

PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy
Community



US Army Corps
of Engineers

October 2008

Volume 11, Issue 10

Inside This Issue

Economic Guidance for Fiscal Year 2009.....	3
Recruitment Announcement for Director of Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center.....	3
Announcement of Registration for PIANC's Gulf Coast Hurricane Conference.....	4
Announcement of CIRP's 10th Annual Technology Transfer Workshop.....	4
The 2008 Planning Associates Critical Thinking Piece Presentations and Awards Ceremony.....	5
Employment Opportunities.....	7
Training Courses.....	13
Conferences.....	14
Publications.....	15
How to Submit an Article to <i>Planning Ahead</i>	16
How to Subscribe to <i>Planning Ahead</i>	16

A Note from the Leader of the Planning Community of Practice

In my remarks this month I want to focus on the fact that change is coming in important areas, and the environment we work in is dynamic. As we enter this fall season, we will be seeing a change in the Administration, changes in several key policy areas, and changes in USACE staff. To ensure our success during the transition, members of the planning community need to be flexible, ready to adjust quickly, ready to capitalize on opportunities as they present themselves, and focused on maintaining positive working relationships.

In a little over a week the nation will elect a new president, and for the first time in eight years there will be a new Administration. We do not know what the outcome of the election will be, or what will change as a result. Who will be our new Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works? What must get done before Mr. Woodley moves on? What will the new ASA(CW) be interested in accomplishing and when will the new person be appointed/confirmed?

While it is important to look to and plan for the future, it is also important to remember to that there are still a lot of activities underway that need to be accomplished during the time remaining under the leadership of Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works John P. Woodley, Jr., and thus we need to remain focused on carrying out our current missions.

I would like to highlight three areas of policy change currently underway that will affect the planning community:

- The ongoing revision of the "Economic and Environmental Principles and Guidelines for Water and Related Resources Implementation Studies" dated March 10, 1983, as directed by Congress in Section 2031 of the Water Resources Development Act of 2007,
- Updating Engineer Regulation (ER) 200-2-2, "Procedures for Implementing the NEPA", and
- The implementation of Engineer Circular (EC) 1105-2-410, "Review of Decision Documents" including the arrangement for video teleconferences (November 4th and 6th) within the planning community to present information, address questions and provide discussion on the approach to review through an independent peer review process.

Change will also be reflected in the composition of the workforce of the organization. At this time of year one need look no further than the number of upcoming retirements throughout the Corps, and the depth of the experience that

these individuals will take with them.

These retirements provide great opportunities for individuals to move into key positions within the organization. We need to be ready to take on new challenges, but must recognize that we will all need to work together to fill the gaps in knowledge caused by retirements. Positive working relationships will be important in helping us fill the knowledge gap by sharing recent relevant experiences, locally, regionally and nationally. I encourage everyone to seek out new opportunities for personal and professional growth and accept new challenges to further enhance our skills.

Robyn Colosimo, P.E.
Acting Chief, Planning and Policy Division, Planning CoP, MVD RIT
Directorate of Civil Works, HQUSACE
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

WORDS FROM THE EDITOR

This month's issue of *Planning Ahead* begins with an update from **Mr. Ted Hillyer** of the Institute for Water Resources (IWR) on the recent release of two Economic Guidance Memorandum, EGM 09-01, Federal Interest Rates for Corps of Engineers Projects for Fiscal Year 2009, and EGM 09-02, Current Normalized Prices.

IWR announces the recruitment for the position of the Director of the Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center in New Orleans.

PIANC USA announces the availability to register for the Gulf Coast Hurricane—Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rebuilding conference, scheduled to take from November 11-14 in Mobile, Alabama.

The Coastal Inlets Research Program announces its 10th Annual Technology Transfer Workshop to be held 16-18 February 2009 in St. Petersburg, Florida. The title of the workshop is “Advanced Integrated Coastal Inlet Simulation with Applications.”

Mr. Adam Fox of the Detroit District and a member of the Planning Associates Class of 2008 provides a report on the Planning Associates visit to Washington to present their “critical think pieces” before the Corps Senior leaders and headquarters staff and receive their certificates upon graduating from the year long Planning Associates program.

Other items of interest to readers of *Planning Ahead* include a listing of employment opportunities around the Corps, a listing of upcoming conferences, training courses and 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*.

Ken Lichtman, Editor
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PLANNING CoP NEWS

Economic Guidance for Fiscal Year 2009

Federal Interest Rates for Corps Projects
U.S. Department of Agriculture Normalized Prices
by *Ted Hillyer, Institute for Water Resources*

USACE Headquarters has published Economic Guidance Memorandum 09-01, Federal Interest Rates for Corps of Engineers Projects for Fiscal Year 2009 (<<http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecw-cp/library/egms/EGM%2009-01%20discount%20rate.pdf>>) and Economic Guidance Memorandum 09-02, Current Normalized Prices (<<http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecw-cp/library/egms/EGM%2009-02%20Current%20Normalized%20Prices.pdf>>).

