



Volume XIX No. 5  
Sept. - Oct. 2007

# Flagship

SEATTLE DISTRICT



**Mud Mountain Dam  
team hopping with  
huge run of 'humpies'**

Pages 6 -7

Inside this issue:

Leader's Corner 2

Tribal partnership importance 3

Clean up 4

Puget Sound Partnership 5

Fish, haul, repeat 6 to 7

Levee repairs 8

Around the District 11

Postcards from the Front 12



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Vol. XIX No. 5

# Safety & health – mindset, way of life

Sadly, a young man working for one of our contractors at Malmstrom Air Force Base lost his life in a very unfortunate work-related accident in late August. This tragic accident reminds us of the wide variety of risks many of us undertake when we report to work each day, and the importance of making sure everyone takes the appropriate steps to mitigate those risks. It is equally important to be aware of the risks we face in our other day-to-day activities away from work as well as the importance of taking care of our health.

Our safety and health needs to be of high importance because collectively, the most important resource our organization has is each of us. Everyone needs to understand and embrace one simple truth and mindset: Safety and health adds value. To our organization. To our workplace. To our life.

□ The value for our organization is clear: focusing on safety and health programs is the right thing to do; it saves money and adds value to the organization.

□ Safety and health adds value to the workplace as well. The benefits include increased productivity, higher quality, increased morale, and reduced turnover.

□ Clearly safety and health adds value to life. For workers, getting hurt or sick is not just physically painful. Injuries and illnesses can significantly reduce income, increase stress and hinder a full family life.

The most effective safety and health strategy available is prevention. That's what occupational safety and health is all about - protecting lives today to ensure our future tomorrow. A key component of our occupational safety and health program involves the concept of composite risk management. That is one reason why each of us was required to complete Composite Risk Management Training.

Our primary tools for risk management and accident prevention are the Position Hazard Analysis (PHA) and the Activity Hazard Analysis (AHA). Taking time to identify hazards, develop countermeasures, and list any protective equipment, training, and other items prepares each of us for the task, and identifies the most dangerous parts of the job. Each of us should have had our PHA

updated recently.

An equally important focus needs to be placed on our health. Our work environment has become increasingly stressful. The effect of this increase in stress is manifesting itself in a variety of ways. Not all stress is bad, a reasonable amount of stress can motivate us to work better and faster. But excessive stress can cause many problems such as health difficulties. It can also keep us from concentrating on working safely.

Some of the symptoms of too much stress are: sleeping difficulties; feelings of anxiety and of being overwhelmed; being short-tempered and uptight; physical sensations such as tense muscles, headache or upset stomach; and abuse of substances such as food, cigarettes, alcohol or drugs.

Some effective ways to cope with stress are: maintain general good health; eat nutritious meals regularly each day; get adequate sleep and rest; and exercise daily or at least several times a week.

The importance of making "Safety First" more than just a motto, making it a mindset, a way of life in all we do cannot be underscored enough. We cannot afford to take our safety, the safety of others, or our health for granted. The results of doing so can be dramatic and vastly tragic.

We all need to be very vigilant in all we do. Please be aware of the environment around you in all you do and think before you act. Those few seconds could save your life or the life of others. In your daily jobs, take safety very seriously. Look for potential hazards and unsafe work practices and report them and hold yourself and others accountable.

Finally please take care of your health. At the end of the day, our work, while very important, is not worth your life or your health. Together we can make a difference. Take Care. Be Safe. Be Healthy!



**Mark Olhstrom**  
Chief, Engineering & Construction



**Cover: A Western Washington Bobcat takes advantage of the 'good fishing' on the White River, adjacent to the Mud Mountain Dam Fish Facility. The crew at MMD is hauling no less than 4,000 fish a day from the facility to the other side of the dam. A high number of pink salmon returning to spawning grounds along with other species have not only the human population busy but the wildlife as well. (Gary Frazier photo)**

# The Importance and Success of an Indian Program



This issue was especially prepared for Darlene James, Realty Specialist, Real Estate Division. She works with the Recruiting and Housing Program in the Realty Services Branch, assisting and managing the housing and recruiting office leases for the Army, Air Force, Navy and Marine Corps. Darlene has worked for the Corps for the last 14 years; and says the best part of her job is the people she works with in the office as well as throughout the Corps.

