

PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy
Community



US Army Corps
of Engineers

June 2008

Volume 11, Issue 6

Inside This Issue

2009 Planning Associates Program Announcement and Application instructions.....	3
2007 Planning Awards Announced...	3
Planners Leading Strategically— Developing Sound Water Resources Solutions - Post Conference 2008 Documentation Posted.....	4
List Server list [Is-planning-cop] Created for Corps Planning Community of Practice.....	5
Announcement of National Flood Proofing Conference IV.....	5
The Planning Associates Learn about Flood Risk Management and Watersheds.....	6
Students Soak Up Army Corps Workshops	11
Employment Opportunities.....	13
Announcement of Workshop on Water Resources Management: A System- Wide Approach to Integrating Watersheds and Reservoir Systems.....	20
Training Courses.....	21
Conferences.....	23
Publications.....	25
How to Submit an Article.....	27
How to Subscribe to Planning Ahead.....	27

A Note from the Director of Civil Works

It was a pleasure to be a part of the Planning Community's Conference in San Antonio last month and to meet so many old friends, and to meet so many of you for the first time. The level of energy, enthusiasm and professionalism inherent in the Planning Community is very impressive. "Strategic Leaders of the Corps" is a very apt theme, since you are indeed that. I know that this spirit is present in the Planning Community every day, and I thank each of you for it.

First, I would like to thank Tab Brown for providing outstanding leadership to the Planning CoP for the past six months. Due to the extended period of time required to recruit for the permanent SES for this critical position, we will have one more acting Chief of Planning CoP/MVD RIT until the position is filled permanently in an estimated 3 months. Therefore, I am pleased to announce the selection of Ms. Robyn Colosimo as the next Acting Chief of Civil Works Planning and Policy Division/Planning CoP/MVD RIT, HQUSACE.

Robyn is eminently qualified for this assignment. For the past seven years, Robyn has served in a number of capacities at HQUSACE. Since 2005, she has served as the Chief, Office of Water Project Review, where she has led the review of Civil Works decision documents, the development of model project cooperation agreements and most notably the establishment of the Civil Works Review Board. Prior to that, her HQUSACE duties included RIT Planning Manager (MVD, NAD, NWD, POD and SPD) and Civil Works Deputy (NAD - RIT), and an assignment to the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works. Prior to coming to HQUSACE, Robyn served in a number of leadership roles for the Baltimore District. From 1987 - 1990, Robyn was employed in the private sector.

Robyn holds a BS in Civil Engineering from Penn State University and a MS in Policy Sciences from the University of Maryland, Baltimore County. In addition, Robyn is a licensed professional engineer in the State of Maryland.

Please join me in welcoming Robyn to her new assignment.

Essayons!

Steven L. Stockton, P.E., SES
Director, Civil Works
USACE

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

This month's issue of *Planning Ahead* begins with an announcement of the **2009 Planning Associates program** and application instructions. Individuals interested in learning more about, or applying for, the 2009 Planning Associates program are referred to the May 12 Memorandum from Mr. Steven Stockton, Director of Civil Works to the MSC's, Corps Labs and FOAs.

Ms. Robyn Colosimo, newly selected Acting Chief of the Planning Community of Practice and the MVD RIT announces the recipients of the 2007 Planning Excellence Awards. The 2007 Planning Excellence Award recipients are **Ms. Jodi K. Stabell** of the Rock Island District and **Mr. Scott K. Estergrad** of the Los Angeles District. The 2007 Outstanding Planning Achievement Award goes to the **Illinois River Basin Restoration Comprehensive Plan Study Team**, of Rock Island District. Congratulations to all of the award recipients.

Mr. Bruce Carlson, Chairman of the 2008 Planning Community of Practice Conference, writes that the presentations given at the conference have been posted to the Planning Community of Practice website.

Also, this issue of *Planning Ahead* contains a reprint of an article which first appeared in the July 2006 issue of the newsletter announcing the establishment of the **planning-cop list serve, ls-planning-cop**. Following the recently concluded Planning CoP conference in San Antonio, the planning-cop list serve is another means by which individuals interested in Corps planning activities can exchange ideas and information on issues of concern to the Planning CoP. Instructions on how to subscribe to the planning-cop list serve are included in the article.

Mr. Larry Buss of the Omaha District provides an announcement of the National Flood Proofing Conference IV, scheduled to take place in New Orleans on November 16-20, 2008. A call for papers has been made. The deadline for the submission of abstracts of papers for the conference is 13 July.

Mr. Mike Dietl of the Sacramento District, and a member of the Planning Associates Class of 2008, writes about the PAs learning experiences concerning flood risk management and watersheds.

Dr. JoAnne Castagna of the New York District writes about members of the District providing some hands on exposure to the marine life in the waters off Rockaway Beach, New York to a group of local elementary school students.

Other items of interest to readers of *Planning Ahead* include a listing of employment opportunities around the Corps, an announcement of a workshop entitled "**Water Resource Management: A System-Wide Approach to Integrating Watersheds and Reservoir Systems**" sponsored by the Engineer Research and Development Center's Water Operation Technical Support (WOTS) Program to held July 22-24 in Portland, OR, PROSPECT training classes, conferences, and recently released publications.

One item in the section on recent publication that I want to draw your attention to, is the link to the special report which appeared in **Popular Mechanics** magazine entitled "*Rebuilding America: How to Fix U.S. Infrastructure.*" The article discusses the challenges and issues associated with rebuilding the Nation's infrastructure. The Corps repair work at Wolf Creek Dam on the Cumberland River in Kentucky and construction activity at Olmsted Lock and Dam on the Ohio River in Illinois, are two examples in the article regarding efforts to not simply restore existing infrastructure, but improve the Nation's infrastructure.

Thank you for your continued interest and support of *Planning Ahead*.

Ken Lichtman, Editor
Institute for Water Resources
Kenneth.E.Lichtman@usace.army.mil

2009 Planning Associates Program Announcement and Application Instructions

In a memo dated May 12, Mr. Steven Stockton, Director of Civil Works announced the 2009 Planning Associates program and application instructions. The primary goal of the Planning Associates Program is to broaden the competencies of high potential journeyman planners who will guide complex planning studies that lead to quality decision documents, and who will provide water resources technical and professional leadership in the future.

The Planning Associates program is intended to provide the quality training that is inherent in an effective learning organization. The curriculum is rich in team building and team leadership training; experiential training in USACE Civil Works business programs; case studies, individual and group projects and activities; communications and presentation techniques; and networking opportunities with

leaders in Districts, MSCs, HQUSACE, and other Army, Administration, Congressional, and public and private water resource interest groups.

In his May 12 memo, Mr. Stockton details the application procedures to be followed by individuals interested in applying for the 2009 Planning Associates program. Individuals interested in applying for the 2009 Planning Associates program are reminded that applications are to be submitted through their MSC, Laboratory or FOA chain of command.

A copy of Mr. Stockton's May 12 memo is available at the Planning CoP's Sharepoint website, a link to which is provided as follows:

<https://kme.usace.army.mil/CoPs/CivilWorksPlanning-Policy/PAProgram/Shared%20Documents/PA%20Program%20for%202009.pdf>

2007 Planning Awards Announced

I am pleased to announce the recipients of the 2007 HQUSACE Director of Civil Works Planning Excellence Award and Outstanding Planning Achievement Award. The formal presentations will take place during the August Senior Leaders Conference.

We have two Planning Excellence Awards for 2007 awarded to **Ms. Jodi K. Staebell** of Rock Island District and **Mr. Scott K. Estergard** of Los Angeles District.

The 2007 Outstanding Planning Achievement Award goes to the **Illinois River Basin Restoration Comprehensive Plan Study Team**, of Rock Island District.

Ms. Staebell was selected as co-"Planner of the Year" based upon her contributions in support of the Ecosystem Planning Center of Expertise (ECO-PCX) by providing critical leadership to advance the Corps ecosystem model certification activities.

She led a national team that proposed recommendations for certification of ecosystem restoration planning models and ultimately drafted the recommendations and presented them to HQUSACE and the Planning Advisory Board (PAB) for consideration in the development of future guidance on model certification.

As a result, her efforts will have direct bearing on national policy regarding model certification that will eventually shape the direction employed by all Planning Centers of

Expertise. During August and September 2007 she summarized recent concerns from OMB and the ASA(CW) on ecosystem restoration projects and facilitated more focused efforts by districts and divisions to address specific concerns in decision documents.

In addition she played a significant role in the training and development of future planners. She serves as a mentor in the Rock Island Planning Mentoring Program, is the co-owner of the Planning Associates Ecosystem Restoration Course, and teaches the PROSPECT Ecosystem Restoration course.

Mr. Scott Estergard was selected as co-"Planner of the Year" based upon his contributions as leader of the Virgin River Watershed Study. On his own initiative, Mr. Estergard developed a proposal, with numerous stakeholders, for a multi-jurisdictional analysis of the Virgin River Watershed in Utah, Nevada, and Arizona.

