

# 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. Jeremy LaDart** of the Mobile District and a member of the Planning Associates class of 2009. Mr. LaDart reports on the Planning Associates recent training module on the subjects of team building, leadership, and communication.

**Mr. James Conley** of the South Pacific Division provides the readers of *Planning Ahead* with a brief synopsis of his recent temporary assignment to the Office of Water Policy Review at USACE Headquarters.

**Dr. JoAnne Castagna** of the New York District provides an update on the efforts of the New York District to remove the remaining buildings from what was once Fort Slocum, Davids Island, located in Long Island Sound, near New Rochelle, New York.

The Coastal Inlets Research Program, a USACE Headquarters funded navigation research and development program, announces its 10th Annual Technology Transfer Workshop, to be held 16-18 February 2009 in St. Petersburg, Florida.

The U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution announces the availability of upcoming training courses to be taught during the period from January through May 2009.

Also in this month's newsletter is a Call for Papers for the Ports 2010 conference, to be held April 25-28, 2010 in Jacksonville, FL. The deadline for submitting an abstract for the Ports 2010 conference is January 22, 2009.

Other items of interest to readers of *Planning Ahead* this month include a listing of employment opportunities around the Corps, a listing of upcoming PROSPECT training courses, including the Planning Core Curriculum (PCC) Economic Analysis course scheduled for March 23-27, 2009 in Springfield, Virginia and the Nonstructural Measures for Flood Risk course scheduled for March 30-April 3, 2009 in Davis, California, a listing of conferences of interest to water resource professionals, and recent publications.

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

May you have a happy, healthy and joyous holiday season and a wonderful New Year.

Ken Lichtman, Editor  
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## FEATURED ARTICLE

### Planning Associates Continue Year Long Training with Team Building, Leadership, and Communication Module

By Jeremy M. LaDart, Mobile District

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is often called a team of teams. From technical discipline teams to project delivery teams to review teams to district and division teams to research and review teams and so on... everyone has a part to play and responsibilities to fulfill. This was the basis of the second leg of the initial 2009 Planning Associates trip, "Team Building, Leadership, and Communication Course."

The course started with a team building exercise in which the twelve members were broken out into three sub-teams, Red, White, and Blue. These sub-teams will be a foundation for many deliverables the Planning Associates are responsible for throughout the year including logistics, Home Office Back Briefs (HOBB's), and a Strategic Think Piece (STP). Aaron Snyder of the St. Paul District will discuss these products in next month's Planning Ahead article.

The object of the team building exercise was to build and race a boat using only materials that were provided to the teams (inflatable rafts, PVC pipe, duct tape, etc.). The teams were judged on multiple criteria including design, team cheer, construction, and the actual race. Immediately members of each of the sub-teams stepped into roles as leaders, workers, and knowledgeable experts to complete the task at hand. The exercise was a very successful lesson demonstrating the power of achievement when the right people are in the right roles working toward a common team goal.



Left to right: Saji Varghese, Tim Fleeger, Lisa Rabbe, Steve O'Leary, Jeremy LaDart, Jeff Lin, Jake Walsdorf, Judy Sheen, Cindy Boen, Jodie Foster, Aaron Snyder, and Terri Jordan.

Expanding on the initial exercise was a demanding curriculum of knowledge, self discovery, and growth,

which are modeled after Fortune 500 companies and Harvard and Yale management teachings. Guiding the journey were course owner Judy Morrison, instructor Leslie Kahn, and the program manager Joy Muncy. The work was both individual and team oriented and included self assessments, identification of team values, the development of a team vision statement and logo, team communication parameters, a decision making methodology, conflict resolution, facilitation, and other team building tools.