### Flagship

Col. Michael McCormick, Commander  
 Patricia Graesser, Chief, Public Affairs  
 Casondra Brewster, Editor  
 Nola Leyde, Contributor  
 Dick Devlin, Contributor  
 Kayla Overton, Contributor  
 Elizabeth Townsell, Contributor

Flagship is your news and feature magazine, published bi-monthly. If you have news, suggestions for articles or ideas you think would be useful for Flagship, we'd like to hear from you. Send your ideas to the editor or call the Public Affairs Office at (206) 764-3750.

Flagship is an unofficial publication authorized under AR 360-1, published by the Public Affairs Office, Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, P.O. Box 3755, Seattle, WA 98124-3755. The views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Questions may be sent to the above address or by e-mail: casondra.brewster@usace.army.mil

The vision of the Seattle District Native American Program, known as the Indian Program, is "building a true trust relationship" with Federally Recognized Tribes in our area of responsibility.

For Seattle, this includes 29 Tribes in the State of Washington and another 13 in areas of Oregon, Idaho and Montana where the district carries on work.

Presidential Executive Orders, beginning in 1994, mandate that federal agencies coordinate, consult and work with Tribes. Each new president has upheld this policy, based in part on the original Indian Treaties and the laws, executive orders and regulations that followed. These instruments uphold a "trust responsibility" that our governmental forefathers promised to Indian Tribes and Nations long ago.

But the true test of the success of the program rests on its implementation by project managers, planners and regulators; and the support of the commander and his or her supervisors. Seattle District's success has grown tremendously over the past several years as it has become commonplace to take into account any "potential to affect" that a project or permit has on tribal interests. This could include historic archaeological sites, traditional cultural properties, sacred places or usual and accustomed fishing areas.

### Coordination and Consultation

When a "potential to affect" a Tribe's interests has been established, Project Managers with the assistance of the district's Tribal Liaison office, contacts the affected Tribe and begins coordinating and consulting on the specifics of the project or permit. The Tribe is asked for knowledge of its interest

in the area and comments on how the district's actions – known as undertakings – will have on its history or resources. Often the Tribe is invited to become a team member alongside Corps' and other agencies or owners. Issues are worked through to resolution, so that tribal resources are avoided, protected or mitigated.

If an impasse occurs, the Tribe or Corps can request a more formal consultation, known as a government-to-government meeting. At this level, the commander and tribal chairperson along with Corps staff and tribal council and staff meet to discuss issues, resolve them or plan a way ahead. The need and call for government-to-government meetings in Seattle District have become few and far between, as managers learn the Indian Program and use it in the day-to-day management of their projects.

### A Long and Bright Future

The Seattle District continuously builds and enhances its relationship with Tribes in its area. Project managers, regulators and the tribal liaison visit Tribes; invite them to be team members; work with them to resolve issues; and fulfill our "trust responsibility" to them. The past year and the next are monumental as Corps Headquarters, along with divisions and districts review and revise several Indian policies that will make our relationships and interactions with Tribes even more successful.

Visit the Seattle District's Tribal Liaison's Office, for more in-depth information on tribal history and historical documents on the Federal Indian Policy. You can also check books out of the tribal Liaison's Indian library and get information on local Tribes in our area. – Diane Lake

Editor's Note: Diane Lake, District Tribal Liaison may be reached at (206) 764-3625; or via Email at: [diane.m.lake@usace.army.mil](mailto:diane.m.lake@usace.army.mil)



Diane Lake, district tribal liaison, shares some interesting research facts with Zandra Apple, assistant. Both women have to deal with nearly 50 different Tribes in the district's area of operation. (Casondra Brewster photo)

## Virtual, multi-agency team tackles tough site

A virtual team including members from the EPA, and the Corps of Engineers' Sacramento, Albuquerque, Seattle, Kansas City and Omaha Districts, is working to clean up groundwater below a former California creosote plant.

