



Omaha Outlook

2017 Year in Review

**From California to the Caribbean,
NWO employees from across the
district volunteered to provide
disaster relief**



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District

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From the Commander

Team, 2017 was another big year filled with great accomplishments for the district. In the six months that I have been honored to be a part of the district, I have been amazed by the technical skills and professionalism that I have seen all across the organization. Please accept my sincere gratitude for all that you accomplish every day, for your commitment to our mission, for your demonstrated character in how we accomplish our mission, and amazing competence that each of you brings to our team as we solve our Nation's most challenging and complex problems. Your efforts continue to earn the respect and trust of our partners, stakeholders, and our Nation.

As you page through this Omaha Outlook, you will see the results of our strong team. From military construction projects in eight states, to civil works projects in nine states, and environmental restoration projects in 41 states. None of these projects are successfully executed without the disciplined and collaborative teamwork from the great people all over this organization.

This past year more than 100 of you answered the call to help our fellow citizens, many of you answered that call more than once. Hurricanes Harvey, Irma and Maria, along with the wildfires in California, brought destruction to many of our fellow citizens. The selfless service you exhibited leaving your family and friends, heading to a disaster zone often living in austere conditions, working long, arduous hours is something to be proud of.

Additionally, you have been stewards in our communities and in our professions through your service and leadership. Thank you for your contributions to Brush-Up Nebraska Paint-A-Thon, Operation Santa, the Combined Federal Campaign, our many professional societies, and the multitude of excellent events that we facilitate in communities throughout the Missouri River Basin. Your voluntary service to our communities and profession adds further depth to the character of our Corps.

Looking forward, we are on track for another great year in 2018 with a robust program ahead of us, to include the scheduled completion of our two MEGA projects – USSTRATCOM headquarters at Offutt Air Force Base and the VA health Center in Aurora, Colorado - and boundless opportunities to serve our Nation and communities as part of the Army. It is a great honor to serve with all of you, and I look forward to accomplishing our mission together.



ESSAYONS!

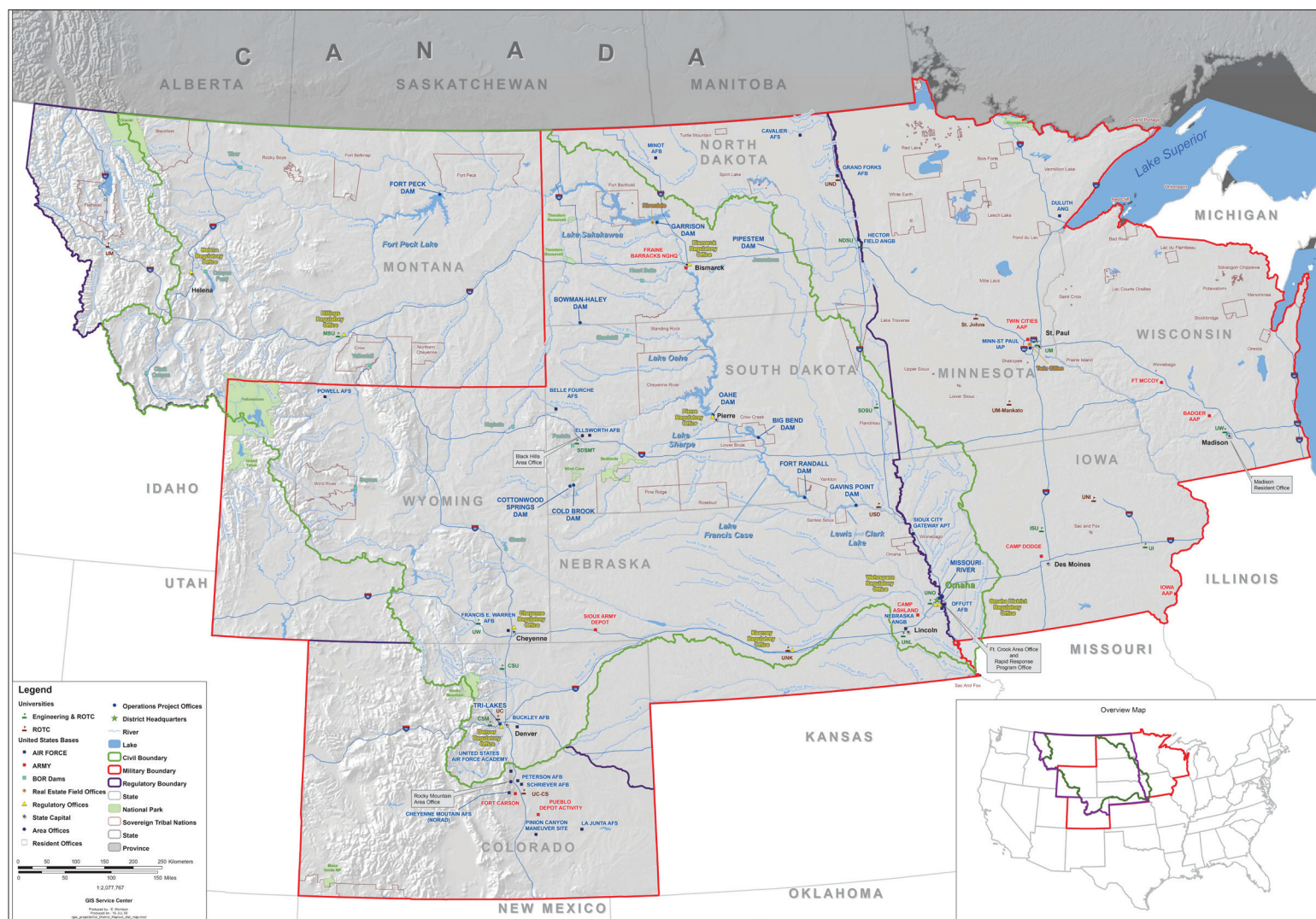
A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'John L. Hudson'.

JOHN L. HUDSON, P.E.
Colonel, EN
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District program tops \$1B for seventh straight year



Thomas O'Hara III
Chief, Public Affairs

When the dust settled on the 2017 fiscal year, the Omaha team completed more than \$1.054 billion in awards for more than 1,786 projects across not only the country, but the world.

Key projects of this year's program include the ongoing construction of the U.S. Strategic Command and Control Facility at Offutt Air Force Base, as well as completion of the Veterans Administration Medical Complex in Aurora, Colorado, both "MEGA" projects being managed by the Omaha District.

In addition, this hard working District executed in excess of \$100 million in support of the Nation's military fueling and supply

system, both home and abroad. The team also expended millions of dollars supporting environmental cleanup activities, along with a singular focus on maintaining and improving the hydropower infrastructure at the main stem dams on the Missouri River.

"For an annual program that has finished between \$1 billion and \$1.6 billion for the last seven years, completing and executing the contractual requirements before funding expires is a challenge for any federal agency, and Omaha District has apparently found a way to 'get 'er done.' There is a lot of 'sausage-making' in the federal acquisition process that occurs following the determination that a project is necessary, authorized and appropriated," said Ted Streckfuss, Deputy District Engineer. "The last thing we want to

do is fail to deliver on those programs and the expectation of Congress and be unsuccessful on completing the critical jobs that are essential for our National security and water infrastructure support. The American public deserves our full commitment to ensure that these jobs get done and done right."

Getting the projects awarded is not easy, as often funds are not made available until late in the year or appropriations which provide those funds are stalled going into a fiscal year.

"Striking that balance to ensure we meet our fiscal responsibility while ensuring we do not compromise on the necessary rigor of the design, construction, and acquisition process just because the calendar turns to October is a tough challenge," said Streckfuss. "Not just

from a legal and ethical perspective, but also from a disciplined, process oriented approach to mission execution.”

