



# MEDIA RELEASE

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Press Release 26-06  
November 14, 2006

## **NAVY ANNOUNCES INTENT IN FEDERAL REGISTER**

The Navy has published a Notice of Intent (NOI) in the *Federal Register* to prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) to assess the potential environmental impacts of homeporting additional surface ships at Naval Station (NAVSTA) Mayport, Florida.

The EIS will review and assess homeporting additional surface ships at NAVSTA Mayport including cruisers, destroyers, frigates, amphibious assault ships, amphibious transport docks, dock landing ships, and/or a nuclear-powered aircraft carrier. Ultimately the homeporting could involve the relocation of existing ships to NAVSTA Mayport or the assignment of newly acquired ships to NAVSTA Mayport.

The scope of actions to be analyzed in this EIS includes homeporting of various classes of surface ships and construction to include dredging, infrastructure and wharf improvements, and construction of nuclear-powered aircraft carrier propulsion plant maintenance facilities.

The EIS will evaluate the environmental effects associated with water resources; air quality; biological resources, including threatened and endangered species; land use; socioeconomic resources; infrastructure; and cultural resources. The analysis will include an evaluation of direct and indirect impacts, and will account for cumulative impacts from other relevant activities in the Mayport area.

One public scoping meeting will be held in Jacksonville, Florida, to receive written comments on environmental concerns that should be addressed in the EIS. The public scoping open house will be held on December 5, 2006, from 4 p.m. to 8:30 p.m. at the Florida Community College at Jacksonville, South Campus, 11901 Beach Boulevard, Jacksonville, Florida

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