Reading assignments were used to compliment the experience and expand the perspective of the lessons. "[\*Three Keys to Empowerment\*](#)" by Kenneth Blanchard provided an understanding of how to empower teams including knowledge sharing, creating autonomy through clearly defined boundaries, and replacing a hierarchy with empowered teams that are enabled for success. Another book, "[\*Five Dysfunctions of a Team\*](#)" by Patrick Lencioni gave a model of reasons why a team might be dysfunctional including an absence of trust among team members, fear of conflict which suppresses ideas and debate, lack of commitment, avoidance of accountability, and inattention to results due to conflicting personal and team goals.

The long hours and dedication to the task formed a foundation of trust that is critical for any team performing any task. All in all the team building, leadership, and communication course was a wonderful kick off to what looks to be a promising year. The following is the logo and vision statement for the 2009 Planning Associates.

#### 2009 Planning Associates Team Logo



#### 2009 Planning Associates Vision Statement

"The 2009 Planning Associates, as stewards of our nation's water resources, will learn from and build on our past, invest in the future, and overcome challenges with courage and integrity."

*Jeremy LaDart is a Regional Economist with the Mobile District of the South Atlantic Division.*

## Temporary Assignment at the HQ, Office of Water Policy Review

By James Conley, South Pacific Division

There are numerous developmental assignment opportunities in USACE Headquarters—RITs, Planning CoP, and Office of Water Project Review. Friends and colleagues had advised “Do you have to go in the summer? It’s so hot and humid! Since late June there was only one day where “gosh it really is hot!” But colleagues here said the summer was mild by DC standards. Luck? Maybe, but if experiencing HQ seems interesting, then hopefully the weather shouldn’t influence the decision to apply.

My stint was with the Office of Water Project Review, where I reviewed assigned decision documents. Project review is a team sport that’s not for everybody, but having a bookish bent I really enjoy it. While in the field, I had a somewhat demonized view of the HQ policy reviewers. But, and this is the most difficult part of the article, I couldn’t imagine a warmer and more competent group of people. It is difficult because this assertion should be met by readers with a healthy dose of skepticism. Writing nice things about the hierarchy is expected in a corporate publication, notwithstanding it is sincere.

Policy reviewers may be assigned over 100 decision documents a year with a recurring half dozen hot ones. The adage that twenty percent of the decision documents receive 80 percent of the attention seems to true. The formula for getting through policy review might be simple, “follow the guidance.” Planning is an art form that not everyone performs well, but “just tell the story” is a good guideline. Another possibly helpful hint would be to submit a complete decision document package and use the checklists. Rarely is a complete package submitted, and it might sit in a cubicle until all the documents are received. Dire urgency is always a project’s subtext, but incomplete submittals waste everybody’s time. Given the volume of reports and that every project is some VIP’s priority, complete packages get reviewed first.

There are almost countless opportunities for temporary and permanent work in DC especially as the workforce ages. I had a great time here, and hopefully was able to contribute towards mission execution. I met new people, made some friends, experienced DC, developed professionally and personally grew a little bit. It’s December, the temperature is below freezing and I’m missing California, but it was great while it lasted!

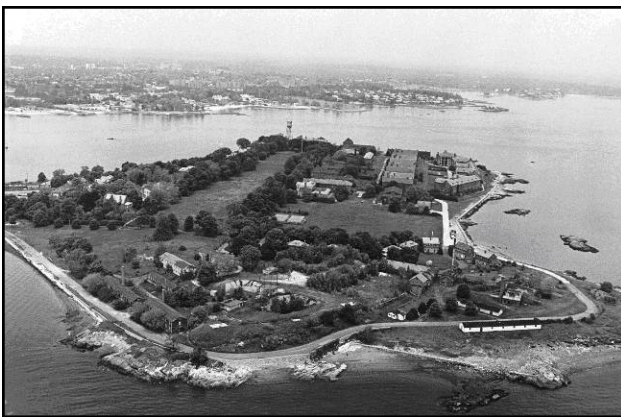
## Army Corps Helps Open Possibilities on Davids Island

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

Decaying homes with blown out windows, overgrown grass lawns, and 1950's vintage cars parked in dilapidated garages. That was the scene at Davids Island.