From 1942 to 1990, McCormick & Baxter Creosoting Company treated utility poles and railroad ties with creosote, pentachlorophenol (PCP), and compounds of arsenic, chromium and copper. Now the McCormick and Baxter Superfund site occupies approximately 32 acres in a predominantly industrial area near the Port of Stockton, Calif.

In mid-1992, the EPA began an investigation into the nature and the extent of groundwater contamination at the site.

It was determined that groundwater beneath the site is contaminated with wood preservative chemicals, and groundwater contaminant plumes emanate from the site and migrate past the site property line. However, no drinking water supplies are currently threatened by site-related contamination.

"Creosote is very difficult to get out of the ground, and it will leach contaminants for decades," said Omaha District's Michael Bailey. "Fortunately they are not very mobile—they don't move far from the source."

"No one is at risk right now," said technical manager Kathryn Carpenter, Seattle District. "There is nobody drinking the water and no plans to use it as a source of drinking water."

Albuquerque District has been the Corps' project manager and Seattle District has been technical lead for the groundwater unit of the cleanup since the 1990s. The Corps is continuing to investigate cleanup alternatives for the EPA, and the plan is to select a final cleanup remedy some time after 2010.

The project goal is to remove NAPL - Non-Aqueous Phase Liquid (a liquid that is denser than water and does not dissolve or mix easily in water) - to the extent practicable to reduce the continuing source of groundwater contamination or to contain NAPL sources that cannot be removed.

To better develop the range of alternatives and to better understand the situation, the team is investigating two things: where and how fast the groundwater is migrating; and the rate at which the contaminants degrade and under what conditions.

"How long will the NAPL source last before it's gone? If it degrades faster than it is moving" there is less concern, Carpenter said. "If not, then we look at the most cost-effective way to address it."

The team is conducting on-site and laboratory biological studies to determine at what rate the naphthalene degrades in anaerobic



**Emile Pitre (Seattle District), James Stellmach (Sacramento District), Bruce Van Etten (Sacramento District) and Glen Terui (Seattle District) collect samples from one of the 110 test wells at the McCormick & Baxter Superfund site. (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Photo)**

conditions and what factors might influence that rate. Omaha District is leading this phase of the project, using a Kansas City District contract.

"We have a bunch of circumstantial evidence that indicates the chemicals are breaking down, and we suspect biological processes," said Bailey.

Natural attenuation has been evaluated for other types of contaminants such as Trichloroethylene-TCE, but for things like naphthalene in the type of conditions at McCormick & Baxter, there isn't much research out there, said Bailey.

The contractor will analyze groundwater and soil samples in a lab over time. Because components like naphthalene break down very slowly, it may take months to see if the contaminants are being broken down in a biological process. If the team does show that the process is occurring, then they can look at ways they might encourage the biological activity.

At the project site, the team has more than 110 test wells in place now and is testing twice a year to look at groundwater direction and at an extensive list of chemicals of concern, natural attenuation parameters and geochemical conditions. Seattle District's Joe Marsh has been field lead for the water sampling effort since 1999, when he was initially coordinating annual testing of 20 wells.

Now the scope of the testing has grown significantly, with Corps of Engineers staff sampling 60 wells twice a year. The location is, of

course, a Superfund site, but even Marsh who has worked on many says this site is the worst because of the dust, sometimes high temperatures and consistent "mothball" smell that the naphthalene produces.

However, the team has chosen to continue to do the work with Corps employees. "It is unusual to do the work in-house," said Marsh, but the EPA had used a contractor in the past and is more satisfied with the way the Corps conducts the sampling.

The Seattle and Sacramento District team can test about a half dozen wells a day. They test the water as it is withdrawn for temperature and some chemical properties. Then the sample bottles are put onto ice in a cooler until each day's set of samples is shipped via Federal Express to four waiting labs across the country.

"In April we shipped 8,000 pounds of samples, and we had to fill over 1,200 bottles with water samples so we had to order more than 80 cases of bottles and keep a room full of empty coolers and two deep freezers full of ice," said Marsh. They will return in October for another round of sampling.

