development and maintenance of larger forest stands may provide summer habitat (critical for reproduction) and/or migration corridors for any number of bats and remaining bird communities.

Though native species plantings, bioswales, and pollinator-friendly plantings, the installation can replace some habitat. Native vegetation can provide critical refugia for many species, such as the Monarch butterfly (Danaus plexippus). In urban and suburban landscapes, military installations can provide essential habitat for species, whether they are full-time residents or using the land as a stopover on their migratory journeys. Forests and meadows provide food resources for many bird species and important stop-over habitat for migratory species.

Building new structures with bird-friendly windows and minimum nighttime lighting can reduce or eliminate negative impacts of new construction on birds. Bird collisions with structures kills almost 1 billion birds a year. Nighttime lighting can confuse and harm or kill migrating birds. Best Management Practices and Recommendations:

- GSA standards (see Section 3.6.7)
- LEED credits
- <u>Best Management Practices DENIX (os</u>d.mil)
- DoD Natural Resources Legacy Project bird fact sheets
- DoD Migratory bird legislation and policy 1 and 2

Please let me know if we can provide any assistance.

Thank you, Sabrina

From: Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) < Connie.L.Ramsey@usace.army.mil>

Sent: Tuesday, October 17, 2023 3:36 PM

**To:** LaRouche, Genevieve <Genevieve LaRouche@fws.gov>

Cc: Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA) < Ariel.B. Poirier@usace.army.mil>; Marson, Rebecca J CIV USARMY ID-SUSTAINMENT (USA) <rebecca.j.marson.civ@army.mil>;

julie.m.adkins7.civ@army.mil; Deeley, Sabrina M <sabrina deeley@fws.gov>

**Subject:** [EXTERNAL] Section 7 Initial Coordination for a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project on Fort Meade, Maryland

This email has been received from outside of DOI - Use caution before clicking on links, opening attachments, or responding.

Dear Ms. LaRouche,

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Baltimore District, Planning Division is supporting the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation of the U.S. Army's Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crimes Center (DC3) Project at Fort George G. Meade in Maryland. On behalf of Fort Meade, we are writing to respectfully request any information you would like to share that might be relevant to potential impacts and that should be evaluated in the Draft Environmental Assessment (EA).

Attached with this email is the Official Species List for the Proposed Action area, as well as the results of the most recent dKey available for the Northern Long-Eared Bat (NLEB) available on the Information for Planning and Consultation (IPaC) website. We understand the Chesapeake Bay Ecological Services Field Office has been working with Fort Meade to conduct bat surveys over this past summer. We would welcome feedback on incorporating any of those results into the EA, as well as understanding how those results may inform any Conservation Measures that could be implemented for the Proposed Action.

We appreciate your time and consideration. Please let me know if there is any additional information that you need for this consultation.

Thank you,		

Connie Ramsey, Biologist
Acting Section Chief, Installation Support Branch
Planning Division
Baltimore District USACE
2 Hopkins Plaza
Baltimore, MD 21201

Office: 410.962.7783 Cell: 443.310.2722 From: <u>Traver, Carrie</u>

To: Poirier, Ariel B CIV USARMY CENAB (USA); Ramsey, Connie L CIV USARMY CENAB (USA)

Cc: Witman, Timothy

Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Scoping Comments for a Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project at Fort Meade, Maryland

**Date:** Friday, October 20, 2023 5:11:40 PM

Dear Ms. Ramsey and Ms. Poirier:

Thank you for providing notice to the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) that U.S. Army Garrison, Fort George G. Meade, Maryland (FMMD) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA or Study) for the Proposed Construction and Operation of the Department of Defense (DoD) Cyber Crime Center (DC3). The Proposed Action would include the construction and operation of an approximately 238,800 square foot facility within a FMMD. The site design includes a parking structure, sidewalks, landscaping, stormwater management facilities, and utility service connections.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Section 309 of the Clean Air Act and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing NEPA (40 CFR 1500-1508), we have the following comments for your consideration:

## **Proposed Action/Purpose and Need**

As described, the purpose of the Proposed Action is to provide DC3 with	a new building			
that can consolidate their operations into one main,	facility that			
encourages collaboration with other co-located agencies. The Study wou	ıld benefit from			
an overview of specific needs and requirements, including security, building space and				
parking needs, and the "substantial upgrades by the Government for				
" The need for integration of the operations	program and			
academy in a co-located facility to "ensure optimum mission performanc	e" should also			
be explained.				