The Virgin River basin is one of the largest essentially unregulated and free flowing river basin watersheds in the Western U.S. which is also being impacted by an unprecedented level of human development with rapidly expanding urban infrastructure in Washington County, Utah and NE Clark County Nevada. Much of this development is occurring in lowland areas adjacent to (or within) floodplains and high flood hazard areas and critically important habitats for protected and sensitive wildlife species.

The Virgin River is home to more than 200 species of

wildlife, which utilize the riparian corridor as a residence or seasonal migration route.

This collaborative effort will produce a watershed plan that assists stakeholders within the Virgin River in successful management of the river and related resources, and has already led to completion of the Virgin River Watershed Floodplain Management Strategy, which is a powerful tool that is already being used by numerous stakeholders.

Mr. Estergard's diligence and passion on the issue of post-wildfire impacts within the watershed and coordination between the Bureau of Land Management and Mohave County, Arizona led to the discovery that a manufactured home subdivision located in Beaver Dam, AZ was at severe risk. Mohave County proactively implemented an advance flood warning system, evacuation plan, and risk communication plan that will undoubtedly save lives.

The Illinois River Basin Restoration Comprehensive Plan Study Team completed the Final Comprehensive Plan Report with Integrated Environmental Assessment, culminating over 7 years of planning and design resulting in a systemic watershed restoration plan and numerous site specific projects.

The plan was focused on the authorized goal of restoring the ecological integrity and sustainability of the system while remaining compatible with commercial navigation, agricultural production, and areas of high population.

This plan was approved by HQUSACE and this study effort is directly aligned with the Civil Works Strategic Plan, using: (1) innovation and collaboration to formulate a

restoration plan in a system context and from a watershed perspective; (2) a holistic focus on water resources problems and opportunities; and (3) a collaborative interagency approach to develop a plan recognized by multiple agencies and stakeholders as the blueprint for basin restoration.

The Illinois River Basin covers 30,000 square miles in Illinois, Indiana, and Wisconsin and includes parts of four Corps Districts (Rock Island, St. Louis, Chicago, and Detroit) and two Corps Divisions (Mississippi Valley Division and the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division).

As a result of its large geographic scale and numerous stakeholders, close team work, excellent communications, innovation, and a true commitment to collaboration were essential to this study's success.

This study's contribution to advancing the state of the art of planning was also recently recognized when the plan was selected by the American Planning Association's Federal Planning Division as the winner of the Environmental Planning Excellence Award for 2007 based on the scale of the effort, the excellent collaboration and coordination, and innovative cost benefits analysis.

Please pass along my congratulations and thanks to the awardees and to the other individuals and teams nominated by your respective MSC's in recognition of their significant contributions toward solving the Nation's water resources problems.

Robyn Colosimo, P.E.
Acting Chief, Planning & Policy Division & Leader,
Planning Community of Practice Directorate of Civil Works

Planners Leading Strategically - Developing Sound Water Resources Solutions

POST-CONFERENCE 2008 DOCUMENTATION IS POSTED

We had a terrific turnout at our recent Planning CoP conference in San Antonio. Thanks to all 425 attendees and presenters for the most professionally energizing and enlightening conferences we have ever had.

The 2008 Conference has been documented electronically in a "virtual proceedings" on the Planners Web. With over 120 presentations given over the course of the three days, nobody could capture everything that went on during the event. And of course not everyone was able to attend. This forum gives everyone an opportunity to view any of the topics presented, and to follow up with presenters if there are items of interest to pursue. The 2008 presentations have been linked through both the Breakout Sessions grid and the Abstracts for easy access.

The 2008 presentations can be found on a newly launched web page containing all of the PCoP post-conference documentation dating back to 2002. The site contains links to the respective conference web sites, and includes schedules, abstracts and all available power-point presentations: <http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecw-cp/news/plnconf.html>.

We'll be having our next conference in 2010 somewhere in the southeastern United States, hosted by South Atlantic Division. Stay active with your sub-CoPs and your professional colleagues on a regular basis, and watch *Planning Ahead* for future announcements regarding more CoP activities.

List Server List [ls-planning-cop] Created for Corps Planning Community of Practice

By Jon Brown, Buffalo District

The **ls-planning-cop** list serve was launched at the 2006 Planning Community of Practice Conference in San Francisco to serve as a communication tool for the Planning CoP across the Corps. Planning CoP members (and others in the Corps interested in learning about activities going on in the Planning CoP) are invited to join the list. (As of June 2008, there are over 135 Corps subscribers to the ls-planning-cop list.)

Corps employees interested in subscribing to this list should send an email message to majordomo@lst.usace.army.mil with the subject line left blank and only the following single line of text in the message body: subscribe **ls-planning-cop**.

Once you have subscribed, you can send a message to the list by using this address:
ls-planning-cop@lst.usace.army.mil.

Ls-planning-cop is one of 74 current lists maintained by the CEEIS e-Mail team in Portland. List Servers acts like an email distribution list by enabling users to transmit individual email messages to multiple recipients. But unlike a distribution list, the service allows for messages to be sent to a specific group of self-selected recipients based on their interest in a specific topic.

The intent of the list is to allow a forum for discussion of water resource planning issues, but can be used to efficiently share Corps planning news and information. The Planning CoP forum allows for the discussion of current and future water resources planning issues, including problem identification, plan formulation, economic evaluation and environmental assessment related to the Corps primary mission areas, civil works policy, public involvement and other planning issues facing the Corps. Because the discussion threads are not moderated and may occasionally contain sensitive information, it was decided to initially restrict the list to exclusively Corps employees (i.e. with usace.army.mil suffix). Because our community extends beyond the Corps, we may consider opening the list to those outside the Corps.

Another Corps list of potential interest to Planning Ahead readers is **ls-econ-cop**, the list serve for the Economics Community of Practice. The econ-cop list allows for the discussion of issues facing the Economics Community of Practice (Econ CoP) including the examination of evaluation methodologies, data analysis, information sites, computer applications, etc. Currently there are 49 subscribers to the ls-econ-cop list serve.

(Editors note: This article originally appeared in the July 2006 issue of Planning Ahead, and is being reprinted following the 2008 Planning Community of Practice conference.)

Announcement of National Flood Proofing Conference IV, November 16 - 20, 2008, New Orleans, LA

By Larry Buss, Omaha District

Are you interested in learning more about nonstructural measures to reduce flood risk? Are you interested in sharing your experience and knowledge in formulating and implementing projects that utilize flood proofing of structures? If your answer is yes, then you should attend and participate in the fourth triennial **National Flood Proofing Conference [NFPC IV]** which will be held in **New Orleans, Louisiana 16-20 November 2008**.

NFPC IV is the fourth in a series of such conferences dedicated to the nonstructural measure of flood proofing. Local and national experts will share how they use nonstructural measures with a focus on flood proofing to reduce flood risk.

The conference will consist of a combination of plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, a field trip, discussion sessions, a flood proofing festival, training workshops, and exhibits.

The conference is sponsored by the Association of State Flood Plain Managers [ASFPM], the Corps of Engineers, and the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

Complete conference information including registration is contained at the ASFPM website <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/nfpc4.asp>.

If you would like to submit a paper for presentation at the conference, the guidelines for submitting an abstract are available at the conference website. The deadline for submitting an abstract is 13 July 2008.

FEATURED ARTICLES

The Planning Associates Learn about Flood Risk Management in Folsom, California, and Watersheds in San Antonio, Texas

By Mike Dietl, Sacramento District

In this month's article on the Planning Associates (PAs) year long training experience, the PAs travel to Folsom, CA to learn about Flood Risk Management and to San Antonio, TX to learn about Watersheds. Both courses are reflective of the dynamic changes occurring in Corps Civil Works Policy. The Flood Risk Management (FRM) Program reflects changes the Corps is undertaking as we move from "Good to Great" after the hurricane events of Katrina and Rita in 2005. The Watershed Course exposed the PA class to potential new directions that the Corps can serve their clients and partners.

Flood Risk Management Course

During the month of April, the Planning Associates class traveled to the South Pacific Division, where course owners Clark Frentzen (SPD), Alicia Kirchner (Sacramento District), and Roger Setters (Louisville District) hosted the FRM course in Folsom, California. This was a perfect setting for the course as it is home to one of the Corps largest ongoing Civil Works Projects, the Joint Federal Project (JFP) at Folsom Dam that is bringing improvements to the Sacramento River Flood Control Project (SRFCP). The JFP will bring the city of Sacramento's level of flood risk to a 1 in 200 chance in any year. Currently, Sacramento has the highest risk of flooding of any major urban center in the United States.

Our first day of class focused on the Corps role in FRM and the communication of Risk and Uncertainty. We focused on the evolution of Corps policy from Flood Control to Flood Protection to Flood Damage Reduction, to finally, the current policy of Flood Risk Management.