"We're in the investigation phase," he said "Results have been fairly consistent though. We can map the plume—where it's going and in what concentration."

The project is so complex with so much data that the team is looking to use the Equis data management software to manage the data

*Continued on page 5*



Seattle District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, is one of 10 federal agencies who have joined together to urge restoration efforts of Puget Sound. The Puget Sound Federal Caucus is made up of representatives from the Corps, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, U.S. Geological Survey, National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, National Park Service, U.S. Forest Service, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Navy Region Northwest, and the U.S. Coast Guard. Led by Congressman Norm Dicks, the Puget Sound Federal Caucus engages federal agency leaders to team up in support of programs that help Puget Sound recovery efforts while making Puget Sound both a regional and national priority. (Sheila Edgerton photo)

*Virtual*

*Continued from page 4*

and allow them to view it in three dimensions and many other ways.

“This has been an opportunity to work on a complex and challenging problem,” said Carpenter. “The nature of the contaminants—recalcitrant chemicals—and in a tough site makes it interesting.”

The technical team is made up of experts across the country including project manager Marie Lacey and peer reviewer John Wilson at EPA, Corps project manager Monique Ostermann, Albuquerque District; Chuck Coyle, Carol Dona and Michael Bailey, Omaha District; Kathryn Carpenter, Mick Easterly, Jefferey Powers, Joe Marsh, John Wakeman, Tim Grube at Seattle District. In addition, expert contractors and Professor Mark Widdowson at Virginia Tech are all working with the government to find a solution at the McCormick & Baxter site.

“If it wasn’t for the initiative of the team members and their willingness to run with

what they’re doing, this wouldn’t be such an easy project to manage virtually,” said Monique Osterman.

“This process illustrates how the resources the Corps has nationwide can be brought to bear on a complicated project,” said Michael Bailey.

With such a wide ranging virtual team, they meet via phone every other week to track tasks and check in. There are also monthly calls with the EPA to ensure all the involved parties are kept fully informed.

“Marie [Lacey] works directly with the technical teams. She’s great in supporting Seattle’s use of new technology,” said Osterman.

“It is a great team of sharp people who like what they do working on interesting science. I get to work with the very best experts,” said Carpenter. “We’ve made progress, investigated options and are working to really understand the situation.” – Patricia Graesser



**2007 Combined Federal Campaign**

**See your area key person for information on how you can give to your favorite charity**

**Show you care! Give today!**

# Fishing: Seattle District style

## Mud Mountain team moves record number of fish



**LEFT:** Pink salmon along with some coho and Chinook vie to be first in the haul elevator where they are then deposited along with some of the water from the White River with minimum delay in an oxygenated truck. **LEFT BOTTOM:** Sam Sea tightens the seal, keeping the fish secure and oxygenated. **BELOW:** Dan Robinson gets the truck ready to release the fish above Mud Mountain Dam. **FAR RIGHT:** Another load, about 200 fish each, is released above Mud Mountain Dam. (Casondra Brewster Photos) **RIGHT:** Blake Smith, fish biologist for the Puyallup Tribe counts a hatchery fish. Manual sorting is suspended during the high pinks run. (Kayla Overton Photo)





**F**rom sunrise to sunset, the crews at Mud Mountain Dam are hauling fish. And hauling fish. And hauling fish. And hauling fish. Most likely, the moment you are reading this, they will still be hauling fish.

Thousands of pink salmon, also known as 'humpies,' are making their way from their ocean voyage up the White River. To circumvent Mud Mountain Dam and get to the final spawning grounds, the Corps corrals the fish in a special diversion facility and hauls them in special oxygenated trucks to the other side of the dam.

At publication time, they had made more than 470 trips in the month of September and transported more than 120,000 pink salmon. They made 644 trips the entire calendar year thus far. That does not include the coho, Chinook or steelhead they are also moving. In total there is nearly 140,000 fish that have been moved since early August.

