INFORMATION MEMORANDUM

FOR THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY – POLICY, MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET

THROUGH: Marcilynn A. Burke, Acting Assistant Secretary – Land and Minerals Management

FROM: Robert V. Abbey, Director, Bureau of Land Management

SUBJECT: Proposed Partial Withdrawal Revocation and Transfer of Administrative Jurisdiction, Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, Washington

DATE: April 5, 2012

I. INTRODUCTION

On behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (COE) and the National Park Service (NPS), the Bureau of Land Management (BLM), is requesting that the Assistant Secretary for Policy, Management and Budget approve a Public Land Order (PLO) that would partially revoke a withdrawal created by a Secretarial Order, several General Orders, and an Executive Order insofar as they affect approximately 33.75acres of public land reserved for military purposes for the East and South Vancouver Barracks in Washington. The PLO would also transfer administrative jurisdiction of the land to the NPS for inclusion in the Fort Vancouver National Historic Site, established in 1961 by Public Law No. 87-78. The land has been and will remain closed to all forms of appropriation under the public land laws, including the United States mining laws.

II. BACKGROUND

On August 16, 2011, the COE filed a notice of intent to relinquish 33.75acres of withdrawn public land reserved to the Department of the Army for military purposes. The land has been held in military reserve status since January 29, 1848, the result of the Secretary of War establishing the reservation along the Columbia River. The reserve was one of several military posts along the route settlers were following from the Mississippi River to the Columbia River. Fort Vancouver continued to be used by various military units with the most recent occupant being the Army Reserve Center, 88th Regional Support Command. Under the Base Realignment and Closure Law, the Army Reserve Center was relocated to a new facility in 2011 and the Fort Vancouver facility was closed.

Recognizing the historic importance of Fort Vancouver, Congress established the Fort Vancouver National Monument, including the site of the old Hudson Bay Company Stockade, approved June 19, 1948 (62 Stat. 532). The boundary was revised and the monument redesignated “Fort Vancouver National Historic Site” by Public Law No. 87-78 (75 Stat. 196 (1961)).

The acreage difference between the Notice of Intent to Relinquish from the Department of the Army and the final acreage figure in the Public Land Order is a result of an official Cadastral Survey completed in December 2011.

III. POSITION OF INTERESTED PARTIES

No consultation is required as this is an administrative process implementing the terms of Public Law No. 87-78.

IV. LEGAL STATUS

There is no litigation associated with this proposed partial revocation and transfer of administrative jurisdiction.