The Federal interest rates for use in Corps studies and projects for Fiscal Year 2009 are as follows:

- Project Evaluation and Formulation Rate (Discount Rate): 4-5/8%.
- Water Supply Act of 1958 as amended by Section 932 of Public Law 99-662 (WRDA 1986) for a 30-year repayment: 4-5/8%. This value includes the 1/8% for transitions costs and is to be used for repayment for new projects and for reallocations.
- Water Supply Act of 1958 Section 301(b): 7.09%.
- Hydropower: 4-1/2%.

These rates are published annually by the U.S. Department of the Treasury and can be found for fiscal year 2009 at: http://www.treasurydirect.gov/govt/rates/tcir/tcir_fy2009_opdirannual.htm.

Normalized agricultural prices are published by the U.S. Department of Agriculture. Normalized prices for use in Fiscal Year 2009 can be found on the Department of Agriculture's web site at: (<<http://www.ers.usda.gov/Data/normalizedprices/>>). The effect of normalizing is to smooth out short term price variability.

Additional Economic Guidance Memoranda (EGM) on unit day values for recreation, ability to pay, and for National Flood Insurance Program administration costs will be developed and posted at the USACE, Headquarters, Planning Community of Practice website (<<http://www.usace.army.mil/cw/cecw-cp/library/egms/egms.html>>) as data becomes available.

For additional information on these and other EGMs please contact Bruce Carlson (CECW-PC) at: bruce.d.carlson@usace.army.mil or by phone at (202) 761-4703.

Recruitment Announcement for Director of Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center

The Institute for Water Resources is recruiting to fill the position of the Director, Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center. The position is a permanent Supervisory Interdisciplinary YC/YF-03 position in the IWR, Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center located in New Orleans, LA. Vacancy announcement **SWGY08027527** is the announcement under which permanent Corps employees should apply. Announcement **SWGY08027527D** is the announcement for all applicants outside the Federal service. The vacancy announcements cover multiple series including Economist (0110), General Engineer (0801), Physical Scientist (1301) and Survey Statistician (1530). Both announcements opened October 06, 2008 and close November 04, 2008. The vacancy announcements are available at the Army's CPOL website: <http://acpol.army.mil/employment/>. The announcements may also be found on USA Jobs (<http://www.usajobs.gov/>) for those applicants outside the Federal service.

Announcement of Registration for PIANC's Gulf Coast Hurricane Conference

REGISTRATION OPEN – GULF COAST HURRICANE CONFERENCE

November 11-14, 2008

Renaissance Riverview Plaza Hotel

Mobile, AL

www.pianc.us



ON BEHALF of PIANC USA, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and all of our generous sponsors and cooperating organizations, it is my pleasure to extend this invitation to join us in Mobile, Alabama, for the ***Gulf Coast Hurricane—Preparedness, Response, Recovery and Rebuilding Conference 2008***. This upcoming conference has been organized to bring together the nation's and the world's top professionals in the field of hurricane response, ecosystem restoration and infrastructure protection, including more than 200 private sector and governmental participants.

The four-day conference will include technical sessions, field tour opportunities, industry exhibits, technical short courses and networking events. As part of the tours, you will have the opportunity to see up close the latest innovations being undertaken at the Port of Mobile, as well as ongoing recovery of the Mississippi Gulf Coast from Hurricane Katrina. But the strength of the conference lies with the technical program, with more than sixty-five presentations addressing state-of-the-art technical aspects of subjects ranging from Ecosystem Resiliency - Coastal Recovery; Navigation – Ports and Industry; Community Resiliency – Watershed Wide Flood Hazard Master Planning; and Emergency Preparedness and Response. Please visit www.pianc.us for a complete listing of all the interesting presentations that are scheduled to be offered.

The venue, Mobile, Alabama, is a beautiful, historic port city by Mobile Bay. Mobile offers a Southern charm that is welcoming and enjoyable for visitors from around the world.

This Gulf Coast Hurricane Conference promises to be the best ever, having a full array of nationally and internationally recognized speakers. Don't miss this opportunity to network with your industry peers and enhance your professional knowledge. **Register today!**

We look forward to seeing you in Mobile in November,

HON. John Paul Woodley, Jr.
Chairman, PIANC USA

P.S. For on-line registration and the detailed conference agenda, go to www.pianc.us.

