

PLANNING AHEAD

Notes for the Planning and Policy Community

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Senior Planner Vacancy Announcements

Honolulu

The Honolulu Engineer District will have a vacancy, effective 7 July 2002 for an Interdisciplinary GS-xxx-13, senior project manager (PM) in the Civil and Public Works Branch, Programs and Project Management Division. The position may be filled with qualified candidates from the following disciplines: Economist (0110), Archeologist (0193), Biologist (0401), General Engineer (0801), Architect (0808), Civil/Hydraulic Engineer (0810), Environmental Engineer (0819), Physical Scientist (1301), Community Planner (0020).

The duties involve a combination of the conventional plan formulator and project manager for larger scale and controversial projects. The individual is expected to be very familiar with civil works processes

and to assist management in the leadership of the branch. The PM heads up the Project Delivery Team, establishes and updates schedules and requests, allocates and monitors project expenditures, serves as POC with the customer, writes information papers, reports to the Project Review Board, writes testimony justification data for out-year budgets, assures that the project/study is formulated properly, interfaces with construction/ design personnel for projects in those phases, establishes basis for procurement and interagency agreements, writes draft agreements, writes key formulation portions of reports, and assures execution of assigned work, including decision documents and construction contracts. Incumbent will be responsible for projects involving all major purposes, navigation, flood control, and ecosystem restoration, and some projects may include shore protection. Also, some projects may consist of reimbursable interagency support activities.

The duty station is on a military installation, Fort Shafter, Hawaii, approximately seven miles from downtown Honolulu. Ample and free parking is available. The jurisdictional area includes the State of Hawaii and territories of Guam and American Samoa and the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and as such, travel is required. The weather is great, ranging from 65-85 degrees all year around. The islands are famous for the aloha spirit and casual lifestyle. For more information, e-mail the supervisor: paul.mizue@usace.army.mil. Look for the announcement at the appropriate time, at the personnel website: <http://www.cpol.army.mil>. The announcement will be world-wide Army and for a 30 day period recruitment.

San Francisco

South Pacific Division (SPD) continues its recruiting for two technical GS-14 positions in the Planning and Policy Division. One position will focus primarily on plan formulation, and the second on economics and formulation. Strong water resources and team skills are desirable, as is a background in planning, water resources, plan formulation, environmental analysis, and/or economic evaluations in a wide geographical area with varied social, environmental, and political interests.

The first is Job No. WCPOC-0810-93, with a Closing Date of June 12, 2002. The Position is open to: Social Scientist (GS-0101), Economist (GS-0110), General Biologist (GS-0401), General Engineer (GS-0801), Civil Engineer (GS-0810), Physical Scientist (GS-1301). [<http://jsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/summary.asp?OPMControl=TQ5762>]

The second is Job No. WCPOC-INTER-95 with a Closing Date of June 12, 2002. The Position is open to: Social Scientist (GS-0101), Economist (GS-0110), Geographer (GS-0150), General Engineer (GS-0801), Civil Engineer (GS-0810). [<http://jsearch.usajobs.opm.gov/summary.asp?OPMControl=TQ6483>]

See the April 2002 Planning Ahead for additional information.

Please call Mr. Robin Mooney at 415-977-8167 if you have any questions .

Atlanta

The South Atlantic Division, Planning and Policy Directorate, has a vacancy, closing 12 June 2002, for an Interdisciplinary GS-xxx-13. The position may be filled with qualified candidates from the following disciplines: Community Planner (0020), Civil Engineer (0810), Physical Scientist (1301), Economist (0110), Landscape Architect (0807), and Environmental Engineer (0819). The duties involve

serving as a staff specialist for the specific discipline as well as plan formulation for larger scale and controversial projects. The individual is expected to be familiar with civil works processes, policies and procedures. Incumbent will be responsible for review of decision documents recommending projects involving all major civil works purposes - navigation, flood control, and ecosystem restoration. Some projects may include water conservation, drought management, hydropower and related matters.

The duty station is downtown, Atlanta, Georgia. TDY is required.

For more information, e-mail the team leader: frank.x.mcgovern@usace.army.mil. The complete announcement may be found at the personnel website: <http://www.cpol.army.mil>. 

Baltimore

The Baltimore District is recruiting for three GS-13 positions in Planning Division. One position will focus primarily on environmental analyses and plan formulation, the second on economics and formulation, and the third on oversight of the District's planning support to the military and SFO program. The environmental and economics positions, located in the Civil Project Development Branch, will oversee 5-7 technical employees each and be responsible for quality control and policy review in their respective functional areas. Twenty percent of duties will be supervisory in nature. The Program Manager position in Planning and Environmental Services Branch will be responsible for an approximate \$2,000,000 program, with general oversight of 5-10 GS-9-12 planners. Strong water resources, planning skills, leadership, and team skills are a must for all three positions.

