

1 **DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE**  
2 **UNITED STATES ARMY**  
3 **DRAFT FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT**  
4 **FOR THE PROGRAMMATIC ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**  
5 **ADDRESSING IMPLEMENTATION OF PROJECTS AT THE PUTNAM**  
6 **PARK AREA,**  
7 **WEST POINT, NEW YORK**

8 **1. Introduction.** Pursuant to the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations (Title 40  
9 of the *Code of Federal Regulations* [CFR] parts 1500-1508) for implementing the procedural  
10 provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) (Title 42 of the *United States Code*  
11 4321 *et seq.*) and 32 CFR part 651 (*Environmental Analysis of Army Actions*), U.S. Army  
12 Garrison West Point (USAGWP), New York, conducted a Programmatic Environmental  
13 Assessment (PEA) of the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects associated with  
14 implementing projects at the Putnam Park Area (PPA) at USAGWP (the proposed action).  
15 Regulations in 32 CFR part 651 provide Army guidance and procedures for complying with  
16 NEPA and establish policy, procedures, and responsibilities for assessing environmental  
17 effects of proposed Army actions.

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19 **2. Proposed Action.** The Army proposes seven real property planning actions in an area  
20 known as the PPA in the northwest corner of the Putnam and Ladycliff District at USAGWP.  
21 The Putnam and Ladycliff District Area Development Plan (ADP) identify a number of  
22 prioritized projects designed to support the installation planning vision and achieve the goals of  
23 the district. The PPA was identified as an area in which to further enhance West Point's  
24 community and recreational amenities. Seven distinct projects were subsequently identified  
25 that would fulfill this goal: 1) Putnam parking lot, 2) Delafield Dam decommissioning, 3) outdoor  
26 pool and physical fitness center, 4) restoration of the existing bathhouse, 5) restoration of the  
27 1949er Lodge, 6) upgrade of the electric substation, and 7) establishment of a passive  
28 (undeveloped) park. The purpose of the proposed action is to manage the PPA's real property  
29 assets in a thoughtful, deliberative, and sustainable manner consistent with the vision and  
30 goals as established by the West Point Real Property Master Plan and Putnam and Ladycliff  
31 District Area Development Plan (ADP) in support of the installation's designated mission. The  
32 proposed action is needed to address real property deficiencies and suboptimal conditions,  
33 and mitigate safety concerns. The PPA is currently underutilized and can support additional  
34 real property actions to support mission requirements.

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36 **3. Alternatives Considered.** USAGWP identified three alternatives: implementing the  
37 proposed action (which is the preferred alternative), implementing only the first three projects  
38 proposed under the preferred alternative, and a noaction alternative. CEQ regulations require  
39 analysis of a no action alternative. The Preferred Alternative is to implement all seven  
40 projects within the PPA, although they would be necessarily prioritized and phased based on  
41 available funding. Projects anticipated in the short-term include the Putnam parking lot, Delafield  
42 Dam decommissioning, outdoor pool and physical fitness center, and restoration of the existing  
43 bathhouse and 1949er Lodge. These projects have been prioritized based on their ability to  
44 address safety concerns, mitigate asset deficiencies, and enhance quality of life and recreational  
45 opportunities as noted in the Putnam and Ladycliff District ADP, of which the PPA is a designated  
46 area. Under Alternative 2, only the Putnam parking lot, Delafield Dam decommissioning, and the  
47 outdoor pool and physical fitness complex would be implemented. Under the No Action  
48 Alternative, USAGWP would not implement any of the proposed seven construction projects  
49 within the PPA.

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51 **4. Factors Considered in the Finding of No Significant Impact.** The PEA, which is

1 attached and incorporated by reference into this Draft Finding of No Significant Impact  
2 (FONSI), examines the potential effects of the proposed action and the no action alternative on  
3 the following resource areas of environmental and socioeconomic concern: water resources,  
4 biological resources, land use, recreation, coastal zone management, topography and soils,  
5 cultural resources, traffic and transportation, utilities, air quality, socioeconomics and  
6 environmental justice, and aesthetics and visual resources.

7 The Army would expect a combination of short-term minor adverse and long-term minor beneficial  
8 effects to result from implementing the proposed action. Potential impacts to the following  
9 resource areas are considered to be negligible or nonexistent: environmental justice, hazardous  
10 materials/hazardous waste/toxic substances/contaminated sites, and public health and safety..  
11 Short-term, minor, effects on land use and recreation, coastal zone consistency, aesthetics and  
12 visual resources, socioeconomics, transportation and traffic, and utilities and service systems, air  
13 quality, topography, geology and soils, water resources, biological resources, and cultural  
14 resources would be expected associated with repair, construction, and demolition activities under  
15 the proposed action. Implementing the proposed action would not result in any adverse  
16 cumulative environmental effects. No mitigation measures would be necessary.  
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18 **5. Public Availability.** A Notice of Availability of this Draft FONSI and PEA was published in the  
19 *Times Herald-Record* and *Pointer View* newspapers on May 19 and 21, 2020, respectively.  
20 The PEA and Draft FONSI are available for review by contacting Mr. Christopher Pray,  
21 USAGWP Natural Resources Manager at [christopher.c.pray.civ@mail.mil](mailto:christopher.c.pray.civ@mail.mil) or 845-938-7122. A  
22 copy of the PEA and Draft FONSI are also available for review at  
23 <https://home.army.mil/westpoint/>. Comments may be mailed to Christopher Pray, Natural  
24 Resources Manager, IMML-PWE-N, 667A Ruger Road, West Point, NY, 10996; or emailed to  
25 [christopher.c.pray.civ@mail.mil](mailto:christopher.c.pray.civ@mail.mil). The deadline for receipt of comments is June 17, 2020.

26 **6. Conclusions.** Based on the environmental analysis presented in the PEA, the Army has  
27 determined that implementing the proposed action would have no significant direct, indirect,  
28 or cumulative adverse effects on the quality of human life or the natural environment at  
29 USAGWP. Therefore, the Army will not be required to prepare an Environmental Impact  
30 Statement before implementing the proposed action. A final decision, however, will not be  
31 rendered until after the close of the public comment period for the PEA and until after all  
32 timely submitted comments have been considered and appropriately addressed.  
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Date