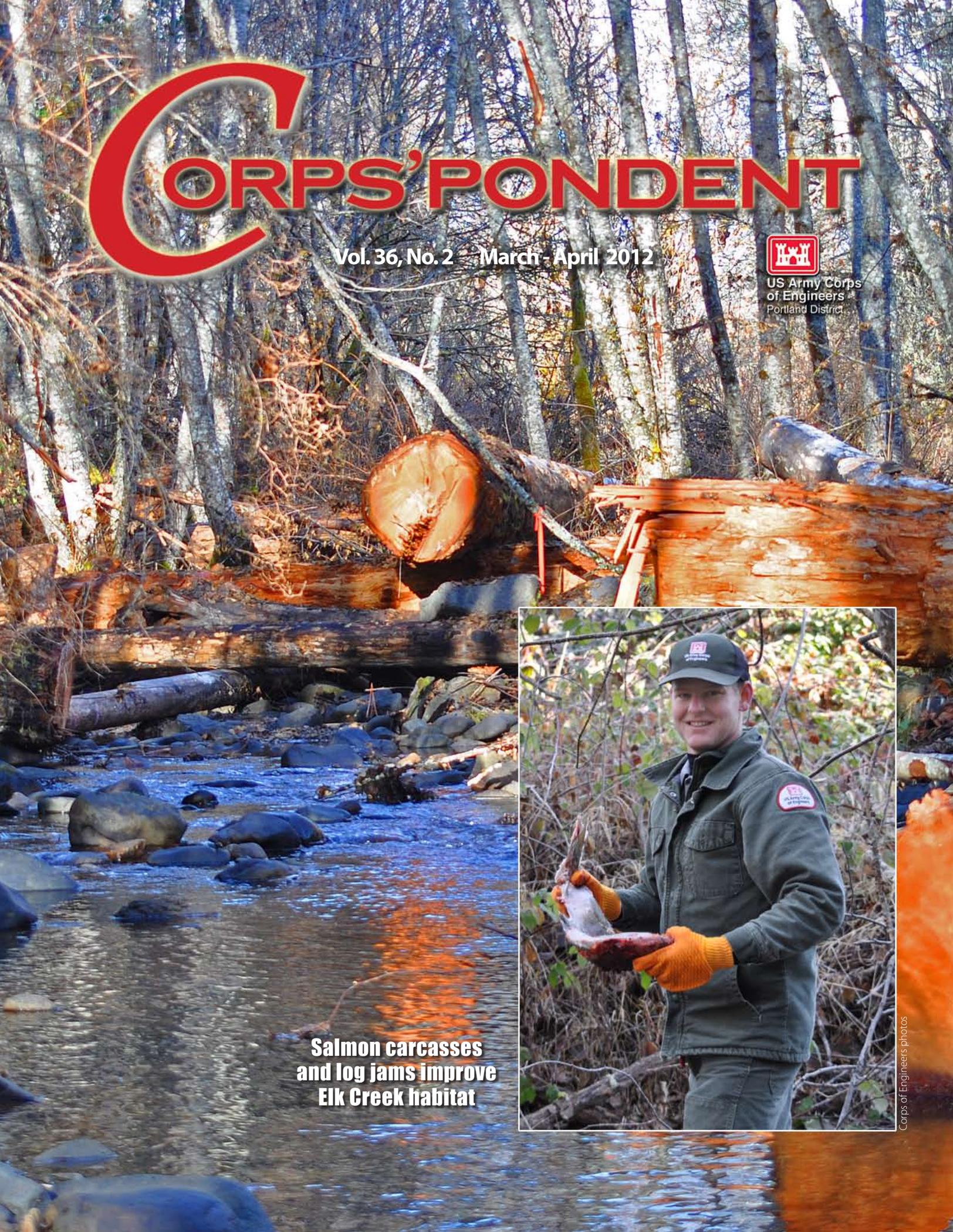


CORPS' PONDENT

Vol. 36, No. 2 March - April 2012



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Portland District



**Salmon carcasses
and log jams improve
Elk Creek habitat**



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Quality of life at the Portland District

As I get around the District, one aspect of our organization is crystal clear — we have high esprit de corps. Simply put, the phrase describes a group's sense of unity around a common responsibility and this is what I see when I watch each of you interact with one another and the American public, and what I hear when you tell me about what it's like to work for the Portland District.

I have learned that some of you aren't aware of all of the activities and benefits you and your families may access as federal employees — that can make your jobs and personal lives even better. Because of this, I want to share some benefits that may interest you. I acknowledge up front that I don't know everything, so as you identify gaps in my knowledge, please extend yours to others to ensure all are fully informed.

Some activities are provided directly through our District. All employees can access a comprehensive program of services through our employee assistance program to help them resolve health and wellness challenges. Our Employee Assistance Program provider, Federal Occupational Health, provides access to legal and financial guidance and offers a number of counseling sessions (at no cost) to help with medical, grief, relationship, addiction or other challenging issues. They also help with stress management, parenting, eldercare and other personal concerns.

In our advanced society of competing demands, an aging workforce, and other challenges, all of us are susceptible to high stress and the dangers it presents. Thus, I encourage each of you to use

these programs to seek help, when needed.

Also, we need to keep the welfare of our co-workers in mind and help them identify when they need assistance and support them appropriately. This is not just a supervisory role, but a human role in caring for others.