As the Corps moves forward implementing FRM it was emphasized how imperative it is to communicate effectively to sponsors and the public. We learned in detail the probabilistic way to determine flood elevations and levee heights. This represented a dynamic shift from simply determining the flood elevation and adding 3 feet of freeboard on a levee for safety.

The day ended with a dinner hosted by Sacramento District Engineer Col. Thomas C. Chapman and Planning Division Chief Frank Piccola, and all of Sacramento District's Planning branch and section chiefs attended as well to show support for the PA Program.



Sacramento District Engineer, Col. Thomas Chapman presents the Sacramento District Coin to PA John Peukert of St. Louis District

The next day the PA class toured the SRFCP around the city of Sacramento. Our first stop was the Yolo Basin Wetlands project in the Yolo Bypass. The Yolo Bypass is a critical component of the SRFCP and carries 80% of the Sacramento River's flood flow away from the city during floods.

We were also exposed to the important role of the bypass in managing flooding in California's Central Valley. The Yolo Basin Wetlands project is the country's largest Section 1135 project west of the Mississippi River, encompassing over 3,600 acres of managed permanent and seasonal wetlands.



Course owners Clark Frentzen, Rodger Setters, and Alicia Kirchner describe the SRFCP to Jeff Strahan of Norfolk District

The Yolo Basin Wetlands Section 1135 project is an outstanding example of a project resulting from a collaborative multi-agency, multi-stakeholder effort that continues today to restore lost wetlands. This project demonstrates the concepts and practices of collaboration. (Readers interested in learning more about the Yolo Basin Wetlands Section 1135 project can go to the following website: <<http://www.yolobasin.org/management/Appendices/Appendix%20E%20PFC%20Interpretive%20Plan%20Final-7-11-07%20with%20map.pdf>>).

Next, the PA class traveled on top of a levee in Natomas, CA and was exposed to encroachments and the extent of existing vegetation on the levees in the SRFCP. This trip on the levees was timely as the class discussed the recent decertification of the levees in Natomas and the Sacramento District's efforts through the Common Features Project and JFP to bring a 200 year level of protection to the area.

The class finished the day discussing flooding and habitat concerns at Sand Cove Park where the Sacramento District completed a Section 14 Emergency Bank Stabilization project to protect Native American buried remains.

At the park, the PA's met with Ms. Meegan Nagy from the District's Operations Division, Mr. Keith Swanson, Chief of Flood Maintenance for the State of California, Mr. Howard Brown from the National Marine Fisheries Service, and Ms. Jennifer Hobbs from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service.

Each discussed their roles and responsibilities in developing and implementing projects in the SRFCP, issues regarding vegetation on levees, and questions from the class. Keith Swanson did an excellent job of discussing California's support for FRM and the \$5.4 billion that California voters approved in 2006 to reduce flooding in the state.



The PA's meet with representatives from Sacramento District, State of California, and resource agencies. Note the vegetation on the levee in the background.

On Wednesday, the class focused on non-structural FRM techniques led by course instructor Larry Buss of the Omaha District. The class was introduced to different techniques such as flood proofing and relocation of structures. We then applied these techniques to a case study in Glendive, Montana. We finished the day with a discussion of the Sacramento District's Hamilton City Ecosystem Restoration Project.

On Thursday we visited the Joint Federal Project where the PA class saw the intensive on-going construction efforts of the Corps and the Bureau of Reclamation to provide Dam Safety and increased flood protection. The tour was led by Creg Hucks of Sacramento District, the Program Manager for projects on the American River. The PA's toured the construction site where excavation was ongoing for the construction of a four lane bridge crossing the American River Canyon as well as the excavation of the new emergency spillway. The class also viewed the construction of the bridge pier towers.



The PA's at Folsom Bridge



On-going construction at Folsom Bridge



Folsom Dam



PA's Miki Fujitsubo, Adam Fox, Tony Friona, and Mike Dietl take in the beautiful day with Folsom Dam and Lake in the background.

On Thursday and Friday discussions focused on a number of topics from the Corps Silver Jackets program, levee certification, map modernization, flood plain management services, and post authorization studies.

The PA's really engaged in Clark Frentzen's discussion of post-authorization studies and project changes to the country's aging infrastructure. Clark outlined various reports and authorities ranging from General Revaluation Reports to the Section 216 authority. Each PA valued this discussion and learning experience.

In another highlight, SPD's Eric Thaut, the Program Manager for the FRM Center of Expertise gave an overview of the center and its functions in Corps planning studies. (To learn more about the FRM Center of Expertise, visit the Center's website at: <http://www.spd.usace.army.mil/frm-pcx/>).

This concluded the PA experience for April and the PA's returned to their districts to work more effectively with the knowledge gained during the course for projects in their districts to support the Corps team.

Watershed Course

In May, the PAs traveled to San Antonio, TX., home of the Alamo for their course on Watersheds with course owner Sam Arrowood (SWD) and course facilitator Ed Rossman (Tulsa District). This course represents a new opportunity for the Corps and is being led by the five General Expense (GE) funded watershed studies that are to be concluded this year.

This course engaged the PA's with many speakers from around the country in a seminar setting. The course included over 20 speakers and great thanks goes to Sam Arrowood, JoAnn Duman (SWD), and the entire Southwest Division (SWD) for hosting the PA class and providing an outstanding learning experience in San Antonio.

The PA class also had the added treat of having Ms. Jan Rasgus from Headquarters attend and teach the entire week. Ms. Rasgus is a Senior Policy Advisor in Headquarters. The PA class had the opportunity to meet Ms. Rasgus during the D.C. Experience and immediately found her knowledge to be invaluable to the Corps and PA development.

On Monday we were given a command overview of SWD and then jumped right into the subject of watersheds. The course owners laid the foundation of definitions to be used in defining watershed terminology which is different between agencies and used loosely in our own. We finished the day with watershed perspectives from HQ, the Environmental Protection Agency, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

We began Tuesday by going to a joint project implemented by the NRCS, the U.S. Geological Survey, and the Texas Department of Parks site where on-going ash juniper removal is being conducted and evaluated to determine the potential benefits for enhanced ground water recharge in the State of Texas. The results of this project are being directly applied to the Ft. Worth District's Cibolo Creek Watershed Study.



The PA's gathered to discuss restoration with the Texas Parks Department.



PA Ronald Pinzon of New York District performs ash juniper removal.



Jan Rasgus of Headquarters performs ash juniper removal

At the end of the site visit, we were treated to see Hope Creek, a Texas riparian system in pristine condition. Later in the day we returned to the class room and were presented with “Non-Federal Perspectives” on watershed planning. Presentations were given by representatives of the Texas Water Development Board, the San Antonio River Authority, The Nature Conservancy, and the North Texas Municipal Water District.



Pristine Texas Hill Country stream

Wednesday was a heavy day of presentations with questions and answers that stimulated great thoughts and insights into Corps watershed projects, which require a heavy dose of involvement and collaboration.

As the PA’s move through the courses it can not be stressed enough, **collaborate, collaborate, collaborate, and then collaborate some more.** This collaboration is required to develop successful projects for our partners, stakeholders, and even internal customers.

Thursday began with a beautiful site visit to the Mission Reach of the San Antonio River Improvements Project hosted by Mr. Jim Boenig of the San Antonio River Authority. This ten year project is a great example of urban stream restoration that includes collaborative involvement with the city of San Antonio and the National Park Service. Outputs from the project will increase habitat and aesthetic values throughout the river while providing incidental flood reduction benefits.

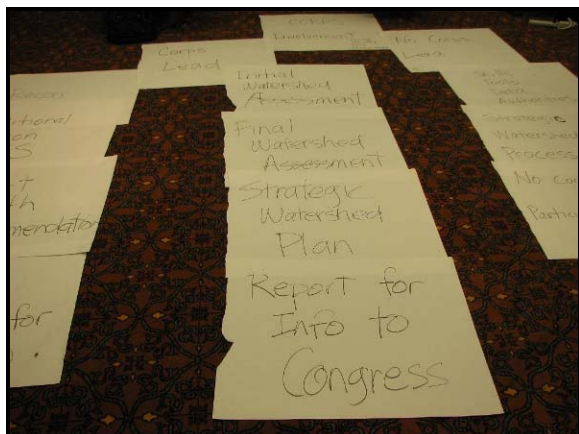


Course Owner Sam Arrowwood and Jim Boenig of San Antonio River Authority describe characteristics of San Antonio River.



The PA class at Mission Espada

In the afternoon the class had a great treat in being able to review and comment on the draft Engineering Circular 1105-2-410. The class worked for hours collaboratively to provide potential improvements through content and editorial changes, and improvements to the flow chart on how watershed projects and traditional projects can be developed. This type of exercise should be replicated for many of the courses where possible since it is a great critical thinking exercise where PA input could be used in policy implementation.