The District's Planning program averages about \$17 million per year. The \$12 million Civil Works planning program includes over one hundred ongoing projects in the Congressionally authorized General Investigation, Construction General, and Operation and Maintenance Programs, as well as the Continuing Authorities Program. The projects are in a wide range of mission areas and are often cutting edge and innovative. Through strong partnerships with state and local agencies, Baltimore District has developed projects to restore damaged island habitats such as the Chesapeake Bay's Poplar Island, build multi-million dollar flood protection projects in flood-prone areas of central Pennsylvania, and provide for the deep draft navigation needs of the Port of Baltimore. The District remains an active partner in the effort to restore and protect the Chesapeake Bay, with projects for wetland restoration, oyster bar creation, and elimination of fish blockages. The District has a robust program in other areas as well; more information on the District's programs and projects is available at <http://www.nab.usace.army.mil>.

Headquartered adjacent to Baltimore's Inner Harbor, the District team is nearly 1,300 strong. The NAB office is at 10 South Howard Street, two blocks from Oriole Park at Camden Yards, and a stone's throw from the Inner Harbor. The office is easily accessible by public transportation and is within a short walk of many excellent restaurants and shops. The Baltimore/Washington corridor offers a wide variety of cultural, recreational, and educational opportunities. Salaries include an 11.48% locality payment.

Position announcements will be released imminently. A selection list will be requested from the Northeast Civilian Personnel Operations Center (WCPOC) o/a 30 June 2002. To be considered you must have a one to three-page resume and supplemental data sheet RESUMIX application on file with the Northeast Region CPOC. Information on preparing these documents is at: <http://cpolrhp.belvoir.army.mil/ner/>. Click on "Employment Information", then "RESUMIX Kit." A sample RESUMIX resume is contained in the kit, as well as the supplemental data questionnaire. To insure that your resume is processed in time, please plan to submit your resume by the middle of June. Resumes and supplemental data sheets may be

e-mailed to: resumes@cpocner.apg.army.mil or mailed to Department of the Army, Northeast CPOC, RESUMIX Project Office, 314 Johnson Street, Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5283.

Please call Mr. Wesley Coleman at 410-962-4713 or Mr. Robert Gore at 410-962-4905 if you have any questions or need additional information.

2001 Planning Excellence Award and Outstanding Planning Achievement Award

Jim Johnson -- CECW-P

I am pleased to announce the recipients of the 2001 Planning Excellence Award and Outstanding Planning Achievement Award.

The Planning Excellence Award for 2001 is awarded to Mr. Scott D. Whitney of the Rock Island District. Mr. Whitney is commended for his excellence in advancing the state of the art of water resources planning through his effort on the Upper Mississippi River – Illinois Waterway System Navigation Study and Upper Mississippi River System – Environmental Management Program. His effort demonstrated an innovative approach to planning, creative use of advanced technologies, the search for synergistic solutions, and extensive coordination with individuals from various professional disciplines and organizations.

The 2001 Outstanding Planning Achievement Award goes to the Napa Valley Project Team from Sacramento District. The Napa Valley Project Team worked closely with the Napa County Flood Control and Water Conservation District, the local community, and resource agencies to develop new approaches to a flood protection project for the city of Napa, California. The team was able to develop a modified plan that provided the desired flood protection, eliminated the environmental concerns associated with the original plan, and provided significant associated environmental quality outputs. The team demonstrated its ability to work together as a Corps-community-resource agency-team on a project that has generated considerable media attention as a community success story.

I would also like to recognize additional outstanding individuals and teams for their valuable contributions to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers water resources program.

The following individuals were nominated for the Planning Excellence Award by their Division Commanders for their significant contributions to the Corps water resources program:

Robert Maslowski	Huntington District
Carol Anderson-Austra	Baltimore District
Steve D. Babcock	Seattle District
Duane E. Bailey	Savannah District
Steve Fine	Los Angeles District
Elston D. Eckhardt	Fort Worth District

The following teams were nominated for the Outstanding Planning Achievement Award by their Division Commanders for their significant contributions to the Corps water resources program:

Chickamauga Lock	Nashville District
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Upper Mississippi-Habitat Needs

Smith Island Environmental Restoration

Title VI Land Transfer

Dare County Beach

Lower Colorado River Basin

St. Paul, Rock Island, and

St. Louis Districts

Baltimore District

Omaha District

Wilmington District

Fort Worth District

All these individuals and teams are to be commended for their contributions to solving the Nation's water resources problems. Please pass along my congratulations on jobs well done. James F. Johnson, Chief, Planning and Policy Division, Directorate of Civil Works. 