Announcement of CIRP 10th Annual Technology Transfer Workshop

The Coastal Inlets Research Program (CIRP), a USACE Headquarters funded navigation research and development program is pleased to announce its 10th Annual Technology Transfer Workshop, to be held 16-18 February 2009 at the Tradewinds Island Resort, St. Petersburg, Florida, prior to the 22nd Annual National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology convened by the Florida Shore & Beach Preservation Association (FSBPA). The title of the CIRP workshop is "Advanced Integrated Coastal Inlet Simulation with Applications."

The CIRP workshop will focus on recent advancements in and hands-on applications of the Coastal Modeling System (CMS), with an emphasis on coastal inlets, navigation channels, and adjacent beaches. Two cost-free optional evening sessions will also be held. On Monday evening (February 16), there will be a Corps-only session (open to all Corps staff, including those not attending the workshop) introducing the Coastal Structures Management, Analysis, and Ranking Tool (CSMART) and the Channels Prioritization Tool (CPT) developed under the CIRP. The Tuesday evening session (February 17) will cover the new release version of the Regional Morphology Analysis Package (RMAP) that operates in a stand-alone GIS environment, developed under the System-wide Water Resources Program. Please check the CIRP web site <http://cirp.wes.army.mil/cirp/> and FSBPA web sites <http://www.fsbpa.com/> for registration information as it becomes available.



FEATURED ARTICLE

The 2008 Planning Associates Critical Think Piece Presentations and Awards Ceremony By Adam Fox, Detroit District

The 2008 Planning Associates class gathered in Washington, D.C. from 13-16 September, for the culmination of the 2008 Planning Associates Program, with the presentation of the Critical Think Pieces (CTP) and the reception of the Certificate of Achievement for completing this rigorous but very rewarding program.

It is hard to believe the journey started 12 short months ago by surviving a national competition among peers to get into this unique training program. From there, it is learning about and having to trust ten other folks without being familiar with them or what to expect.

We were then privileged to learn about how the Corps does business in other parts of the country by getting to go places where we would not have gone otherwise. It helped us each become more of an expert at water resource planning. We were also fortunate to not only get to know extraordinary people at all levels in the Corps - but also got to know more about ourselves. We have become different people, professionally and personally, even if we won't admit it. We have become team players, better at handling demands of our time while accomplishing good things. This experience also taught us invaluable life and work lessons that they don't teach in books or talk about at lunch. Lessons about policy were learned through a Roger Setters pun or a Clark Frentzen diagram. And, Candida Bronson (PA 2008 - Jacksonville District) had a way to explain NSPS through a drawing of a multi-headed dog.

It required stamina to concentrate and compromise when an assignment was due the next day or the will to talk about your own problem project over a cold beverage well into the evening. Then we saw the same groggy faces at 6:30 a.m. when it is time to meet in the lobby for the class field trip. Through the year, we often found ourselves waking up in the middle of the night and needing a few minutes to remember what city we were in or where we were supposed to be that day.

We also committed to long hours of working as a team, smiled at the enjoyment of sharing the same dinner table (and often the food) as a family, and acknowledged that we all look good when we got dressed up. The 2008 class logged 343 PowerPoint presentations, gave our

biographies 14 times, and each traveled (on average) 29,000 air miles, 4,400 land miles and 77 water miles - while surviving a tropical storm, a hospital trip for a broken collar bone, an ice-storm in Mississippi and the dreaded lost and broken luggage. One P.A. even managed to relocate from Mississippi to Missouri during the program, together with selling a house and buying a condo.

We are especially grateful to the truly-caring course owners, senior leaders and presenters who took time for us out of their busy schedules to spend a long day teaching us, then to give us a lift to the store on their own time so we could get supplies. Special thanks go to those who opened your personal homes for us to celebrate our successes, or just for a home-cooked meal on the road. We also sincerely thank our supervisors to allow us to learn so much, to make new acquaintances nationwide, and to find alternate ways to get our work done, especially when we were gone as much as we were. Also we are indebted to our co-workers back at the office who covered all the important stuff - like submitting labor sheets so we could get paid - or responding to the short-fuse request by a project sponsor that just couldn't wait.



Harry Kitch, Headquarters lead for the Planning Associates Program, addresses the Planning Associates and the audience before the start of the Critical Think Piece Presentations on 15 September. In the foreground is Steve Stockton, Director of Civil Works.

A high point is making (at least) 11 new friends and learning names of spouses and significant others. Often you rely on each other to make sure you get to where you need to be, on time and safely. They are amazing folks who will offer support when the road gets tiring, pat you on the back for a job well done, encourage you when it all seems like too much, or just provide an ear when things may not be going well at home. They are relationships for a lifetime; someone you can call in good times and in stress, whether you need information at a critical juncture of a project or just to discuss a new twist in policy.