The PA's work on EC 1105-2-410

We wrapped up the class on Friday with presentations on the “Actions for Change” initiative and the five GE funded watershed studies. We were introduced to the five on-going GE studies: (1) the Virgin River, (2) the Delaware River region, (3) the Great Lakes region, (4) the Western States watershed, and (5) the Middle Mississippi River. It will be a great learning experience to follow these studies at the upcoming Planning Community of Practice Conference in San Antonio. (Note this article was written just prior to the Planning Community of Practice Conference in San Antonio, the week of May 19-23.)

2008 Planning Associates Itinerary

1. **Orientation, Leadership, Communication, Team Building Skills (Oct–Nov 2007)**
2. **Customized Plan Formulation (December 2007)**
3. **Engineer and Research Development Center (ERDC) (January 2008)**
4. **Deep Draft Navigation (January 2008)**
5. **Washington DC Experience (February – March 2008)**
6. **Hydropower, Water Supply, Recreation, Endangered Species Act (April 2008)**
7. **Integrated Flood Risk Management (April 2008)**
8. **Watersheds/Planning Community of Practice (PCoP) Conference (May 2008)**
9. Inland Navigation (June 2008)
10. Ecosystem Restoration (June 2008)
11. Small Boat Harbors, and Intergovernmental Affairs (July 2008)
12. Cultural Resources and Tribal Affairs (July 2008)
13. Hurricane Storm Damage (August 2008)

* Bolded titles indicate completed courses.

Mike Dietl is a fishery biologist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Sacramento District and recipient of the 2006 Excellence in Planning Award. He can be reached at Michael.L.Dietl@usace.army.mil.

Students soak up Army Corps workshops (with Sponge Bob's help)

By JoAnne Castagna, Ed.D.

A young female school student from New York Public School 43, stands on the Rockaway Beach boardwalk and gently pokes a lifeless yellow mound lying on the bottom of a water tank, "What's this?" she asks.



Lisa Baron, Project Manager, Harbor Programs Branch with students. Photo credit: Dan Desmet, Public Affairs Office, New York District

"It's a yellow sea sponge - like the cartoon character, Sponge Bob Square Pants, but unlike Bob this sponge doesn't have eyes, legs, arms or a brain," explains Lisa Baron, a project manager with the Corps' Harbor Programs Branch.

The girl was stunned as were her classmates surrounding her. It seems the students didn't make a connection between the popular cartoon character and the marine life that live in the waters right behind

their school that sits on Rockaway Beach, a peninsula on the south shore of Queens, New York.

This was the aim of the Rockaway Waterfront Alliance that asked the Corps to visit the students.

"The Corps' projects have protected the Rockaway shoreline and waterways for some time, but the local community and youth have never had the opportunity to find out how necessary this work is to keeping their waterways open," said Jeanne DuPont, Director, Rockaway Waterfront Alliance.

A team of Corps biologists and engineers held several workshops for students at Rockaway Beach along the boardwalk right behind their school.

DREDGING WORKSHOP

Douglas Leite, project manager, New York District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers informed the students about the dredging work the Corps is performing off their shore and how it's beneficial to their community.

Over the years Rockaway Beach has eroded due to a number of reasons including severe storms over the years.

To help replenish the shoreline, the Corps dredges the East Rockaway Inlet and places sand back onto the beach.

"We dredge sand from the East Rockaway Inlet and place it onto the beach to increase the size and reduce flood risk and coastal erosion, as well as provide a recreation area for the community," said Leite.

SEA LIFE WORKSHOP

Baron told the students that during dredging operations that the Corps does all it can to protect marine life in their natural habitat. The Corps uses deflectors to prevent sea turtles from getting caught in a dredge. Dredging work is done when species are not present.

Baron showed live species of Rockaway marine life for the students to hold and touch that included slime covered moon snails, hermit and mole crabs, sea horses, mud snails, sea anemones, sea stars, and a yellow sea sponge.

Baron said the students asked many questions and appeared very fascinated with the marine life.

"They were intrigued to learn that male sea horses play Mr. Mom and give birth to their babies and that sea stars regenerate their arms and pull their stomachs outside of their body to feed."

Some of the sea critters gave real life demonstrations for the students, such as a sea anemone that shot out its stinging cell at a baby sea star and attempted to eat it as students stared in amazement.

PIPING PLOVER WORKSHOP

Robert Smith, project biologist with the Corps' New York District collected the critters from the East Rockaway Inlet. He talked to students along the beach about threatened and endangered species and how the Corps is taking measures to protect them.

One of these is the Piping Plover, a threatened shorebird due to beach erosion. Smith created a mock Piping Plover egg hunt for the students to show them what Piping Plover eggs and nests look like. During their hunt he told the students that by the Corps building up the beaches with sand they are creating a habitat for the birds to nest and care for their young. He also said that the Corps schedules the sand placement outside the nesting season.

During Smith's workshop, a horseshoe crab slowly crept from the shore towards the students. Smith saw this as an

opportunity to tell the students that horseshoe crabs are ancient creatures predating the dinosaurs – dating back over 500 million years.



Robert Smith, Project Biologist, New York District, takes students on a Piping Plover egg hunt (Photo credit: Dan Desmet, Public Affairs Office, New York District)



Robert Smith, Project Biologist (seated) shows enthusiastic second graders examples of marine life in Rockaway Beach waters. (Photo credit: Dan Desmet, Public Affairs Office, New York District)

The Corps' workshops created such a buzz among the students that their school's principal asked the Corps team to visit a class of second grade students.

At the conclusion of the day's activities, Ms. Dupont remarked, "The Corps visit was extremely informative for the students. Their workshops also support the efforts that the Rockaway Waterfront Alliance has been addressing by encouraging public access to the waterfront through education with local youth."

Lisa Baron may have summed up the positive aspects of the visit to the students best. She said, "To know that the Corps' outreach may inspire the students to become future scientists or merely improve their environmental awareness is immensely rewarding."

Dr. JoAnne Castagna is a Technical Writer-Editor for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. She can be reached at joanne.castagna@usace.army.mil

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

These are but a few of the many available positions advertised on the Army's Civilian Personnel on line website:
<http://cpol.army.mil>

Employment opportunities highlighted in this month include the following:

- (1) Institute for Water Resources, YA-2/3-YD-2/3: Community Planner (0020), Social/Political Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Sociologist (0184), Environmental Planner (0401), Ecologist (0408), Forester (0460), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist(1301)
- (2) Mobile District, YC-2: Supervisory Community Planner (0020), Supervisory Social Scientist (0101), Supervisory Economist (0110)
- (3) HQ U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Directorate of Civil Works; Planning Community of Practice; Washington DC, YD-3/YA-3: General Biological Scientist (0401), Civil Engineer (0810), Community Planner (0020), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110)
- (4) Chicago District, GS-9/11/12: Archaeologist (0193), Community Planner (0020), Ecologist (0408), Fisheries Biologist (0482), Forester (0460), General Biological Scientist (0401), Geographer (0150), Landscape Architect (0807), Social Scientist (0101)
- (5) San Francisco District, GS-13: Project Manager (0101), Project Manager (0401), Project Manager (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Physical Scientist (1301)
- (6) Savannah District, YA-2: Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110)
- (7) Fort Worth District, YA-2/YD-2: Community Planner (0020), Water Resources Planner (0101), Regional Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), Ecologist (0408), Fishery Biologist (0482), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315)
- (8) Walla Walla District, GS-13: Planning and Project Manager (0401), Planning and Project Manager (0801), Physical Scientist (1301), Economist (0110), Community Planner (0020)
- (9) Galveston District, Regional Economist, GS-0110-9/11/12
- (10) Jacksonville District, YF-2/YC-02: Supervisory Community Planner (0020), Supervisory Economist (0110), Supervisory Biologist (0401), Supervisory Ecologist (0408), Supervisory Landscape Architect (0807), Supervisory Architect (0808), Supervisory Civil Engineer (0810), Supervisory Environmental Engineer (0819), Supervisory Gen Physical Scientist (1301)
- (11) Omaha District, YD-2: Community Planner (0020), Economist (0110), Archaeologist (0193), General Biological Science (0401), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819)
- (12) Portland District, YD-2: General Biological Scientist (0401), Fishery Biologist (0482), Wildlife Biologist (0486), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer/Structural Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Physical Scientist (1301), Chemist(1320)
- (13) Little Rock District, Archeologist, YA-0193-2/02
- (14) Jacksonville District, Archeologist, YA-0193-2

(1) Vacancy Announcement Number: NCFL08733758

Opening Date: May 15, 2008 Closing Date: June 14, 2008

Position: YA-2/3-YD-2/3: COMMUNITY PLANNER (0020), SOCIAL/POLITICAL SCIENTIST (0101), ECONOMIST (0110), GEOGRAPHER (0150), SOCIOLOGIST (0184), ENVIRONMENTAL PLANNER (0401), ECOLOGIST (0408), FORESTER (0460), ARCHITECT (0808), CIVIL ENGINEER (0810), ENVIRONMENTAL ENGINEER (0819), PHYSICAL SCIENTIST(1301)

Salary: \$47,639 - \$156,450 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Corps of Engineers; Institute for Water Resources; National Capital Region - Group R; Alexandria, VA 22315-3868

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

Duties: Responsible for handling policy analysis/planning/research/study assignments for complex water resource utilization programs, involving one or more major regions or requiring international coordination; perform special studies with exceptionally complex /difficult plan formulation problems pertaining to all phases of long-range water resource utilization planning; and developing new or improving existing methods techniques/concepts of projecting/analyzing long-range water resource development needs & impacts. Plan best methods/procedures for accomplishing assigned studies or projects. Assist in planning training activities pertaining to water resources utilization involving, on a Corps-wide basis, interdisciplinary professional personnel involved in planning and programming water resource development. Coordinate assigned portion of the IWR research program and program analysis activities with HQ, field offices and external organizations such as universities or other Federal, State and local agencies.