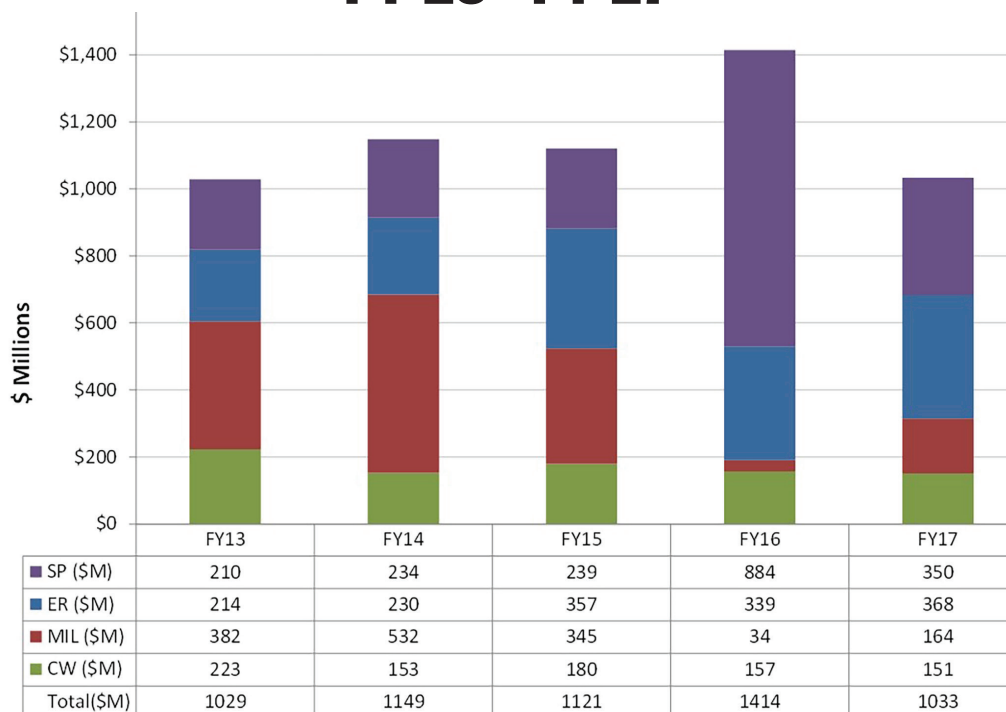
Reaching the finish line this year was additionally complicated as the district was concurrently doing its part in the national response effort to hurricanes which have devastated the lower United States and its territories in the last few weeks.

“We had nearly five dozen of our key team members deployed at the end of the fiscal year , many for much of September,” said Col. John Hudson, Omaha District Commander. “Because of the skillsets needed to meet that national emergency, we had to dig deeper into the bench strength of this organization to meet our execution requirements of our annual program.”

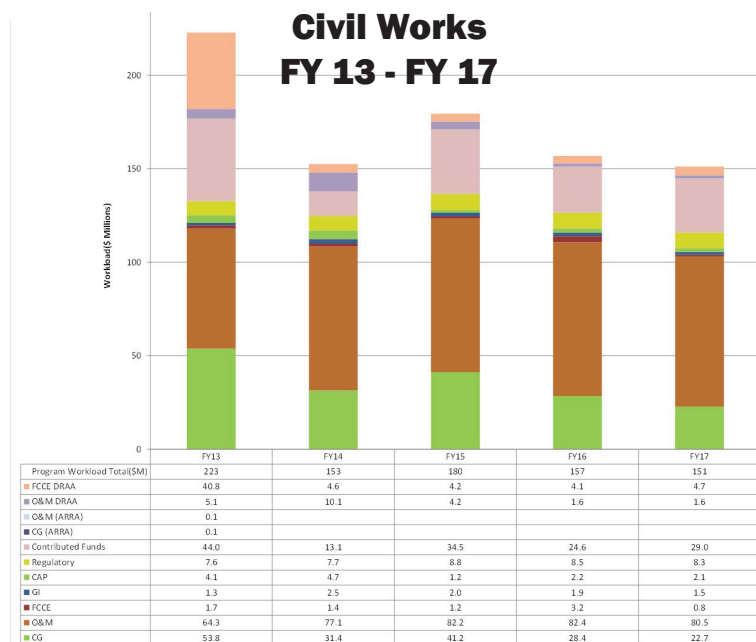
“Every year it takes the entire team to get the mission done, and this year was an excellent example of how that team came together in the face of adversity in order to accomplish the mission that had been assigned to Omaha District,” said Streckfuss.

The total district program for 2018 is expected to total approximately \$1.2 billion.

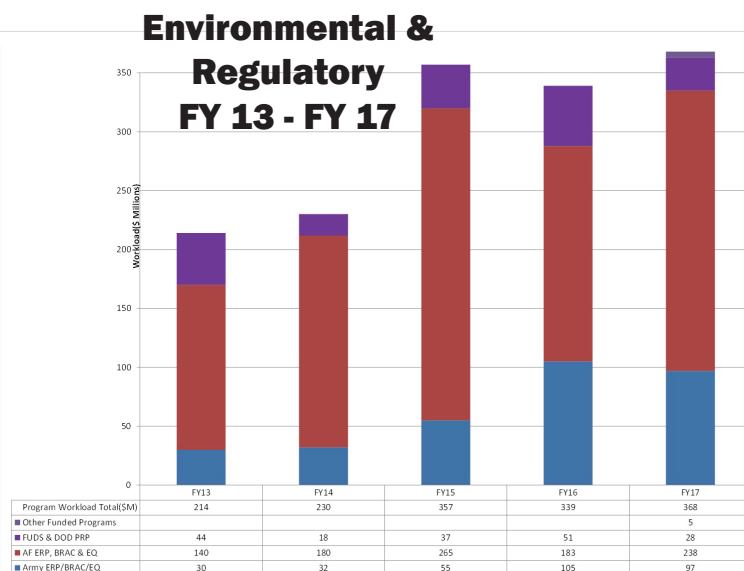
Total District Program FY 13 - FY 17



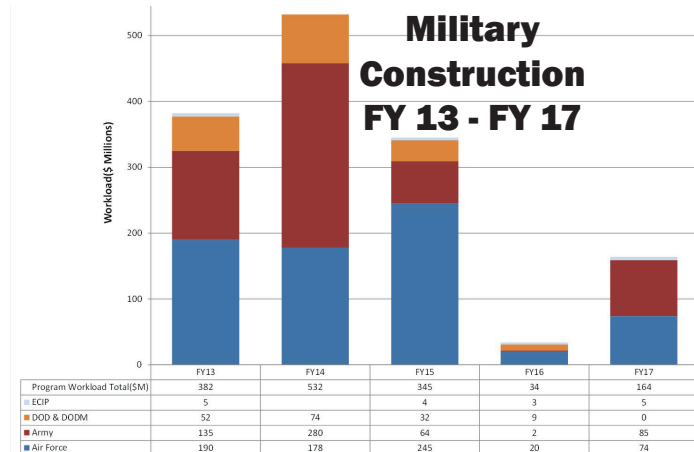
Civil Works FY 13 - FY 17



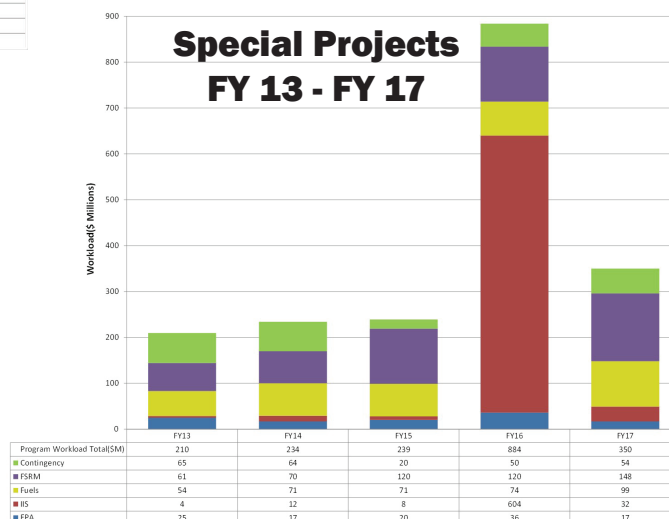
Environmental & Regulatory FY 13 - FY 17



Military Construction FY 13 - FY 17



Special Projects FY 13 - FY 17





photos by Harry Weddington

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District first designed and now is building a one-of-a-kind \$1.2 billion building that will allow USSTRATCOM to continue their mission of coordinating the necessary command and control capabilities by providing the President, Secretary of Defense and other national leaders the most timely and accurate information available.