After months of wonderful learning experiences, making new acquaintances and seeing the country and all the great things the Corps of Engineers does around the nation, our minds (at last) were only on getting our CTP presentations smooth and trying not to be nervous. After all, our families, significant others, friends and Corps Senior Leaders will provide the audience for our presentations and ask some tough questions about the material we are presenting. We focused on giving it our all during the presentations and left Washington D.C. with a Certificate of Achievement. Twelve of the fastest (and most memorable) months our lives were over.



Relaxing after the Critical Think Piece presentations are (l-r) Sacramento District's Mike Dietl (PA-2008), Alicia Kirchner (PA-2006) and Miki Fujitsubo (PA-2008).

The Certificate of Achievement was also the pinnacle of a year where we traveled on the kids' birthdays, listened to complaints of lost homework from afar, came home to a broken garage spring and taught our spouse how to run a lawn mower and snow thrower - all in the same week that we learned not to put bleach in the blue jean load. It is a year of missing significant others and sharing stories from three time zones away, but also reminding them to pay the electric bill. You really cherish the smiles you get at the front door from the people you left behind.

Having completed the P.A. program, we might say "I wouldn't do this again for a million dollars", but will agree it was worth a million dollars for the amount of



knowledge, the number of contacts and friendships gained. We feel more confident and find we are sought out for answers by planners in our districts. We feel more useful, capable and connected. Finally, we feel like our ideas and comments mean something. It doesn't necessarily signify that we have arrived; we're just a lot closer than we were before.

The Planning Associates class of 2008 would like to congratulate the incoming Planning Associates Class of 2009. They are: Cynthia Boen, a Landscape Architect from the Walla Walla District; Timothy Fleegeer, an Environmental Resource Specialist from the Omaha District; Jodie Foster, an Economist from the Fort Worth District; Terri Jordan, a Biologist from the Jacksonville District; Jeremy LaDart, an Economist from the Mobile District; Jeff Lin, a Biologist from ERDC, Vicksburg, Mississippi; Stephen O'Leary, an Architect from the Huntington District; Lisa Rabbe, an Environmental Resource Specialist from the Alaska District; Judy Sheen, a Biologist from the San Francisco District; Aaron Snyder, a Public Policy Specialist from the St. Paul District; Saji Varghese, a Civil Engineer from the New England District and Jacob Walsdorf, a Landscape Architect from the Galveston District.

We wish you the best on a journey that you will never forget and will change your lives for the better.

Adam Fox is a physical scientist for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Detroit District. He can be reached at adam.p.fox@usace.army.mil.



The Planning Associates Class of 2008 received the Certificate of Achievement at USACE Headquarters in Washington, D.C. September 16, 2008. Pictured are (l-r) in the back row: Gregg Williams, Memphis District; Michael Dietl, Sacramento District; John Peukert, St. Louis District; Miki Fujitsubo, Sacramento District; Tony Friona, Lakes & Rivers Division Headquarters; Adam Fox, Detroit District. In the front row (l-r): Jeff Strahan, Norfolk District; Bret Walters, Alaska District; Ronald Pinzon, New York District; Miriam Gilmer, Seattle District and Candida Bronson, Jacksonville District.

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) **Los Angeles District**, YF-2: Supv Coastal Studies Specialist (0101), Supv Regional Economist (0110), Supv Coastal Studies Specialist (0801), Supv Physical Scientist (1301)
- (2) **South Atlantic Division**, YA-2/YD-02: Community Planner (0020), Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Physical Scientist (1301)
- (3) **Kansas City District**, GS-13: Project Manager (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Project Manager (0401), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Landscape Architect (0807), Community Planner (0020), Archaeologist (0193)
- (4) **Omaha District**, YD-2: Project Manager (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Biologist (0401), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Landscape Architect (0807), Community Planner (0020), Archaeologist (0193)
- (5) **Albuquerque District**, YX-2: Economist (0110), Archeologist (0193), Biologist (0401), Fishery Biologist (0482), Project Manager (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Physical Scientist (1301), Project Manager (0101)
- (6) **Galveston District**, Regional Economist, GS-0110-9/11/12
- (7) **Seattle District**, GS-13: Community Planner (0020), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Geologist (1350), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315), Economist (0110), Biologist (0401)
- (8) **St. Louis District**, YC-2/YF-02: Program Manager (0340), Supv Biologist (0401), Supv General Engineer (0801), Supv Architect (0808), Supv Civil Engineer (0810), Supv Env Eng (0819), Supv Physical Scientist (1301)
- (9) **U.S. Army Engineer Institute for Water Resources; Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center; Office of the Director; New Orleans LA.** YF-3: Supv Economist (0110), Supv General Engineer (0801), Supv Physical Scientist (1301), Supv Survey Statistician (1530)
- (10) **Wilmington District**, Economist, YA-0110-1/02
- (11) **South Pacific Division**, Program Manager, GS-0340-13
- (12) **Rock Island District**, Supv Program Manager, YC-0340-2
- (13) **Memphis District**, YF-2/YC: Supervisory Civil Engineer (0810), Supervisory Biologist (0401), Supervisory Economist (0110), Supervisory Archeologist (0193)
- (14) **Huntington District**, YC-2/YF-02: Supervisory Economist (0110), Supervisory Community Planner (0020), Supervisory Ecologist (0408), Supervisory Landscape Architect (0807), Supervisory Civil Engineer (0810), Supervisory Environmental Engineer (0819), Supervisory General Biologist (0401), Supervisory Architect (0808)

