US Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District

GOLD NUGGETS

'Building and preserving Alaska's future'

June 2011

State, district plan deep-draft Arctic ports

By Brenda Hewitt
State of Alaska Communications Office

JUNEAU, Alaska – The Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District held a planning charrette in Anchorage May 16-17 to shape the scope for development of deep-draft Arctic ports.

The state proposed one or more deep-draft ports to support exports of natural resources and imports of bulk goods and supplies, and provide the U.S. Coast Guard a northernmost port to protect and patrol the state's Arctic waters that also serves the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

A few possible uses for a deep-draft port in the Arctic could be a direct shipping point for resources developed in western and northern regions of Alaska; a strategic military and commercial port as vessel traffic increases; a major infrastructure asset to any potential future endeavors to produce oil and natural gas from deep-water reserves in the Arctic; and a strategic location to launch emergency response as well as search and rescue operations.

"A deep-draft port would be a long-term national asset," said Marc Luiken, Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities commissioner. "It is vital to project U.S. presence, to open up opportunities for economic growth, aid in mineral research and development, and to support continued scientific studies. The U.S. needs deep-draft Arctic ports along Alaska's coast."

The State of Alaska and the Corps of Engineers will use the results of this planning session to help design future development.

"We accomplished a great deal," said Col. Reinhard Koenig, Alaska District commander. "We're at the very beginning of the planning stages, but we determined that a deep-draft port is needed and would be beneficial to Alaska and the nation."

The discussion leveraged the collective expertise of participants, which included Rep. Don Young; representatives from the offices of Sen. Lisa Murkowski, Sen. Mark Begich and Gov. Sean Parnell; Lt. Gov. Mead Treadwell; and state commissioners from the departments of transportation; natural resources; commerce, community and economic development; and environmental conservation.

Also attending were high-level representatives from the Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Navy, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority, Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, University of Alaska at Fairbanks and Anchorage, NOAA and the Alaska Marine Pilots.

With RISE Alaska facilitating the event, charrette participants discussed several issues, including how to answer the following questions:

• What role does your organization play in deep-draft navigation in the Arctic region?

• How do you see that role changing during the next 50 years?

• What design criteria—such as ship length, beam, draft depth, helipad and related infrastructure—would you need in the Arctic region to support national security, economic development, life safety, search and rescue, and related needs?

•How do you envision the international community collaborating in the Arctic?

"This is a historic opportunity," said Luiken in his remarks. "We are counting on a roomful of subject-matter experts to determine the best options for developing deep-draft Arctic ports in Alaska to best serve state and national interests for generations."

The Alaska State Legislature passed a capital budget in May that contained $972,000 to begin the study and mapping of potential Arctic deep-water port sites with the help of the Corps of Engineers.

It is estimated that it will require $2 million more to complete the study by 2014.

Luiken said the public will be invited and encouraged to participate during the study process.

Courtesy photo

Jim Hemsath, Alaska Industrial Development and Export Authority deputy director of development, speaks at the planning charrette for deep-draft Arctic ports held by the Alaska Department of Transportation and Public Facilities, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District in Anchorage May 16-17.

Editorial

Life jackets key to surviving cold-water plunge

By Curt Biberdorf
Public Affairs Office

Cold water is a killer.

If you don't believe it, look at the statistics: Eight percent of boating accidents in water 70-79 degrees were fatal compared to 40 percent in water less than 59 degrees, according to a 2007 U.S. Coast Guard report.

In other words, you are five times more likely to die in cold water than in warm water, and even at the peak of summer in Alaska, all bodies of water are cold.

Wearing a life jacket greatly increases your chance of surviving cold-water immersion and needs to become a habit for everyone on the water.

Again, look at the statistics: Ninety percent of those who drowned in boating accidents were not wearing a life jacket, according to a Lifesaving Society study in 2007.

Still, people resist wearing life jackets for reasons that fall apart upon examination.

Most people said if they can swim, wearing a life jacket is unnecessary, according to the 2005 Canadian Safe Boating Council Smart Risk Study.

In fact, the majority of people who drown in boating accidents know how to swim.

Knowing how to swim won't help if you're knocked unconscious after striking an object or suffer an injury where you lose your ability to swim, said Marvin Ballard, Safety Office chief for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District.

Photo by Curt Biberdorf

Joe McCullough, education coordinator with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources Division of Parks and Outdoor Recreation Office of Boating Safety, wears two types of compact inflatable life vests during a boating and water safety presentation May 19.