USSTRATCOM eyes new home

Capt. Ryan Hignight
Public Affairs Officer

Due to an aging building on Offutt Air Force Base, the Department of Defense directed the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District to begin designing a new command-and-control facility for U.S. Strategic Command in 2008. The decision went through multiple iterations to incorporate mandatory changes and budget limitations but eventually the design was approved and construction began in 2012.

The new building is a massive, one-of-a-kind \$1.2 billion project that will allow USSTRATCOM to provide the President and Secretary of Defense with assured command and control of the nation's strategic forces. Approximately half of the project cost is the building and ancillary facilities. The other half of the project cost will outfit the facility.

"A building like this has never been built before," said Matt Bird, USSTRATCOM Project Manager for USACE. "We did not have anything to base the design on so we were creating the entire thing from scratch."

The building is a multi-story facility and is nearly 1 million square feet. Upon completion, it will support approximately 3,500 person workforce that includes staffing of the Command and Control facility, mainframe computer and data center spaces, and 24-hour mission operation centers, and a theater-type auditorium with a 400-person capacity.

Additionally, the new building will provide USSTRATCOM the

most up-to-date technology available and an updated Global Operations Center, or nerve center, offering operational command and control of the Nation's global strategic forces.

A project of this magnitude is seldom without delays or bumps in

the road. The project is nearly 20 months behind the original completion date.

Col. John Hudson, Omaha District Commander said, "We will not provide USSTRATCOM a substandard building. Many things have come up to delay the project, from a tornado this past summer, to mold discovered in some of the HVAC system. We will provide USSTRATCOM a safe healthy building."

To combat concerns of mold, USACE conducted 100% visual inspections on all effected HVAC ductwork as well as hiring a third-party mold remediation company to perform air quality sampling.

"Since we completed the visual inspections of the HVAC system and replaced all contaminated ductwork," Bird said, "all air quality readings performed by the third-party company have fallen within acceptable ranges."

The building is currently 97% complete but even after construction is completed, USSTRATCOM will outfit the facility with more than \$500 million in IT equipment, security, furnishings, command and control mission essential equipment so that there is zero mission degradation during the transition from the old to the new building.

System integration is the next major milestone for the USACE project. During installation, each of the many systems have been

"We will not provide USSTRATCOM a substandard building. Many things have come up to delay the project, from a tornado this past summer, to mold discovered in some of the HVAC system. We want to give them a useful and safe building."

***-Col. John Hudson
District Commander***

(Right) The new building is three floors and will provide USSTRATCOM the most up-to-date technology available and an updated Global Operations Center, or nerve center for USSTRATCOM, offering operational command and control of the Nation's global strategic forces. (Below) Construction on the atrium is ongoing as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District works to complete the building



independently tested for proper operations but as the building moves closer to completion, the systems must be tested together.

“System integration is required before we can turn the building over,” said Hudson. “Each of the systems installed in the building

must be able to operate together. This can be a challenge but we are confident that we will successfully progress through it.”

Construction is scheduled to be completed in the summer of 2018.



photo by Dr. Michael Izard-Carroll

Damaged power lines along a road in Humacao, Puerto Rico show some of the damages in one of the hardest hit municipalities after Hurricane Maria. FEMA tasked USACE with the daunting task of restoring the devastated island's power grid.

NWO steps up providing relief, hope

Mike Glasch
Public Affairs Specialist

Not since October 2005 had a major hurricane (category 3 or higher) made landfall in the United States. That all changed on Aug. 26 when Hurricane Harvey struck the Texas gulf coast. The storm would make landfall three times.

Harvey first landed near Rockport, Texas, as a category 4 storm before heading back into Gulf of Mexico. Three hours later it would strike again, this time as a category 3 storm at Copano Bay, Texas. After returning to the gulf yet again, Harvey made its third landfall on Aug. 30 just west of Cameron, Louisiana, as a tropical storm.

Back in Omaha, the district's emergency operations center was busy ramping up to answer the much anticipated call for volunteers to deploy to provide disaster relief and recovery assistance. Under the direction of FEMA, the first wave of Omaha district employees deployed to aid in the overall USACE missions of providing reservoir operations, temporary emergency power, debris technical assistance, navigation restoration, temporary

housing and infrastructure assessments.

Unknowingly at the time, it was a scene that would play out several more times on a much grander before the year ended.

Harvey was followed by Hurricane Irma which tore its way across the U.S. Virgin Islands as a Category 5 storm on Sept. 6 before turning and setting its sights on Florida. The Florida Keys felt the wrath of Irma as it passed through the islands as a category 4 on Sept. 10, with the storm hitting the mainland just south of Naples, Florida, as a category 3 later the same day.

While Irma did not make landfall in Puerto Rico, just skimming the U.S. territory, it did leave more than one million people on the island without power, foreshadowing what was yet to come.

Two weeks after Irma hit, the U.S. Virgin Islands were blasted again on Sept. 20, this time by category 5 Hurricane Maria that hit the island of St. Croix which had originally been spared from Irma's fury (St. Johns and St. Thomas suffered the wrath from Irma). Maria then bore down on Puerto Rico, first hitting the smaller island of Vieques, then



photo by Brooks Hubbard IV

Temporary Roofing Mission Specialist Nicholas Franke (left), Mission Manager Peter Pettis (center) and Senior Quality Assurance Specialist Trudy Templeton, all from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Omaha District review final Quality Assurance inspection records at the Temporary Roofing office at St. Thomas.



courtesy photo

A USACE volunteer assesses a damaged home before contractors install a temporary blue roof in the U.S. Virgin Islands.

hitting Puerto Rico itself, making landfall at Yabucao, then cutting across the island. By the time Maria had returned to the water, the entire island of Puerto Rico was in the dark. The storm had wiped out the entire power grid. In addition, more than half of the island's population was left without drinking water.

Once again, Omaha district employees answered the call to come to the aid of their fellow countrymen. In addition to the missions that USACE supported following Hurricane Harvey, they were tasked with providing temporary blue roofs to help residents stay in their homes until repairs could be made, and the daunting task of restoring Puerto Rico's national power grid.

Getting roofs over residents' heads was a major priority. Zach Montreuil, a natural resources specialist with the Gavins Point Project deployed to the U.S. Virgin Islands to help with the Blue Roof Program. The totality of the devastation made getting the program up and running a daunting task.

"The biggest challenge was communication with the public following the disaster. We

were set up at fire stations, schools, and other public buildings signing people up for the Blue Roof Program, and it was difficult getting the word out right away," Montreuil said.

"People didn't have access to Facebook, internet, TV, or radio because the communications were down and/or they didn't have electricity. So we wanted to help people but it was difficult to do right away, it got significantly better as communications were up and people had access to internet, phone, and word of mouth."

In addition to the lack of power, location turned out to be another major obstacle facing recovery volunteers. Unlike Florida and Texas where supplies could be driven in, materials needed for rebuilding Puerto Rico and the U.S. Virgin Islands has to be shipped or flown in.

"Due to being on an island sometimes supplies would take a while to arrive or be held up in customs which slowed down the process," said Office of Counsel's Melissa Head, who deployed to the U.S. Virgin Islands to work on the Blue Roof Program. "We tried to manage expectations of homeowners and also tried to work closely with the contractor and crews to train them on the proper way to install."

Just as hurricane relief and recovery efforts were getting into full swing, the call came into the Omaha emergency operations center – help was needed on the west coast with debris removal from the wildfires devastating California. Like the previous three times, Omaha district employees answered the call.

