

# PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy  
Community



US Army Corps  
of Engineers

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## WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

This month's issue of *Planning Ahead* begins with an article by Mr. John Peukert of the St. Louis District and a member of the Planning Associates Class of 2008, on the recently concluded Planning Community of Practice Conference 2008 held in San Antonio. Summaries of the key points made during the Plenary sessions of the Conference are available to Corps employees at the Corps Sharepoint site: <https://kme.usace.army.mil/CoPs/CivilWorksPlanning-Policy/2008PCoPConf/Plenary%20Session%20Notes/Forms/AllItems.aspx>.

Dr. JoAnne Castagna of the New York District writes about the success of the Precision Feed Management Program (one of several programs funded under the Corps New York City Watershed Environmental Assistance Program) in working with dairy farmers in an area north of New York City, to reduce the amount of pollution entering the watersheds that supply water to

New York City, while simultaneously improving the quality of the output and profitability of farming operations.

Other items of interest to readers of *Planning Ahead* include a listing of employment opportunities around the Corps, announcements of conferences, training courses, and workshops and a listing of recent publications that may be of interest to Corps planners as well as other water resources professionals.

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

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## FEATURED ARTICLES

### The PA Class of 2008 Enjoys the Planning Community of Practice (PCoP) Conference in San Antonio, Texas

By John Peukert, St. Louis District

The 2008 Planning Associates had the opportunity to attend the PCoP Conference in San Antonio, Texas. The theme for this year's conference was "Planners Leading Strategically: Developing Sound Water Resources Solutions."

The purpose of the conference was to provide a forum to facilitate the exchange of ideas, knowledge and the strategic direction relating to planning in all USACE civil works business lines. The objectives of the conference focused on seven themes: strategic goals, policy issues, technology transfer, lessons learned, best practices, professional development, and sub-CoP activities. The objectives were addressed through a variety of venues comprised of a field trip, workshops, plenary sessions, concurrent sessions, and sub-CoP workshops. The conference provided an excellent opportunity to greatly expand the PA's knowledge of the most innovative planning currently being demonstrated by today's water resources planning experts.

On Monday, May 19<sup>th</sup> conference attendees started arriving from throughout the Corps, although some attendees arrived a day earlier to participate in pre-conference activities including a NEPA collaboration workshop, a collaborative planning workshop, and a field tour of the San Antonio River. Lt. Gen. Robert L. Van Antwerp, Chief of Engineers, hosted a reception Monday evening that was well attended.

There were many highlights to the conference, especially the plenary sessions. Tuesday morning BG Kendall P. Cox, Commander of the Southwestern Division, welcomed all the conference participants and introduced the Lt. Gen. Van Antwerp. The Chief gave an inspirational talk on his vision for the Corps and the important role that the Corps will play in our nation's water resources planning.

Other speakers during the plenary sessions of the conference included Assistant Secretary of the Army (CW) John P. Woodley, Jr., Director of Civil Works Steven L. Stockton, and then Acting Chief of Planning and Policy Theodore A. "Tab" Brown. On Thursday the plenary session included a panel discussion with several

important stakeholders from throughout the United States. The caliber of the distinguished speakers during the plenary sessions demonstrated the Corps leadership's commitment to planning excellence.



**Dr. Kate White of ERDC being mentored by the Chief of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Van Antwerp during a Plenary Session**

The conference included several concurrent sessions focusing on field applications and corporate issues. My only critique with concurrent sessions is that it was often challenging for conference attendees to choose what session to attend due to the extremely interesting and high quality presentations being offered. There were also sub-CoP workshops in Plan Formulation, Economics, Environmental, and Cultural Resources held on Tuesday and Thursday afternoon. One of the highlights of the conference for this author was the Cultural Resources sub-CoP workshop hosted by Paul Rubenstein, Deputy Preservation Officer. This long standing sub-CoP normally schedules meetings in conjunction with the Society for American Archaeology or the Society for Historical Archaeology annual conferences. In 2006 and this year it was decided the Cultural Resources sub-CoP should hold its annual meeting with the greater Corps planning community and this has worked out very well for the cultural resources professionals and planners with interests in and concerns for cultural resources and Tribal relations.