Those uninjured still face the initial cold shock and physical incapacitation of the numbing water.

Gordon Giesbrecht, professor of thermophysiology at the University of Manitoba, is a leading authority on cold-water immersion. "Professor Popsicle," as he is also known, has conducted and participated in dozens of experiments on how cold water affects people.

Through his research, he discovered the "1-10-1" formula. In cold water, people generally have one minute to control their breathing, 10 minutes of meaningful movement and one hour before becoming unconscious from hypothermia.

Even strong swimmers in that first minute may drown from the gasp reflex, uncontrolled breathing, vertigo or sudden changes in blood pressure. If they do survive past the initial shock, they will soon be unable to move well and will quickly succumb without the assistance of a life jacket, according to Giesbrecht's research.

Some people believe you can put on a life jacket in the water, according to the CSBC study.

Those first two phases of cold-water immersion again come into play. Assuming the person overboard survives the cold shock, tactility and the ability to move quickly fade.

A life jacket also must be within easy reach and not stored in some compartment, trapped under the boat or floating away.

If one is available, putting on a vest in the water is nearly impossible because a person fighting to stay afloat has to somehow grab onto a vest while bobbing in the water, Ballard said.

The only way to be sure you will have a life jacket when you need it is to wear it before you need it.

Another reason why people reject wearing a life jacket is that they are uncomfortable.

The market offers a wide variety of choices, such as belt packs, suspenders and vests with automatic and manual inflation tubes. These life jackets are "almost invisible" because of their compact size, and they are more comfortable and less cumbersome than the older "Mae West" style, Ballard said.

Wearing a life jacket greatly increases your chances of surviving cold-water immersion and needs to become a habit for everyone on the water.

If you are going to be on any kind of boat in Alaska, be sure to wear a life jacket that meets your needs and keeps you afloat. If the unthinkable happens and you go overboard, you will be prepared to survive and stand a much better chance of emerging alive.

GOLD NUGGETS

Commander
Col. Reinhard W. Koenig

Deputy Commander
Lt. Col. James R. "Bobby" Stone

Director of Programs and Project Management
Dr. Larry D. McCallister

Chief of Public Affairs
Tom Findtner

Media Relations Specialist
Pat Richardson

Editor
Curt Biberdorf

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E-mail inquiries may be sent to: public.affairs3@usace.army.mil or Curt Biberdorf.

Courtesy photo

Making moor

Knik Construction Co. Inc. finished excavating topsoil and started digging out sand in the harbor basin May 7 for the $31.9 million Akutan boat harbor project managed by the Alaska District. The project involves constructing two rock breakwaters totaling nearly 1,500 feet in length, and dredging as well as excavating 960,000 cubic yards of material to create an entrance channel and mooring basin. Akutan does not have protected moorage for its fishing fleet.

Trainee program expands north

By Curt Biberdorf
Public Affairs Office

A joint program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Alaska District and Warrior Transition Battalion-Alaska has expanded to Fort Wainwright.

The Arctic Warfighter Trainee Program started in 2010 at the Fort Richardson battalion headquarters to allow soldiers with a combat or service-related injury or illness to gain job experience and skills in a field of interest while contributing to the district's mission.

In February, the first two soldiers from the battalion's Company B at Fort Wainwright started a six-to-nine month trainee assignment while they wait for a medical evaluation board decision to return to duty, medically-separate or retire.

"It's good that we're able to provide soldiers training so that when they leave the military, they have some outside experience," said Capt. Jesse Anderson, project engineer at the Northern Area Office and Fort Wainwright trainee program coordinator. "They want to be here, succeed and take that experience with them once they leave."

Interviews began in January after Anderson presented the program to the unit to generate interest.

Staff Sgt. Craig Aris, military intelligence specialist, was placed in the Fairbanks Regulatory Field Office as a regulatory specialist trainee, and Spc. Jacob Belcher, helicopter crew chief, found his niche as a quality assurance representative trainee at the Fort Wainwright Resident Office.

Photo by Mike Volsky

Spc. Jacob Belcher, Arctic Warfighter Program trainee at the Northern Area Office, checks electrical drawings for barracks rooms at the Warrior Transition Complex at Fort Wainwright.

Soldiers are interviewed to determine career goals, special skills, limitations and availability. They are then matched with a job that also fits the district's needs. In a couple of weeks, Aris and Belcher were at work.