### **Alternatives**

EPA recommends that FMMD evaluate a full range of reasonable alternatives that fulfill the project's purpose and need and suggests selection of an alternative that avoids and minimizes environmental impacts.

While the current leased facilities are insufficient for the DC3's needs and mission, the Proposed Action would site the DC3 facility in a currently forested location. Reuse of existing site or sites that are already developed or disturbed would not only reduce expansion of impervious surfaces, but also retain the stormwater, water quality, carbon

storage and sequestration, and habitat benefits of the existing vegetation. Therefore, EPA recommends fully evaluating alternative locations at FMMD to reduce impacts to resources, including water quality.

Likewise, we recommend evaluation of locations onsite at FMMD where colocation of the DC3 facility may also allow some use of existing facilities such as parking, security, fuel storage, etc. to reduce impacts and costs.

## **Aquatic Resources and Water Quality**

Given existing watershed degradation from development and stormwater, the EA should include a thorough discussion of potential water quality impacts of the Proposed Action and any alternatives. Based on the project is located between two tributaries in the Severn Run watershed, and the unnamed tributary south (HUC 12 watershed 020600040201) may be directly and/or indirectly impacted due to proximity. Both tributaries are impaired for aquatic life use and reaches of these streams were identified as priorities for restoration in the FMMD October 2020 Draft Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) for Stream Restoration.

The Draft PEA concluded that existing urbanization and development has caused unstable conditions in these and other streams at FMMD. It appears the proposed project would increase impervious coverage in proximity to the already-impaired unnamed tributary, remove vegetation, and likely add to the site urbanization and stormwater issues. As indicated above, we recommend evaluation of alternative sites. If development of the site identified in the proposed Action, it will be critical to commit to robust measures to prevent water quality degradation early in the planning process.

As you are aware, EPA strongly supports sustainable building and site design. We suggest incorporating Low Impact Development (LID) and green infrastructure (GI) into site design to reduce runoff volume and improve water quality and encourage incorporation of LID principles in the early stages of the project, including in the conceptual layout. The fundamental principles of LID and GI are to maintain predevelopment hydrology of the site and ensure that the project does not cause receiving waters to be adversely impacted by changes in runoff temperature, volume, duration, and rate. We support minimizing the construction of additional impervious area and/or limiting its effects. Examples of measures to reduce impacts include preservation of natural vegetation and forested buffers, use of pervious pavement, green roof installation, and rooftop stormwater collection and reuse. Guidance and resources for implementing green infrastructure practices and LID can be found at: <a href="https://www.epa.gov/greeninfrastructure">www.epa.gov/greeninfrastructure</a>; <a href="https://www.epa.gov/nps/urban-runoff-low-impact-development">https://www.epa.gov/nps/urban-runoff-low-impact-development</a>; and <a href="https://www.bmpdatabase.org">https://www.bmpdatabase.org</a>

To effectively evaluate the potential for impacts to aquatic resource, the extent of streams and wetlands should be delineated and distance from limit of disturbance estimated The EA should outline specific measures to protect surface waters and the aquatic ecosystem, including best management practices (BMPs) to address both

construction and post-construction stormwater management.

Spill management and prevention for the should also be addressed.

## **Biological Resources**

As shown on should evaluate impacts on species, habitats, and ecosystems based on the existing and proposed conditions. Key to this assessment is a baseline assessment of vegetation and habitat, including characterizing the species, type, and approximate age of trees. The impact to each type of vegetative community should be estimated. We recommend supporting this discussion with the Forest Stand Delineation and Conservation Plan for Maryland's' Forest Conservation Act.

Direct, indirect, and cumulative effects to species should be evaluated. Potential impacts to biological resources from development and building operation may include mortality, noise, turbidity, lighting, pollution, and dispersal of invasive species. We recommend evaluating measures to reduce such impacts, including surveys, time of year restrictions, bird friendly design to reduce collisions and mortality, and lighting that minimizes impacts to species.

Connectivity of habitat should also be considered. We recommend that FMMD evaluate how alternatives support the management, long-term conservation, enhancement, protection, and restoration of year-round habitat, seasonal habitat, stopover habitat, wildlife corridors, watersheds, and other features and processes that promote habitat connectivity in accordance with the March 21, 2023 CEQ Guidance for Federal Departments and Agencies on Ecological Connectivity and Wildlife Corridors. (See <a href="https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/230318-Corridors-connectivity-guidance-memo-final-draft-formatted.pdf">https://www.whitehouse.gov/wp-content/uploads/2023/03/230318-Corridors-connectivity-guidance-memo-final-draft-formatted.pdf</a>)

As indicated above, EPA recommends protecting and enhancing native vegetation where possible, including avoiding impacts to forest and riparian buffers. We recommend evaluating and committing to avoidance and mitigation measures.