"It's unbelievable," said Sam Sea, who's been working on the operations to move the returning fish above the dam. "I mean, I know that Washington is known for its salmon, but this is amazing."

Pink salmon are new pioneers to the White River, meaning that historically the species has not inhabited this body of water. But in and around the Puget Sound, they have been long-time residents.

Jeff Dillon, Corps fish biologist, says there's no good evidence why the pinks are converging at this spot, but said everyone is working to get the job done.

"It's all about the fish," said Bill Thibadeau, operations manager for Mud Mountain Dam. "We did have to suspend the manual sorting of hatchery origin Chinook."

The Muckleshoot and Puyallup Tribes partner with the Seattle District to count and move their hatchery fish. The hatchery is located across the White River from the Mud Mountain Fish Facility. When manual sorting can be accomplished, the Corps staff and the Tribes work together to get the fish where they belong. In early August the Tribes said they were able to fill their hatchery with the Chinook that had returned.

Dillon looks over the river and watched all the activity of the fish haul and said, "The pink salmon are cyclic; in 2009 we could see even more."

— Casondra Brewster

Tracks left behind from wildlife taking advantage of the 'good fishing' from the record Pink Salmon run on the White River this fall. (Casondra Brewster photo)

# Lucky 13: Levee repairs moving forward throughout

Thirteen levees repaired in four months; rest slated for repairs next year.

Lucky 13 is what Paul Komoroske, chief of Seattle District's Emergency Management, calls the number of levee repairs the District hopes to finish before the flood season begins in earnest in November.

When more than 50 levees in the Seattle District PL 84-99 program were damaged last year, the Emergency Management staff knew there was a lot of work ahead. In their line of work, they always expect the unexpected. But for the first time ever, funding for the repair work was not readily available and caused a delay. The concern was it might not happen at all, after recent disasters, such as Katrina.

The first step was to prioritize the work and request funding for the most damaged levees. As that money was received, supplemental funding from Congress provided more than \$20 million dollars to repair the rest. Now the EM team faced a greater challenge of getting as many levees as possible repaired this year.

Investigations and estimates of repair work had already been completed on many of the levees along with some of the engineer design work. The goal is to finish up 13 this year, with 23 more next year. Several levees dropped off the list when local sponsors repaired them or they were found to be ineligible for the program. Levee repairs slated for 2007 began in August and will finish up in October.

Pulling a team together from different offices – including engineering/construction, project management, environmental resources, tribal liaison, real estate, public affairs, resource management, office of counsel,

and contracting – was the key to getting levee repairs quickly done. Work took place in four counties in western Washington, including King, Pierce, Whatcom and Skagit.

"This was the first time we used a detailed Program Management Plan for the whole process which solidified the teamwork needed to expedite the PL 84-99 rehabilitation," said Komoroske. "And with an experienced program manager like Doug Weber here to execute the PMP goals, it enhanced our overall probability of success," he said.

Fred Brown, an environmental engineer in Environmental Management, had just returned to the District from an overseas assignment to Germany for six years. On his second day back he was assigned as a project manager for some of the worst damaged levees in Pierce County.

"It was pretty significant flooding. I read about it in Europe, but seeing it was quite an impact. Needham Levee was pretty much gone and on some levees you could see the scour and that the toe was gone," Brown said.

Brown had several challenges with getting the levee repairs done, including real estate, environmental and tribal concern over potential impact to fish stocks. It also was his first time doing PL 84-99 work. "I did not know what to expect, but having the team approach really made the difference. Did we agree all the time? No. Did we work it out? Yes," he said. Brown said he also had a very proactive sponsor.

*Continued on page 9*



As part of PL84-99 levee repairs, contractors place gravel on the Cedar River Levee in Renton, Wash. Damage was sustained at the site from the November 2006 floods. (Kayla Overton Photo)

# Levees

*Continued from page 8*

“Pierce County knew we had funding issues and they were prepared to go out and get the work done themselves. They felt protecting county residents from flooding was their priority,” said Brown.

One of the first challenges was real estate – an incorrect GPS coordinate indicated one section of the Needham Levee belonged to a company located in Boston, Mass. When the coordinates were corrected, it was found to belong to the county, but it already caused a three week delay.