Morale groups are in operation throughout the District that recognize employees during their times of joy or crisis. These groups also often provide financial and/or manpower support for retirements, picnics, fun morale-building activities and end-of-year celebrations. If you don't know who your group is, ask your supervisor.

Parents, did you know you are eligible for financial assistance through the General Services Administration and U.S. Army Partnership for Affordable Child Care at federal child care centers? Several of these are in the Portland area, including Joyful Noise Child Care at Robert Duncan Plaza and at the Eastside Federal Complex near Lloyd Center.

Many of the Army's Morale, Welfare and Recreation travel and vacation opportunities are also open to Department of Defense civilians, including the Armed Forces Recreation Centers in Orlando and Honolulu, and the Armed Forces Vacation Club, where you can get discounts on cruises or theme parks. You can find more about these great benefits at <http://www.armymwr.com/>.

If you're interested in discounts for amusement parks, pro football, soccer and baseball tickets, you can purchase them through the Joint Base Lewis-McChord Leisure Travel Services at



Col. John Eisenhauer, P.E.

<http://www.jblmmwr.com/>. With spring and summer coming up, I hope you'll find fun activities for you and your family to enjoy.

These are just a few of the important quality of life benefits available to you. You have many responsibilities as DoD employees, so I hope you can enjoy some of the benefits of that employment, too.

This may seem like an odd topic for a District Commander to address but your well-being is important to me personally — and this District's success is directly related to your satisfaction and success in all facets of your life. A saying related to me by an old Colonel many years ago sums it up quite nicely, "The Army is with you for 20 (maybe 40) years . . . your family for a lifetime."

COL Ike

For more information on these and other activities, visit the Portland District intranet and click the Quality of Life Benefits link under Employee Tools.

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Commander: Col. John Eisenhauer, P.E.
Chief, Public Affairs: Matt Rabe
Editor: Erica Jensen

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Carolyn Schneider has worked for the Portland District for eight years. She also worked for the Corps' Engineer Research and Development Center in Vicksburg, Miss., for almost 20 years and at the Vicksburg District for four years.



Position: Environmental Resource Specialist (Biologist), Environmental Branch.

Describe your job.

Our team is responsible for ensuring that projects undertaken by the Portland District have all of the environmental permits and clearances required by law. We act almost as an intermediary between the Corps' project planners, engineers and designers, and resource agencies charged with enforcement of environmental laws.

What challenges do you encounter in your job?

For large projects, writing environmental and biological assessments and the inter-agency coordination for environmental clearance and permitting can be very time consuming. This usually frustrates our project managers. In addition, other agencies are not always sympathetic to our almost-constant need to accelerate the pace of the environmental review process.

What do you find most rewarding about your job?

I've done my job well when the projects are completed with minimal environmental impacts. It is especially nice when I get a "job well done" from Project Delivery Team members (not everyone is aware of the challenges we face when environmental compliance work doesn't go smoothly).

How does your job fit into our District mission?

Every aspect of the Corps' mission and the projects that support that mission, from park maintenance to hydropower production, requires an element of environmental compliance under myriad federal laws.

What do you like most about working for the Portland District?

I love working for the Corps and my work in Portland District has been the most rewarding during my Corps career. My husband (Mike), daughter and I moved from Mississippi about 12 years ago, supposedly for a one-year assignment for Mike. But since his work is tied primarily to the Columbia and Snake rivers, it didn't make sense for us to return. When he became a permanent member of an ERDC team stationed at The Dalles Dam, we bought a house in Hood River and have been happy to call Oregon "home" ever since.

What was your first job?

It was a summer job as a graduate intern doing fisheries fieldwork on the Mississippi River. After graduating from Texas A&M University I returned to ERDC and have worked for the Corps ever since.

What are your favorite books or interests?

I am re-reading "Eat, Pray, Love." I enjoyed it the first time through and took away some inspiration, putting everything aside to go off on an adventure — actually three adventures in different cultures in the course of a year (Italy, China and a cultural immersion class at the Umatilla Indian Reservation). When not traveling, I stay busy with our small farm where we have horses, chickens, dogs and cats.

Carolyn Schneider coordinated environmental compliance activities and permits for Corps construction of the Columbia River Treaty Fishing Access Site at Wyeth, Ore. The site allows exclusive tribal access to the river to help mitigate impacts to tribal fishing rights that resulted from construction of Bonneville Dam.