The Planning Conference provided a great opportunity for this year's PA class to assist in the recruitment for the 2009 PA class. The vehicle for this recruitment activity was an exhibit booth set-up in the exhibition room of the conference center. The PAs worked the recruitment booth during the morning networking period and scheduled breaks throughout the conference. With the assistance of Buffalo District's IM branch, the PA booth displayed posters exhibiting PA activities and information. Using PA flying discs as gifts to lure in potential candidates, several interested Corps planners received application packages and were able to visit with the current PA Class on the benefits of the program to themselves, the Corps, and the Nation.



**PA Booth: Mike Dietl of Sacramento District and Bret Walters of the Alaska District stand ready to recruit the 2009 PA Class.**

The 2008 Planning Community of Practice Conference was a valuable and intellectually enriching experience for the PA Class. It provided a conduit for further professional networking and opportunities to learn from experts from throughout the Corps. The PAs had an exceptional opportunity to build relationships that will help them leverage water resources planning expertise throughout their careers. We would like thank all the organizers, speakers, and presenters for their efforts in this most worthwhile conference.

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**The PA Class of 2008 touring the Alamo**

**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)
14. Critical Think Piece Presentations and Awards Ceremony (September 2008)

\* Bolded titles indicate completed courses.



## Army Corps Program: A Cash Cow For Dairy Farmers and the Environment

By JoAnne Castagna, Ed.D., New York District

Caramel vanilla swirl, mint chocolate chip, and vanilla fudge ripple are popular ice cream flavors that many of us are sure to savor this summer. New Yorkers who buy these creamy treats are supporting milk suppliers that are participating in an innovative program in New York that's protecting the State's watersheds from pollution. The watersheds in upstate New York provide fresh water to millions of New York residents and businesses.

The Precision Feed Management Program, funded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, is working with New York dairy farms to implement cow feeding methods that are keeping the state's watersheds free of pollution. The program is also improving the quality of the farm's milk and increasing their profits.



In Delaware County, New York the program is led by the Cornell Cooperative Extension of Delaware County along with a multi-agency team that includes the Corps' New York District, Delaware County, the New York City Watershed Agricultural Council and the Delaware County Soil and Water Conservation District.

The program is showing dairy farms ways they can reduce the amount of phosphorous and nitrogen in their cows' feed. Phosphorous and nitrogen can runoff into the water sources from cow excrement in the farm's soil. So far the program has reduced phosphorous and nitrogen levels in the watersheds on participating farms by over fifty percent. On all dairy farms about two thirds to three quarters of the nutrients from animal feed end up in the farm soil, where over time they can be lost to the environment if not managed properly.

To reduce phosphorous and nitrogen in the cow feed, the program is encouraging dairy farms to create better feed mixes for their dairy cows.

Paul Cerosaletti, Team Leader, Delaware County, PFM Management Team, Delaware County, Cornell Cooperative Extension is pleased that dairy farms, such as Hager Farms, a 1,200 acre farm in Delaware County which has been participating in the program since 2004 and which sells milk throughout the state, are benefiting from the program.

"When we started the program in 2000 we knew it would be a major challenge. We were asking dairy farmers to change the way they feed their cows, which can directly affect their farm's profit engine, milk production" said Cerosaletti. "Feeding cows is a complex process because what they are fed determines the health of the cow and the quality of the milk they produce – it's a delicate area to be trying to change."

Improved milk quality is something that Hager Farms is experiencing with the program. "The program provides our farm a computerized feeding system that gives us accurate information on the amount and type of feed that we put into our mixer and helps us monitor our feed inventories," said Ellen Hager, owner of Hager Farms.

"Delaware County is very rural and one can at times feel isolated. With this program we can come together and exchange ideas and protocols – whether large or small. When one doesn't look beyond your hills, one could easily lose touch with what the world is asking from us, not only as producers, but also as stewards of our land. Our world continues to grow smaller, so we need to be more aware of our neighbors, whether down the road, or in the next state."

Cerosaletti added, "The real strength of the Precision Feed Management Program is that by working with farmers this closely we're achieving quantified benefits for the environment and the farms – it's a win-win situation."