(1) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTKC08885659**

Opening Date: **October 14, 2008** Closing Date: **October 27, 2008**

Position: **YF-2: Supv Coastal Studies Specialist (0101), Supv Regional Economist (0110), Supv Coastal Studies Specialist (0801), Supv Physical Scientist (1301)**

Salary: **\$71,582 - \$111,753 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer District, Los Angeles, Planning Division, Plan Formulation Branch, Coastal Studies Group, Los Angeles, California**

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: Reviews plan formulation analyses including Federal & non-Federal implementation requirements for various planning & design documents for civil works & WFO/SFO projects; analyzes overall planning study results including engineering, economic, & environmental studies; is the first level reviewer of in-house coastal planning studies; incorporates & relays knowledge of planning & related technical advances & pertinent policy, laws & regulations changes when reviewing documents; furnishes planning/technical guidance or instructions; participates at public hearings, regional & national level

meetings, committees & professional conferences; makes recommendations & decisions in the functional areas, including planning & development of shore protection projects & navigation projects; provides technical & administrative supervision to subordinate staff; selects new hires, promotions, training, issuing awards, & disciplinary actions; initiating, recommending, or approving other personnel action.

(2) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SCGV08054785**

Opening Date: **October 01, 2008** Closing Date: **October 24, 2008**

Position: YA-2/YD-02: Community Planner (0020), Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Physical Scientist (1301)

Salary: **\$46,680 - \$104,652 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer Div, South Atlantic, Programs Directorate, DST (SAJ)/COP (Planning) & Civil Works Integration Div Atlanta, GA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **2**

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 staff advisor and consultant to the Division, providing oversight for the planning, review, and coordination of a complex Civil Works Program that covers the southeastern United States, Puerto Rico, and the U.S. Virgin Islands. The program includes the activities associated with the project formulation, economic evaluation, design, and construction of program projects. Reviews program objectives, schedules, and utilization of funds of the programs. Monitors District performance through review of plans, schedules, reports, and scheduled program reviews. Serve as the authority on implementation of regulations and procedures associated with the Civil Works Program to include, program development and management, program justification and support, funding limits, cost sharing, and public involvement. Assists and collaborates with supervisor and other elements of the Division Office to develop and review overall budget programs and supporting justifications and schedules for submission through HQUSACE to the Office of Management and Budget and Congress covering fiscal year requirements to implement and/or operate and maintain civil works projects. Evaluates and develops new analytical techniques in formulating the appropriate Civil Works Program. Makes special studies and develops criteria on questions of policy concerning various phases of the Civil Works Program in the South Atlantic Division (SAD). Participate in an annual review of the appropriate Civil Works Program of assigned Districts to assure effective program development and customer satisfaction. Incumbent serves as a "core" member and provides matrixed support to all District Support Teams (DST). As such, the incumbent assists the DST team members in enabling the Districts to accomplish their missions.

(3) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTGH08961430**

Opening Date: **October 14, 2008** Closing Date: **October 28, 2008**

Position: **GS-13: Project Manager (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Project Manager (0401), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Landscape Architect (0807), Community Planner (0020), Archaeologist (0193)**

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

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineering District, Kansas City, PPMD, Civil Works BRN., Project Mgmt. DIV., Kansas City, MO OR Omaha, NE**

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

Number of Vacancy: **01**

Duties: Works under the direction of the Chief, who provides very general supervision. Serve as Project Manager, responsible for the overall management, control, coordination & execution of assigned projects. Responsible for managing the efficient/effective coordination/accomplishment of the planning, scoping, development, design, construction, & direction of major projects. Apply an extensive knowledge of management concepts, principles, methods & practices. Integrate sponsor requirements & participation into a comprehensive management plan. Coordinate the planning, design, construction, & environmental considerations, etc., for projects of considerable scope & complexity. Control & manage project milestones & budgets from planning through construction. Represent the District Commander, serving as the district's primary point of contact with sponsor, Federal, State, and local government agencies, Congressional interests, other organizations and higher authorities for projects assigned.

