



# Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa River Basin

## NEWSLETTER

February 2009

### The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has published a Scoping Report for the Water Control Manual Update and Environmental Impact Statement

During September 2008, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE or Corps), Mobile District, conducted four public scoping meetings. These meetings were held to announce and solicit feedback for the Water Control Manual Update and preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alabama-Coosa-Tallapoosa (ACT) River Basin.

The meetings were held at the following locations:

- ◆ September 15<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Kennesaw, Georgia
- ◆ September 16<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Rome, Georgia
- ◆ September 17<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Gadsden, Alabama
- ◆ September 18<sup>th</sup>, 2008: Montgomery, Alabama

A total of 250 stakeholders participated in the four public scoping meetings. Over 117 responses were received from individuals, organizations, and agencies during the formal scoping period which ended October 20, 2008. Comments were submitted to the Corps through all available options—United States Postal Service, email, Web site, fax, or in person at the scoping meetings.

Comments received were categorized into 11 areas: Water Resources, Economic Resources, Ecological Resources, Recreation, Other, National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Process, Baseline Conditions, Public Communications/Newsletters, Scoping Meetings, Cultural Resources, and Agriculture. Some of the categories were further divided into subcategories to present the stakeholders' issues and recommendations.



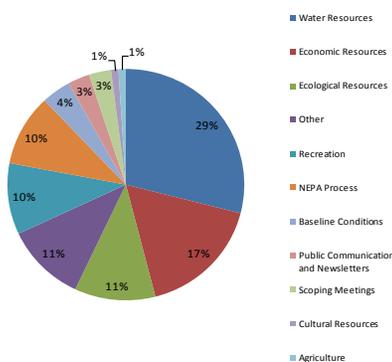
Comments received

Issue	Number of Comments Received
Water Resources	34
Economic Resources	20
Ecological Resources	13
Other	13
Recreation	12
NEPA Process	12
Baseline Conditions	5
Public Communication/Newsletters	4
Scoping Meetings	4
Cultural Resources	1
Agriculture	1
<b>Total</b> →	<b>117</b>

The full scoping report can be downloaded from at: [www.act-wcm.com/EISProcess.cfm](http://www.act-wcm.com/EISProcess.cfm).



Percentage of Comments Received by Category



Completing the Water Control Manual Update and EIS will take approximately three years. A Notice of Availability (NOA) will be published in the Federal Register when the Draft EIS is available for public review (currently anticipated for spring 2010).

Public meetings will also be held following publication of the NOA to solicit comments on the Water Control Manual and Draft EIS. Each comment and the corresponding response will be incorporated into the EIS. The Water Control Manual and Final EIS (including a Record of Decision) are currently anticipated for publication in late 2011.

As this process continues, the public can continually obtain information on the status and progress of the Water Control Manual Update and the EIS by visiting the Water Control Manual website: [www.act-wcm.com](http://www.act-wcm.com).

Questions or comments specifically related to the EIS should be directed to Mr. Chuck Sumner, Mobile District, Environment and Resources Branch, Planning and Environmental Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Post Office Box 2288, Mobile, AL 36628-001; telephone (251) 694-3857; fax (251) 694-3815 ; or email [lewis.c.sumner@usace.army.mil](mailto:lewis.c.sumner@usace.army.mil).



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