A total of 117 Omaha district employees volunteered to deploy to at least one of the disaster areas, many times living and working in austere conditions. More than three dozen employees volunteered for multiple deployments. Also, 25 of the district's team members took on providing reachback support. Between the four disasters Omaha District personnel deployed for 5,547 total days and provided reachback support for 1,883 days. Those numbers will climb as recovery efforts

continue.

Regardless of which mission they supported, deploying gave volunteers the opportunity to work with other USACE volunteers from all across the country, enhance their current skills, and in some instances develop new ones.

"My biggest challenge was not really understanding what I was stepping into," said Pete Pettis, a construction representative on the USSTRATCOM project on Offutt Air Force base. "I went over as the COR/RE (Contracting Officer's Representative/Resident Engineer). I overcame it by asking lot of questions to the previous RE and other staff members."

"While in California, I had the opportunity to work with very motivated and extremely skilled individuals who were dedicated to the debris mission," said Capt. Sara Yates, project engineer USSTRATCOM Resident Office. It was just a very rewarding experience overall, especially interacting with the home owners about their recovery."

"They went from having everything taken from them by the hurricane, and then we would show up to start the process of getting a blue roof put on their home. It was very rewarding to see the joy in peoples' faces, that they were getting help,"

***-Zach Montreuil
Blue Roof Program***

Like Yates, seeing the relief on the faces of those they were helping is something that will stick with the other volunteers.

"They went from having everything taken from them by the hurricane, and then we would show up to start the process of getting a blue roof put on their home. It was very rewarding to see the joy in peoples' faces, that they were getting help," Montreuil recalled "It rained about every day, so the thought of finally having a roof to be able to dry out - I can't imagine. It was very rewarding each day when we could see what the disaster did to these people and each day it got better, you could see hope coming back in their lives."

"When families were able to remain in their homes after a temporary roof was installed, seeing their faces light up and hearing them say thank you was so rewarding. Being able to help these wonderful people and this gorgeous island in the recovery, even on a small scale," Head added.



NWO finishes new home for Fort Carson drones

Capt. Ryan Hignight
Public Affairs Officer

Enemies of the United States have another reason to keep their eyes on the sky. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha District recently built and turned over a new hangar to Fox Company, 4-4 Attack Recon Battalion, located on Fort Carson, Colorado, to begin training for future conflicts.

Fox Company is the first Unmanned Aerial System, or drone, company located at Fort Carson. The unit recently moved from Fort Hood, Texas, to support the 4th Combat Air Brigade by “offering a more potent manned-unmanned teaming solution,” according to Capt. Evan Hoyt, Fox Company commander.

“The ability, organically within the CAB, to recon and provide surveillance forward of the friendly forces with a solution for an attack asset that can stay on station long-term.”

“Prior to the completion of the hangar, the UASs were sitting in boxes not doing any good,” said Staff Sgt. Joseph Miller, Fox Company pilot and standardization operator. “It offers us a place to emplace all of our aircraft. We can put them together and check them operationally ... we calk walk around them performing checks.”

The Army Corps completed building the \$26 million hangar in early June and Fox Company moved in quickly and began immediate training. Though the largest portion of the building is the hangar, there is also a large administrative office block attached. The offices and classrooms are used by Fox Company’s leadership to create and establish plans as well as to complete all required classroom training prior to flying one of the UASs.

One of the classrooms, the tactical training room, is comprised of desktop trainers that offer the operators the ability to train assigned tasks, checklist use, and sensor and payload operations. The operators can also operate as friend or foe during training exercises.

The hangar offers Fox Company a sterile and safe maintenance environment which allows the Soldiers to work on the equipment while providing a place to store equipment, according to Hoyt. The hangar also hosts a crane to move the heavy pieces of the UAS as well as a

constant and clean power system. Clean and constant power is essential to the operation of a UAS and all of its systems.

Additionally, the hangar offers the members of Fox Company the opportunity to perform mission control. As the UAS are flown, ground operations can take the feed from the aircraft and send it to the flight operations inside the building.

“This is an unparalleled ability to operate stateside how we would operate downrange,” said Hoyt.



Members of Fox Company train in a UAS simulator in preparation of ongoing missions in support of the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade. Fox Company, 4-4, recently moved from Fort Hood, Texas, to Fort Carson, Colorado, to support the 4th CAB.

The building also contains a UAS flight simulator for pilots to perfect their flying abilities in a real-world training environment.

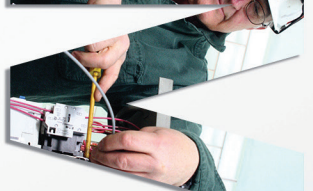
The total size of the hangar and administrative space is almost 52,000 square feet. There is also a 2,250 square foot facility for Fox Company to store HAZMAT and petroleum, oil and lubricants (POL) materials. To accompany the hangar, NWO also designed and built an airfield apron and taxiway to allow the aircraft a way to take-off and land safely.

The entire facility is colocated with the 4th CAB which encompasses Apaches, Blackhawk and Chinook helicopters. Fox Company operates the only unmanned aircraft in the brigade.

“Colocation with other manned aircraft units allows us to enhance and be more effective in joint operations,” Miller said. “The new facility puts us on the airfield with base ops, weather flight operations, and allows us to get face time with them as needed.”

The Omaha District of the Army Corps has built the majority of the 4th CAB buildings and airfields at Fort Carson to include multiple hangars for various units, the air traffic controller tower and the brigade headquarters. There is ongoing construction on a new hangar for an Apache unit as well as the battalion headquarters building. Construction is scheduled to continue for the next two-to-three years.

Fox Company’s UASs are battlefield multipliers that assist with completing the mission while protecting lives. The new hangar and administration building offers Fox Company the opportunity to contribute to the mission protecting 4th CAB’s manned aircraft by offering reconnaissance and attack possibilities.



January

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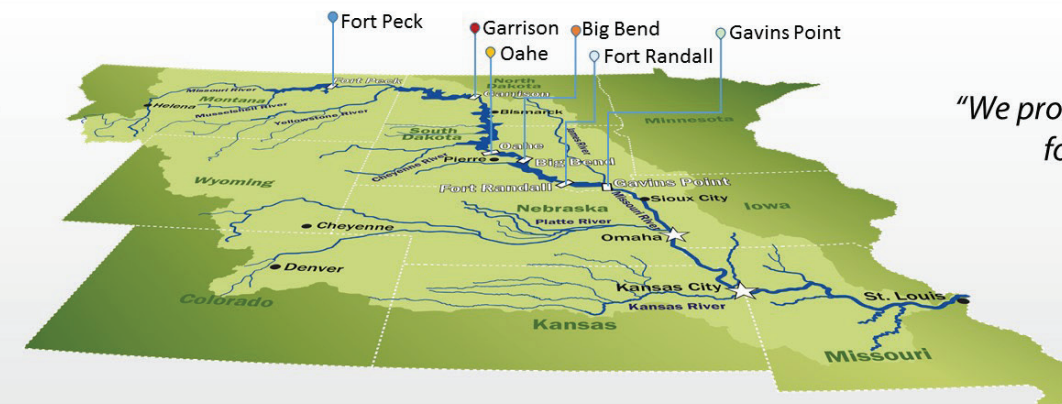
OMAHA DISTRICT OPERATIONS PLAN FY 16/18

Mission:

The Omaha District delivers quality engineering solutions in a timely and cost-effective manner, through collaboration with our partners, to secure our Nation, energize our economy, reduce disaster risk, protect our environment, and manage our water resources.

Vision:

Engineering solutions for the Nation's toughest challenges in order to be the federal engineer of choice.



"We provide solutions for the Nation's toughest engineering challenges."

GOAL 1 — Support National Security

- Develop capability to provide reach-back design support to TAD.

- Deliver USSTRATCOM Facility.



- Improve worldwide coordination/management of EPA/DIA/DLA programs.
- Achieve USACE MCX certification for current Omaha District Fuels TCX program.
- Partner with Military/IIS stakeholders to improve ability to deliver FSRM.