(4) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTHI08967880**

Opening Date: **October 14, 2008** Closing Date: **October 28, 2008**

Position: **YD-2: Project Manager (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Social Scientist (0101), Economist (0110), Biologist (0401), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Landscape Architect (0807), Community Planner (0020), Archaeologist (0193)**

Salary: **\$39,207 - \$89,217 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineering District, Omaha, PPMD, Civil Works Br, DUTY STATION: Omaha, NE**

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: Works under the direction of the Chief, who provides very general supervision. Serve as Project Manager, responsible for the overall management, control, coordination & execution of assigned projects. Responsible for managing the efficient/effective coordination/accomplishment of the planning, scoping, development, design, construction, & direction of major projects. Apply an extensive knowledge of management concepts, principles, methods & practices. Integrate sponsor requirements & participation into a comprehensive management plan. Coordinate the planning, design, construction, & environmental considerations, etc., for projects of considerable scope & complexity. Control & manage project milestones & budgets from planning through construction. Represent the District Commander, serving as the district's primary point of contact with sponsor, Federal, State, and local government agencies, Congressional interests, other organizations and higher authorities for projects assigned.

(5) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTKC08919220**

Opening Date: **September 22, 2008** Closing Date: **October 29, 2008**

Position: **YX-2: Economist (0110), Archeologist (0193), Biologist (0401), Fishery Biologist (0482), Project Manager (0801), Architect (0808), Civil Engineer (0810), Physical Scientist (1301), Project Manager (0101)**

Salary: **\$44,612.00 - \$100,975.00 Annual** (Salary includes local market supplement of 13.18%)

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer District, Planning and Program Management Division, Albuquerque, New Mexico**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

Duties: You would provide expert project management for Corps of Engineers Civil Works water resources projects to include dams, water diversion structures, flood walls, levees, ecosystem restoration, etc. You would review and evaluate the status of projects, oversee costs, schedule, planning and design of construction of water resource projects to assure that projects are completed within the guidelines. You would initiate, manage, review and approve funding to assure sufficient resources to support the project objectives. You would review technical products, evaluate status of projects against established milestones and direct the action required to assure the attainment of goals and objectives.

(6) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWHB08688160R**

Opening Date: **October 01, 2008** Closing Date: **October 30, 2008**

Position: **REGIONAL ECONOMIST, GS-0110-9/11/12**

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

Place of Work: **U.S. 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.

(7) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTHF08042943**

Opening Date: **October 17, 2008** Closing Date: **October 31, 2008**

Position: **GS-13: Community Planner (0020), General Engineer (0801), Landscape Architect (0807), Geologist (1350), Physical Scientist (1301), Hydrologist (1315), Economist (0110), Biologist (0401)**

Salary: **\$82,178 - \$106,837 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer District, Seattle, Planning, Programs and Project Mgmt Div, Civil Programs and Projects Branch, Civil Projects Section, Seattle, WA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

Duties: As a program manager is responsible for monitoring overall program execution. Programs involves a broad range of activities involving new construction and/or maintenance & repair of a wide variety of highly complicated facilities and structures typically under accelerated schedules for a variety of customers in a sizable geographic area. Manages & directs the accomplishment of the investigating, planning, scope development, design, and construction of major projects through a matrix management process. Projects have a substantial impact on civil works program & projects are complicated by a number of interrelated factors including accelerated schedules, multiple customers, major technical issues, conflicting interests of customers and stakeholders, a variety of statutes, regulations & funding sources, special requirements for equipment, materials and design features, geographic dispersion and high visibility.

(8) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWG108051354**

Opening Date: **October 03, 2008** Closing Date: **October 31, 2008**

Position: **YC-2/YF-02: Program Manager (0340), Supv Biologist (0401), Supv General Engineer (0801), Supv Architect (0808), Supv Civil Engineer (0810), Supv Env Eng (0819), Supv Physical Scientist (1301)**

Salary: **\$64,677 - \$125,280 Annual**

Place of Work: **US ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, ST LOUIS PLANNING, PROGRAMS & PROJECT MGT DIV, PLANNING AND PROJECT DEVELOPMENT BRANCH, ST LOUIS, MO**

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

Number of Vacancy: **01**

Duties: As Chief of a Project Management Branch, supervises staff and is responsible for efficient management of the technical and administrative requirements of the District's project management activities. Reviews and evaluates project status for attainment of objectives; plans, programs and oversees the planning, design and construction cost and schedule execution of the project to assure completion within established guidelines and objectives. Initiates, approves and manages plans that translate project objectives into completed functional phases. Duties require application of an expert knowledge of professional project management techniques and methodologies, and outstanding written and oral communication abilities. Serves as an advisor to the Chief, Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division and a link between the St. Louis District and the community. Develops new initiatives consistent with the Corps mission and focus.