## **Air Quality**

Under the general conformity rule, reasonably direct and indirect foreseeable emissions associated with operational and construction activities, must be quantified and compared to the annual de minimis levels for those pollutants in nonattainment or maintenance. As Anne Arundel County (in the Baltimore MD Area) is currently in nonattainment for several standards including 8-hour ozone, 2008, 8-hour ozone (2015), and sulfur dioxide (2010), EPA recommends that the EA include a general conformity applicability analysis or determination according to the guidance provided in 40 CFR Part 93 (Determining Conformity of General Federal Actions to State or Federal Implementation Plans).

On January 9, 2023, Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) published interim guidance to assist federal agencies in assessing and disclosing climate change impacts during environmental reviews. CEQ developed this guidance in response to Executive Order (EO) 13990, Protecting Public Health and the Environment and Restoring Science to Tackle the Climate Crisis. CEQ indicated that agencies should use this interim guidance to inform the NEPA review for all new proposed actions. EPA recommends FMMD consider the interim guidance as appropriate, to ensure robust consideration of potential climate impacts, mitigation, and adaptation. Tools for estimating greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions can be found at <a href="https://ceq.doe.gov/guidance/ghg-tools-and-resources.html">https://ceq.doe.gov/guidance/ghg-tools-and-resources.html</a>

Consistent with this guidance, EPA recommends that GHG generation from construction and operation of the Proposed Action be assessed. We suggest outlining mitigation measures and BMPs that will be implemented to reduce energy use and emissions, such as energy efficient lighting and heating and cooling systems, installation of roof solar panels, and green or cool roof installations.

We recommend that the EA consider how reasonably foreseeable effects of climate change could potentially influence resources in the project area, what impacts climate change may have on the Proposed Action, and specific measures that could promote climate resiliency.

## **Hazardous and Toxic Substances**

The EA should identify any known contamination in the project areas, completed or ongoing remediation efforts, and additional studies that will be conducted.

Overall, potential impacts from the proposed activities, or how such impacts may be avoided or minimized during construction should be clear.

### **Communities and Traffic**

As shown, a forested buffer >600 feet currently provides visual screening and noise attenuation between FMMD and the nearby residential properties to the east. Given this proximity, offsite impacts should be fully evaluated, including visual impacts, lighting, localized emissions, and noise impacts during operation and construction. Impacts from increased traffic from should also be fully assessed.

## **Environmental Justice**

EO 14096, Revitalizing Our Nation's Commitment to Environmental Justice for All, (April 26, 2023) expands and deepens the directives and concepts outlined in EO 12898, Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low-Income Populations. EO 14096 directs federal agencies to identify, analyze, and address disproportionate and adverse human health and environmental effects and hazards of

federal activities. EO 14096 also directs agencies to consider cumulative impacts of pollution and other burdens, such as climate change.

In accordance with these EOs, EPA recommends that the EA indicate whether there may be communities with potential Environmental Justice (EJ) concerns in the vicinity of the Proposed Action or alternatives, assess potential impacts to these communities (such as noise and traffic), and evaluate whether those impacts may be individually or cumulatively adverse. For screening, EPA recommends using census block group (the smallest geographical unit for which the U.S. Census Bureau publishes data) or more refined data as larger area (such as counties or cities) may dilute the presence of populations with potential EJ concerns. We recommend showing low income and minority census block groups in relation to the project area. EPA notes that certain populations, such as low-income and/or people of color populations, may face elevated susceptibility to impacts that may affect others less severely.

EPA recommends the use of its screening tool, EJSCREEN

(https://www.epa.gov/ejscreen) and other resources such as Promising Practices for EJ Methodologies in NEPA Reviews (www.epa.gov/sites/default/files/2016-08/documents/nepa\_promising\_practices\_document\_2016.pdf) to aid in identifying potential communities with EJ concerns that may be impacted by project activities. In addition to data regarding communities of color and low-income populations, the tool provides demographic data at the census block group level for linguistic isolation, education, and age, as well as EJ indices, which may enhance EJ-related analyses and outreach.

We note that EPA's <u>EJSCREEN</u> indicates that several census block groups to the west of FMMD include high percentages of people of color. In addition, EJ Indices for ozone and air toxics cancer risk for several block groups in the vicinity are above the 80<sup>th</sup> percentile nationally and statewide, potentially indicating increased risk from ozone concentrations and inhalation of air toxics.