- Design and construct environmentally/operational sustainable projects.



END STATE

Deliver innovative, resilient, and sustainable solutions to DoD and the Nation.

GOAL 2 — Deliver the Program

- Improve delivery of Civil Works solutions in close-collaboration with stakeholders.

- Develop Missouri River Management Plan and Continuing Authority Program opportunities.



- Complete EIS for the Yellowstone Intake project in support of project to facilitate species recovery and jeopardy avoidance on the Missouri River.



- Deliver quality solutions to IIS program; procure and execute Aurora VA.

- Build Acquisition Support Team to streamline acquisition and provide procurement discipline, quality, and risk-management throughout project lifecycle.

Deliver enduring and essential solutions using effective strategies.

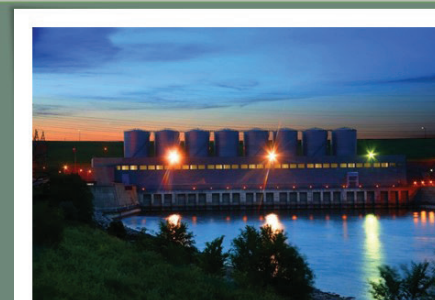
GOAL 3 — Reduce Disaster Risks

- Fully exercise Cascadia Disaster Response; maintain ESF team readiness; fully support response efforts ICW DOD, Interagency, State, and Regulatory partners.

- Master asset management throughout life-cycle to reduce infrastructure risk.



- Improve interagency coordination with regard to multi-agency permitting.
- Build the Dam Safety Production Center to execute Dam Safety Modifications that will reduce risk to life safety within NWD and POD.



- Create hydropower rehabilitation strategy; pursue customer funding.

Deliver support that responds to, recovers from, and mitigates disaster impacts to the Nation while ensuring sustainable operations.

GOAL 4 — Prepare for Tomorrow



- Proactively address command climate concerns in order to develop a climate of trust, competence, commitment, and character.

- Enhance District cyber security and information assurance initiatives.



- Develop Human Capital Strategy to ensure balanced workload/workforce.

- Increase outreach to improve diversity and engagement with Wounded Warriors, ROTC, and STEM students.



- Enhance leader development, growth of technical expertise, and formalize employee sponsorship/on-boarding programs.

Build resilient People, Teams, Systems, and Processes to sustain a diverse culture of collaboration, innovation, and participation to shape and deliver strategic solutions.

For more information refer to the Omaha District FY16-18 OPLAN on the Water Cooler



September							October							November							December						
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BUILDING STRONG 2018



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Omaha District

■ Payday
■ Holiday
■ End of Pay Period

Notes:

POL-MXC fuels worldwide ops

Mike Blass
Public Affairs Specialist

Although the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is generally associated with dams, canals and flood protection in the United States, USACE is involved in a wide range of public works throughout the world.

In May, members of the USACE Petroleum, Oils, and Lubricants Mandatory Center of Expertise, in the Omaha District, joined a multiagency team of technical experts in support of the DoD Office of Inspector General inspection of Al Udeid Air Base in Qatar. The POL-MCX team inspected the aircraft and ground vehicle fueling systems at AUAB.

The POL-MCX was selected for this effort because of its 32 years of experience designing, constructing, assessing, and repairing fueling systems around the world.

AUAB is home to the 379th Air Expeditionary Wing and supports multiple missions and aircraft, including bombers, fighters, heavy lifters, surveillance, special operations, and in-air refuelers. AUAB also hosts aircraft and personnel from Australia, Britain, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, and Spain as part of the Combined Joint Task Force supporting Operation Inherent Resolve.

Eric Bausch, POL-MCX, Civil Engineer, Dustin Scheuffele, POL-MCX, Mechanical Engineer, Rick Bussard, POL-MCX, Electrical Engineer and Greg Etter, POL-MCX, Program Manager, all from the USACE Omaha District, took on the unique challenge of inspecting the AUAB fueling systems.

They supported DoD OIG and were joined by representatives from the Naval Facilities Engineering Command and Defense Logistics Agency. The POL-MCX team completed their field inspections ahead of schedule and with upmost professionalism.

"It was satisfying to see them operate at their full potential," said Dustin Scheuffele about the AUAB fueling systems. "Most CONUS fueling systems are built for contingency, but are rarely used to their full capability. AUAB demonstrated that our fuels standard designs are meeting the needs of a high-tempo mission."

Jim Howell, Deputy Director of Technical Assessments Division, DoD OIG, and Nicolaas Degreef, General Engineer, DLA Installation Support Bahrain, joined the POL-MCX team during the field inspections and were very impressed by the POL-MCX subject matter experts and their findings.

Rick Bussard previously visited AUAB

in 2012 as part of a Military Construction startup and noted that, "The Base has transformed from expeditionary to enduring," with more permanent structures.

The POL-MCX ended their inspection with a formal outbrief to Col. Bongiovi, 379th Expeditionary Mission Support Group Commander, with each POL-MCX engineer explaining their observations and answering questions from AUAB leadership. The POL-MCX team received high praise for their succinct and professional briefing. One of the key points made by the POL-MCX team during the brief was that the Air Force personnel at AUAB appeared to be extremely motivated despite the high tempo and heat that averages 106 degrees Fahrenheit.

"It's because they have a mission" remarked Greg Etter after the outbrief. "We saw the very best of each segment of the Air Force at AUAB, and they knew that they were making a difference every day."

Most of the inspection required the POL-MCX team to be in near vicinity of the aircraft, including refuelers and bombers.

"It was a force beyond measure" comments Eric Bausch about the weapons systems and capabilities that AUAB provides to the mission. "It made me very proud to be part of this organization and see how



photos by Greg Etter

Jim Howell, DoD OIG (left) and Rick Bussard, POL-MCX, Electrical Engineer (right) discuss the operation of an automatic control valve in a fuel pump-house at AUAB.

everyone in POL-MCX, Omaha District, and USACE is making a real difference for the warfighter."



Eric Bausch, POL-MCX, Civil Engineer explains the pigging launchers and receivers located at AUAB. Left to right: Chris Wells, AUAB fuels maintenance; Nicolaas Degreef, DLA; Jim Howell, DoD OIG; Eric Bausch, POL-MCX, Civil Engineer; Dustin Scheuffele, POL-MCX, Mechanical Engineer and Rick Bussard, POL-MCX, Electrical Engineer.



CHANGE OF Command

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
OMAHA DISTRICT

JULY 26, 2017

NWO welcomes Hudson as new commander

Thomas O'Hara III
Public Affairs Officer

Col. John L. Hudson assumed command of the Omaha District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, during a change of command ceremony held in downtown Omaha, July 26. As part of the ceremony, the district recognized and thanked outgoing commander, Col. John W. Henderson.

As District Commander, Hudson oversees an annual program of more than \$1 billion spread over 1,200 military construction projects in eight states, civil works projects in nine states, and environmental restoration projects in 41 states.

Hudson assumed command of the District after completing a graduate degree from the National Defense University's Eisenhower School in National Security and Resource Management. He comes to the District with USACE experience. He previously served as the Executive Officer for the Chief of Engineers, USACE and as the Commander of the Nashville

District, USACE, where he managed the water resources development and navigable waterways operations for the Cumberland and Tennessee River basins.

Hudson's previous assignments include Lead Engineer, Joint Contingency Acquisition Support Office, Defense Logistics Agency, at Fort Belvoir, Virginia, and Executive Officer in the 9th Engineer Battalion, 172nd Infantry Brigade, Schweinfurt, Germany. While there, he deployed with the battalion to Iraq in support of OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM 08-10.

Hudson's awards and decorations include three Bronze Star Medals, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, five Meritorious Service Medals, Joint Service Commendation Medal, Army Commendation Medals, two Army Achievement Medals, Combat Action Badge



photo by Harry Weddington

Maj. Gen. Scott Spellmon, left, commander, USACE Northwest Division, passes the district guidon to Col. John Hudson to mark his assumption as the commander of the Omaha District during a change of command ceremony in Downtown Omaha July 26.