“It looks like a disaster movie could be filmed here,” said Nancy Brighton, Lead Archaeologist of the Environmental Branch of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. Brighton looked in awe as she walked around. “It’s surreal. It looks like residents of this little village just picked up and left.”

Brighton was describing the abandoned remains of Fort Slocum, a former U.S. military base that at one time occupied Davids Island, an uninhabited 80-acre piece of property located in the Long Island Sound, one half a mile off the shore of New Rochelle, New York.



Oblique aerial photograph of Fort Slocum, November 15, 1961; Fort Slocum Alumni and Friends Collection, Michael J. Cavanaugh, Los Angeles, CA, custodian.

This December of 2008, the Army Corps will be completing their work at the site that includes creating open space by removing these decaying structures. This work is being performed at the request of the Office of Economic Adjustment of the Department of Defense and the City of New Rochelle, owner of the island, who plans on reviving the island and making it assessable for public use.

The Corps will make the island safe for the public while at the same time preserving the island's wildlife, which includes threatened animal species, and its rich military history.

In 1867 Fort Slocum was established on the island on the site of a former Civil War hospital and over the next one hundred years served in various military incarnations. The active post has served as a military hospital, an artillery mortar battery and a training post. During World War II the fort was the most active recruitment center in the United States and served as a staging area for troops heading overseas during the two world wars. In addition, for several years the fort was used by the U.S. Air Force.

The fort's last military use was in the 1960's, as a missile command base. Since then the island has laid dormant and the public has been denied access.

Since that time, the island has been eyed as a possible location for a power plant. In addition, the sanctuary's wide variety of marine life, birds and over a mile of beach has made it tempting for real estate development. In more recent years it's been considered as a location for a public park and nature preserve.

For whatever purpose is decided for the island, the Army Corps is clearing the site to make it clean and safe for public use. In 2005 the Army Corps began demolishing and removing 93 decaying structures from the former Fort Slocum.

The very first task the project team performed before beginning any demolition was to move a large osprey family nest inland from the island's pier in order to protect it from the construction.

In New York State, the osprey is considered a “Species of Concern,” which means the bird's population has declined in the past and is making a slow recovery.

“It's easy to say that this was an easy project. All you're doing is demolishing buildings. Bring out the equipment and just start banging away,” said Gregory Goepfert, Project Manager, U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. “But it's more than that. There was great interest to preserve some of the rich history of the island.”

The Army Corps understood this and as it's done many times in the past, it came up with a variety of solutions to preserve the historical aspects of the project.

Goepfert with the assistance of Brighton and the project contractor, TetraTech, performed extensive historical research on each of the 93 structures on the island, many

of which were of various military architectural styles.

This research included digging up historical data, taking photos and performing archaeological studies. Most of the structures were historically significant as the Fort Slocum Historic and Archaeological District. Of these structures, Brighton said that about one third were identified as having historical or archaeological significance and if desired could be restored or partially restored.

After research was completed on each of the buildings, the structures were demolished if they were determined not restorable. So construction and historical preservation efforts were working in tandem in order to move the project forward and not waste time and money. This fall, one of the key structures on the island was demolished marking the near completion of the project. The island's large water tower that has been a sailing "landmark" for over 78 years, and marks the edge of the island, was brought down.

Much of the material waste from the demolition is being recycled and reused that includes a large amount of steel, especially from the water tower. Hazardous materials, such as asbestos, are being removed and brought to licensed facilities.

Brighton worked with a number of interested parties from Westchester County and the City of New Rochelle to determine what should be done with those historic structures that could be preserved. Since the future of the island hasn't been determined, the City of New Rochelle, who owns the property, recently decided to not restore any of the island's structures. Understandably the City doesn't want to fund the maintenance of structures as the use of the island is being determined.