"The job is awesome. The people are great on instructing and bringing me into what's going on," said Belcher, originally from Moline, Ill. "There's no way I would be able to get this kind of experience without this program."

His responsibilities include monitoring safety and construction during site visits, and administrative tasks, such as monitoring the contractor's daily report to ensure the work is staying on schedule. He assisted briefly with the construction of the Stryker Vehicle Wash Facility until it was turned over to the Army and has spent most of his time on the job site for the new Warrior Transition Complex.

The two-building configuration of the current warrior transition unit is short on space, with common areas being used for activities that are too large, Belcher said.

"It's pretty cool to see the project getting done," he said. "I can give some input because I know how it's going to be used."

His participation was inconsistent at the beginning because of scheduling conflicts but is steadily improving. Ideally he can stay long enough to

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Trainee

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learn the whole job, said Mike Volsky, quality assurance representative at the Fort Wainwright Resident Office and Belcher's supervisor.

"(This program) is a very good idea," Volsky said. "I was in that situation about 10 years ago, and I would have loved to have had that opportunity."

Belcher is hoping to get enough training to be considered for a job in Alaska or in the Fresno, Calif., area and plans to continue to study for an engineering degree, but is keeping his options open. "You never know how things change," he said.

On a different side of the Corps of Engineers, Aris was steered into a position in the Regulatory Division because of his desire to earn a degree in forestry and environmental studies when he leaves the Army. Originally from London, England, Aris said he is thrilled to have the trainee position and would seize the chance to work there as a permanent employee.

His job duties include organizing maps and learning how to use the geographic information system for wetlands jurisdictional determinations. He has not yet had the opportunity to learn how to process permit applications.

"(This program) has opened up so many different avenues I didn't know much about," Aris said. "It's going to benefit me in the long run even if I can't be a game warden. If there's a chance for other soldiers to participate, they should jump on it."

He has been willing and interested in learning and performing all tasks assigned to him, said Christy Everett, Fairbanks Regulatory Field Office manager. Both parties benefit with soldiers receiving training in their field of interest while the district gets some assistance and a fresh perspective.

"With our current funding constraints, it has been helpful to have this additional source of labor," Everett said. "Given more time for training, I think Staff Sgt. Aris could be an even bigger asset to our office."

Working around their schedules with physical therapy and appointments remains the biggest challenge, said Anderson, but the commander and first sergeant have been helpful in letting the troops be autonomous in setting up a schedule that allows for maximum time on the job.

For soldiers unable to return to duty, Anderson can provide a letter of recommendation and help set them up for success as they continue their careers after the Army.

Opportunities also exist to get hired by the Corps in Alaska or elsewhere. That was the case for former Army Spc. Chris Bean, who applied and was hired as a driller's helper after serving as a driller trainee in the Soils and Geology Section.

Each quarter Anderson plans on presenting the program to the Fort Wainwright unit to reach new soldiers and follow up with unit leadership on any prospects.

Photo by Steve Geppert

Wave buster

Officials for the Corps of Engineers and City of Seward cut a ribbon in a ceremony aboard a vessel to celebrate the Seward East Breakwater Extension completion May 12. From the left are: Tina McMaster-Goering, Alaska District project manager; Col. Reinhard Koenig, Alaska District commander; Col. Ed Kertis, Pacific Ocean Division commander; Kari Anderson, harbormaster; Mayor Willard Dunham; and Phillip Oates, city manager. After the expansion of Seward Harbor in 2005, wave analysis determined the need for an additional 215 feet of breakwater to reduce wave heights inside the harbor. The Alaska District constructed the $3.8 million project with funding from the City of Seward and the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. A contract was awarded to West Construction Co. Inc. of Anchorage in October 2010, and the breakwater extension was completed on time and under budget in December 2010.

District assists with nationwide permit

Alaska District's Regulatory Division is assisting with the Regulatory Community of Practice's 2012 Nationwide Permit (NWP) reauthorization effort.

NWPs approve activities that are similar in nature and cause no more than minimal adverse environmental impacts to aquatic resources individually and cumulatively. Activities vary from work associated with navigation aids and utility lines to residential developments and maintenance activities.

The goal is to have clear and certain permits that save the government and public time and money, said Maj. Gen. William T. Grisoli, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers deputy commanding general for Civil and Emergency Operations.

