



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 1070
NASHVILLE TN 37202-1070

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Project Planning Branch

JUN 13 2013

TO ALL INTERESTED PARTIES:

The Corps of Engineers, Nashville District, will be preparing a Draft Integrated Detailed Project Report and Environmental Assessment (DPR/EA), evaluating measures and alternatives for a flood damage reduction study for the Swannanoa River Watershed near Asheville, North Carolina.

In addition to No Action (implementing no alternatives that would address flood damages), measures that will be evaluated and considered in the DPR/EA include:

- a. Detention Structures within or adjacent to streams to detain high water flows
- b. Fill removal/channel modification to pass higher flows
- c. Modification to existing reservoirs and operation plan changes
- d. Levees/flood walls
- e. Non-Structural Measures (actions such as raising a home's first floor elevation, demolish and replace options, commercial flood-proofing, floodplain evacuations, etc.)
- f. A Flood Warning and Emergency Evacuation Plan

By way of this letter, the Corps is initiating Scoping under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). In accordance with NEPA, we are soliciting comments from the public; federal, state and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties concerning environmental issues that should be addressed in the course of the NEPA process. We also encourage public and agency comments regarding the proposal which may impact or influence community resources. We encourage comments not only about the immediate project area, but also of plans or proposals for any other development that may impact or influence the study or a proposed project.

This letter also serves to initiate public involvement requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106, implemented by regulations at 36 CFR 800, requires the Corps to consider the effects of its undertakings on historic properties. If required, appropriate architectural and archaeological investigations will be conducted within those areas affected by the proposed activities and resulting findings will be coordinated with the North Carolina State Historic Preservation Officer and other offices as necessary.

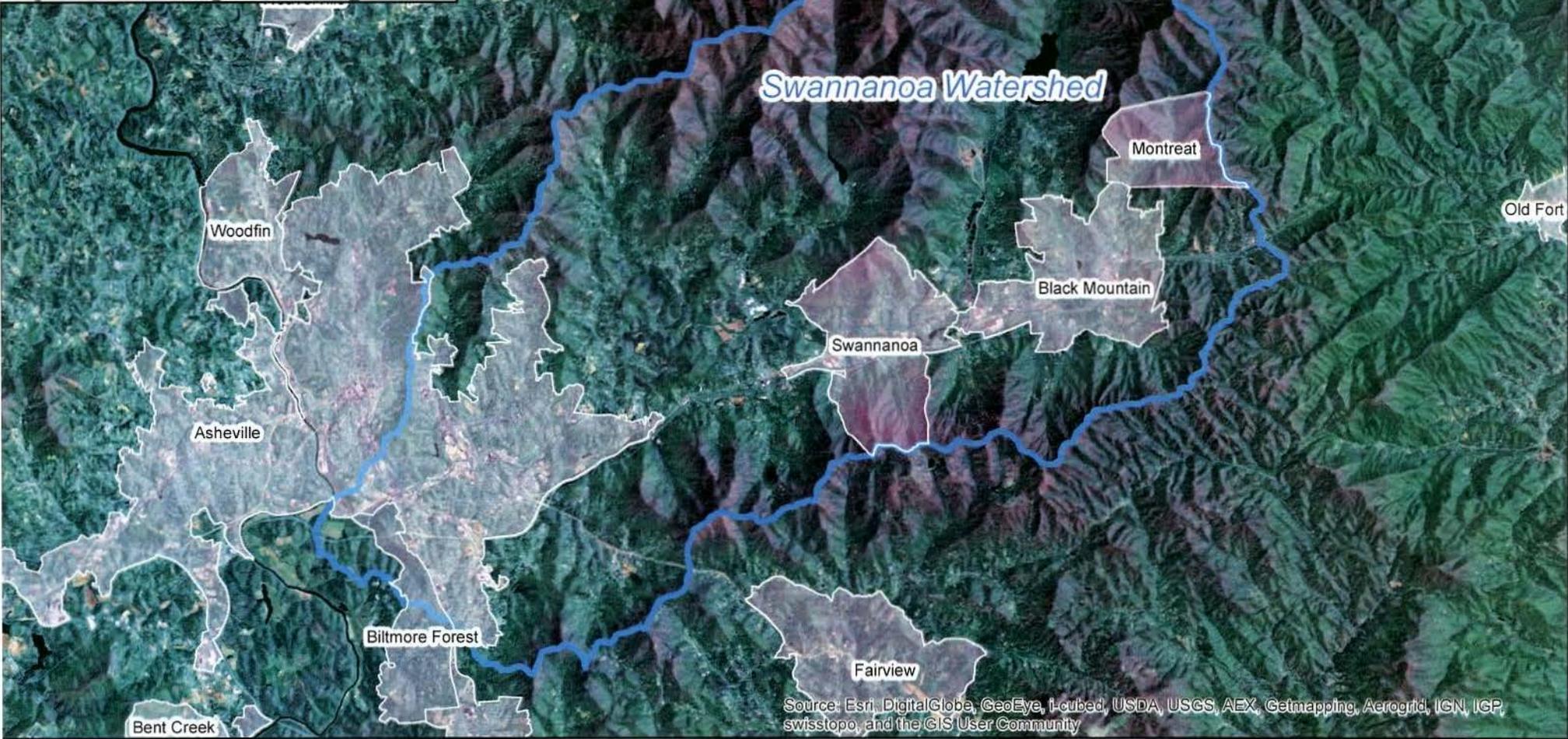
A map of the watershed is enclosed for your benefit. If you have any information, comments, or questions, please contact Chip Hall, Biologist, by writing to the above address or by calling (615) 736-7666. You may also e-mail Mr. Hall at chip.hall@us.army.mil. Please submit your comments no later than 30 days from the above date to assure evaluation and inclusion in the process. Your participation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, consisting of several loops and a long horizontal stroke extending to the right.

Russ L. Rote, P.E., PMP, CFM
Chief, Project Planning Branch

Enclosure



Swannanoa Flood Damage Reduction Study