However, remnants of the former fort will be preserved on the island for the public to view including the fort's overall landscaped vegetation, a seawall, the flagpole, mortar pits from the late 19<sup>th</sup> century, tennis courts, walkways, and a cannon used during the Spanish-American War.

Brighton said that if the public wishes to find out more about these historic items as well as other aspects of the fort, the Army Corps in collaboration with the Westchester County Historical Society and the City of New Rochelle Public Library, are creating a virtual archive and public exhibit that will be viewable on the Internet.



**Drill Hall/Gymnasium, built 1909. Credit: Tetra Tech EC, Inc.**

This virtual archive and exhibit will include all of the extensive research the Army Corps gathered during this project including the historical data on each of the fort's structures, photos, maps, videos, and oral histories from over two dozen individuals who used to live and work at Fort Slocum, in both print and audio formats. In addition, various museums will include the Corps reports in their archives.

The future of the island is still undecided, but what is certain is that what has only primarily been a wildlife sanctuary will soon be accessible to the public.

Speaking of wildlife, the osprey family whose nest had to be moved at the beginning of this project has since grown three fold. Maybe this signifies an adaptable and prosperous future for Davids Island.

*Dr. JoAnne Castagna is a technical writer-editor for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New York District. She can be reached at [joanne.castagna@usace.army.mil](mailto:joanne.castagna@usace.army.mil)*

## 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 10<sup>th</sup> Annual Technology Transfer Workshop, to be held 16-18 February 2009 at the Tradewinds Island Resort, St. Petersburg, Florida, prior to the 22<sup>nd</sup> 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.

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### U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution Announces the Availability of Upcoming Training Courses

The U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution is pleased to announce the upcoming schedule of courses.

#### Introduction to Managing Environmental Conflict

Tucson, AZ - January 13-14, 2009  
Washington DC - Mar 10-11, 2009  
Atlanta, GA - May 12-13, 2009

#### Collaborative Competencies

Washington DC - February 24-26, 2009

#### Interest-Based Negotiation of Environmental Issues

Portland, OR - April 22-23, 2009

#### Advanced Multi-Party Negotiation of Environmental Disputes

Washington DC - February 10-12, 2009  
Washington DC - April 7-9, 2009

The Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution can also customize training courses to meet specific needs.

For more information about the Institute or to find out more about the training courses, including course description and cost, please visit the Institute’s website at <http://www.ecr.gov> or contact:

Diana Wilkinson, PhD  
Training Coordinator  
U.S. Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution  
130 South Scott Avenue, Tucson, Arizona 85701  
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Fax: 520.901.8579  
Email: [wilkinson@ecr.gov](mailto:wilkinson@ecr.gov)

## 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) **HQ US Army Corps of Engineers; Directorate of Civil Works; Civil Works Policy & Policy Compliance Division; Washington DC**, YF-3 / YC-3: Supv General Biological Scientist (0401), Supv Architect (0808), Supv Civil Engineer (0810), Supv Social Scientist (0101), Supv Economist (0110), Supv Community Planner (0020)
- (2) **US Army Engineer Division, Great Lakes and Ohio River, Programs Dir, Programs Support Division, DST (Gr Lakes)/COP (Planning), Cincinnati, OH**, YD-3: Supv Economist (0110), Supv Geographer (0150), Supv Social Scientist (0101), Supv Community Planner (0020), Supv Landscape Architect (0807), Supv Architect (0808), Supv Civil Engineer (0810), Supv Environmental Engineer (0819), Supv General Biologist (0401), Supv Physical Scientist (1301), Supv Hydrologist (1315), Supv Mechanical Engineer (0830)
- (3) **US Army Engineer District, Louisville, Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division, Planning Branch, Plan Formulation Section, Louisville, KY**, Regional Economist, GS-0110-9/11/12
- (4) **US Army Engineer District, Los Angeles, Programs and Project Management Division, Civil Works Branch, Los Angeles, CA**, GS-13: Project Manager (0101), Project Manager (0401), Project Manager (0801), Physical Scientist (1301), Architect (0808), Landscape Architecture (0807)
- (5) **US Army Engineer District, Pittsburgh, Business Resources Div, Project Management Section. Duty station: Pittsburgh, PA**, GS-12/13: Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), Ecologist (0408), General Engineer (0801), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Chemist (1320)
- (6) **US Army Engineer Dist., San Francisco, Programs & Project Mgmt Div., Project Management Branch B, San Francisco, CA**, GS-12: Project Manager (0101), Project Manager (0401), Project Manager (0801), Civil Engineer (0810), Physical Scientist (1301)
- (7) **USACE Institute for Water Resources, Hydrologic Engineering Center, Water Resource Systems Division, Davis, CA**, Mathematical Statistician, YD-1529-2