(9) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGY08027527**

Opening Date: **October 06, 2008** Closing Date: **November 04, 2008**

Position: **YF-3: Supv Economist (0110), Supv General Engineer (0801), Supv Physical Scientist (1301), Supv Survey Statistician (1530)**

Salary: **\$87,168 - \$147,372 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer Institute for Water Resources; Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center; Office of the Director; New Orleans LA.**

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: Incumbent supervises and directs the work of the Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center which consists of 2 major offices, each headed by a subordinate supervisor (Pay Band 2). Incumbent exercises managerial authority to set annual and multiyear long range work plans. Sets goals and objectives and makes sure they are carried out by subordinate supervisors. Regularly represents the U.S. government and the Army in Federal interagency and international activities, special task forces,

work groups, private sector and committees. Regularly works with and persuades representatives of other government agencies and members of the navigation industry to provide more accurate and timelier information to the Corps and to coordinate in data sharing, data standardization and the development of joint data products. Attends and participates in interdepartmental meetings and committee hearings in connection with the justification of program and budget requirements.

(10) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SCGP08015250**

Opening Date: **October 06, 2008** Closing Date: **November 04, 2008**

Position: **Economist, YA-0110-1/02**

Salary: **\$45,040 - \$89,217 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engr District, Wilmington, Tech Svcs Div, Plan & Envir Br, Plan Form & Econ Section, Charleston, SC**

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: YA-01: You will work in a developmental capacity until the full performance of YD-02 is reached. YD-02: You will serve as an economic specialist for water resources planning by performing feasibility studies and economic evaluations of various civil works construction projects. These studies and evaluations involve the following duties: assist in the development of the economic components of plans of study by monitoring and revising costs associated with assigned work; plan, organize, coordinate, evaluate and/or conduct a program of research and analysis to provide economic data on various study areas to evaluate project impact. These economic studies will identify, measure, evaluate and interpret the cultural, commercial, geographical, historical, social, demographic factors affecting the economy of the study area; and prepare cost-benefit, cost allocation, and cost apportionment studies and repayment determinations.

(11) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTKC08965545**

Opening Date: **October 16, 2008** Closing Date: **November 04, 2008**

Position: **Program Manager, GS-0340-13**

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

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer Division, South Pacific Programs Directorate Civil Works Integration Division San Francisco, CA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

Duties: Serves as coordinator for the District Support Team representing Program Management (Civil Works). Facilitates and coordinates program and project execution missions of assigned District(s) within the Regional Business Center (RBC). Facilitates resolution of project and program issues. Participates in planning, reviewing, and coordinating Civil Works Program development, integration, and execution activities for the District(s). Assists the Lead Program Manager in advising the Division Chief, the Programs Director, and the supportive district offices on project management and program management issues related to their Civil Works Program. Coordinates closely with district offices, other MSC staff, and HQ RIT staff to maintain a comprehensive oversight of district civil works programs in conjunction with the Lead Program Manager. Programs include flood damage reduction and multipurpose projects for flood control.

(12) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWBG08036913**

Opening Date: **October 20, 2008** Closing Date: **November 07, 2008**

Position: **SUPV PROGRAM MANAGER, YC-0340-2**

Salary: **\$67,678 - \$125,280 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. Army Engineer District, Rock Island District, Planning, Programs & Project Management Division, Rock Island, IL**

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: Serves as Chief, Programs Management Branch and occasionally represents the Programs and Project Management Division in the absence of the Division Chief. Is charged with the principal staff responsibility for developing, defending, and maintaining a balanced, justified, and prioritized Civil Works program of planning and engineering studies, projects, and related activities within available funding, manpower, and other resources. Serves as the Districts staff authority and consultant on programs management, provides advice to the District Commander, Deputy District Engineer for Project Management, other technical chiefs, and project managers on program policy, funding, scheduling, and manpower. Reviews and analyzes execution of the Districts program to assure maximum utilization of appropriated funds. Duties require expert knowledge of all phases of the Federal and Congressional budget process, knowledge of activities in other district areas, and skill in analyzing the budget process.