**Dairy cows grazing on a Delaware County dairy farm that's participating in the Precision Feed Management Program. Photo Credit: Paul Cerosaletti, Team Leader, Delaware County, PFM Management Team, Delaware County, Cornell Cooperative Extension.**

The Precision Feed Management Program is one of several programs being funded under the Corps' New York City Watershed Environmental Assistance Program. The New York City Watershed Environmental Assistance Program is an inter-agency effort that assists in the implementation of projects that protect the water quality of New York State's watersheds that provide drinking water to nearly half of New York State, including primarily New York City residents. The program aims to do this without harming

the economy of the communities.

The inter-agency team includes the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District, New York State Department of Environmental Conservation and the New York City Department of Environmental Protection.

The New York City watershed region encompasses approximately 2,000 square miles and includes three watershed systems – The Catskill, Delaware, and Croton Systems. All are located north of New York City in the counties of Delaware, Greene, Schoharie, Ulster, Sullivan, Westchester, Putnam, and Dutchess.

For additional information about the New York City Watershed Environmental Assistance Program, please contact Rifat Salim, Project Manager, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District at [rifat.salim@usace.army.mil](mailto:rifat.salim@usace.army.mil) or 917-790-8215. Additional information can also be obtained by visiting -- <http://www.nan.usace.army.mil/project/newyork/factsh/pdf/watershed.pdf>

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*(Editor's note: A longer version of this article including a more detailed description of the operations of the dairy farming and the economic impacts of the Feed Management Program on those operations is available at:*

*<http://www.countryfolks.com/ME2/Audiences/dirmod.asp?sid=350E94585B37465F8B5F8BA068B734F5&nm=Features&type=Publishing&mod=Publications%3A%3AArticle&mid=8F3A7027421841978F18BE895F87F791&id=5A06C3DD6A614554A6E77F1016E5CFF8&tier=4>*

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## **Gulf Coast Hurricane Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rebuilding Conference, Mobile, Alabama, November 11-14, 2008**

The Gulf Coast Hurricane Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rebuilding Conference is being organized by PIANC USA. The “Call for Presentations” yielded an overwhelming response, with more than seventy abstracts submitted. The conference organizing committee is now working to put together a very strong technical program. Topics for the conference include:

- o Long Term Economic and Environmental Recovery
- o Emergency Preparedness
- o Watershed wide flood hazard master planning
- o Self Sustaining Ports
- o Navigation
- o Regional Sediment Management
- o Ecosystem Resiliency
- o Community Resiliency
- o Beneficial Uses of Dredged Material
- o Flood and Storm Damage Reduction
- o Engineering and Environmental Challenges, and,
- o Technological Advances

PIANC USA would like to invite businesses and organizations to participate in the Conference by becoming a sponsor and exhibitor. Sponsors will help keep our registration costs down, and we are confident that the conference will provide valuable advertising and marketing

opportunities. Sponsors will be recognized in the printed program, will be highlighted at the conference, and will be able to link their web-site from the conference web-site. **If you sign up to sponsor or exhibit by July 25, your company's name and logo will appear in the conference registration brochure which is due to be released in August.**

The four-day conference will include technical sessions, field tour opportunities, industry exhibits, technical workshops, and networking events. We expect more than 200 private sector and governmental participants.

Additional information can be found at the PIANC website, [www.pianc.us](http://www.pianc.us), and will be updated as new information becomes available.

Please contact Kelly Barnes, 703-428-9090 or [kelly.j.barnes@usace.army.mil](mailto:kelly.j.barnes@usace.army.mil), to confirm your participation as a sponsor or exhibitor.