(1) Vacancy Announcement Number: **NCFL08094988**

Opening Date: **November 21, 2008** Closing Date: **December 20, 2008**

Position: **YF-3 / YC-3: Supv General Biological Scientist (0401), Supv Architect (0808), Supv Civil Engineer (0810), Supv Social Scientist (0101), Supv Economist (0110), Supv Community Planner (0020)**

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

Place of Work: **HQ US Army Corps of Engineers; Directorate of Civil Works; Civil Works Policy & Policy Compliance Division; Washington DC**

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:** This position functions as Deputy Chief for the Planning and Policy Division, with responsibility for participating in the management of division activities and ensuring efficient and effective performance of division functions. Assists Chief in defining scope and character of division activities: articulating and integrating objectives of the Civil Works Program; advancing equal employment opportunity and affirmative action objectives; coordinating development and review of program plans, legislative and other policy proposals to achieve these objectives; scheduling and assigning workload; and coordinating and supervising division activities to ensure the economical, scientifically and technically accurate, and effective accomplishment of the Division's mission. Performs special assignments involving complex tasks related to Division responsibilities. Performs on special task force studies and provides major input to special reports both on policy and technically based areas.

(2) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGJ08176025**

Opening Date: **December 05, 2008** Closing Date: **December 29, 2008**

Position: **YD-3: Supv Economist (0110), Supv Geographer (0150), Supv Social Scientist (0101), Supv Community**

**Planner (0020), Supv Landscape Architect (0807), Supv Architect (0808), Supv Civil Engineer (0810), Supv Environmental Engineer (0819), Supv General Biologist (0401), Supv Physical Scientist (1301), Supv Hydrologist (1315), Supv Mechanical Engineer (0830)**

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

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer Division, Great Lakes and Ohio River, Programs Dir, Programs Support Division, DST (Gr Lakes)/COP (Planning), Cincinnati, OH**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** Serves as Chief, Planning and Policy, the leader of the Planning and Policy Community of Practice (CoP) for LRD, the national leader of the CoP for Inland Navigation, the Leader of the USACE Inland Navigation Planning Center of Expertise, and the supervisor of a District Support Team (DST), within the Programs Directorate of LRD. Is the senior technical advisor/consultant for LRD's regional water resources planning activities. Insures the effective utilization of water and related land resources to meet existing and long-term needs. Responsible to the Programs Director for overall program formulation, management, programming, administration, and evaluation of regional water resources development activities performed within the LRD office and for providing staff supervision and assistance, coordination, and review regarding the water resources development planning accomplished in subordinate districts. Represents the Division Commander at conferences and hearings.

