DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET, NW
WASHINGTON, DC 20314-1000

CECW-PD

APR 0 7 2016

MEMORANDUM FOR SEE DISTRIBUTION

SUBJECT: Civil Works Transformation Planning Modernization: USACE National Water Resources Certified Planner

1. The purpose of this memorandum is to launch the new USACE National Water Resources Certified Planner (WRCP) Program. The objective of the program is to set a standard of excellence for the planning profession. In addition, it advances the technical capability of individual planners, strengthens the quality of USACE planning products, and recognizes USACE national planning capability. The WRCP has been beta-tested and has gained concurrence through the USACE Planning Advisory Board. In April 2016, many of the leaders of the Planning Community of Practice (PCoP) will be together and the details of this program will be discussed.

2. A key component of the Civil Works Transformation efforts is to modernize Planning. Planning Modernization is also under the USACE Campaign plan as one of the objectives of the transformation. The Planning Modernization "People" initiatives focus on enhancing the capability and competency in the planning function in order to be responsive to the changing needs of the Nation. To date, we have invested resources in improving planner knowledge by developing a state-of-the-art Planning Core Curriculum, incorporating SMART (Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Risk Informed, Timely) Planning principles, and applying innovative methods of delivery. We have also implemented a rigorous agency technical review certification process. Building on these prior accomplishments, the WRCP is the next step in continued development of a highly capable planning workforce.

3. The National WRCP Program is a framework for developing and sustaining a results-oriented, high performing planner workforce. This program lays out the requirements for becoming a "USACE National Water Resources Certified Planner." The standard to attain status as a Water Resources Certified Planner is high. This certification is not only about completing required training, but requires a mix of training, experience, knowledge, and leadership. The Water Resources Certified Planner is an individual who has a broad variety of experience and training in the USACE planning processes, and is capable of leading the most complex water resources planning efforts, Agency Technical Reviews, and planning task forces throughout the enterprise. By identifying WRCPs, the organization can help water resource managers match complicated, controversial, and highly visible studies and initiatives with a very capable lead planner, no matter where that planner is located.

4. Your support and execution of this program is needed in order to certify our expert planners and achieve the objectives of the Civil Works Transformation, the Campaign Plan and the Civil Works Strategic Plan. I request each of you to encourage your top performing planners to apply for this professional certification. I also ask that you continue to invest in development of all planners and to encourage them to strive towards this standard of excellence.

5. The HQUSACE PCoP looks forward to working with you in the establishment of the WRCP Program, and I thank you for your assistance and support of this key certification program. The point of contact for this initiative is Mr. Theodore A. Brown, Chief, Planning and Policy Division, 202-761-0115.

Encl

DONALD E. JACKSON JR., P.E.
Major General, USA
Deputy Commanding General
for Civil and Emergency Operations

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