You can't migrate a website without breaking some bookmarks

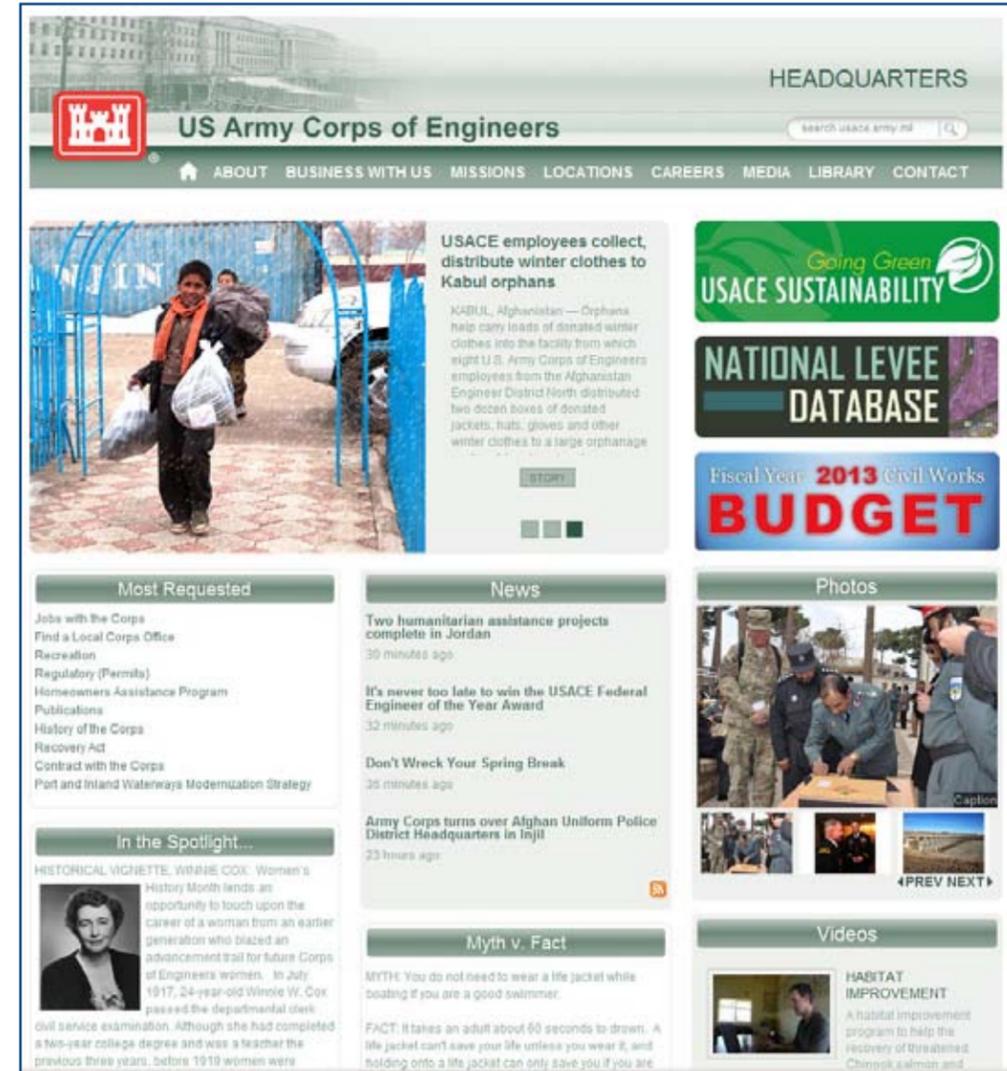
By Eric Hamilton, Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has begun launching newly redesigned public websites using a cloud-based system. The upgraded sites have a consistent look and feel and streamline content management, making it easier to update and maintain, giving our users a richer experience.

The Corps' enterprise-wide overhaul began in January with the Headquarters website migrating to the American Forces Public Information System. The Pacific Ocean and South Pacific divisions and their districts followed next. Portland District, as part of Northwestern Division's migration, is scheduled for April. The remaining 58 sites should finish migrating by Sept. 2012.

Expect a major impact to our URLs, or website addresses. Bookmarks set to old URLs won't work after our website migrates to the new system, so users will need to save new URLs as bookmarks. This is an unavoidable consequence of improving our site, but it's worth it. It's important that Corps employees understand this and can tell other website users about this change.

This migration will greatly improve our websites for both internal and external users. Because the new system doesn't require super computer skills, Corps colleagues can communicate more reliably and easily with public websites. Consistent, accessible content improves things for other web users, too.



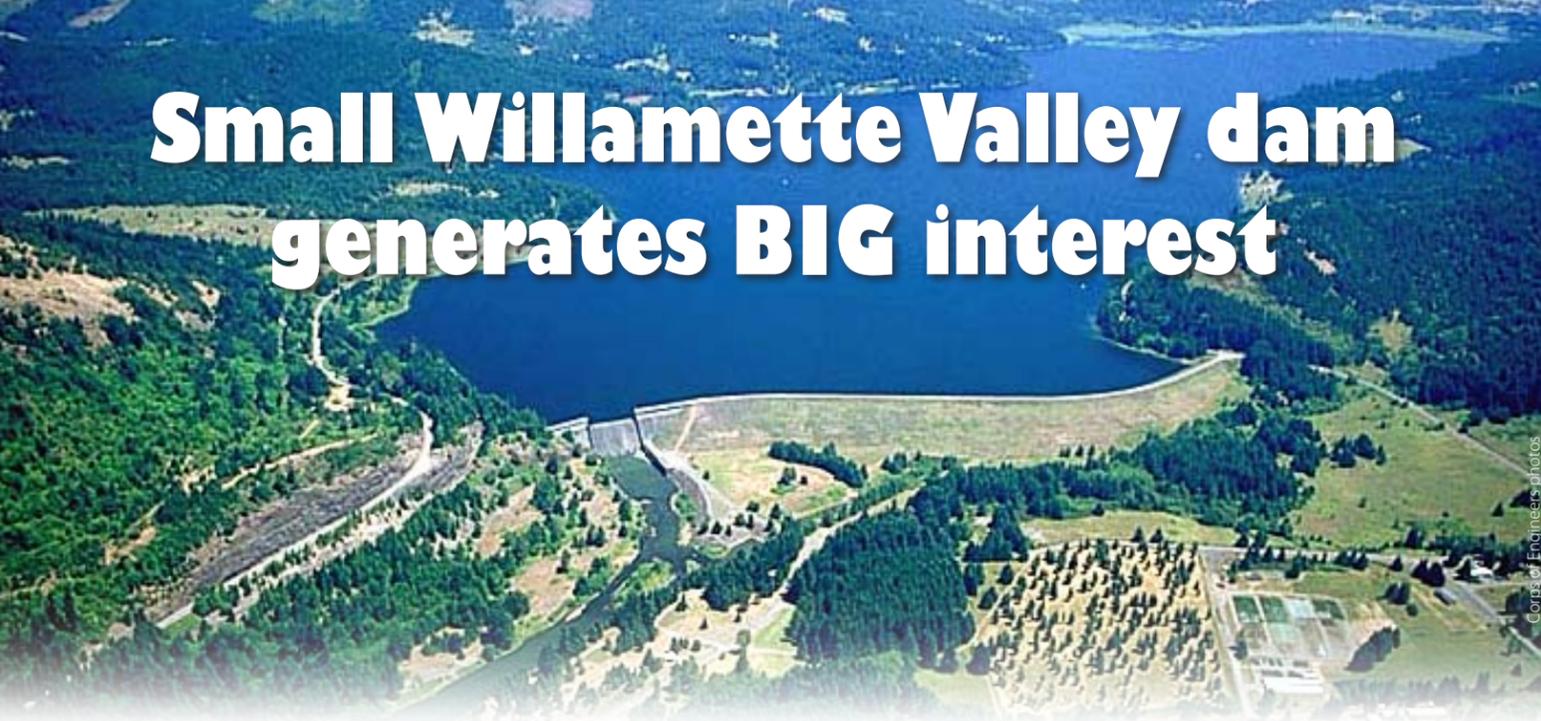
While migrating will cost approximately \$10,062 per site, expected savings from consolidating hardware, software and manpower should offset this cost. The migration expense includes training, support and the transition and maintenance of 58 websites through FY11-12.