(3) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGJ08054728**

Opening Date: **December 15, 2008** Closing Date: **December 29, 2008**

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

Salary: **\$45,040 - \$84,913 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer District, Louisville, Planning, Programs, and Project Management Division, Planning Branch, Plan Formulation Section, Louisville, KY**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** As senior specialist, completes economic studies and analyses and certain economic-related social studies which are critical to the planning and evaluation of civil works projects. Studies are conducted simultaneously in fields such as over-bank flooding, flooding due to sewer back-up, drainage, recreational boat harbors, hydropower, beach erosion, water supply, water-oriented recreation, and harbor operations and maintenance. Completes required data/information identification and collection; data interpretation and assessment of reliability and applicability; development of the methodology for specific assignments in accordance with the Water Resources Council "Procedures for Evaluation of NED Benefits and Costs in Water Resources Planning" and the specific study objectives; analysis of the data such that the economic and economic-related social impacts have been correctly and thoroughly estimated and assigned to the proper national or regional Principles and guidelines,(P&G) account.

(4) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTKC08180036**

Opening Date: **December 12, 2008** Closing Date: **December 22, 2008**

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

Salary: **\$85,960 - \$111,753 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer District, Los Angeles, Programs and Project Management Division, Civil Works Branch, Los Angeles, CA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** Projects may include dams, water diversion structures, bridges, flood walls, levees, river control structures, flood plains, dredging, environmental restoration and other facilities, or a combination thereof. This requires that the incumbent apply a wealth of water resources, scientific, and Corps of Engineers policy and project management knowledge to achieve scheduling, funding and program goals, and to ensure use of optimum approaches which meet project objectives. Reviews and evaluates the status of projects for attainment of objectives. Plans, programs and oversees cost and schedule execution of the planning, design, and construction of Civil Works water resources projects in coordination with the functional chiefs of each area to assure that the projects are completed within guidelines and objectives. Initiates, manages, administers and approves plans that translate project objectives into completed functional phases. Reviews and approves funding and manpower estimates.



(5) Vacancy Announcement Number: **SWGB08195580**

Opening Date: **December 17, 2008** Closing Date: **January 02, 2009**

Position: **GS-12/13: Economist (0110), Geographer (0150), Biologist (0401), Ecologist (0408), General Engineer (0801), Civil Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Mechanical Engineer (0830), Electrical Engineer (0850), Chemist (1320)**

Salary: **\$66,325 - \$102,537 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer District, Pittsburgh, Business Resources Div, Project Management Section. Duty station: Pittsburgh, PA.**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** In this position you will serve as a senior Program/Project Manager responsible for the overall management, control, coordination, and execution of assigned Civil Works projects or programs of high dollar value. Participate in District programming decisions affecting long and short-range courses of action. Provide input to the operating budget, planning, design, cost engineering, construction and environmental restoration. Resolve highly difficult technical and administrative project problems, obtaining Project Review Board or supervisory approval. Projects include local flood control projects, continuing authority projects, reconnaissance projects, feasibility studies, protection projects, rehabilitation projects or similar projects of national priority, of environmental sensitivity, or extraordinary urgency or having similar requirements.

(6) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTKC08127620**

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

Position: **GS-12: Project Manager (0101), Project Manager (0401), Project Manager (0801), Civil Engineer (0810), Physical Scientist (1301)**

Salary: **\$76,482 - \$99,431 Annual**

Place of Work: **US Army Engineer Dist., San Francisco, Programs & Project Mgmt Div., Project Management Branch B, San Francisco, CA**

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

Number of Vacancy: **1**

**Duties:** Serves as a project manager responsible for managing coordination & accomplishment of the planning, scoping, design, construction, & direction of assigned Corps of Engineers Civil Works (CW) water resources projects. Projects may include dams, water diversion structures, harbors & navigation channels, coastal protection structures, bridges, flood walls, levees, river control structures, flood plains, dredging, environmental restoration, etc. Accomplishes work to include interpreting & applying the policy relating to CW program & projects, approving operational deviations, & applying innovative contracting procedures. Integrates customer requirements & participation into a comprehensive management plan that is coordinated with other agencies & elements within the district. Establishes responsibilities; controls & manages projects' budget & schedule; assures commitments to the customer are met; & serves as the primary point of contact for customer & other external agencies on projects.