About the Position: ***This position will be filled at either the YA/YD-02 or -03 level. The full performance pay band is YA/YD-03.***

Serve as a subject matter specialist in the flood risk management programs, policies and authorities of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) as well as counterpart programs, policies and authorities of other Federal, state and local agencies engaged in flood risk management as they interrelate with USACE programs and policies. Responsible for using Subject Matter Experts (SMEs) to assist the Director of a USACE led national program, the National Flood Risk Management Program (NFRMP), through which USACE integrates and synchronizes USACE flood risk management programs and activities, both internally and with counterpart activities of the Dept of Homeland Security, Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA), other Fed agencies, state organizations and regional/local agencies to improve capabilities to address the nation's flood risk management needs. Also responsible for conducting policy analysis, planning, research, and studies for complex flood risk management issue.

(2) Vacancy Announcement Number: SCGU08732421A

Opening Date: May 14, 2008 **Closing Date: June 12, 2008**

Position: YC-2: Supervisory Community Planner (0020), Supervisory Social Scientist (0101), Supervisory Economist (0110)

Salary: \$77,670 - \$100,970 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engr Div, Mobile, Plan & Envir Div, Plan Formulation Br, Economics Analysis Team, **Mobile, AL**

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 01

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>

Duties: As Chief, Economic Analysis Section in the Planning and Environmental Division, has responsibility for supervising eight or more employees consisting of economists, and related disciplines, technicians, and clerks in furnishing professional support in connection with the collection, compilation, interpretation, and analysis of economic phenomena related to planning activities. Supervises the continuing socio-economic analyses required for General Reevaluation Reports; budgeting submissions; feasibility reports; and other reports. Plans, directs, coordinates, supervises, reviews and carries out benefit evaluations, ability to pay analyses, regional impact assessments, risk and uncertainty analyses, sensitivity analyses, and socio-economic studies of existing and proposed civil works projects. Prepare analytical reports of findings, including interpretations and conclusions and recommendations. Conducts flood damage and traffic surveys for justification of flood control and navigation projects.

(3) Vacancy Announcement Number: NCFL08782688

Opening Date: May 22, 2008 **Closing Date: June 18, 2008**

Position: YD-3/YA-3: General Biological Scientist (0401), Civil Engineer (0810), Community Planner (0020), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110)

Salary: \$93,107 - \$156,450 Annual

Place of Work: **HQ US Army Corps of Engineers**; Directorate of Civil Works; Planning Community of Practice; Washington DC

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 02

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.



Duties: Serves as a senior technical expert on policy, plan formulation, economic, environmental, social issues, general water resources plan formulation, and evaluation. Develops and/or provides direction and input for national policies and planning guidance, research and development programs, and training/development. Provides advice and guidance on project specific policy and plan formulation and evaluation issues. Develops and monitors the implementation of water resources policy for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works (CW) Program. Formulates and provides technical input for policy and management directions to the Corps CW Research and Development program. Serves as lead and/or planning program monitor for assigned research programs. Evaluates planning and related CW programs to identify training needs to address policy and planning compliance and technical issues. Participates in the delivery of training courses under the Planning Excellence Program. May serve as proponent for PROSPECT course(s) related to planning and policy related courses.

About the Position: This position is classified as interdisciplinary. Each of the following disciplines are appropriate, depending on the qualifications of the incumbent: General Biological Scientist YD-401; Civil Engineer YD-0810; Community Planner YA-0020; Social Scientist YA-0101; Economist YA-0110

(4) Vacancy Announcement Number: SWGJ08710304

Opening Date: May 27, 2008 **Closing Date: June 13, 2008**

Position: GS-9/11/12: Archaeologist (0193), Community Planner (0020), Ecologist (0408), Fisheries Biologist (0482), Forester (0460), General Biological Scientist (0401), Geographer (0150), Landscape Architect (0807), Social Scientist (0101)
Salary: \$49,012 - \$92,401 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer District, **Chicago**, Plans, Programs and Project Mgt Div, Planning Branch, Environmental Formulation and Analysis Section

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

Duties: Serves as staff specialist in the discipline of archaeology, cultural resources, and allied areas of expertise. Functions in multiple capacities: As archaeologist responsible for specific analyses and investigations, as environmental study/project coordinator responsible for the management and coordination of assigned studies and/or projects, and as environmental study/project manager responsible for overseeing the conduct of a group of studies/projects. Environmental work includes the preparation of various environmental documents to meet the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA). This position is interdisciplinary in nature, and involves a working knowledge of other environmental disciplines, as well as knowledge of the planning process and procedures.

(5) Vacancy Announcement Number: WTKC08727262

Opening Date: May 22, 2008 **Closing Date: June 19, 2008**

Position: GS-13:Project Manager (0101), Project Manager (0401), Project Manager (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Physical Scientist (1301)

Salary: \$90,949 - \$118,239 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer Dist., **San Francisco**, Engineering & Technical Services Div., Planning Branch, Plan Formulation Section, San Francisco, CA

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

Duties: Serves as the District's Flood Risk Management Program Manager and a Senior Project Planner for water resources projects of high dollar value, of national priority, of environmental sensitivity, etc. Projects may include flood risk management, floodplain management services, dams, water diversion structures, bridges, flood walls, levees, river control structures, flood plains, dredging, environmental restoration and other facilities, etc. Directs and coordinates the activities of a range of technical specialists (economists, engineers, cultural resources specialists, environmentalists). Assures the efficient, effective, and timely accomplishment and coordination of the planning, design and construction phases of the projects. Prepares, presents and testifies before state and local governments, contractors, other agencies, etc. Evaluates the status of projects against established milestones and objectives by analyzing information. Implements overall program and project guidance and policy.

(6) Vacancy Announcement Number: SCGK08768293-1

Opening Date: June 05, 2008 **Closing Date: June 25, 2008**

Position: YA-2: Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110)

Salary: \$77,670 - \$89,217 Annual

Place of Work: USACE, **Savannah District**, Programs and Project Mgmt Div, Civil Works Programs and Project Mgmt Br, Civil Works and Project Mgt Team, Savannah GA
Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time
Number of Vacancy: 1

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

Duties: You will serve as a Senior Project Manager and will provide senior project management expertise for Corps of Engineers Civil Works water resources projects of high dollar value, of national priority, of environmental sensitivity, of extraordinary urgency, or having similar requirements. Projects may include dams, water diversion structures, bridges, flood walls, levees, river control structures, hydropower facilities, dredging, environmental restoration and other facilities, or a combination thereof. This requires applying a broad spectrum of water resources, scientific, and Corps of Engineers policy and project management knowledge to achieve scheduling, funding and program goals, and to ensure use of optimum approaches which meet project objectives. Assure the efficient, effective, and timely accomplishment and coordination of the planning, design and construction phases.

Work is accomplished based on a thorough knowledge of Corps of Engineers Civil Works water resources program; this includes interpreting and applying the dynamic and substantive policy relating to Corps of Engineers Civil Works program, assigned projects, approving operational deviations, applying contracting procedures, and providing guidance or direction to project managers. Plans, programs and oversees cost and schedule execution of the planning, design, and construction of Civil Works water resources projects. Reviews and approves funding and manpower estimates.

(7) Vacancy Announcement Number: SWHB08720134

Opening Date: June 05, 2008 **Closing Date: July 05, 2008**

Position: YA-2/YD-2: Community Planner (0020), Water Resources Planner (0101), Regional Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), Ecologist (0408), Fishery Biologist (0482), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315)

Salary: \$46,791 - \$105,936 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer District, **Fort Worth**, Planning, Environmental & Reg Division, Planning Br, Fort Worth, TX
DUTY STATION: Fort Worth, TX

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 01

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

Duties: You will serve as an interdisciplinary study manager, independently planning, directing, and coordinating a number of multipurpose, comprehensive, regional/statewide water resource projects such as flood damage reduction, ecosystem restoration, water supply, recreation and associated water purposes. Participate in the development of study scopes of work, budgets, and schedules, monitors progress, and ensures studies completed as planned. Prepare project management plans, reconnaissance reports, and feasibility reports. Use automated information systems including financial management and network analysis.