EPA recommends that FMMD conduct effective community outreach to inform the identification of impacts and vulnerabilities as well as identify opportunities for impact avoidance, minimization, and/or mitigation. EPA also encourages FMMD to work with community leaders to communicate project information and provide notices of public meetings, notices of informational events, and/or other related resources at visible, frequently visited community locations such as community centers or places of worship. We recommend detailing outreach that has been conducted or is planned in the Study.

## **Cultural Resources**

We support early engagement with the State Historic Preservation Office to identify, avoid, and minimize potential adverse effects from the proposed activities on cultural

resources. We recommend that the EA identify whether any investigations have or will be conducted for potential historic, archeological, or cultural resources in proximity to the project area and whether any impacts may occur to resources listed or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places. We recommend that the EA indicate the status of the consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 as well as consultation with Native American Tribes.

### **Utilities**

Due to the needs of the DC3, we recommend a specific discussion of utilities, including use, sources, capacity, and the need for additional impacts for upgrades.

Again, thank you for notifying us of the preparation of the EA. Please feel free to contact me if you wish to discuss any of the questions or comments. I would like to request a link to or copy of the Draft EA by email when it is available.

Sincerely, Carrie

### **Carrie Traver**

Environmental Assessment Branch
Office of Communities, Tribes, & Environmental Assessment
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 3
215-814-2772
<a href="mailto:traver.carrie@epa.gov">traver.carrie@epa.gov</a>



Wes Moore, Governor Aruna Miller, Lt. Governor Josh Kurtz, Secretary David Goshorn, Deputy Secretary

December 12, 2023

Ms. Ariel Poirier US ACOE 2 Hopkins Plaza Baltimore, MD 21201

RE: Environmental Review for Proposed Cyber Crimes Center Project, Fort Meade, Draft EA, Anne Arundel County, Maryland.

Dear Ms. Poirier:

The Wildlife and Heritage Service has determined that this project site is within an area that contains habitat for the Northern Long-eared Bat (*Myotis septentrionalis*), which is listed as an endangered species by the State of Maryland and by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In order to reduce loss of summer occupancy habitat for this species, we recommend that forest clearing and permanent forest loss be minimized to the greatest extent possible. To compensate for any permanent forest loss on the project site, forest conservation/reforestation should be pursued. As required by the Forest Conservation Act, the priority for reforestation should be the first two options provided by the Act: (1) establishing or enhancing forest buffers adjacent to intermittent and perennial streams and within the 100yr floodplains; (2) establishing or increasing existing forested corridors to connect existing forests within or adjacent to the site to facilitate wildlife movement. Also, there should be no forest removal/clearing (inclusive of trimming branches >3 inches in diameter) during the summer time-of-year when this species is utilizing the forest. That time-of-year is considered to be May 1 – July 31 of any given year. Projects that have the potential to impact forest habitat of 15 acres or more should be screened by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's Chesapeake Bay Field Office at: <a href="https://www.fws.gov/office/chesapeake-bay-ecological-services/project-review">https://www.fws.gov/office/chesapeake-bay-ecological-services/project-review</a>.

Also, our remote analysis suggests that the forested area on this property contains Forest Interior Dwelling Species (FIDS) habitat, especially for birds. Populations of many bird species which depend on this type of forested habitat are declining in Maryland and throughout the Eastern United States. The declines in FIDS populations have been attributed in part to the loss and fragmentation of forests due largely to urbanization, agriculture, and some forest management practices. The key to maintaining suitable breeding habitat for FIDS, and halting or reversing their declines, is the protection of extensive, unbroken forested areas throughout the region. The conservation of FIDS habitat throughout Maryland is strongly encouraged by the Wildlife and Heritage Service.

If the project changes in the future such that the limits of proposed disturbance or overall site boundaries are modified, please provide us with revised project maps and we will provide you with an updated evaluation.

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Thank you for allowing us the opportunity to review this project. If you should have any further questions regarding this information, please contact me at <a href="mailto:lorinbyrne@maryland.gov">lorinbyrne@maryland.gov</a> or at (410) 260-8573.

Sincerely,

Lori A. Byrne,

Louia. Bym

Environmental Review Coordinator Wildlife and Heritage Service MD Dept. of Natural Resources

ER# 2023.1466.aa

Cc: K. McCarthy, DNR

J. Thompson, US FWS