Many of the NWPs being proposed remain unchanged from 2007, the last time these permits were authorized, and will replace the existing set, which expires March 18, 2012. Under Section 404(e) of the Clean Water Act, general permits, which include NWPs, cannot be authorized for more than five years.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers-Headquarters starts work on the next cycle of NWPs when the current NWPs have about two years left.

Dave Casey, Kenai Regulatory Field Office supervisor, returned from a monthlong assignment at USACE-Headquarters in Washington, D.C., organizing and responding to thousands of public comments received after a Feb. 16 "Federal Register" notice proposed reissuing 48 existing NWPs and issuing two new NWPs.

Public comments are an important component of the reauthorization process and will be used to help the Corps adjust the permits so they can better protect the nation's aquatic resources while allowing development through a flexible and efficient permit process, said Casey.

The NWPs are issued by the USACE Chief of Engineers under the Corps authority pursuant to Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and/or Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act of 1899. Two new NWPs USACE is proposing to issue pertain to allowing renewable energy generation projects.

"The two proposed nationwide permits could provide more transparency and predictability for proponents of land-based or water-based renewable energy projects," said Casey. "We proposed a half-acre limit for each of them, which is similar to requirements for nationwide permits used for other energy development activities."

After public review and consultation, USACE division engineers may add regional conditions to NWPs in order to protect local aquatic ecosystems, such as fens or bottomland hardwoods, or to minimize adverse effects on fish or shellfish spawning, wildlife nesting or other ecologically-critical areas.

Districts have a large role in reauthorization by developing the regional conditions for division approval, Casey said.

District commanders also have invited each tribe within their areas of responsibility to formal government-to-government consultation on the NWPs. Districts have been working on their programmatic-essential fish habitat consultation with National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration-Fisheries and soon will conduct Endangered Species Act programmatic consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and National Marine Fisheries Service.

In FY2010, Corps NWPs authorized more than 32,000 activities. In Alaska, the NWPs authorized more than 450 projects.

Casey has experience with the 2007 NWP and accepted the Headquarters request to lead the 2012 NWP reauthorization effort for the short-staffed Regulatory Community of Practice. Since the spring of 2010, he has divided his time between the NWPs and district work.

"It's both challenging and very eye-opening to be able to work at this level of government," he said.

The final permits are scheduled to be announced in a mid-December "Federal Register" notice. The NWPs would take effect 90 days thereafter and before the current NWP expiration date.

Compiled from Headquarters-USACE news release and staff reports

Welcome home

Col. Reinhard Koenig, district commander, recognizes service members and employees who have returned from deployments during a ceremony in the Talley Room May 25. From the left are: Tamara Arnold, Reynaldo Singson, Maj. James Thompson, George Cashman, Sgt. 1st Class Keith Baltozer, Doug Sterk and Tom Baker. All returning employees received a certificate of appreciation and briefly spoke about their experience to those gathered at the event. (Photo by Curt Biberdorf)

Annual event fulfills safety training

Alaska District's annual Safety Day at headquarters was filled with a lineup of activities covering a wide range of health and occupational safety topics and activities to satisfy mandatory employee safety training May 19.

A fire drill brought everybody outside to start the day. It allowed Lt. Col. Bobby Stone, deputy district commander, to encourage participation in the day's events and announce that Alaska had won the district-level 2010 Chief of Engineers Safe Performance Award of Excellence.

In the atrium annex, employees practiced putting out fire with a digital fire extinguisher trainer provided by the Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson Fire Department, were measured and evaluated on office space ergonomics by Situs Ergonomics, and learned about health and nutritional awareness that included body composition measurement and blood pressure readings by registered dieticians from the JBER Health and Wellness Center and Nutrition Clinic.

Outside the atrium was the chance to get the blood moving. The Blood Bank of Alaska collected 20 pints of blood from its Bloodmobile, runners and walkers pounded pavement on a nearby route, and passengers in the Quake Cabin were rattled with a simulated magnitude 5.5 earthquake courtesy of the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management.

Conference rooms were also busy with presentations on bear safety and wildlife protection, recreational boating and water safety, public safety and a class on workers compensation.

(Clockwise from top) Dan Belanger, emergency management specialist with the Alaska Division of Homeland Security and Emergency Management, prepares Charlie Chavious, Michelle Sappa and Chuck Livers, all of the Construction Operations Division, for a simulated magnitude 5.5 earthquake in the agency's Quake Cabin.