The Department of Defense's AFPIMS is operated by the Defense

Media Activity and uses DotNetNuke for USACE's websites. The AFPIMS team has fielded public websites for the U.S. Air Force for years and recently finished moving the U.S. Marine Corps to AFPIMS.

Please direct any questions, feedback or concerns about our public website migration to Eric Hamilton, Portland District's Web Content Manager at dll-cnwp-webmaster@usace.army.mil.

Small Willamette Valley dam generates BIG interest



Corps of Engineers photos

By Scott Clemans, Public Affairs Office

Dorena Dam is one of the smallest of the Willamette Valley Projects' 13 dams, but it has been generating more than its share of interest among fish, hydropower and recreation advocates over the past few years.

The dam is located on the Row River about six miles east of Cottage Grove, Ore. The 145-foot high concrete and earthfill structure controls runoff from a 265 square-mile drainage area and provides flood risk management, water quality improvement, irrigation, fish and wildlife habitat, and recreation.

In 2004 a company called Symbiotics — now part of a larger company called Riverbank Power — applied to the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission for a license to build a 7.5-megawatt powerhouse at the dam, taking advantage of renewable energy tax credits to make the venture profitable. FERC issued a license for the project in 2008 after assessing its feasibility and environmental impacts.

Symbiotics' plan is to run a 10-foot diameter penstock from the reservoir

through the north concrete abutment into a powerhouse with two small generating units about 250 feet downriver. Operation of the hydropower project will not change the amount of water the District currently releases from the dam for its existing purposes, or reduce its ability to accomplish its flood risk management mission.

A spokesman for the Emerald People's Utility District — the utility that would sell and distribute the power from Dorena Dam — told the Eugene Register-Guard that the project would generate an estimated 14,500 megawatt-hours per year, enough to power about 1,000 homes.

Symbiotics' proposal caused some public reaction due to several agencies' positions — or lack thereof — on the need for fish passage facilities associated with the project.

Friends of Row River, a Cottage Grove advocacy group, argued that the Corps, as the owner of the dam, had a responsibility under federal law to consider the need for fish passage.

"We have no role in the licensing process as far as providing fish and wildlife recommendations," said Operations Division fisheries biologist

Ian Chane. "State and federal resource agencies submit recommendations to FERC, which can accept or reject them."

The Federal Power Act also allows federal fisheries agencies to mandate fish passage, Chane added, but neither the National Marine Fisheries Service nor the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service chose to do so for the Dorena application.

Willamette Valley Projects operations manager Erik Petersen agreed with the NMFS and USFWS decisions to not press for fish passage at Dorena Dam.

"The historic range of temperature variability in the Row and Coast Fork Willamette rivers was too warm — they never supported spring Chinook," he said.

But will the project be built at all? Symbiotics' timetable for completing the project has been repeatedly compressed due to delays and design issues, and the company is now in jeopardy of losing the state tax credits that make the project financially viable.

In a November 2008 article in the *Eugene Register-Guard* — just one

month after FERC issued its license — an EPUD spokesman predicted the project would be operational by February 2010.

"We recognized both the economic benefit of this project and Symbiotics' need for quick action, but we had to balance that against our need to ensure dam and life safety, as well as our ability to meet our existing operational missions," said Pat Duyck, the project manager overseeing the District's review of Symbiotics' proposal.

He added that critical elements of Symbiotics' proposed design needed to be significantly modified to fully comply with Corps regulations and prevent impacts to safety.