Also a challenge was the “fish window,” the time in water-work could be done when ESA-listed fish are generally not present and thus minimizing impacts to this federally protected resource. “The Puyallup tribe was very concerned about the work affecting spawning in the river, and we needed to complete the in-water work at the Guy West Levee before Aug. 30. We actually got Guy West done three days early, which helped a lot,” Brown said. He attributes the early completion to Charles Ifft, Emergency Management flood engineer. “He did a huge job.”

Elaine Ebert, Contracting Division chief of purchasing, had her workload more than quadruple with the levee repairs. “We typically have \$5 – 6 million in work. This year it was more than \$20 million,” she said.

“We solicit for equipment rental contractors, hire the contractors and buy the material – rock, willows, spalls, riprap, weed barrier – anything needed to repair the levees. We had 13 levees and three people to do the work. Typically we would have five, plus all of the year-end execution, day-to-day work.

“I have a great team, an excellent,

outstanding team or we would have never accomplished the work. It has been a great project delivery team that work together very well to make sure it all got executed and all the proper documents were in place, so work could happen in a timely manner.

“Having regular Monday morning meetings to make sure we are on the same sheet of music and working as team was instrumental in making it a success, timely and meeting our legal obligations,” Ebert said.

For Mark Ziminske, chief of the Environmental Resources Section, the team work has been great.

“Communication and coordination has been very good to date, better than in years past. This has been a dynamic program, fast track, and had pretty clear communication both horizontally and vertically and most notably the District has ramped up its commitment and investment to designing and implementing environmental features (conservation measures) as well as its legal responsibilities,” said Ziminske, whose office evaluates project impacts and recommends mitigation measures to ensure that a project is environmentally acceptable. ERS, along with office of counsel, ensure that projects are in compliance with federal environmental laws.

“Completing 13 projects in four months is quite an achievement,

considering the environmental coordination that needs to be done. We did these at a faster pace, due to the emergency nature of the project, but we will have more time to do the 23 projects next year,” said Ziminske.

There were more than 40,000 willow trees planted on the Skagit River alone as one of the conservation measures that help to minimize the impacts to endangered fish

species.

“Planting willows on the levee face will eventually develop into functional habitat for the fisheries,” said Ziminske. “Although it may take three to five years to be fully functional, eventually these willows will provide important resting and hiding habitat, as well as shade, overhead cover from predators and as a source of carbon via leaves and insects deposited into the river.

“It is not an ideal engineering solution, an engineer would like to see nothing on the levees that would affect conveyance of water, but this is a conservation measure that can have real benefits to the fishery,” he said.

Wanda Gentry, Real Estate Division cost share program manager, finds that long term relationships with sponsors has been a plus for accomplishing the real estate requirements. “The real estate team members’ effort, skills and knowledge significantly contribute to the success of the PL 84-99 process by working with public sponsors to assure the lands were certified and the construction could take place,” Gentry said.

“We are doing more than just the real estate to support the PL 84-99 effort, we also preparing cooperation agreements, where the government share is 80 percent and the local sponsor pays 20 percent. We are doing the land certification process making sure those that grant us permission to enter to do the construction, own a sufficient interest in the property.”

It has been a challenge for Real Estate Division, with more than 16 staffers working on the projects. “It was quite a challenge getting there, delay in funding, imperfect information, working with sponsors, but it was a very active, proactive, great group of people to deal with, who worked hard to meet requirements, and we worked with some of best sponsors,” she said.

Diane Lake, Tribal Liaison, said the biggest challenge is always communication. “The district has been involved with the Tribes up front, reducing some of the tension by communicating more about the concerns on fish. The past couple years, the Tribal Liaison Office has worked very closely with project managers, regulatory, and emergency management to get more involved with Tribes earlier. The Tribes feel very comfortable in calling, contacting us. They said they have found us very responsive and quick to work with them on issues and concerns.”