Ranger Tab and Parachutist Badge.

Hudson earned his Bachelor's Degree in Architecture at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, a Master's Degree in Engineering Management from the University of Missouri of Science and Technology, and a Master's Degree in Civil Engineering (Structural) at the University of Kansas. His military education includes the Army Command and General Staff College, Combined Arms and Staff Services School, and the Engineer Officer Advanced and Basic Courses. He is also a registered Professional Engineer in the state of Texas.

Henderson retired after 23 years of uniformed service in the United States Army.

He spent the past two years as the Omaha District Commander and has made a strong impact on many of the District's major projects, to include: the new U.S. STRATCOM Command and Control Facility, the Veterans Affairs Hospital in Aurora, Colorado, the 4th Combat Aviation Brigade on Fort Carson, Colorado, and the regulatory and civil works requirements throughout the upper mid-west.

"Both of these men are strategic thinkers, strategic leaders and both have done a phenomenal job wherever they have served," said Maj. Gen Scott A. Spellmon, Northwestern Division commander, who hosted the event to more than 500 local employees, family members, invited guests and stakeholders.

Hail...

Brian Felker	1/8/2017	Construction Division	Rodney Nelson	9/5/2017	Real Estate Division
Nicholas Franke	1/8/2017	Operations Division	Jim Shoemaker	9/5/2017	Operations Division
Susan Dalbey	1/9/2017	Operations Division	Ameen Alghetta	9/17/2017	Operations Division
Adam Ludemann	1/9/2017	Operations Division	Heath Kruger	9/17/2017	Operations Division
Adam Humeniak	1/22/2017	Engineering Division	Reece Nelson	9/17/2017	Operations Division
Corina Popescu	1/22/2017	Construction Division	Zackary Poetzsch	9/17/2017	Operations Division
Rachel Sanders	1/23/2017	Contracting Division	Scott Sanders	9/17/2017	Operations Division
Sandor Rebek	2/5/2017	Operations Division	Andrew McPherson	9/18/2017	Construction Division
Collin Radakovich	2/6/2017	Operations Division	Martin Rasmussen	9/18/2017	PPMD
Martin Goding	4/2/2017	Operations Division	Michael Tietz	9/18/2017	Operations Division
Jordan Bradley	4/17/2017	PPMD	Deven Dalcher	10/1/2017	Construction Division
Sarah Miller	4/17/2017	PPMD	Claro Soliz	10/1/2017	Construction Division
Trevor Waarvik	5/1/2017	Operations Division	Kent Chambliss	10/2/2017	Construction Division
Stephanie Harr	5/14/2017	Contracting Division	Christopher Weber	10/2/2017	Operations Division
Christine Wilson	5/14/2017	Contracting Division	Lynn Enz	10/15/2017	Construction Division
Geanna Peoples	5/17/2017	PPMD	Tracie Evans	10/15/2017	Contracting Division
William Lein Jr.	5/28/2017	Operations Division	Leigh Lucas	10/15/2017	Contracting Division
William Lemer	5/28/2017	Operations Division	Timothy Zabrocki	10/15/2017	Operations Division
Allen Kirk	6/11/2017	Construction Division	Andrew Clark	10/16/2017	Operations Division
Ashley Matzke	6/26/2017	Operations Division	Nicholas Gorup	10/23/2017	Operations Division
Matthew Hutchings	7/9/2017	Construction Division	Chad Hart	10/23/2017	Operations Division
Venus VanDeventer	7/9/2017	CHRA	Shannon Baker	10/30/2017	PPMD
Scott Wik	7/9/2017	Operations Division	Kelly Cook	10/30/2017	PPMD
Megan Moscarello	7/10/2017	Operations Division	Sarah Pedrick	10/30/2017	Operations Division
Matthew Baird	7/23/2017	Construction Division	Danny Leep	11/12/2017	Operations Division
Michael Glasch	7/23/2017	Public Affairs Office	Yvonne Scofield	11/12/2017	Construction Division
Jamerson Parrott	7/23/2017	Construction Division	David Holmes	11/13/2017	Operations Division
Andrew Bixler	7/24/2017	Construction Division	Levi Shinn	11/13/2017	Engineering Division
Leah Smith	7/24/2017	Construction Division	Michael Skiles	11/13/2017	Engineering Division
Chauncey Sumpter	7/24/2017	Real Estate Division	Robert Beedle	11/26/2017	PPMD
Mary Blackwell	8/6/2017	Operations Division	Raymond Frana	11/26/2017	Operations Division
Ginger Gruber	8/6/2017	Contracting Division	Dennis Georgieff	11/26/2017	Construction Division
Janicelyn Remollena	8/6/2017	Engineering Division	Brian Korman	11/26/2017	Operations Division
Andrew Dwyer	8/7/2017	Operations Division	Delores Valien	11/26/2017	Engineering Division
Mary Humbert	8/7/2017	Operations Division	Tammy Hall	11/27/2017	Engineering Division
Miriam Stewart	8/20/2017	Construction Division	John Svoboda	11/27/2017	Construction Division
Mark Wherry	8/20/2017	PPMD	Elizabeth Wills	11/27/2017	Contracting Division
Kathryn Fauss	8/21/2017	Engineering Division	Bobby Woodard	11/27/2017	PPMD
Jan Henriksen	8/21/2017	Operations Division	Harilaos Galanopoulos	12/10/2017	Construction Division
Amanda Young	8/21/2017	Real Estate Division	Darren Knuteson	12/10/2017	Operations Division
Karen Slavick	8/28/2017	Engineering Division	Charles Tromp	12/10/2017	Operations Division
Patrick Atwell	9/3/2017	Operations Division	Jacob Stinchfield	12/11/2017	Operations Division
Walter Fairbanks	9/3/2017	Operations Division	John Yanders	12/11/2017	Executive Office
Zandra Hearn	9/3/2017	Contracting Division	Jonathan DenBoer	12/18/2017	Engineering Division
Colleen Ruth	9/3/2017	Construction Division	Chad Hornberger	12/24/2017	Operations Division
Jason Engbrecht	9/5/2017	Operations Division	Megan Ludwikowski	12/24/2017	CHRA
George Hern	9/5/2017	Real Estate Division			

... and Farewell

Ralph Gabrysh	Jan. 2	Operations Division
Michael Armstrong	Jan. 3	PPMD
Stephen Graf	Jan. 3	Construction Division
Gregory Mellema	Jan. 3	Operations Division
Steve Rasmussen	Jan. 3	Construction Division
Louis Richardson	Jan. 3	Construction Division
Joanne Hipple	Jan. 7	Operations Division
Kevin Quinn	Feb. 1	Public Affairs Office
Michael Pisci	Apr. 29	PPMD
William Wilson	Apr. 29	Operations Division
Linda Doll	Apr. 30	Office Of Counsel
Donald Moses	Apr. 30	Engineering Division
George Schuster Jr.	Apr. 30	Operations Division
David Kachek	May 29	Engineering Division
James Oehlerking	May 30	Operations Division
Patsy Crooke	June 30	Operations Division
curtis Bisgard	July 30	Operations Division
Faye Bartels	July 31	Real Estate Division
Susan Anderson	Aug. 31	Operations Division
John Snowdon	Aug. 31	Operations Division
Brenda Volker	Aug. 31	Construction Division
Debra Wallin	Aug. 31	Construction Division
James Clink	Sept. 30	Operations Division
Richard Rushenberg	Sept. 30	Real Estate Division
Denzie White	Sept. 30	Construction Division
Linda White	Sept. 30	PPMD
Kimberly Burge	Oct. 28	Resource Management Office
Linda Burke	Oct. 28	Office Of Counsel
Tomothy Kolke	Oct. 31	Real Estate Division
Joseph Morrissey	Oct. 31	Engineering Division
Rita Mangen	Dec. 3	Real Estate Division
Bret Budd	Dec. 23	Construction Division
Raymond Tidd	Dec. 23	Construction Division
Timothy Welsh	Dec. 23	Maintenance Engineering
Laura Banker	Dec. 31	Operations Division
Hubert Carter Jr.	Dec. 31	Office Of Small Business Programs
Donna Catron	Dec. 31	PPMD
Richard Cornelius	Dec. 31	Operations Division
Richard Harnois	Dec. 31	Operations Division
Nicholas Moustakes	Dec. 31	Real Estate Division
William Otto	Dec. 31	Engineering Division
Dennis Permann	Dec. 31	Operations Division
Robert Schanke	Dec. 31	Construction Division

MRRP Year in review, 2018 preview

Jamie Danesi
Public Affairs Specialist

As 2017 transitions to 2018, the Missouri River Recovery Program is implementing an adaptive management framework to implement that lessens jeopardy to three threatened and endangered species: the pallid sturgeon, interior least tern, and piping plover.