Ensuring that the proposal did so required District review and approval of Symbiotics' 30, 60, 90 and 100 percent designs and construction plans; division- and headquarters-level reviews; and an independent external peer review. Although there are still issues needing resolution prior to the Corps allowing the start ground-disturbing activities, the District accepted Symbiotics' design in December 2011.

If the project does eventually make it to construction, it will involve heavy construction activity throughout 2012, including work at night and on weekends.

Residents immediately downriver of the dam and those recreating on the lake and in the surrounding area — including campers at Schwarz Campground immediately downriver of the dam — will see a great deal of heavy equipment and haul trucks moving through the area, and will see and hear a great deal of construction activity and noise on and around the dam itself.

The Willamette Valley Projects and District Public Affairs Office are gearing up to educate recreationists and residents alike.

"It's going to be challenging, because even though Symbiotics has full responsibility for the impacts of this project, any stakeholder anxiety or dissatisfaction created by Symbiotics' activities is likely going to be directed at us," said Willamette Valley Projects outreach specialist Christie Johnson.

But challenges appear to be par for the course for this small dam that's been at the center of considerable effort and interest over the past few years. ☐



Photo by Salina Hart, Dam Safety Section

Symbiotics' plan calls for drawing in water through an intake on the reservoir floor near the embankment to the right.



Photo by Pat Duyck, Project Management and Planning Branch

The penstock connecting the intake and powerhouse will emerge from the face of the dam just to the left of the spillway.



Photo by Salina Hart, Dam Safety Section

The powerhouse will be located on the far side of the tailrace near the end of the wall.



“Salmon sling” teaches importance of giving back to nature

Commentary and photos by Edward Amerson, Rogue River Basin Project

Twenty two volunteers waited in a frosty field on the Elk Creek Project on Jan. 14, bundled in thick coats. A young eagle perched on a moss-covered pine branch 40 feet above and watched the commotion.

The volunteers included members of the Upper Rogue Watershed Association and Southern Oregon Fly Fishers, and even Mayor Ron Holthusen of Shady Cove, a quaint river town seven miles away. We were all there for a common purpose – to sling coho and steelhead carcasses into a creek.

Chuck Futish, wildlife biologist for the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife, dropped the tailgate of his white pickup and handed

out bright orange gloves and white plastic bags bulging with frozen hatchery-raised Coho salmon and steelhead carcasses.

488 carcasses equaling 2,813 pounds of fish were to be tossed into West Branch Creek, a three-quarter mile tributary of Elk Creek. Another 325 fish would be hurled into Sugarpine Creek a few miles upstream.

As the salmon rot, they release vital nutrients into the stream and encourage the production of waterborne insects like mayflies, stoneflies and caddis flies, which are essential food for salmon and steelhead.

But salmon and steelhead need more than a healthy supply of protein to live. Equally essential is good habitat.

ODFW in partnership with the U.S. Forest Service and funded by the Oregon Watershed Enhancement Board Grant Program, created and engineered 14 log jams to further benefit the fish, using timber donated by the Corps.

Log jams alter the river flow dynamics by impounding gravel on the upstream side and creating shallow pools on downstream side. According to Futish, salmon live in the shallow holes where the water temperatures are a bit cooler. These depressions also provide protection from predatory fish. On the upriver side of the logs, they spawn on the gravel.

It was over one of these log jams on West Branch Creek that volunteers worked — along a gentle stretch of stream, lined with cottonwoods and ash trees, Coho and steelhead

carcasses were thrown behind rocks and rotting logs, or tossed into the middle of the stream to allow the wisdom of the current to decide where to stash them. The sound of fish smacking the water was heard throughout the area.

Volunteers were spread on both sides of the creek. There was no dawdling. These guys and gals meant business. In just under three hours the task was completed.

An odor filled the air as the fish thawed. I’m sure the thought of bears entered at least some of our minds. A twig broke behind me as I was photographing a volunteer during a toss. Wheeling around, I was relieved to see it was another fish slinger.

We gathered around the pickup and tossed the bloody plastic bags

into the bed. Everyone was joyous. But I wonder if there was more to our cheerful manner than just completing a worthy task.

Perhaps there was something upwelling from within our primitive psyche – a whispering voice reminding us of something that we easily forget as we bustle through our daily lives of work, bills and raising a family.

Reflecting back to a salmon ceremony I attended a few years ago, I suddenly realized what that something was.

The purpose of the gala was to express gratitude for the return of the salmon. Agnes Pilgrim, an elder of the Takelma Band of the Rogue Valley, stood next to a pit of burning coals of slowly baking salmon fillets pierced with cedar sticks. During her elegant speech about the sacredness

of all life, she said that salmon have something to teach us.

“They teach us to give back.”

When salmon finally return to their spawning ground, they give back by giving their flesh and bones to the waterway. The energy circuit from salmon flesh is long and wide. Hawks, eagles and ospreys carry it to a feeding tree. Some of the meat drops to forest floor, feeding the plants and berry bushes which benefit deer, elk and bear, which in turn benefit cougar, coyote and vulture.

I believe we were all feeling chipper because we gave back. We gave back the salmon to the stream. I believe we all felt a special connection, perhaps a distant kinship to the salmon, river, eagle – to the web of life of which we are members. 📷



Volunteers unload bags of frozen Coho salmon and steelhead trout before slinging them into West Branch Creek.



Students see engineering in action

By Erica Jensen, Public Affairs Office

The dead of winter isn't the best time to visit a construction site in Oregon — but that didn't stop more than 50 high school students and teachers, Feb. 22, as they saw work in progress of Portland's newest span across the Willamette River, the Portland-Milwaukie light rail bridge.