R.C. "Bear" Harrop, Warrior Venture Quest Program manager at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, teaches bear safety and wildlife protection.

Joanne Villaflor, dietician at JBER Health and Wellness Center, shows brochures as Bob Steinmann of the Structures and Architecture Section checks his blood pressure.

Lt. Col. Bobby Stone, deputy district commander, encourages participation during Safety Day and announces that Alaska won the district-level 2010 Chief of Engineers Safe Performance Award of Excellence.

Photo by Curt Biberdorf

The Tomodachi Daiko Taiko Drummers of Anchorage perform during the district's Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month celebration outside the atrium annex May 31.

Show of support

Asian-Pacific American Month event welcomes local Japanese consul

By Curt Biberdorf
Public Affairs Office

Despite the devastation, Japan will recover from its latest major earthquake, said Consul Hideo Fujita, head of the Consular Office of Japan in Anchorage, during Alaska District's Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month celebration May 31.

Fujita was guest speaker at the event, which also featured a lunch buffet and entertainment by the Tomodachi Daiko Taiko Drummers of Anchorage.

The magnitude 9.0 earthquake, the biggest in modern history and fourth strongest ever, left 22,000 people dead or missing. Compared to Japan's magnitude 7.2 Great Hanshin earthquake that killed 6,000 people in 1995, it had 1,000 times the total energy.

Unlike this previous event, the March 11 earthquake's tsunami caused nearly 90 percent of the casualties. It was close to shore and approached so fast that people didn't have enough time to react and take shelter, Fujita said. In some small cities, almost half the population was dead or missing.

Another immediate concern was the Fukushima Daiichi Nuclear Power Plant.

Different from the Chernobyl nuclear accident, the Fukushima power plant's reactor stopped immediately after the earthquake, and the explosion was covered, he said.

The reactor was inoperable from the tsunami damage, but the plant supplied emergency power to operate electronics and water pumps needed to cool the reactors. Because of the unexpected seriousness of the damage and shortage of electricity it created, "the road ahead is rough, steep and long," Fujita said.

The Fukushima power plant provided electricity to the entire nation, and since electricity is the "engine of the economy," the ensuing shortage is believed to be a strike to the Japanese economy, he said.

However, he disagreed with abandoning nuclear power based on this incident.

"We should not finish it with just an accident," Fujita said. "We must make a thorough investigation, and we must share those results with other countries in order to prevent such kind of accident again."

He added that not all accidents can be avoided, but it is possible to reduce the size of these problems through enhanced technology. Another blow to Japan's economy involved the transportation system, with many damaged highways and an unknown repair timeline.

Several cities producing parts for manufactured goods, such as telephones and automobiles, were hit by the tsunami, further impacting the economy.

"This is one reason Toyota dropped their target production numbers," he said.

Even with the trauma caused by the natural disaster, the Japanese people responded well.

"(They) have a kind of resilience," Fujita said. "Once Japanese people can share consensus for rehabilitation, then I think we will do a very good job of recovery for our nation."

Japan recovered after World War II, the 1973 oil embargo and 1995 earthquake, and he fully expects the nation will recover again with the support of the United States and other nations.

U.S. military and relief agencies

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Support

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have helped with materials, and search and rescue. Within days, the military helped restore service at the damaged airport.

The United States is responsible for defending Japan from attack, but it is not required to assist in natural disasters.

"America has gone above and beyond its duty as an ally and partner of Japan for the recent disaster," Fujita said. "I'm sure many people recognize the importance of (the) U.S.-Japan alliance and many people understand how much can be done in Japan by U.S. as partners."

He has received offers of assistance and words of sympathy from leaders in Alaska, a state that resides in the Pacific Ring of Fire and was shaken by a magnitude 9.2 earthquake in 1964, the strongest recorded in North America. He said his nation will never forget the American show of support during Japan's time of need.

After his presentation, Fujita received a commander's coin and certificate of appreciation from Col. Reinhard Koenig, district commander.

The people of Japan and Alaska possess the same resilience to overcome a historically-significant disaster, Koenig said.

"It was for us and will be for you," he said. "Even today, there are things that we go about in our work and our engineering and things of that nature that are impacted by the events so very long ago."

Other events marking the month were two lunchtime cultural events in the Talley Room, as well as breakfast and bake sale fundraisers. With money also contributed during the luncheon, the Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month committee gave the American Red Cross a check for $1,000 to support disaster relief in Japan.