Developing Improved Inland Waterway Performance Measures for Use in O&M Budget Process

Dave Moser, Dave Grier - CEIWR

Current measures of the inland waterway system performance may fail to indicate the full value of the system to the nation. This issue has become more important because OMB desires to base O&M funding allocations on cost per ton-mile. OMB wants to maintain the most efficient waterways but reduce or discontinue maintaining the least efficient.

The most common measures of waterway performance are tons and ton-miles. But the use of waterway ton-miles as a budgetary performance measure has received considerable criticism because it does not account for the origins and destinations (O/D) of waterway traffic as it moves through the system. Ton-miles on a particular segment, and hence the segment's maintenance justification, is not directly related to the criterion by which navigation projects are ordinarily justified, that is, transportation savings.

IWR is proposing a set of short-term and longer-term research goals to address the need for better waterway performance measures. Short-term goals include: an expanded system ton-mile database that includes more inland and intracoastal shallow-draft waterways; and coordination with the Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) to assess and update their database of approximately 10,000 inland waterway origin/destination pairs and associated estimates of shipper rates and savings.

Over the longer term IWR proposes to work with TVA, the Corps Waterborne Commerce Statistical Center (WCSC), and contractors to: develop and characterize an inventory of low tonnage/high value inland waterway movements; expand the system ton-mile database to include O/D and commodity information; develop waterway commodity value estimates; quantify externalities and other non-market values; and, ultimately, propose methodologies and test procedures for developing expanded waterway performance measures, employing a case study of one or more tributary waterways. The overall objective is development of performance measures that are more consistent with NED/EQ evaluation, and flexible enough to be reviewed and updated on an annual basis. 

Trade-Off Analysis Planning and Procedures Guidebook

Darrell Nolton – CEIWR-MD

Making decisions requires some form of deliberation and evaluation by the decision maker. When there is a single decision maker, the process may not have to be rigid or replicable or even justified to anyone other than the decision maker. In water resources planning and investments, there are multiple decision makers, stakeholders and other interested parties making inputs to the decision making process. Planning for projects involving multiple and competing outputs and stakeholders requires a collaborative effort. This process also requires a more definitive evaluation process, one that can be replicated and used to justify or, at a minimum, explain why specific decisions were made and who was involved in the decision making process. The proliferation of work falling into the category of National Ecosystem Restoration, (NER, i.e., providing non-monetary outputs such as Habitat Units or Acres of Wetlands) and subsequently, the need to formulate multiple-purpose alternatives with National Economic Development outputs, (NED, i.e., providing monetary outputs in flood damage reduction and navigation) and National Ecosystem Restoration outputs, fosters an increased need for tools and guidance to conduct trade-off analysis and collaborative decision making.

The Trade-Off Analysis Planning and Procedures Guidebook was completed by the Institute for Water Resources (IWR) and is available on the IWR Web Site at: <http://www.iwr.usace.army.mil/iwr/products/reports/reports.htm#planning> The point of contact for additional information is: Darrell Nolton, phone 703-428-9084. 

Top 20 Inland U.S. Ports for 2000

Debra Jackson -- CEIWR-NDC-C

System ton-miles for inland ports is a new measure that indicates the contribution that an inland port makes to the whole waterway system. The methodology used to compute system ton-miles for inland ports is as follows: First, every commercial cargo-carrying vessel that was loaded or unloaded at the port is identified. Next, the products of the tons times the total trip-miles (the distance from the vessels point of loading to its point of unloading) for each vessel trip are summed. This measure takes into account the distances traveled on all of the waterways traversed. The following table ranks the top 20 inland ports by their CY 2000 system ton-mile totals. This rank order differs significantly from a sort by tonnage.

For more information on this new measure contact Debra Jackson at WCSC, 504-862-1472, Debra.A.Jackson@usace.army.mil 