This year, as part of 2012 Engineers Week, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Portland District, partnered with the Society of American Military Engineers' Portland Post, on a day-long experiential program for high school students which included a construction site visit, educational sessions, lunch and mini-job fair.

The day of the event, students arrived bright and early at David Evans and Associates, a local engineering firm and SAME member and were welcomed by Portland District Commander Col. John W. Eisenhower, P.E. and retired Col. Steven R. Miles, P.E., vice president, DEA.

The students then split into two groups, with one donning personal protection equipment for a construction site tour of the TriMet/Kiewit Bridge and Marine project, located just minutes away. There, they learned the basics of bridge building from Kiewit staff and toured the project site, stopping occasionally to hear about construction activities in progress.

More than 50 students toured the TriMet/Kiewit Bridge and Marine Project and saw diverse engineering disciplines in action throughout the construction site.

The remaining group of students spent the morning rotating through four presentations addressing hydropower generation, structural engineering, 3D visual simulation modeling of the new Sellwood Bridge and drinking water projects built by the Peace Corps in developing countries.

Students joined together for a buffet lunch sponsored by SAME's sustaining members and also participated in a mini-job fair that included participants from local engineering firms and the Portland District.

During the afternoon, students returned to their groups to participate in activities they missed during the morning.

As the day ended, it was clear that students valued the experience as noted by one who said, "I had a great time. I learned many new things about engineering and saw first-hand how the disciplines are actually applied."

Teachers were impressed too, "My students couldn't stop talking about what they learned at the 2012 Engineering Day," said MaLynda Wolfer, a math teacher at Gresham High School. "Thank you for bringing some reality to the profession of engineering."

In the end, Engineering Day 2012 was a success for all — and despite the wintery February weather and intermittent showers — no one got wet as they saw, in part, how a bridge was built.



Photo by Phil Ohnstad, Engineering and Construction Division



Photo by MaLynda, Gresham High School



Photo by Erica Jensen, Public Affairs Office

Lance Helwig, chief, Engineering and Construction Division, talks with a student during a tour of the TriMet/Kiewit Bridge and Marine Project.





Homeland Security alive in the Portland District

By Matt Cutts, P.E., Programs and Project Management Division

Portland District is home to critical infrastructure that supports regional flood risk management, hydropower generation for 2 million people, navigation for 40 million tons of cargo and many other missions.

Our staff works hard to reduce risk to this infrastructure and coordinate its protection in many ways. Our local homeland security actions also fuse with a national effort to secure America from acts of terrorism, protect against and respond to natural disasters or other emergencies, and safeguard our nation's critical infrastructure.

This infrastructure, including the hardscaped buildings in which we work, coastal jetties, dams and levees, is considered so vital that their incapacity

or destruction may have a debilitating impact on our security, economy, public health, safety and the environment.

Doug Dailey and Sgt. 1st. Class Dimitri Corcino, District Security and Law Enforcement Office, and many others coordinate critical infrastructure protection directly with the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. In February, the team collaborated with DHS to conduct a Site Assistance Visit at Lookout Point Dam in the Willamette Valley, using the Computer Based Assessment Tool. CBAT captures information using street-level imagery (similar to Google's Street View) on critical assets and integrates this with video and global positioning system data to optimize our preparation and

response to natural and manmade hazards. Willamette Valley Project and Corps Headquarters staff and local emergency responders contributed to the identification of vulnerabilities and options to improve security.

Lessons learned from a pilot CBAT exercise during a security visit to John Day Dam in 2011 helped prepare for wider deployment of the tool. The tool then produced a DVD with Emergency Plans and Standard Operating Procedures, floor plans, videos and interactive 360-degree photos of important areas and access routes. Emergency responders can use this information to safely enter and operate in our facilities, even if they have never been there in person.

We also reduce risks to the public and our facilities through the Mission Critical Infrastructure Investment Program. A District team assesses, documents and communicates the probability and potential consequences of failure for our dams, navigation locks, jetties, fish facilities and their many systems and components. A prioritized list of projects helps inform the annual budget formulation process so that we use our resources to address the highest risks first.

Last year three high-risk District projects identified by the MCIIP received funding from an annual Northwestern Division budget set aside for the highest risk projects among the division's five districts: repairs to the south jetty at the mouth of the Columbia and spillway gate repairs at Green Peter and Fall Creek dams. With MCIIP and this special budget, these repairs will reduce risks to public safety and help keep our missions on course.