As the work on the “lucky 13” is completed, the team continues to push on to repairing the remaining 23. “We are hoping that there won’t be any significant flooding this year so we can complete all the repairs next year,” said Komoroske. – *Nola Leyde*

## Levee Laws

**Public Law 84-99 enables the Corps to assist state and local authorities in flood fight activities and cost share in the repair of flood protection structures.**

**After a flood, the Corps has authority to supplement local efforts in the repair of both federal (Corps-constructed, locally-operated and maintained) and non-federal (constructed, operated and maintained by non-federal interests) flood control structures damaged by flooding, if they are active in the Corps Rehabilitation and Inspection Program.**

**Levees that are not in the program are not eligible for rehabilitation assistance. Repairs to federal levees are 100 percent federally funded. Repairs to non-federal levees are cost shared, with the federal cost of 80 percent and the local cost of 20 percent.**

**There are 294 levees in the Seattle District PL 84-99 program, which includes Washington, northern Idaho and western Montana. This includes 20 federal levees and 274 non-federal levees.**

# U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

# Applying Corps' Policy in Indian Country Today

## Training Course

**NOVEMBER 8-9, 2007**

**Seattle District**

**Seattle, Washington**

**U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS**

**Sponsored by:**  
Headquarters

Tribal Nations Community of Practice

**Co-Hosted by:**

Northwestern Division &  
Seattle District  
Tribal Liaison

**For More Information Contact:**

Ms. Direlle Calica

Phone: 503-808-3715

E-mail: Direlle.R.Calica@usace.army.mil

-OR-

Ms. Jennifer Richman

Phone: 503-808-3762

Email: Jennifer.R.Richman@usace.army.mil

## Course Overview

- **USACE Tribal Consultation Policy**
- **Understanding Tribal Governance**
- **Current Issues—Tribal Affairs**
  - Reserved Rights – Fisheries & Water resources
  - NAGPRA / NHPA – Current Issues
  - Consultation with Tribes as Parties in Litigation
  - TERO – Current Issues
  - Regulatory – Current Issues
  - Appropriations & Legislative Drafting
  - Federal & Tribal Collaboration Activities
- **Application of USACE Tribal Consultation Policy to Current Issues**

*Also occurring*  
**The Headquarters USACE  
Tribal Nations Community of  
Practice Annual Meeting**  
November 5-7, 2007  
Bellingham, Washington

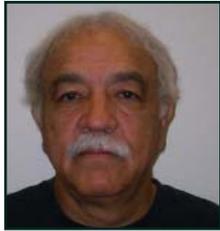


US Army Corps of Engineers

# Welcome to the district family



Larry Merkle  
Hydraulic Engineer  
Water Management



Bruno Sinigaglio  
Civil Engineer  
Engineering & Construction



Douglas Symes  
Regional Economist  
Planning



Cindy Brown  
Architect  
Engineering & Construction



Jamie Perea  
Student Trainee  
Real Estate



Emma Chen  
Architect  
Engineering & Construction



Amy Baker  
Environmental Engineer  
Project Management



Shahbaz Naftchi,  
Electrical Engineer  
Operations



Stanley S. Chen  
Mechanical Engineer  
Operations



Christopher Collins  
Construction Rep  
NW Area Office



Richard Hovde  
Construction Rep.  
NW Area Office



Michelle Casabonne  
Civil Engineer  
NW Area Office

## Around the district

### Retirements

On Aug. 3, **Jeri Moshier**, Facilities Specialist, retired from Seattle District concluding a career which spanned "33 years, two months and 13 days." Jeri noted that all of that time in federal service was with Seattle District.



Jeri Moshier

Well-wishers joined Moshier on the FCS patio for her send-off. Gag-gifts were presented, a few tears were shed and speeches were heard; and sometimes not heard, as the The Blue Angels flew over Federal Center South (as part of SeaFair activities, not the retirement gathering).



Randy Moriniti

**Randy Moriniti**, Power Plant Shift Operator, Albeni Falls Dam since Sep 1998, retired in July. He plans to finish his house and landscaping; break in his new garden tractor and take his wife traveling.