(7) Vacancy Announcement Number: **WTKC08100785**

Opening Date: **December 05, 2008** Closing Date: **December 19, 2008**

Position: **Mathematical Statistician, YD-1529-2**

Salary: **\$47,386 - \$107,283 Annual** (Salary includes 20.25% local market supplement)

Place of Work: **USACE Institute for Water Resources, Hydrologic Engineering Center, Water Resource Systems Division, Davis, CA**

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:** Serves as a senior mathematical statistician working directly with engineers, mathematicians & technicians engaged in engineering analysis & risk & uncertainty assessments of a wide variety of water resources issues during the development & engineering phases of a flood risk management project life cycle. Serves as technical expert in the preparation of test plans, specifications, requirements, & documents related to test & evaluation of software & efforts/products. Determines the need for

& performs the design of statistical & mathematical approaches for the purpose of arriving at reliable & adequate conclusions. Performs analysis of data obtained from tests & experiments, interprets the results of such analysis & makes recommendations based on these results. Plans, prepares, & performs programming/software development to test & design components of a flood risk management project. Determines & utilizes the best statistical & mathematical approaches from a wide variety of techniques.

## TRAINING COURSES

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

### **PCC4 Economic Analysis Control Number 270**

March 23— 27, 2009

Springfield, VA

This course is designed to provide an overview of the requirements and procedures for conducting economic analysis of Corps of Engineers water resources planning projects. Some form of economic analysis, including benefit/cost analysis, cost effectiveness analysis and or economic impact analysis is required of all Corps projects, whether they be for flood control, navigation, dredging, water supply, environmental mitigation and restoration or other project purpose. The course is designed to help students better understand the Corps planning process and where they, as economist, fit into that planning process. The course will also provide information on how to think about and analyze new problems and situations.

This course includes discussion on (a) the economist's role in the Corps of Engineers (Who is your audience, your customer? What are your products?); (b) introduction on principles and guidelines -- how the economist's job is influenced by P&G; (c) how to think as a Corps economist in National Economic Development (NED) terms (including new technologies such as risk and uncertainty); (d) evaluation by project purpose using the NED manuals (the incorporation of R&U into evaluation by project purpose); (e) other evaluation techniques (cost effectiveness, incremental cost analysis, economic impact analysis); (f) the changing role of economic analysis: Environmental Restoration, Rehabilitation, Watershed Planning, Section 216; (g) expected problem areas and how to think about them -- emphasis will be on with/without project condition, NED vs. Regional, Economics vs. Cost Sharing; and (h) how to plan your work with emphasis on Initial Project Management Plan (IPMP). This course is designed primarily for NEW Corps Economists and/or those personnel requiring a basic understanding of what economists do in conducting economic analysis of water resources projects, particularly project managers. Priority placement will be given to CW planners with less than 3 years of planning experience at the GS7-11 grade level. It is highly recommended that students have taken the CW Orientation Course and the Planning Principles & Procedures Course before taking this course.

### **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>.

## CALL FOR ABSTRACTS



### **Prepare your abstracts now for *Ports 2010: Building on the Past, Respecting the Future***

Ports 2010, organized by the American Society of Civil Engineers and PIANC USA, will be held April 25-28, 2010 in Jacksonville, FL. Abstract submissions are due January 22, 2009, and can be completed online at <http://submissions.miracd.com/ASCE/Ports2010/login.asp>. Also in the planning stages for Ports 2010 are a student paper contest, younger member networking opportunities, and exciting technical tours including an inside look at the Port of Jacksonville.

Ports 2010 topics include: environmental protection; port planning and operation; terminal planning and design; navigation and waterways; port engineering analysis; equipment and systems; port infrastructure; landside connections; security; project development; and sustainability. The Ports 2010 Planning Committee notes in its call for papers the need for port and harbor developers to balance the needs of those facilities and those making a living from the industry with the needs of those living in and around port communities. Conference organizers aim to address those issues by offering technical sessions which provide best practices in planning and design, and construction, operation and maintenance of port facilities worldwide.