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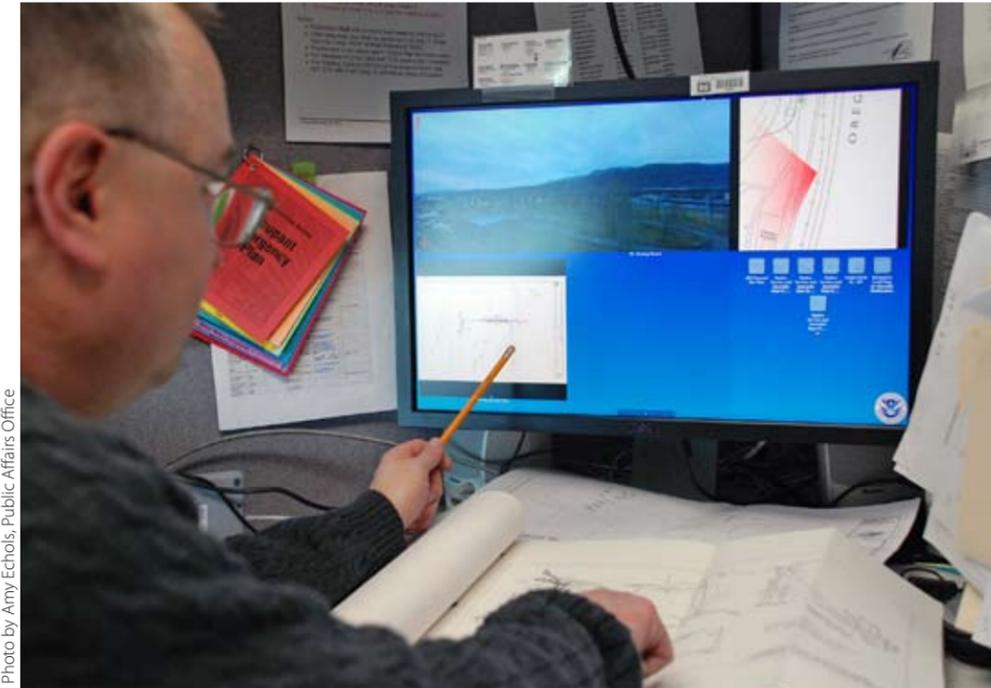


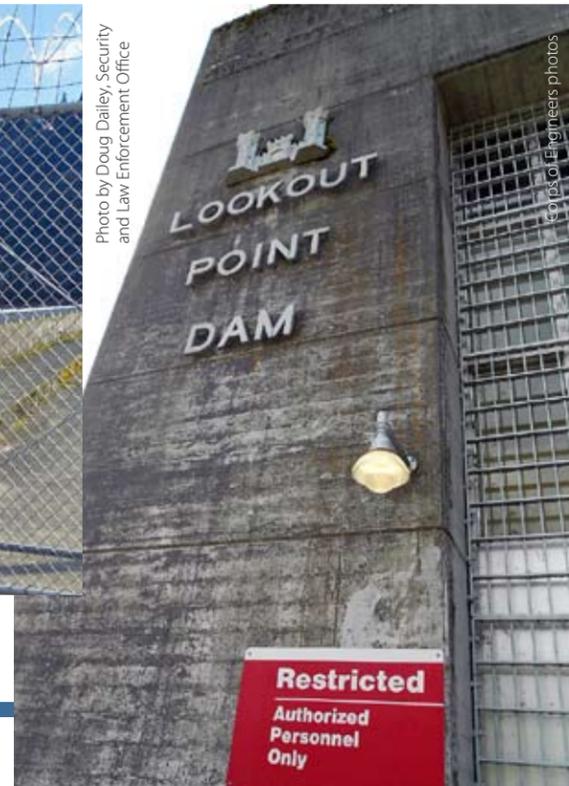
Photo by Amy Echols, Public Affairs Office

Doug Dailey, Portland District Security and Law Enforcement Office, reviews data and images from a security visit at John Day Dam.



Photo by Doug Dailey, Security and Law Enforcement Office

Dustin Bengtson, Willamette Valley Project, secures a gate on the deck of Lookout Point Dam after a security review.



Corps of Engineers photos

Army recognizes Lookout Point Dam antiterrorism efforts

An Army-wide search for the best Antiterrorism Program at a stand-alone facility lead to a second place showing by Portland District's Security and Law Enforcement Office and Willamette Valley Project for their upfront and behind-the-scenes work at Lookout Point Dam. Preparedness measures will help protect Army personnel, an Army facility and the downstream communities of Eugene, Salem, Albany and Portland from the potential risks should terrorism strike.

Actions included an outreach campaign to identify an intruder on the dam and devising plans with local agencies to ensure a swift response to threats, if needed.

Doug Dailey, Portland District's chief of security, accepted the award from Mark Lewis with the Office of the Under Secretary of the Army during a recent ceremony in Washington, D.C.



Photo by the Office of the Provost Marshall General



continued from page 13

The Portland District Readiness Branch and specialty response teams work to achieve homeland security goals through preparation and partnerships with state and local agencies such as Oregon's Office of Emergency Management. The Readiness team and other District responders conduct training and drills at each operating project alongside other federal, state and local emergency responders. This helps ensure timely and accurate emergency notification procedures are in place, that first responders know each other and

are familiar with their plans before a disaster strikes. This spring, Readiness will conduct training at the Society of American Military Engineers' Portland Post Readiness and Homeland Security Workshop in Portland.

Approaching readiness from different directions, with constant attention and dedication, supports the Corps' missions and the many demands for homeland security. Our District works ceaselessly to achieve these goals.

Matt Cutts, P.E. is Portland District's Mission Critical Infrastructure Investment Program Manager and chairs the Society of American Military Engineers' Portland Post Readiness Committee. Cutts was a Captain in the Coast Guard when he retired in 2010, and completed a master's degree in Security Studies with an emphasis in homeland security and defense at Naval Postgraduate School in 2009.

Out with the old...in with the new

By Erica Jensen, Public Affairs Office

Portland District has served as the custodian of a Corps of Engineers emergency response vehicles in the Pacific Northwest for decades — on standby to provide critical communications in the event of significant man-made or natural disasters in the United States, the District of Columbia, and the territories of the United States.