**Gary Bond**, Natural Resource Manager at Albeni Falls Dam since 1991, retired Sept. 3. He's headed to Alaska to continue his active lifestyle of snow skiing and cycling.



Gary Bond

**Dee Flower**, Natural

Resource Specialist, at Albeni Falls Dam, since June 2000, retired at the end of August to travel the world.



Dee Flower

**Kudos**  
Contracting Division's **Sharon Gonzalez** and **Bonilie Lackey** received a Team Award for USACE Whole-House Filters and Domestic Wells Sampling at Former Larson AFB, Moses Lake, WA.

Seattle District's **Horace Foxall** has been appointed to the prestigious National Trust Board of Advisors for a three-year term. He will be eligible for two additional three-year term appointments.

### Outreach

**Dave Spicer** staffed a Corps booth at an "Emergency/Disaster Awareness" hosted by City of Auburn in September. Various disaster relief agencies handed out information regarding what to do in the event of an emergency. He set up the Corps booth with lots of brochures, a video of "how to make a sandbag," and display of pictures from some past emergencies.

### Departures

Seattle District's loss is Fort Worth

District's gain as **Jeff Qunell**, Structural Engineer, left Seattle District for Fort Worth District on Aug. 5th. He worked for seven years with Design Branch and spent some time at Portland District. Thus far, an Iraq deployment and involvement with the Corps' Urban Search & Rescue Team were noted by Qunell as highlights of his career with the Corps.

After seven years with the Seattle District **Michael Bailey**, Geologist, transferred to Omaha District's HTRW Center of Expertise effective in July.



Pictured with first lady Laura Bush at the Preserve America Summit are members of the "Addressing Security" panel including Curt Betts (USACE Protective Design Center), Michael Chipley, Nancy Witherell and Horace Foxall (Courtesy Photo).

Send us your professional accomplishments, speaking engagements, wedding engagements, marriages, births and memorials. Contact [casondra.brewster@us.army.mil](mailto:casondra.brewster@us.army.mil).

Public Affairs Office  
 Seattle District (CENWS-PA)  
 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
 4735 East Marginal Way South  
 Seattle, WA 98134-2392

## Postcards From the Front....



Seattle District employees gather together on Sept. 11 for a solemn ceremony to mark a remembrance of Sept. 11, 2001. Shown folding a U.S. flag flown at the Afghanistan Engineer District (AED) office in Kabul, Afghanistan, left to right are Mark Springer, Julie McLeod, David Loi and Claudia Webb. The flag will be sent back to Seattle District. (U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Photo)



### District Team:

We are in front of the Qalaa house at the flag pole. There are three flags that fly daily, The Corps flag, the Afghanistan flag and the American flag. I do not often get off the compound to see the sites, mainly because we are swamped with estimates. Often AED flies the American Flag on different occasions. We (the Seattle District Folks deployed at AED) felt that the most appropriate day to honor our District is 9/11. As the flag went up the pole, tears came to our eyes. We remembered how Seattle District made a difference during the 9/11 disaster. We remembered pictures sent back of Gretchen Martinsen, Norm Skjelbreia and others helping out during that disaster. Then Mark Springer whispered in my ear, "that is why we are HERE." We miss our families and friends and even the District, but we are here to make a difference and want you all to know that you are not remembered on that day, but every day we are here. That's the story. – Claudia Webb

Claudia Webb, construction, has been in Afghanistan since October 2006 and has also served in Iraq with a team from Seattle District in 2004. She works in AED as a Cost Estimator.

Contributing to the rebuilding of Afghanistan is personally rewarding, and to work under the leadership of people with great vision is an honor. I am very fortunate to have the opportunity to serve and I greatly appreciate the Seattle District Office supporting my deployment. I encourage everyone to consider deploying. You will be surprised at the great weather, food, and comradery that make the long days and short nights pass all too fast. – Julie McLeod

McLeod is serving as the executive assistant in AED. David Loi, construction, has been in Iraq since August 2006, and redeployed in September to get married. Mark Springer of the Fairchild Resident Office has been in Afghanistan since June 2006. He has done several tours in service for the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT), and returned home again in September.