Prospective attendees also are invited to submit proposals for short courses which will be offered on Sunday April 25. Proposals should include a summary of course material, information on how the course relates to the conference topics or theme and should also show how the course will benefit attendees. Completed packages also should describe the presenter's credentials, include the suggested number of Professional Development Hours (PDHs) for a course, and projected attendance.

Abstracts should be no more than 500 words, with a title of fewer than 50 words.

Please see the Call for Papers, <http://content.asce.org/conferences/ports2010/CallSubmission.htm>, for more information on these opportunities. For additional information about the conference, please visit the conference website at [www.portsconference.org](http://www.portsconference.org) or contact COPRI at (703)295-6370. Authors will be notified of paper acceptance by April 30, 2009.

## 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*.

***Transportation Research Board—88th Annual Meeting***

January 11-15, 2009

Washington, DC

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

***Climate Change, Natural Resources and Coastal Management***

January 29-30, 2009

San Francisco, CA

Additional information: <http://www.fws.gov/pacific/ClimateChange/Meetings/Coastal.html>

***International Erosion Control Association Annual Conference***

February 9-12, 2009

Reno, NV

Additional information: <http://www.ieca.org/conference/annual/ec.asp>

***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>

***2009 National Hurricane Conference***

April 6-10, 2009

Austin, TX

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

***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 19-24, 2009

Washington, DC

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

***Association of State Floodplain Managers Annual National Conference***

June 7-12, 2009

Orlando, FL

Additional information: <http://www.floods.org/Conferences%2C%20Calendar/Orlando.asp>

**Society of Wetlands Scientists Annual Meeting**  
June 22-26, 2009 Madison, WI  
Additional information: [http://www.sws.org/2009\\_meeting/index.mgi](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/>

**Ecological Society of America Annual Conference**  
August 2—7, 2009 Albuquerque, NM  
Additional information: <http://www.esa.org/albuquerque/>

**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:

*“Topics GEO, Natural Catastrophes 2007—Analyses, Assessments, Positions”*, Munich Re Knowledge Series, Available at: <http://www.munichre.com/en/publications/default.aspx?id=1060#>

*“Impact of Earthquakes on the Central USA”*, By Amr S. Elnashai, Lisa J. Cleveland, Theresa Jefferson and John Harrald, Mid-America Earthquake Center, Report 08-02, Available at: <https://www.ideals.uiuc.edu/handle/2142/8971>

*“Flood Insurance: FEMA’s Rate Setting Process Warrants Attention”* GAO Report 09-12, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Available at: <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-09-12>

*“Flood Insurance: Options for Addressing the Financial Impact of Subsidized Premium Rates on the National Flood Insurance Program”*, GAO Report 09-20, U.S. Government Accountability Office, Available at: <http://www.gao.gov/products/GAO-09-20>

*“Building A Safer Port in the Storm: Private vs. Public Choices in Hurricane Mitigation”* By Daniel Sutter, Mercatus Policy Series Public Comment No. 21, Mercatus Center, George Mason University, Available at: <http://www.mercatus.org/PublicationDetails.aspx?id=16380>

*“Science and Technology for America’s Progress: Ensuring the Best Presidential Appointments in the New Administration”*, Committee on Science and Technology in the National Interest: Ensuring the Best Presidential Appointments; National Academy of Sciences, National Academy of Engineering, and the Institute of Medicine, Available at [http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record\\_id=12481](http://www.nap.edu/catalog.php?record_id=12481)

*“Defense Imperatives for the New Administration—A Report of the Defense Science Board”*, August 2008, Available at <http://www.acq.osd.mil/dsb/reports.htm>

## 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, January 7, 2009**

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