As 2017 opened, MRRP was in the middle of a public comment period for the Draft Missouri River Recovery Management Plan-Environmental Impact Statement as part of the National Environmental Policy Act process. The draft EIS laid out a suite of possible actions the Corps could implement to protect the three species while minimizing impacts to the river's eight authorized purposes. A draft Science and Adaptive Management Plan (AM Plan) was also developed to guide implementation of the action. MRRP team members from the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service joined the Corps in conducting a series of public meetings throughout the Missouri River basin to gather feedback from basin residents and stakeholders through the public comment period for the National Environmental Policy Act.

The Corps also developed a final biological assessment and provided it to the USFWS in October 2017 as part of Endangered Species Act consultation. Consultation will continue until mid-2018 as the USFWS develops its biological opinion. The Corps plans to issue its final EIS in August 2018 with a Record of Decision coming in October 2018.

The Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee continued to provide critical feedback to the Corps and USFWS on the draft EIS and AM Plan and participated in the first meetings of the new Bird, Fish, and Human Considerations teams. These new teams consist of MRRIC work groups and agency staff; they share information on the latest science and information gleaned from monitoring programs and discuss implementation strategy moving forward. These new teams met for the first time in October 2017. MRRIC will continue to engage with the lead federal agencies and to evolve as it approaches its 10th anniversary.

The Corps has engaged with Tribes in, and with a historical tie to, the basin throughout the process and will continue to do so in 2018. Because of their status as sovereign nations, the Corps will continue government-to-government consultation with basin Tribes. The Corps will notify Tribal governments of the selected alternative before the final EIS is issued; Tribes may also engage the agencies through their representatives on MRRIC.

While the NEPA process continues, the Fish, Bird, and HC Teams will have their first full year of operation in 2018 as a way to test the procedures they have outlined in the AM Plan to gain lessons learned in collaborating more efficiently in the future. The agencies and MRRIC work groups will continue developing the process these new teams will follow as they work to lessen jeopardy to the three species and implement the AM Plan.

In addition to NEPA actions, the MRRP continued its work on building and maintaining habitat for the three species. For the pallid



Protecting the endangered pallid sturgeon is just one of the goals of the Missouri River Recovery Program. MRRP is an effort to replace lost habitat and avoid a finding of jeopardy to threatened and endangered species resulting from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects on the Missouri River.

sturgeon, modifications to structures at Middle Decatur Bend and the Deer Island Top Width Widening projects were completed in October 2017, and the Langdon Bend top Width Widening Project was completed in November 2017.

For the interior least tern and piping plover, the Emergent Sandbar Habitat program will expand habitat construction into the Garrison reach of the river in North Dakota. The USFWS set habitat targets for the piping plover and least tern, and habitat models indicate that the available sandbar habitat will drop below the targets in 2019 due to habitat erosion. The Corps plans to construct new habitat in North Dakota by dredging material from a borrow area in the bed of the river and depositing the material on locations where sand tends to deposit to form sandbars. In the Garrison, Fort Randall, Lewis and Clark Lake, and the Gavins Point reaches the ESH team will continue to maintain current sandbars with vegetation removal and herbicide treatments. A controlled burn will also be conducted in Lewis and Clark Lake in South Dakota and Nebraska. The team will continue to work closely with state and Tribal partners to develop plans for the year.

As the MRRP team moves into 2018 and work continues on the Management Plan EIS, the Corps will continue its ongoing actions such as the Pallid Sturgeon Assessment Program, providing pallid sturgeon to fish hatcheries for the river stocking program, monitoring interior least tern and piping plover eggs and chicks on sandbars in the Missouri River, and managing vegetation of sandbars.

MRRIC enters new phase

Jamie Danesi
Public Affairs Specialist

The Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee (MRRIC) met in Kansas City Oct. 30 thru Nov. 2, as committee members continued their work on the transition to an adaptive management framework that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will use to help protect the pallid sturgeon, the interior least tern, and the piping plover while maintaining the Missouri River's eight authorized purposes (flood control, navigation, irrigation, hydropower, water supply, water quality, recreation, and fish and wildlife).

A key activity at this meeting was the first in-person meetings for the new Fish, Bird, and Human Considerations Teams. The teams are part of the Corps' draft Science and Adaptive Management Plan (AM Plan) for the Missouri River Recovery Program (MRRP).

The teams consist of agency experts and MRRIC members, alternates and appointed experts. They have the chance to learn about and discuss the implications of the science informing the Corps' management actions.

The MRRP's Independent Science Advisory Panel (ISAP) provided comments at the meeting on monitoring approaches under development by the Corps that will help assess the effectiveness of management actions intended to help the species.

"The ISAP is an invaluable resource both for MRRIC and the Corps," said MRRIC Chair Gail Bingham. "These scientists bring expertise and insights that ensure the Recovery Program benefits from the best available science."

Also, the Corps provided committee members a copy of the Biological Assessment for the Operation of the Missouri River Mainstem Reservoir System, the Operation and Maintenance of the Bank Stabilization and Navigation Project, the Operation of the Kansas River Reservoir System, and the Implementation of the Missouri River Recovery Management Plan (BA) that was submitted to the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in October.

The BA will inform the Fish and Wildlife Service's Biological Opin-



Missouri River Recovery Implementation Committee Chair Gail Bingham (right) opens the committee's 39th plenary session. Also pictured are Michael Thabault (left), assistant regional director for ecological services, Mountain-Prairie Region, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, and David J. Ponganis (center), regional director of programs, Northwestern Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

ion (BO); both the BA and the BO are required under the Endangered Species Act. The Service expects to complete its Biological Opinion in early 2018.

In addition, MRRIC reached consensus on specific recommendations related to the MRRP, including its support for the Corps' commitment to conduct supplemental flood risk modeling, a request for clarification in the AM Plan about the information and criteria to be used in evaluating management strategies, and its interest in ongoing discussions about funding for the Integrated Science Program.

MRRIC also selected a Vice Chair to serve for the coming year, confirmed the continuation of the Chair in accordance with the MRRIC Charter, and approved changes to its operating procedures to implement the adaptive management process.

MRRIC is a 70-member committee that comprises stakeholders and representatives of tribal, state, and federal governments throughout the Missouri River Basin. MRRIC was authorized by Congress in the 2007 Water Resources Development Act and was established in 2008 by the Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works). It provides recommendations to the Corps and other Federal agencies and serves as a basin-wide collaborative forum for developing a shared vision and plan for the MRRP.



- MRRIC provides a forum for stakeholders, tribes, states, and federal agencies within the Missouri River Basin to develop recommendations that consider the needs of the various groups affected by management actions.
- The Missouri River drains one-sixth of the United States, encompassing over 529,350 square miles; the river flows 2,341 miles through seven states.
- MRRIC has a seat for 29 Native American Tribes located within, or with historical ties to, the basin.
- There are many diverse non-governmental stakeholders with lives and livelihoods linked to the river (e.g., farmers, waterway industries, hydro and thermal power, outdoor recreationists, and many more).