May was chosen for Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month to commemorate the immigration of the first Japanese citizens to the United States on May 7, 1843, and to mark the anniversary of the completion of the transcontinental railroad on May 10, 1869. The majority of the workers who laid the tracks were Chinese immigrants.

Photo by Curt Biberdorf

Employees fill their plates with Asian-Pacific foods during a lunch provided by Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month committee members in the atrium May 31.

Photo by Curt Biberdorf

Consul Hideo Fujita, head of the Consular Office of Japan in Anchorage, discusses his nation's latest major earthquake and tsunami, its effects and recovery during Alaska District's Asian-Pacific American Heritage Month celebration May 31.

Around the district

New branch manager named

George Newman has been selected and assumed the duties as chief of the Management Support Branch for the Program and Project Management Division. The Management Support Branch develops and provides official district workload and income projections for current and future year district operating budgets to the director of Programs and Project Management Division. In this new position, Newman will work with every Alaska District program. He has been with the Alaska District for more than 13 years and has extensive experience in the government and private sector. Newman's former position in Army Program Management has been filled by Mark Coburn.

Contracts awarded

JBER-Fort Richardson Brigade Complex Phase I Fueling Point—The district awarded this design/build project to Granite Petroleum Inc. May 5 for $5,515,320. This is the first of three contracts for Phase I and will construct a fueling point.

JBER-Fort Richardson Brigade Complex Phase I Barracks—The district awarded this design/build project May 11 for $23.9 million. This is the second of three contracts for Phase I and will construct a 192-person barracks.

JBER-Fort Richardson Battle Command Training Facility—The district awarded this fully-designed project May 11 for $20.02 million. This project constructs a standard small battle command training center.

Fort Greely Fire Station—The district awarded this fully-designed project May 10 for $16.34 million. This is a non-standard design fire/rescue facility.

Photo by Curt Biberdorf

Moving up

Karen Farmer, chief of Resource Management, receives the Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Col. Reinhard Koenig, district commander, at district headquarters May 25 for her dual service as acting chief of Resource Management along with her former position as finance and accounting officer from January to May.
A licensed certified public accountant, Farmer joined the Corps of Engineers as a systems accountant in October 1999, transitioned to lead budget analyst in June 2001, and assumed the finance and accounting officer position in June 2002. She was promoted to her current position in May.

Upcoming events

June 10	SAME golf tournament
June 13-17	USACE Infrastructure Conference
June 22	District photo on headquarters front lawn
June 23	District picnic at Cottonwood Park
June 30	POD change of command ceremony
July 25-29	Maj. Gen. Jeffrey Dorko visit

Fort Wainwright Aviation Task Force Phase IIB One-Plex Company Operations Facility—The district awarded this project to Unit Co. May 5 for $10,230,024. This contract will construct a single company operations facility.

Fort Wainwright Urban Assault Course—The district awarded this fully-designed project May 11 for $3.09 million. This project provides additional elements to the existing Tanana Flats Urban Assault Course training venue.

Fort Wainwright Aviation Task Force Phase IIA Hangar—The district awarded this design/build project May 10 for $67.81 million. This is a standard design for an attack assault cavalry hangar facility.

Fort Wainwright Organizational Storage, Raven's Roost—The district awarded this project May 10 for $7.8 million. This project will consist of the organizational storage building, new Raven's Roost, and demolition of buildings 3475 and 3477.

Fort Wainwright Army Family Housing Replacement—The district awarded this design/build project to American Mechanical Inc. May 12 for $14,144,555. This project completes utilities, landscapes, hardscapes and roads within the partially-constructed neighborhood.

Unalakleet Formerly Used Defense Site—The district awarded a contract to BSI-Oasis JV for Unalakleet Remedial Action May 24 for $1,918,284.

Denali Commission—The contract for the Gustavus Bulk Fuel project was awarded May 12 to Western Marine Construction for $406,000. The scope of work includes construction of a new marine header and installation of fuel pipelines from the tank farm to the new fuel header. This is the district's first project with the Denali Commission's Energy Program.

Deployments

Iraq—Ron Jackson, Robert Weakland

Afghanistan—Leanna Dagley, Lt. Col. Matthew Dooley, Anthony Garigliano, Roger Green, Scott Haan, Sterlin Hill, John Keys, Heather Moncrief, Daniel Nordstrom, A'leisha Sorenson, Gary Weiler

Returned—Linda Arrington, Deborah McAtee