(13) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGL08086911**

Opening Date: **October 20, 2008** Closing Date: **November 20, 2008**

Position: **YF-2/YC: SUPERVISORY CIVIL ENGINEER (0810), SUPERVISORY BIOLOGIST (0401), SUPERVISORY ECONOMIST (0110), SUPERVISORY ARCHEOLOGIST (0193)**

Salary: **\$64,677 - \$125,280 Annual**

Place of Work: **U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, Memphis, Planning, Programs, and Project MGT Div, Memphis, TN**

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

Number of Vacancy: **Many**

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 Supervisory Project Manager over a project management team composed of Project Managers (PMs), Civil Engineers, Engineering Technicians and Program Analysts with the responsibility for the overall management, control, coordination and execution of assigned projects. Implements corporate decisions, guidance, laws, regulations, and policy in the development of assigned projects. Reviews and evaluates project status for attainment of objectives. Plans, programs, and schedules for the attainment of goals and objectives. Presents the major project problems and controversial project issues to the Deputy for Project Management (DPM) and the PRB for final decision.

(14) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGNO8974459**

Opening Date: **October 20, 2008** Closing Date: **November 10, 2008**

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

Salary: **\$80,000 - \$119,314 Annual**

Place of Work: **U. S. Army Engineering District, Huntington, WV; PP&PM Division, Planning Branch, Huntington, West Virginia**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

Duties: Serves as the Chief, Planning Branch with responsibilities for planning/scheduling/coordinating/supervising and guiding the Branch to accomplish mission functions. Recommends Civil Works water resources projects for authorization and implementation. Directs the preparation/processing/public and internal agency defense of policy and technical documents supporting the authorization/implementation of water resources development projects including: flood control levees/flood walls/river channel modifications/building relocation and flood proofing/inland navigations/locks and dams reservoir structures/environmental mitigation and restoration measure and hydroelectric facilities. Directs the preparation, processing and organizational and public explanation of water resources planning and design services documents. Oversees the selection/use of complex modeling methodology and must ensure that the level of effort is commensurate with funds, time and the level of study to be accomplished.

TRAINING COURSES

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

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>.

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*.

Risk and Crisis Communication in the 21st Century: Are We Ready?

November 3, 2008

Washington, D.C.

Additional information: <http://www.homelanddefensejournal.com/hdl/Crisis-Communication-21st-Century.html>

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>

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>

National Conference on Science, Policy and the Environment “Biodiversity in a Rapidly Changing World”

December 8-10, 2008

Washington, D.C.

Additional information: <http://www.ncseonline.org/conference/biodiversity/>

A Conference on Ecosystem Services, 2008: Using Science for Decision Making in Dynamic Systems

December 8-11, 2008

Naples, FL

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

3rd System of Systems Conference

December 9-10, 2008

Gaithersburg, MD

Additional information: http://www.upcomingevents.ctc.com/SoSECE/SoSECE_event_home.html

Transportation Research Board—88th Annual Meeting

January 11-15, 2009

Washington, DC

Additional information: <http://www.trb.org/am/cfp/default.asp?event=445>

22nd Annual National Conference on Beach Preservation Technology

February 18-20, 2009

St. Petersburg, FL

Additional information: <http://www.fsbpa.com>



Coastal Geotools 2009

March 2-5, 2009

Myrtle Beach, SC

Additional information: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/geotools/index.html>

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>

American Water Resources Association, 2009 Spring Specialty Conference, “Managing Water Resources and Development in a Changing Climate”

May 4-6, 2009

Anchorage, AK

Additional information: <http://www.awra.org/meetings/Anchorage2009/index.html>

International Marine Conservation Congress

May 20-24, 2009

Washington, DC

Additional information: <http://www2.cedarcrest.edu/imcc/index.html>

Society of Wetlands Scientists Annual Meeting

June 22-26, 2009

Madison, WI

Additional information: http://www.sws.org/2009_meeting/index.mgi

Coastal Zone 09

July 19-23, 2009

Boston, MA

Additional information: <http://www.csc.noaa.gov/cz>

3rd National Conference on Ecosystem Restoration

July 20-24, 2009

Los Angeles, CA

Additional information: <http://conference.ifas.ufl.edu/ncer2009/>

Ports 2010

April 25-28, 2010

Jacksonville, FL

Additional information: <http://www.content.asce.org/conferences/ports2010>

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:

“Progress Toward Restoring the Everglades: The Second Biennial Review, 2008”, National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, Committee on Independent Scientific Review of Everglades Restoration Progress, Available at: http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12469

“Desalination: A National Perspective”, National Academy of Sciences, National Research Council, Committee on Advancing Desalination Technology, Available at: http://books.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12184

“National Transportation Statistics, 2008”, U.S. Department of Transportation, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, Bureau of Transportation Statistics, Available at: http://www.bts.gov/publications/national_transportation_statistics/

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, November 5, 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

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