## 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 this month include the following:

- (1) **Savannah District**, YC-2: Supervisory Community Planner (0020), Supervisory Social Scientist (0101), Supervisory Economist (0110);
- (2) **New England District**, GS-11/12: Physical Scientist (1301), Environmental Engineer (0819), Civil Engineer (0810), Biologist (0401), Geologist (1350), Community Planner (0020);
- (3) **Great Lakes and Ohio River Division**, YD-3: General Engineer (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Industrial Engineer (0896), Biologist (0401), Landscape Architect (0807), Physical Scientist (1301), Geologist (1350), Community Planner (0020)
- (4) **Jacksonville District**, YD-2/YA-02: Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315), Fishery Biologist (0486), Wildlife Biologist (0482), Electrical Engineer (0850), Ecologist (0408), Geologist (1350), Chemist (1320), Landscape Architecture (0807), Economist (0110), Archaeologist (0193)
- (5) **Louisville District**, GS-13: General Engineer (0801), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315), Chemist (1320), Geologist (1350), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Biologist (0401), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850)
- (6) **US Army Engineer Research & Development Center, Programs Office, Alexandria, VA.**, DB-4/GS/12-14: Physical Scientist (1301), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Civil Engineer (0810)

(1) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SCGK08792915A**

Opening Date: **June 11, 2008** Closing Date: **July 10, 2008**

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

Salary: **\$91,781 - \$119,314 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engr Div, Mobile, Planning and Environmental Div, Savannah, GA**

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 of the Savannah Planning Unit (Environment and Resources, Plan Formulation, and Environmental Compliance and Military Planning), plans, organizes, schedules, and coordinates, the Unit's planning program which includes feasibility investigations, continuing authority studies, flood plain management services, flood insurance studies, planning assistance to states, preparation of environmental impact statements and effect assessments for pre-authorization and post-authorization studies. Plans, schedules, organizes and coordinates economic and environmental support activities upon request from major commands and installations. Acts as advisor to the Chief, Planning and Environmental Division on the comprehensive water resources development and management program for the District. Approves the scope of work and any special conditions related to consultant contracts for all aspects of the planning activity. Plan and assign work to subordinates based on priorities.

(2) Vacancy Announcement Number: **NEFU08747529**

Opening Date: **June 30, 2008** Closing Date: **July 14, 2008**

Position: **GS-11/12: Physical Scientist (1301), Environmental Engineer (0819), Civil Engineer (0810), Biologist (0401), Geologist (1350), Community Planner (0020)**

Salary: **\$58,986 - \$91,913 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer District, New England, Engineering/Planning Division, Planning Branch, Navigation Section, DUTY LOCATION: Concord, MA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** Responsible for providing study/project management of Corps civil works planning, design and construction efforts, including pre-authorization and post-authorization planning investigations and studies encompassing varied phases of study and project development. Responsible for all phases of project planning and implementation such as reconnaissance or initial appraisal investigations, feasibility level investigations, detailed project design, preparation of plans and specifications and construction. Conducts studies, prepares reports, requests approvals, and oversees design and construction efforts. Responsible for preparing a fully coordinated Project Management Plan (PMP) for each feasibility effort to define study authority, purpose, Federal interest, scope, cost and completion timeline for individual study/project tasks, support elements responsible for delivery, and critical relationships between the various tasks.

(3) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGJ08800480**

Opening Date: **June 26, 2008** Closing Date: **July 10, 2008**

Position: **YD-3: General Engineer (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Industrial Engineer (0896), Biologist (0401), Landscape Architect (0807), Physical Scientist (1301), Geologist (1350), Community Planner (0020)**

Salary: **\$90,704 - \$153,349 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer Division, Great Lakes and Ohio River, Programs Directorate, Program Support Division, with duty in Cincinnati, OH**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** Serve as Team Leader of a District Support Team supporting, facilitating and coordinating program and project execution including functions related to flood damage reduction, inland navigation, shoreline stabilization, ecosystem restoration, environmental infrastructure, multipurpose projects for hydropower, flood control, water supply, water quality, fish and wildlife conservation, and recreation. Serves as Business Line Manager for Flood Damage Reduction working in program execution, budget and program development and interacting with senior leaders. Leads teams associated with navigation interests, flood risk management and dam and levee safety initiatives, stakeholder expectations, success and performance metrics. Assures the strategic plan, mission, vision, and values are communicated and integrated into the team's strategies, goals, objectives, plans, products and services. Provides support to the Community of Practice leaders by sharing knowledge, expertise, and lessons learned.