Garrison Ranger has your “six”

Cheryl Moore
Public Affairs Specialist

“Got your six” in the military means “I’ve got your back.”

That’s exactly what Nathan Busche, natural resource specialist/park ranger at the Garrison (North Dakota) Project has. He’s got your six, in more ways than one. As the leading provider of outdoor recreation with over 400 lakes and river projects in 43 states, enjoyed by 250 million visitors every year, the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers stays on top of boating and water safety. Busche is the epitome of this effort.

Busche was recently awarded the North Dakota “Boating Educator of the Year,” an award presented by the National Association of State Boating Law Administrators, recognizing him for his efforts on water safety. It is his passion - saving lives. Busche knows that since people don’t float, flotation devices for them are the single most important safety gear to have near the water. Statistics have shown that more than 89 percent of the people who die in water-related accidents were not wearing a life jacket.

Because of this, the Life Jacket Loaner program was started in 2009 and started out with just two stations around Lake Sakakawea. Ironically each station has six hooks on them for lifejackets, which doesn’t prevent more than six loaner lifejackets from hanging up there at each station at a time. Today this life-saving program and awareness for safety on the water has grown to 19 Life Jacket Loaner Stations and growing around Lake Sakakawea and Lake Audobon.

The partnership between the North Dakota Game and Fish Depart-



Nathan Busche, Natural Resource Specialist/Park Ranger at Garrison Project teaches water safety importance’s of wearing life jackets during the June 2017 National Marina Day at Fort Stevenson State Park on Lake Sakakawea.

ment and the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers keeps life jackets available for all who want to enjoy the beautiful waters in North Dakota, with NO excuse for not staying safe and ultimately following the law. Even the best swimmers can misjudge their skills and abilities while swimming in a lake or river. Save your energy, let the life jacket do the work for you.

The 19 Life Jacket Loaner program stations on Lake Sakakawea, the managing agency, and partners are as follows:

- USACE manages one station at the Downstream Campground and one station at East Totten Trail Campground, partnering with ND Game and Fish Dept.
- ND Parks and Rec. Dept. has two stations at Fort Stevenson State Park, one station at Lewis and Clark State Park and four stations at Lake Sakakawea State Park and partners with USACE and ND Game and Fish.
- Other locations include Indian Hills, Sportsmens Centennial Park, Parshall Bay Recreation Area, Van Hook Resort, Beulah Bay Recreation Area, Dakota Waters Resort, Hazen Bay Recreation Area, Tobacco Gardens Resort, Camp of the Cross, and New Town Marina. USACE partners along with ND Game and Fish Dept. at each of these stations.

“When you think about statistics, it’s more impressive to see the number of stations growing compared to any number of fatalities on our waters,” said Busche. “This proactive approach brings much awareness and meets its purpose, saving lives.”

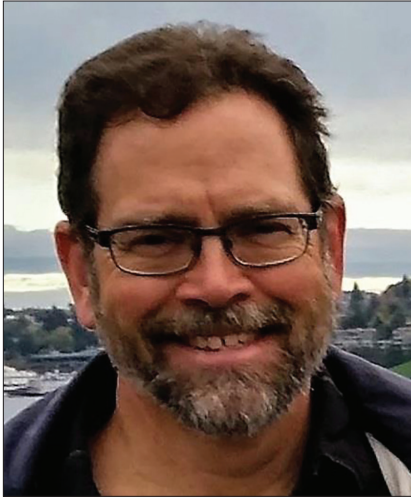
Earlier in the year Busche taught water safety importance’s of wearing life jackets at the National Marina Day held at Fort Stevenson State Park on Lake Sakakawea.

Campers coming into North Dakota are informed about the loaner stations through signs posted at the Spillway Pond and the Downstream Campground. As the summer season begins to wind down, just remember the most important thing you can do while recreating in or around the water is to wear a life jacket, and encourage others to do so.

As Busche said, “Increased water safety awareness can help ensure that you and your loved ones have fun this summer and return home safely.”



Nathan Busche shows his Boating Educator of the Year Award from NASBLA while Brian Schaffer with the North Dakota Game and Fish Dept. stand in front of one of the 19 Life Jacket Loaner stations around Lake Sakakawea.



Gregory Marc Jizba of Omaha passed away June 16, at the age of 57. Greg was born May 27, 1960, in Omaha to Lois Barber Jizba and Jaro Z. Jizba.

He was a loving and beloved father, husband, brother, uncle and friend. An excellent musician, Greg played recorders and several brass instruments. He was an avid juggler and co-president of the Omaha Juggling Club. He enjoyed gardening, unicycling, ballroom dancing and cross-country bicycling tours.

Greg was a 1978 Burke High School graduate, where he served as a drum major. He graduated from the University of Nebraska-Lincoln in 1982 with a B.S. in civil engineering (With Distinction) and earned an M.S. in structural engineering from Colorado State University in Ft. Collins in 1983.

“Greg’s service to our Nation and our District was exemplary,” said Col. John Henderson, former commander, USACE Omaha.

Greg was a structural engineer and was employed for more than 25 years by the Corps of Engineers. He started with the Protective Design Center (PDC) in 1989 working on classified weapons systems support projects. When they wound down he went to Design Branch where his most significant work was the primary structural expert for the Hydrant Fuels program.

He returned to the PDC shortly after 9/11. He worked on a lot of different blast resistant design projects around the world. He also helped in developing Unified Facilities Design Criteria documents and manuals for how to do protective design.

His most significant work for the PDC was in vulnerability assessments and mitigation strategies for terrorist attacks on bridges and tunnels for the Transportation Security Agency. He was one of the senior structural engineers for protective design, but recently he decided he wanted to go into management. He was selected as the Chief of the Security Engineering Section and he was trying to settle in to that different kind of job.

“Greg will be dearly missed in the PDC and the protective design community,” said Curt Betts, USACE Omaha, Chief, Protective Design Center.

Greg is survived by his wife, Renee Crosby Jizba and three sons: Alex D. Jizba of Commerce City, Colorado; Samuel P. Jizba, Omaha; and Eric M. Jizba of Seattle. Also surviving him are sisters Laurel Jizba Kesler (Thomas) of West Lafayette, Indiana; Elaine Henzler (Richard) of Adirondack, New York; brothers Thomas D. Jizba (Teri) of Bennington, and Richard J. Jizba (Janet) of Omaha; sister-in-law, Rebecca Crosby of Elgin, Illinois; mother-in-law, Vida Crosby of Omaha; his former wife and mother of his sons, Barb Heeney Jizba of Omaha, and many nieces and nephews.

Bryan J. Bradley, age 56, of Yankton, South Dakota, passed away July 25, at his home in Yankton after a long battle with cancer.

“Bryan serviced our nation for more than 30 years as part of Omaha District,” said Col. John Hudson, commander, USACE Omaha District. “He worked at Oahe and Fort Peck Dams until 1989 when he became the Chief Engineer at Gavins Point Dam. He played a key role in the construction of the Gavins Point Administration building, employing an innovative approach by using inmate labor from the Yankton minimum security prison.”

Bradley was born November 19, 1960, in Pierre, South Dakota to Richard and Hermine (Wheeler) Bradley. He grew up in Murdo, South Dakota, and graduated from Jones County High School in 1979. He attended the South Dakota School of Mines until transferring to South Dakota State University where he graduated with a degree in Civil Engineering. He moved to Rapid City, South Dakota, and worked for Alliance of Architects and Engineers.

He married Kathie Anderson on December 19, 1987, in Spearfish, South Dakota. A few days after their marriage, Bryan took a job with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Bryan was a very talented musician and enjoyed singing, fishing, hunting, and building remote control airplanes.





Dozens of Corps employees volunteer to lend a hand in the annual BRUSH UP NEBRASKA Paint-A-Thon for an elderly couple in Council Bluffs, Iowa. The community partnership paints the homes of older adults and disabled homeowners who are unable to either physically or financially paint their homes. The Paint-A-Thon is just one of the many volunteer programs district employees participate in throughout the year to give back to the community.