It's newest vehicle, the Emergency Command and Control Vehicle or ECCV-11, arrived in December and replaces the District's Rapid Response Vehicle No. 5 which operated for about 10 years.

"It looks like a big semi-truck," said Tracy Bell, Emergency Operations Center Manager, of the 40,000 pound box truck.

When deployed, the vehicle provides communications and workspace for 11 people and is configured to support multiple Planning and Response Teams. It has onboard radio, interagency voice interoperability, satellite and cellular capabilities to deliver both voice and data communications to the Corps network and beyond.

Bell also said the 47-foot vehicle is totally self-contained for up to 72 continuous hours before more fuel or alternative shore power is required.

The current crew of the new truck comes from Bonneville Lock and Dam. Team leader Mike Palomo and Howard Bulick will serve as drivers and Keith Offel will serve as mission support specialist.

District employees saw many of the unique features of the vehicle March 19 when it was stationed near the Willamette River waterfront.

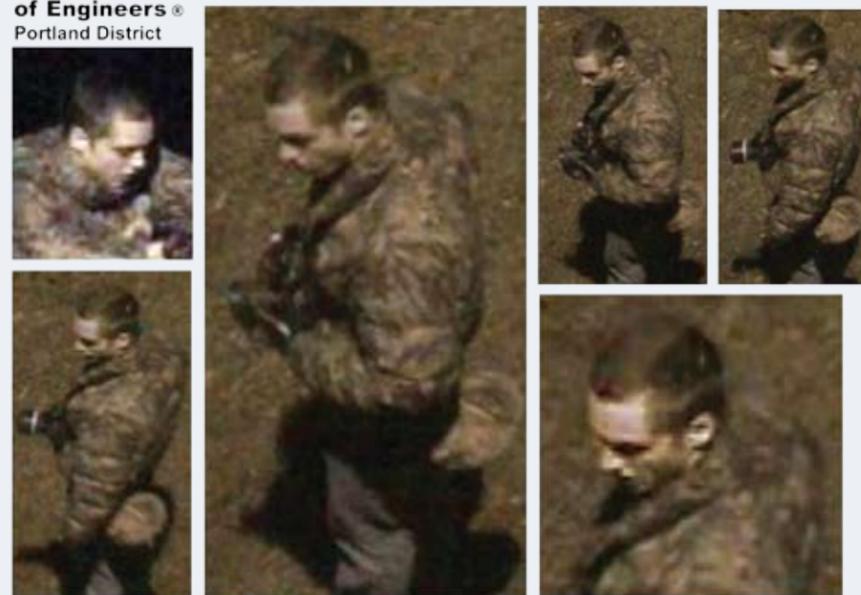
"We had a lot of visitors," said Bell. Most of our deployments are in remote or secured areas, this was a great opportunity for the District and Division staff to see the vehicle firsthand.

Four more ECCVs are located on the West Coast — three in Sacramento and one in Los Angeles.



US Army Corps of Engineers
Portland District

Corps Watch



Up to a \$1,000 REWARD!

For information leading to the arrest and prosecution of the person seen in these photos for unlawful trespassing on government property at Lookout Point, March 2, 2011.

Hotline

1-866-413-7970

Callers can remain anonymous.



Photos by Billie Johnson, ACETVI



NWD Crisis Management Team is briefed by Tracy Bell, Emergency Center Operations manager, during their COOP exercise on March 19.



The right steps to protect life, property

In the event of an emergency, the Portland District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, will not stand in the way of property owners who take appropriate action when a loss of life or property is imminent.

- During significant weather events, the Corps monitors the conditions of local waterways and Regulatory project managers are ready to address any issues brought to their attention.
- Before doing any work, where time allows, property owners are encouraged to contact the Corps to discuss issues and needs specific to their property.
- When conditions return to normal, property owners are expected to contact the Corps' Regulatory project manager assigned to their county to discuss long-term, permanent solutions.
- There is no fee to apply for a Corps permit. Individual permits that are issued and accepted cost \$10 to \$100.

Photo courtesy of Ron McPherson, property owner on Sandy River.



Heavy rain and snow in January 2011 caused the Sandy River to rise above historic flood stages. Before waters receded, Corps project managers were talking to property owners about how to apply for individual project permits to protect their property from further damage.

Sea lion predation at Bonneville Lock and Dam

Male California and Stellar sea lions swim up the Columbia River to Bonneville Lock and Dam in mid- to late-February to eat part of the annual spring migration of sturgeon, salmon, steelhead and other anadromous fish. They do this to gain weight and energy for the spring mating season and leave by mid-May. The number of fish eaten by sea lions has increased nearly every year since studies were first undertaken by the Corps.

- The Corps' role in sea lion issues at Bonneville Lock and Dam is limited to monitoring sea lion numbers and predation; evaluating the effectiveness of management techniques; and keeping sea lions out of our fishways.
- We support the actions of NOAA Fisheries Service and state and tribal agencies to ensure the protection and continuity of native fish species.
- The Corps has contracted with U.S. Department of Agriculture's Wildlife Services to harass sea lions from the dam structure to keep them away from the fishway entrances. Wildlife Services is not shooting or killing sea lions.
- While the Corps operates the dam and the fishways, NOAA Fisheries Service has responsibility for sea lions under the Marine Mammal Protection Act, and the state fish and wildlife departments have hands-on responsibility for any animal within their borders
- Stellar sea lions – which can be hazed but are protected from removal – are having an increasing impact on white sturgeon below Bonneville.



Corps of Engineers photos