(4) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SCGV08000102C**

Opening Date: **June 09, 2008** Closing Date: **December 08, 2008** (First Cut off Date: **July 08, 2008**)

Position: **YD-2/YA-02: Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315), Fishery Biologist (0486), Wildlife Biologist (0482), Electrical Engineer (0850), Ecologist (0408), Geologist (1350), Chemist (1320), Landscape Architecture (0807), Economist (0110), Archaeologist (0193)**

Salary: **\$44,601 - \$89,159 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer Dist, Jacksonville, Jacksonville, FL 32232**

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 ensuring the efficient and effective execution of all phases of assigned projects. Serves as the District's primary point of contact for assigned projects and represents the District Commander with customers, Federal agencies, state and local government agencies, Congressional interests, and other external organizations and higher authorities. Responsible for the day to day management, leadership, and execution of assigned programs and projects. Serves as Project Manager, responsible for the overall management, control, coordination and execution of assigned programs and projects. Coordinates the planning, design, cost engineering, construction, and environmental considerations, etc., for assigned projects of normal scope and complexity as measured by their diversity, geographical area, management demands, technical issues, physical and biological intricacies, and public/regulatory requirements.



(5) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGJ08776193**

Opening Date: **June 30, 2008** Closing Date: **July 16, 2008**

Position: **GS-13:General Engineer (0801), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315), Chemist (1320), Geologist (1350), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Biologist (0401), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850)**

Salary: **\$77,670 - \$100,976 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer District Louisville, Planning, Programs and Project Management Division, with duty in Louisville, KY**

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

Number of Vacancy: **02**

**Duties:** Provides expert project management for projects or programs of high dollar value, high complexity, of national priority, of environmental sensitivity, of extraordinary urgency, and/or having similar requirements. Assures the efficient, effective, and timely accomplishment and coordination for civil, military or environmental projects. Prepares, presents and testifies on behalf of the District before state and local governments, contractors, other agencies, and Congress. In addition, coordinates the preparation of the project budget; the preparation of various costs, milestone, and management reports; and the staffing of internal and external reviews. Reviews and evaluates the status of projects for attainment of objectives. Plans, programs and oversees cost and schedule, execution of all actions required for projects in coordination with the functional chiefs of each area to assure that the projects are completed within guidelines and objectives.

(6) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGR08150481R**

Opening Date: **July 03, 2008** Closing Date: **July 17, 2008**

Position: **DB-4/GS/12-14: Physical Scientist (1301), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Civil Engineer (0810)**

Salary: **\$69,764 - \$127,442 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer Research & Development Center, Programs Office, Alexandria, VA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **01**

**Duties:** The incumbent will be a member of the ERDC Programs Office and will serve as the senior staff-level action officer for basic research. In this role, you will support ERDC's corporate approach to technical program formulation, execution, analysis, review, and documentation. You will assist in the coordination of ERDC's annual basic research solicitation and selection process. You will assist ERDC's technical directors in ensuring the military and civil direct funded basic research programs are aligned with Army and Corps of Engineers priorities. You will track technical program execution and performance, and will assist in the preparation and staffing of ERDC responses to data calls and other staff actions concerning the technical program in coordination with others.

**About the Position:** The U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center (ERDC) is one of the most diverse engineering and scientific research organizations in the world. Provides high quality, responsive engineering and environmental research and development support to the Army and Nation. As part of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers team, ERDC develops innovative science and technology solutions to support war fighting, infrastructure, environmental, water resources, and disaster operations. It consists of seven laboratories at four geographical sites in Vicksburg, MS; Champaign, IL; Hanover, NH; and Alexandria, VA. ERDC employs more than 2,000 engineers, scientists and support personnel. For more information on our organization, please visit our website at [www.erd.usace.army.mil](http://www.erd.usace.army.mil)





## 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](mailto: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>.

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## **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*.

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

July 22-24, 2008 Durham, NC

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

**Soil and Water Conservation Society 2008 Annual Conference**

July 26-30, 2008 Tucson, AZ

Additional information: <http://www.swcs.org/documents/08Prelim.pdf>

**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>

***Coastal Engineering Research Board 85<sup>th</sup> Meeting***

September 23-25, 2008 Portland, OR

Additional information: <http://chl.erc.usace.army.mil/chl.aspx?p=s&a=Events!275>

**4<sup>th</sup> 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>

**28<sup>th</sup> 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>

### **Coastal Cities Summit 2008**

November 17-20, 2008

St. Petersburg, FL

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

### **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>

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## **Announcement of Smart Rivers 2009 Conference, Vienna, Austria, September 14-15, 2009**

Mark your calendar to attend the Smart Rivers 2009 conference, to be held in Vienna, Austria, September 14-15, 2009. The conference is being organized by TINA Vienna Transport Strategies and will include technical sessions, industry exhibits, and networking events.