Top 20 U.S. Inland Ports* for CY 1996-2000 Ranked by System Ton-miles

Rank	Port Name	Tons			System Ton-Miles		
		Average		Percent	Average		Percent
		CY 96-00 (Millions)	CY 00	Diff.	CY 96-00 (Billions)	CY 00	Diff.
1	Huntington–Tristate**	NA	76.9	NA	NA	29.5	NA
2	St. Louis, MO and IL	31.8	33.3	4.7	23.4	24.3	4.0
3	Pittsburgh, PA	52.5	53.9	2.8	18.7	18.5	-0.9
4	Cincinnati, OH	13.3	14.3	8.1	8.9	9.3	5.3
5	Memphis, TN	17.5	18.3	4.3	7.4	7.5	1.6
6	St. Paul, MN	5.0	5.3	4.1	5.3	5.3	-0.1
7	Louisville, KY	8.9	9.2	3.0	4.0	4.3	5.4
8	Mount Vernon, IN	4.9	3.1	-37.8	5.1	2.7	-46.2
9	Nashville, TN	4.2	4.5	7.1	1.9	2.1	10.0
10	Vicksburg, MS	5.4	5.0	-8.7	2.3	2.1	-9.5
11	Tulsa, Port of Catoosa, OK	2.1	1.9	-8.8	2.1	1.9	-6.8
12	Minneapolis, MN	1.7	1.9	14.3	1.5	1.8	21.2
13	Chattanooga, TN	2.8	2.9	1.0	1.8	1.8	-2.8
14	Guntersville, AL	2.5	1.9	-26.9	2.1	1.6	-23.4
15	Greenville, MS	2.9	3.1	5.6	1.2	1.3	6.2
16	Helena, AR	1.9	1.8	-7.8	0.7	0.6	-12.0
17	Kansas City, MO	3.5	3.8	8.5	0.4	0.4	-13.1
18	Rosedale, MS	0.6	0.5	-5.6	0.3	0.3	-0.6
19	Natchez, MS	0.6	0.6	-8.4	0.3	0.3	-10.1
20	Lake Providence, LA	0.5	0.5	-3.2	0.2	0.3	9.8

* "Inland Ports" are ports that are located on rivers and do not handle deep draft ship traffic. ** Huntington-Tristate was defined in CY 2000 as mile 256.8 to mile 356.8 on the Ohio River, plus the navigable portions of the Kanawha and Big Sandy rivers. In prior years the Port of Huntington, WV, was defined as mile 303 to mile 317 on the Ohio River. Source: Compiled by Waterborne Commerce Statistics Center.

FY2003 Prospect Training Needs Survey

John Buckley – CEHNC

A wide variety of technical and professional development courses are available through the USACE Proponent Sponsored Engineer Corps Training (PROSPECT) Program FY2003 Training Needs Survey beginning 1 May 2002. Information about the FY03 Survey and these courses can be found online at: <http://pdsc.usace.army.mil>. This web site contains additional information on the classroom program as well as on the distance learning program.

To register for any of these courses, you must first discuss this with your supervisor and then with your local training coordinator. Your training coordinator can guide you through the registration process and inform you of any deadlines applicable in your organization as well as all local procedures that you

must follow to register. After the deadline for the annual survey period has passed, you may still request a space in a course; however, you may have to wait until the registration window opens again. Your local training coordinator can inform you of when that would be.

A number of PROSPECT courses are still available for FY02. Information about these courses can be found on the website address listed above. Some courses are currently full; some still have spaces available. If a course is full, you may request to be put on a waiting list and will be informed when a space becomes available. POC for this message is John Buckley, John.P.Buckley@HND01.usace.army.mil. Telephone: 256-895-7431 

Instructions for Contributors to Planning Ahead

This newsletter is designed to improve the communication among all the planners and those we work with throughout the Corps. We hope that future editions will have mostly information and perspective from those of you on the front lines in the districts. We hope that these notes become a forum for you to share your experiences to help all of us learn from each other. We can't afford to reinvent the wheel in each office. We welcome your thoughts, questions, success stories, and bitter lessons so that we can share them on these pages. The articles should be short (2-3 paragraphs) except in some cases where you just have to say more.

- Use MS WORD, if at all possible
- Use "normal" style
- Use Times New Roman font, 11 point
- All text should be left justified with start of each paragraph indented by one tab stop.
- Each article should have short title with only initial letter of each word capitalized
- Following each title should be author's name and organization
- Last line should be contact information – phone number or e-mail address 

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To obtain a 'help' file, send only the word 'help' in the text of the message (nothing in the subject line) and address it to majordomo@usace.army.mil.

The web site for additional information is: <https://eml01.usace.army.mil/listserv.htm>
Site can be accessed only by Corps personnel. 

Submissions Deadline

The deadline for material for the next issue is **17 May 2002**.

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We are pleased that we have doubled the staff of *Planning Ahead* with Brad Fowler coming on board as editor, writer and chief bottle washer. Harry Kitch will continue to serve as publisher. Please continue to send in all those good articles and information to Brad. TEL 202-761-4231, FAX 202-761-1972, or email kirby.b.fowler@usace.army.mil. Harry Kitch can be reached at TEL 202-761-1969 or FAX 202-761-1972 or e-mail Harry.E.Kitch@usace.army.mil. 