(8) Vacancy Announcement Number: WTHG08700768

Opening Date: May 15, 2008 **Closing Date: June 16, 2008**

Position: GS-13: Planning and Project Manager (0401), Planning and Project Manager (0801), Physical Scientist (1301), Economist (0110), Community Planner (0020)

Salary: \$77,760 - \$100,976 Annual

Place of Work: U.S. Army Engineering District, **Walla Walla**, Planning, Programs and Project Mgmt Division, Planning Br, Walla Walla, Washington

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

Duties: Serve as Project Manager (PM), responsible for the overall management, control, coordination, and execution of assigned projects. Negotiates and integrates all district functions (i.e., planning, design, cost engineering, construction, real

estate, contracting, etc.), sponsor/customer needs and other agencies' commitments, in support of assigned project into a comprehensive management plan. Participate in district programming decisions affecting long and short range courses of action for assigned projects. Controls and manages assigned project budgets and schedules ensuring that district commitments to the sponsor/customer are met; and serve as the point of contact for sponsor/customers and other external agencies for assigned projects. Develops and directs plans that encompass multiple sponsors, jurisdictions, authorities, project purposes and/or competing interests and performs evaluation of alternatives and formulation of optimum plan of development based on study objectives.

(9) Vacancy Announcement Number: SWHB08688160

Opening Date: May 30, 2008 **Closing Date: June 13, 2008**

Position: Regional Economist, GS-0110-9/11/12

Salary: \$50,695 - \$95,574 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer District, **Galveston**, Planning and Environmental Br., Planning Section, Galveston, TX

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

Duties: This is a developmental position. The target level for this training assignment is GS-12. Conduct economic analyses of Civil Works projects. Develop or direct the development of economic analysis for use in general investigations, post authorization in planning studies, and pre-construction engineering studies dealing with water resource plans and projects. Prepares appropriate portions of survey reports, General Design Memoranda, Environmental Impact Statements and other planning and engineering products. Coordinates with hydrologic engineer to insure floodplain, discharges, stage, and probability data are compatible with the economic requirements. Arranges and conducts interviews with local sponsors, representatives of industries, farmers, and homeowners for the purpose of acquiring basic data for economic impact analyses.

(10) Vacancy Announcement Number: SCGV08750486

Opening Date: June 04, 2008 **Closing Date: June 18, 2008**

Position: YF-2/YC-02: Supervisory Community Planner (0020), Supervisory Economist (0110), Supervisory Biologist (0401), Supervisory Ecologist (0408), Supervisory Landscape Architect (0807), Supervisory Architect (0808), Supervisory Civil Engineer (0810), Supervisory Environmental Engineer (0819), Supervisory Gen Physical Scientist (1301)

Salary: \$57,709 - \$106,023 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer Dist, **Jacksonville**, Planning Div, Plan Formulation Br, Coastal/Navigation Section

DUTY LOCATION: Jacksonville, Fl

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

Duties: Develops strategies to use new technology to enhance productivity and quality of business decisions and to assess the impact of these technological changes within the organization. Performs personnel management functions to guide, direct, and evaluate the technical efforts and work products produced by subordinates. Identifies and utilizes cost-effective approaches for controlling expenses and reducing costs. Establishes effective internal controls to ensure prevention of fraud, waste, and abuse, and foster accountability within the workforce. Through subordinate staff, conducts district-wide advance planning and preparation of planning studies for complex civil works projects for deep draft, shallow draft, and inland navigation improvements; dredged material management area improvements; regional sediment management investigations; coastal hurricane & storm damage reduction projects; impacts of navigation projects on adjacent shores; ecosystem restoration; & continuing authorities improvements.

(11) Vacancy Announcement Number: WTHI08676183

Opening Date: June 06, 2008 **Closing Date: June 20, 2008**

Position: YD-2: Community Planner (0020), Economist (0110), Archaeologist (0193), General Biological Science (0401), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819)

Salary: \$44,600 - \$100,975 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer District, **Omaha**, Plng, Programs & Project Mgmt Div, Planning Br, Plan Formulations Sect. DUTY STATION: Omaha, NE

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

Duties: Serve as Lead Plan Formulator, coordinating, organizing and directing multidisciplinary teams through development and optimization of major Civil Works water resource planning studies for ecosystem restoration and flood risk management, navigation, water supply, etc., in accordance with current laws, policy, and guidance. Serves as Leader and Expert on teams on the Corps planning processes, and leads preparation of reports for the Administration and Congress with recommendations on management and development of rivers, harbors, waterways, etc., and in implementation of structural and nonstructural solutions to major water resource problems. Serve as Project Manager for managing/directing investigation, planning, scoping, development, design and construction of major projects. Develops, directs, and manages project budgets, schedules, scope, quality, etc. and serves as primary point of contact for assigned projects with sponsors, stakeholders, the public, agencies, etc.

(12) Vacancy Announcement Number: WTHER08724326

Opening Date: June 04, 2008 **Closing Date: July 03, 2008**

Position: YD-2: General Biological Scientist (0401), Fishery Biologist (0482), Wildlife Biologist (0486), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer/Structural Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Physical Scientist (1301), Chemist(1320)

Salary: \$39,407 - \$89,217 Annual

Place of Work: U.S. Army Engineer District, Planning, Programs, and Project Mgmt Div, Planning, Branch, Planning Managers, Duty Station: **Portland, OR**

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 2

Duties: Project Manager, responsible for the overall management, control, coordination and execution of assigned projects. As the project team leader, implements corporate decisions, guidance, laws, regulations, and policy in the development of the project and intermediate products in support of the project. Establishes project scope and criteria, schedules and milestones, budgets, dependencies and responsibilities of the participating parties. Insures that assumptions and statement of risks, contingencies, and performance measurement criteria are included in the management plan. Coordinates planning, design, cost engineering, construction, and environmental restoration for major Civil Works and Support for Others projects. Manages and controls project schedule milestones and budgets planning through construction and initial operations. Allocates project funds to District elements, consistent with progress attained, measures and monitors performance to assure commitments are maintained.

(13) Vacancy Announcement Number: SWHB08636926

Opening Date: May 16, 2008 **Closing Date: June 16, 2008**

Position: Archeologist, YA-0193-2/02

Salary: \$46,634 - \$105,579 Annual

Place of Work: U.S. Army Engineer District, **Little Rock**, Planning & Environmental Office, Duty Location: Little Rock Arkansas

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 01

Duties: Serves as District expert and authoritative source of information in matters pertaining to archeology, anthropology, history and cultural resource management in support of civil works, military and other proposed actions. Develops preservation and mitigation plans and alternatives in compliance with Federal Directives and cost effective factors. Reviews and/or prepares estimates of time and costs required to develop, assess and coordinate cultural resources aspects of planning alternatives and project plan formulation. Reviews and/or prepares cultural resource management programs, at planned or existing actions, projects or facilities and military support missions. Negotiates, reviews, and/or prepares compliance documents such as historic and/or cultural resource preservation/management plans, Memoranda of Agreement, Memoranda of Understanding, Preliminary Case Reports, and coordination letters. Make recommendations to the District Engineer on

problems and issues relative.

(14) Vacancy Announcement Number: SCGV08715435

Opening Date: June 05, 2008 **Closing Date: July 07, 2008**

Position: Archeologist, YA-0193-2

Salary: \$39,795 - \$89,217 Annual

Place of Work: US Army Engineer Dist, **Jacksonville**, Planning Div, Environmental Br., Coastal Section, DUTY

LOCATION: Jacksonville, FL

Position Status: This is a Permanent position. -- Full Time

Number of Vacancy: 1

NSPS Position: This position is covered by the National Security Personnel System. For more information on NSPS, please visit the website at <http://www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps/index.html>.

Duties: You will serve as the primary expertise in submerged cultural resources (includes prehistoric & historic sites, shipwrecks, structures or objects) relative to the assessment of the significance of cultural resources & impacts of Civil Works, Military & Regulatory projects on cultural resources in diverse geographical areas including Florida, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. Directs, coordinates, and performs work to identify sites by type, age, composition, source of material, and use. Prepares National Register documentation for eligible historic properties, stipulations of memoranda of agreement with the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, cultural resources portions of environmental assessments, draft & final environmental impact statements for Civil Works, Military or Permit projects. For contractual services, directs, coordinates and prepares time and cost estimates for cultural resources contracts, & compiles information & standards for requests for proposals.