The 2009 conference will be the fourth in a series of international joint conferences on synergies for an efficient waterway system in Europe and the U.S. The theme of the conference is “**Contribution of Inland Water Navigation to Climate Protection.**”

Topics to be included on the conference agenda include the impact of extreme weather conditions; the availability of infrastructure; the efficiency of technological policy; container transportation; the role of ports, etc.

The first Smart Rivers conference was held in Pittsburgh in 2005, the second took place in Brussels in 2006, and last year’s conference was held in Louisville. More than 200 port and waterway executives, policy and technical professionals from the U.S. and Europe attended the 2007 conference, organized by PIANC USA.

For more information on the 2009 conference, please contact Mr. Otto Schwetz at [otto.schwetz@tinavienna.at](mailto:otto.schwetz@tinavienna.at).

## 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:

### **Subject: Global Climate Change**

*Understanding and Responding to Climate Change: Highlights of National Academies Reports, 2008 Edition.* Available at: [http://dels.nas.edu/dels/rpt\\_briefs/climate\\_change\\_2008\\_final.pdf](http://dels.nas.edu/dels/rpt_briefs/climate_change_2008_final.pdf)

*National Intelligence Assessment on the National Security Implications of Global Climate Change to 2030.* Statement for the Record of Dr. Thomas Fingar, Deputy Director of National Intelligence for Analysis and Chairman of the National Intelligence Council, before the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence and House Select Committee on Energy Independence and Global Warming, 25 June 2008. Available at: [http://www.dni.gov/testimonies/20080625\\_testimony.pdf](http://www.dni.gov/testimonies/20080625_testimony.pdf)

*Weather and Climate Extremes in a Changing Climate, Regions of Focus: North America, Hawaii, Caribbean, and U.S. Pacific Islands.* U.S. Climate Change Science Program. Synthesis and Assessment Product 3.3. June 2008. Available at: <http://downloads.climatechange.gov/sap/sap3-3/sap3-3-final-all.pdf>

### **Subject: Ecosystems**

*The State of the Nation's Ecosystems 2008*

Available at: <http://www.heinzcenter.org/ecosystems/index.shtml>

*Transitioning to Sustainability Through Research and Development on Ecosystem Services and Biofuels: Workshop Summary.* Patricia Koshel and Kathleen McAllister, Rapporteurs. National Research Council. Available at: [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12195](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12195)

*Environmental Information: Road Map to the Future.* Available at: [http://www.heinzcenter.org/ecosystems/2008report/pdf\\_files/Roadmap\\_Future\\_Report.pdf](http://www.heinzcenter.org/ecosystems/2008report/pdf_files/Roadmap_Future_Report.pdf)

### **Subject: Science and Technology**

*U.S. Competitiveness in Science and Technology* by Titus Galama and James Hosek. RAND National Defense Research Institute. Available at: [http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND\\_MG674.pdf](http://www.rand.org/pubs/monographs/2008/RAND_MG674.pdf)

### **Subject: Natural Disasters**

*Managing the Next Domestic Catastrophe – Ready (or Not)?* By Christine E. Wormuth and Anne Witkowsky. Available at: [http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080606\\_managingthenextdomesticcatastrophe.pdf](http://www.csis.org/media/csis/pubs/080606_managingthenextdomesticcatastrophe.pdf)

### **Subject: Behavioral Modeling and Simulation**

*Behavioral Modeling and Simulation: From Individuals to Societies.* Greg L. Zacharias, Jean McMillan and Susan B. Van Hemel, Editors. National Research Council. Available at: [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12169](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12169)



## 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](mailto:Kenneth.e.lichtman@usace.army.mil)

The deadline for material to be published in the next issue of *Planning Ahead* is  
**Wednesday, July 23, 2008**

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