

(The following public notice was published in local newspapers near Fort Lewis and the Yakima Training Center)

PUBLIC NOTICE

Public Meetings on a Draft Environmental Impact Statement Analyzing the Impacts of Army Growth and Force Structure Realignment at Fort Lewis and the Yakima Training Center

Fort Lewis and the Yakima Training Center (YTC) will convene three public meetings on the Draft Environmental Impact Statement for the Fort Lewis Army Growth and Force Structure Realignment ("Grow the Army" Draft EIS or GTA DEIS). The GTA DEIS was released on September 11, 2009 and is available for public review online at: http://www.lewis.army.mil/publicworks/sites/envir/EIA_2.htm.

The GTA DEIS analyzes the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of implementing the Army stationing and realignment decisions in the 2007 "Grow the Army" Programmatic EIS (GTA PEIS) and other ongoing Army realignment and stationing initiatives affecting Fort Lewis and YTC. The GTA PEIS Record of Decision specified the stationing of additional units at Fort Lewis including an Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and directed unit restructuring actions that would increase active duty strength at Fort Lewis by approximately 1,900 Soldiers. The GTA DEIS also analyzes Fort Lewis and YTC as potential locations for the stationing of approximately 1,000 Combat Service Support (CSS) Soldiers consisting of quartermaster, medical, transportation, headquarters or other CSS units to support combat operations, and the potential stationing of a medium Combat Aviation Brigade consisting of approximately 2,800 soldiers and 110 helicopters.

Public meetings will be held at the locations and on the dates and times listed below. Meetings will consist of an open house where information on the GTA DEIS will be available, and where garrison staff representatives from Fort Lewis and YTC will be present to answer questions. All members of the public, Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, and other interested parties are invited to attend.

September 29, 2009

Lacey Community Center
6729 Pacific Avenue SE
Lacey, WA 98503
6:00-8:00pm

September 30, 2009

Hal Holmes Community Center
209 North Ruby Street
Ellensburg, WA 98926
6:00-8:00pm

October 1, 2009

Howard Johnson Plaza
9 North 9th Street
Yakima, WA 98901
6:00-8:00pm

Fort Lewis seeks comments on the GTA DEIS. To ensure comments are fully considered in the Final EIS, they should be received or postmarked no later than **October 26, 2009**. Send written comments or requests for additional information to DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY, PUBLIC WORKS, ATTN: IMWE-LEW-PWE (B VAN HOESEN), BLDG 2012 LIGGETT AVENUE, BOX 339500, MS 17, FORT LEWIS, WA 98433-9500. A comment form will be available at the public meetings, and is also available at the above internet address. Comments and requests for additional information may be sent to Mr. Bill Van Hoesen by e-mail at bill.vanhoesen@us.army.mil, or by fax to 253-966-4985.