WORKSHOPS



ANNOUNCEMENT



A Workshop on

Water Resource Management: A System-Wide Approach to Integrating Watersheds and Reservoir Systems

The workshop will cover a wide variety of topics including: watersheds and reservoirs from a systems perspective, lakes and reservoirs as system integrators, the assessment of watershed, reservoir, and stream and tailwater processes, watershed and in-reservoir enhancement techniques, and TMDLs and CE interactions. Participants will acquire classroom knowledge, the workshop manual, and computer codes to aid assessment and design. The workshop will be 3 days long. There is no registration fee.

Topics Addressed:

Watershed Processes, Material Loading, and TMDL tools
Water Quality Processes and Assessment Techniques
Water Quality Management Techniques for Reservoirs

Who should attend:

Corps of Engineers Planners, Engineers, Hydrologists, Project Personnel
Local and Regional EPA Officials
Federal and State Soil Conservation Agencies
State Water Pollution Control Agencies
State and Federal Fish and Wildlife Agencies
Hydropower Producers and Power Administrators
Local Lake Associations and Lake and Reservoir Managers
Municipal Water Associations

Workshop Date:

22-24 July 2008, Holiday Inn Downtown Convention Center,
Portland, OR

The workshop is sponsored by the Engineer Research and Development Center's (ERDC) Water Operation Technical Support (WOTS) Program and was developed under a grant from the US Environmental Protection Agency Office of Water - Nonpoint Source Pollution Program. The Environmental Laboratory and the Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory of the ERDC Waterways Experiment Station will conduct the workshop with an interdisciplinary team of engineers and scientists, including Dr. Steve Ashby, Dr. John Hains, Mr. Mike Schneider, Dr. Dave Soballe, and Dr. Steve Wilhelms.

To register for the workshop or for additional information, contact Ms. Laurin Yates at 601-634-3792, Fax 601-634-3424, or e-mail laurin.i.yates@usace.army.mil. When registering, please provide your name, organization, mailing address, telephone number, fax number, and e-mail address. Space is limited and registration is on a first come, first served basis.

TRAINING COURSES

Upcoming PROSPECT training courses of interest to the members of the Planning CoP include:

RISK ANALYSIS—WRP&M Control Number 349

July 28-August 1, 2008

Davis, CA

This course introduces concepts and tools of risk analysis into Corps of Engineers planning studies and extends these concepts to studies for structural rehabilitation and for management and operations of existing projects. Risk analysis is a decision-making framework that explicitly evaluates the level of risk if no action is taken and recognizes the monetary and non-monetary costs and benefits of reducing risks when making decisions. Risk analysis also deals with uncertainties in models, parameters, and assumptions and acknowledges them in decision making. Risk analysis comprises three tasks: risk assessment, risk management, and risk communication. Many risk assessment techniques are already in use by Corps analysts, but are not applied in a systematic and uniform manner. New methods and analytical models have been developed, along with a body of information on risk perception and communication that will also be transferred to practice.

Risk analysis is an integral component of Corps of Engineers decision making in all business lines. It affects all technical analysis throughout each step of the planning process. For example, risk perception and communication is an important element of the scoping process. Environmental analysis, hydrologic analysis, and benefit-cost analysis all require aspects of risk analysis. In addition, risk concepts and risk informed decision making are being extended to aid decisions in all phases of project life. Major aspects of risk analysis included in this course are (a) definitions and concepts, (b) probability and statistics; (c) models for risk analysis; (d) non-quantitative methods; (e) event trees and decision trees; (f) Monte Carlo simulation; (g) using scenarios; (h) benefit-cost uncertainty; (i) risk informed planning; and (j) case studies from various applications to civil works. The course includes extensive use of computer exercises as aids to learning including hands-on risk modeling and assessment tools.

ECOSYSTEM PLANNING and MANAGEMENT ISSUES Control Number: 264

July 14—18, 2008

Lacrosse, WI

This course provides a specialized base of knowledge for effectively dealing with major current ecological resource issues and integrating them into an ecosystem setting. All aspects of land and water resource management are increasingly impacted by evolving technical and political issues. Many issues are applicable to entire regions or the nation, and this course provides a forum for discussing current topics and the potential alternatives for resolving problems. Focus is on the technical underpinnings of issues, recognizing that technical, policy, and procedural topics are intertwined.

Current ecological issues will be presented through a series of seminars, lectures, exercises, and case studies. Issues on the agenda include (a) what is ecosystem restoration and is it ALL good? (b) is the Corps the right agency to do ecosystem restoration? (c) how can we communicate better to do it better? (d) non-monetary and monetary benefit evaluations and justifications, (e) intra-agency and inter-agency goals relative to resources and their conflicts, (f) threatened and endangered species versus diversity, (g) cumulative effects and downstream effects from upstream actions, and (h) evolving demands on public lands.

Additional issues will be identified and selected through group forums. Focus is on the relationship of issues to actions and responsibilities required of Corps districts and military installations. Instructors will provide background information on selected topics, and case studies will be used to illustrate planning and management issues in the community, at projects, and at military installations. Students will interact through group forums to discuss and search for alternative resolutions to issues affecting application of ecosystem management concepts in their work. As an illustration of class material covered for issue (b) above, students discuss the Corps and the role of all its elements, ecosystem structure and function at the land and water interface, the Corps' role in introducing and managing disturbance, and what can be expected technically from other agencies with similar programs.

Nonstructural Measures for Flood Risk Control Number: 345

March 30 — April 3, 2009

Davis, CA

This course will provide participants with the overall ability to realize opportunities with nonstructural measures, to formulate nonstructural measures, and to implement nonstructural measures.

This course will touch on the Corps flood risk management mission and the relationship of these missions to the Actions for Change, the Civil Works Strategic Plan, the Environmental Operating Principles, and watershed/systems planning, in order for the participant to fully understand the significant role of nonstructural measures. This course will make the student very familiar with the basic nonstructural measures such as elevation, dry flood proofing, wet flood proofing, small berms, levees and walls, relocation, acquisition, and flood warning. The importance and relevance of the National Flood Insurance Program to flood risk management will be explained. Laws, policies, statutes, executive orders, etc., will be covered that relate directly to nonstructural measure formulation and implementation. The host of opportunities that exist with implementing nonstructural measures will be explored in terms of accomplishing long term flood risk management.

The student will be shown how to conduct nonstructural benefit analysis and how to formulate nonstructural alternatives. A field trip will be included to see nonstructural measures that have been implemented. The course offers opportunities to professional staff in such areas as flood plain management, hydraulics and hydrology, and civil works planning to become knowledgeable in this area. Its focus is on realizing the need for, and the opportunities with, nonstructural measures as well as the methodologies and procedures for performing reconnaissance and feasibility phase investigations for plan formulation, evaluation and implementation of nonstructural measures.

To attend these courses or to receive additional information about other PROSPECT training courses, please contact the USACE Learning Center at <http://pdsc.usace.army.mil>.

U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution “Advanced Multi-Party Negotiation of Environmental Disputes” Course, July 30-August 1, 2008 in Washington, D.C.

Effective multi-party negotiations and conflict management require the ability to enter into, build, and foster collaborative relationships among people involved in a dispute; a process that takes time to cultivate and maintain

Building relationships is essential to building trust. Trust is essential to successful group efforts and underlies effective joint implementation of agreements.

People need confidence and skill to negotiate in the complex context of multiple parties with diverse needs and interests. By developing a practical set of skills and tools, negotiators will work more effectively in interagency settings, with stakeholders and the public at large.

Environmental, public lands and natural resources issues involve multiple interests and parties, as well as complex issues. This highly interactive workshop helps new and experienced resource managers engaged in environmental decision-making become more effective in environmental conflict negotiation, prevention and management.

For more information, go to <http://training.ecr.gov>

CONFERENCES

The following is a list of conferences, workshops, and symposia that may be of interest to members of the Planning Community of Practice, as well as other practitioners in field of water resources. Those conferences, workshops and symposia in which the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has been involved in the organization, sponsorship, or where members of the Corps have been identified as speakers or presenters, are identified in *italics*.

Climate Information for Managing Risks Partnerships and Solutions for Agriculture and Natural Resources

June 10-13, 2008

St. Pete Beach, FL

Additional information: <http://www.conference.ifas.ufl.edu/CIMR>

1st International Symposium on Life-Cycle Civil Engineering

June 10 – 14, 2008

Varenna, Lake Como, Italy

Additional information: <http://www.ialcce08.org/>

8th Annual American Ecological Engineering Society Meeting “Beyond Wetlands: Engineering the Landscape”

June 11 – 14, 2008

Blacksburg, VA

Additional information: <http://www.cpe.vt.edu/aees/schedule.html>

18th World Conference on Disaster Management

June 15-18, 2008

Toronto, CA

Additional information: <http://www.wcdm.org>

National Integrated Drought Information System (NIDIS) Workshop on Status of Drought Early Warning Systems in the U.S

June 17-19, 2008

Kansas City, MO

Additional information: <http://drought.gov>

33rd Annual TRB Summer Ports, Waterways, Freight, and International Trade Conference

June 18-20, 2008

Baltimore, MD

Additional information: <http://trb.org/conferences/2008/PW/PortsPgrm.pdf>

Florida Catastrophic Storm Risk Management Center Symposium

June 19, 2008

Orlando, FL

Additional information: <http://www.stormrisk.org/pdfs/June19CenterSymposiumAgendaDraft.pdf>

20th Salt Water Intrusion Meeting

June 23-27, 2008

Naples, FL

Additional information: <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/SWIM/>

Riparian Ecosystems and Buffers: Working at the Water’s Edge

June 30 – July 2, 2008

Virginia Beach, VA

Additional information: http://www.awra.org/meetings/Virginia_Beach2008/

2008 Universities Council on Water Resources (UCOWR)/National Institutes for Water Resources (NIWR) Annual Conference “International Water Resources: Challenges for the 21st Century”

July 22-24, 2008

Durham, NC

Additional information: <http://www.ucowr.siu.edu>

2008 ESRI International Users Conference

August 4-8, 2008

San Diego, CA

Additional information: <http://www.esri.com/events/uc/index.html>

Floodplain Management Association Annual Conference “Floodplain Sustainability: Integrating Flood Risk, Land Use and Environmental Stewardship”

September 2-5, 2008 San Diego, CA
Additional information: <http://www.floodplain.org/conference.php>

Wetlands 2008 “Wetlands and Global Climate Change”

September 16-18, 2008 Portland, OR
Additional information: <http://www.aswm.org/calendar/wetlands2008/index.htm>

4th National Conference on Coastal and Estuarine Habitat Restoration

October 11-15, 2008 Providence, RI
Additional information: <http://www.estuaries.org/?id=138>

Gulf Coast Hurricane Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rebuilding

November 11 – 14, 2008 Mobile, AL
Additional information: <http://www.pianc.us>

28th International Symposium of the North American Lake Management Society “Lake Management in a Changing Environment”

November 11-14, 2008 Alberta, Canada
Additional information: <http://www.nalms.org/conferences/2008LakeLouise/Default.aspx>

National Flood Proofing Conference IV

November 16-20, 2008 New Orleans, LA
Additional information: <http://www.floods.org/Conferences,%20Calendar/nfpc4.asp>

American Water Resources Association “2008 Annual Water Resources Conference”

November 17-20, 2008 New Orleans, LA
Additional information: <http://www.awra.org/meetings/NewOrleans2008/index.html>

International Conference on Water Scarcity, Global Changes, and Groundwater Management Responses

December 1-6, 2008 Irvine, CA
Additional information: <http://www.uwrc.uci.edu/documents/SCARCE-WATER-BROCHURE-Final.pdf>

5th World Water Forum “Bridging Divides for Water”

March 16-22, 2009 Istanbul, Turkey
Additional information: <http://www.worldwaterforum5.org>

National Military Fish and Wildlife Association Annual Meeting

March 17-21, 2009 Washington, DC
Additional information: <http://www.nmfwa.org/future.cfm>

PUBLICATIONS

The following is a list of recently published reports, studies, or articles prepared by the Corps of Engineers, other Federal agencies, or other research organizations:

Rebuilding America

Rebuilding America Special Report: How to Fix U.S. Infrastructure, Popular Mechanics magazine, May 2008. Available at: <http://www.popularmechanics.com/technology/transportation/4258053.html?series=53>

Engineer Research and Development Center Publications

Estimation of Combined Wave and Storm Surge Overtopping at Earthen Levees, by Steven A. Hughes, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Engineering Technical Note ERDC/CHL CHETN-III-78, May 2008, Available at: <http://chl.erd.c.usace.army.mil/library/publications/chetn/pdf/chetn-iii-78.pdf>

Morphologic Examination of the Stability of Pass Cavallo, Texas, by Nicholas C. Kraus and Brian K. Batten, U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Technical Report ERDC/CHL TR-08-6, May 2008, Available at: <http://cirp.wes.army.mil/cirp/pubs/pdf/CHL-TR-08-6.pdf>

Concept Design for Emergency Closure System for Inland Navigation Structures, by John E. Hite, Jr., U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Engineering Technical Note ERDC/CHL CHETN-IV-70, May 2008, Available at: <http://chl.erd.c.usace.army.mil/library/publications/chetn/pdf/chetn-iv-70.pdf>

Wave Modeling for Jetty Rehabilitation at the Mouth of the Columbia River, Washington/Oregon, USA, by Zeki Demirbilek, Lihwa Lin, and Okey G. Nwogu, U.S. Army Engineer and Development Center, Coastal and Hydraulics Laboratory, Technical Report ERDC/CHL TR-08-3, March 2008, Available at: http://libweb.erd.c.usace.army.mil/uhtbin/cgiirsi/nbPeeV59XM/ERDC_VBG/117440012/523/1065

Subject: Global Climate Change

Scientific Assessment of the Effects of Global Change on the United States, A Report of the Committee on Environment and Natural Resources. National Science and Technology Council, May 2008, Available at: <http://www.climate-science.gov/Library/scientific-assessment/Scientific-AssessmentFINAL.pdf>

Hydrologic Droughts in Kansas – Are They Becoming Worse? by James E. Puman, Charles A. Perry and David M. Wolock, U.S. Department of the Interior, U.S. Geological Survey, Fact Sheet 2008-3034, April 2008, Available at: <http://pubs.usgs.gov/fs/2008/3034/pdf/fs2008-3034.pdf>

Climate Change and Security: Challenges for German Development Cooperation, Prepared on behalf of the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. Available at: <http://www.gtz.de/de/dokumente/en-climate-security.pdf>

Subject: Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration Program

First Report from the NRC Committee on the Review of the Louisiana Coastal Protection and Restoration (LACPR) Program, National Research Council, 2008, Available at: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12215

Subject: Natural Disasters

Managing Large-Scale Risks in a New Era of Catastrophes: Insuring, Mitigating and Financing Recovery from Natural Disasters in the United States. Wharton Risk Management and Decision Processes Center in Conjunction with Georgia State University and the Insurance Information Institute, April 2008, Available at:
http://opim.wharton.upenn.edu/risk/library/Wharton_LargeScaleRisks_FullReport_2008.pdf

Subject: Economic Evaluation of Natural Resources

The Economic and Market Value of Coasts and Estuaries: What's At Stake?, Edited by Linwood Pendleton, Available at:
<http://www.estuaries.org/assets/documents/FINAL%20ECON%20WITH%20COVER%20PDF%205-20-2008.pdf>

Subject: Asset Management

GASB 34 – Methods for Condition Assessment and Preservation, National Cooperative Highway Research Program Report 608, Transportation Research Board of the National Academies, 2008, Available at:
http://trb.org/news/blurb_browse.asp?id=2

Asset Management Overview, Prepared by the U.S. Department of Transportation, Federal Highway Administration, Office of Asset Management, December 2007, Available at: http://www.fhwa.dot.gov/asset/if08008/assetmgmt_overview.pdf

HOW TO SUBMIT AN ARTICLE TO *PLANNING AHEAD*

Planning Ahead is designed to foster communication amongst the members of the Planning community of practice within the Corps, with those other members of the Corps family with which planners interact on a daily basis, and with members of the general public outside of the Corps. It is our goal that future editions of the newsletter will include information and perspectives of those members of the planning community on the front lines of the Corps' planning efforts, the District and Division offices. We hope that this newsletter becomes a forum to share your experiences to help the entire planning community learn from one another. We welcome your thoughts, comments, questions, suggestions, success stories, and lessons learned, so that we can share them with the broader community. Submissions should be moderate in length (4-5 paragraphs), except in cases where the article is compelling and circumstances warrant a lengthier treatment of the subject. The article should be prepared as a MS Word document. Pictures accompanying submitted articles are welcome. Pictures must be in JPEG format. Please send articles to Mr. Kenneth E. Lichtman, at Kenneth.e.lichtman@usace.army.mil

The deadline for material to be published in the next issue of *Planning Ahead* is
Wednesday, June 25, 2008

Planning Ahead is an unofficial publication authorized under AR 25-30. It is published by the Planning Community of Practice, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 441 G Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20314-1000

HOW TO SUBSCRIBE TO *PLANNING AHEAD*

To subscribe to our distribution list, send an e-mail message to majordomo@lst.usace.army.mil with no subject line and only a single line of text in the message body. That single line of text should be: "Subscribe ls-planningahead"

(Note: In the email address, the character following the @ sign is a lowercase "L". This is also true for the single line of text. The character immediately following "subscribe" is also a lowercase "L". If these are not typed correctly, you will receive an error message.)

To obtain a "help" file, send only the word "help" in the text of the message (nothing in the subject line) and address it to majordomo@usace.army.mil.

To read past issues of the *Planning Ahead* newsletter, please visit
http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecw-cp/news/pa_newsletter/pa_news.html