

Wilmington

District News

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October 2004

*New Navigation Office
Provides Support at
Oregon Inlet*

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Survey Vessel Sanderson

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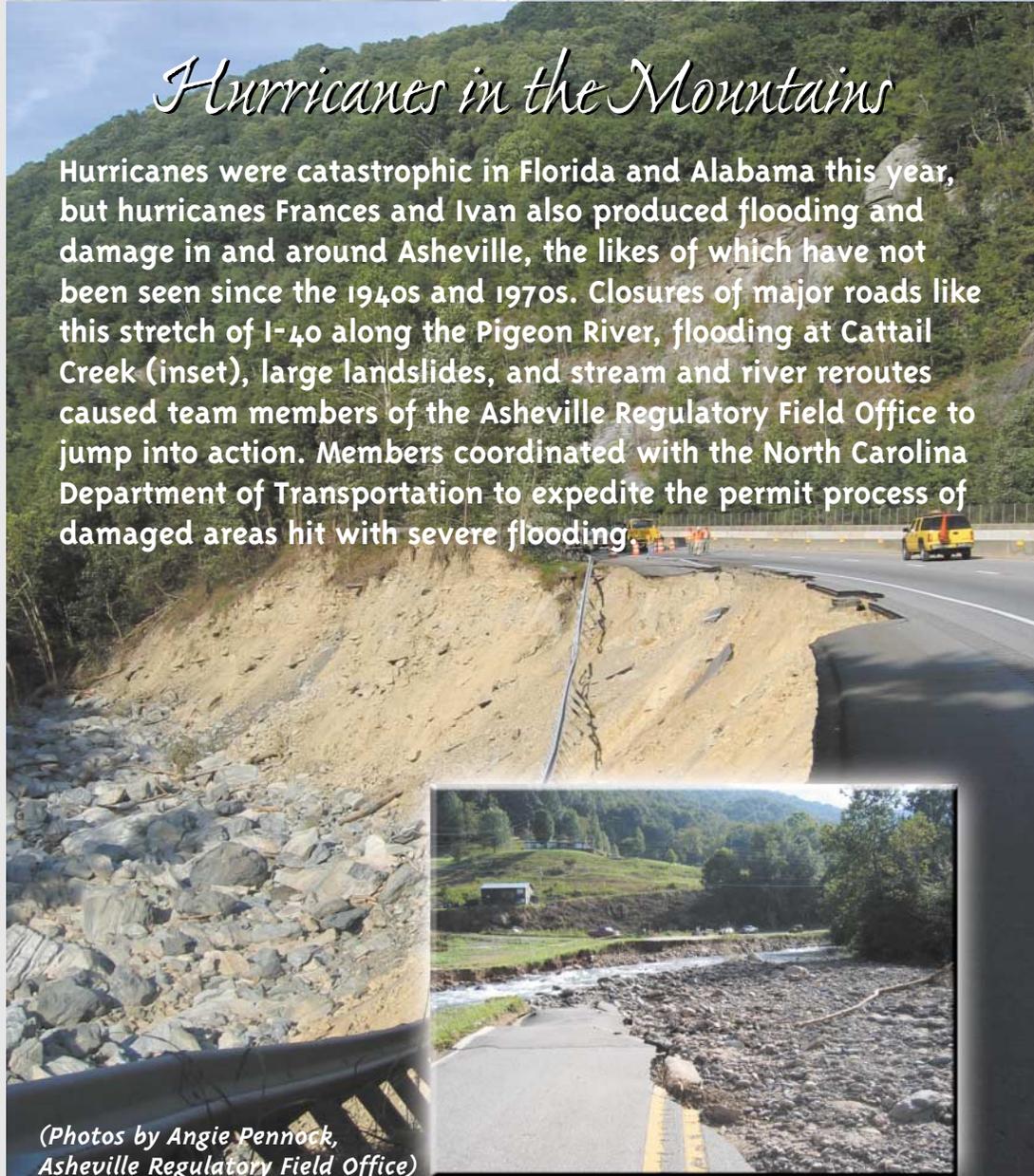
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On the Cover:

The survey vessel Sanderson will be used extensively in and around Oregon Inlet.

Hurricanes in the Mountains

Hurricanes were catastrophic in Florida and Alabama this year, but hurricanes Frances and Ivan also produced flooding and damage in and around Asheville, the likes of which have not been seen since the 1940s and 1970s. Closures of major roads like this stretch of I-40 along the Pigeon River, flooding at Cattail Creek (inset), large landslides, and stream and river reroutes caused team members of the Asheville Regulatory Field Office to jump into action. Members coordinated with the North Carolina Department of Transportation to expedite the permit process of damaged areas hit with severe flooding.



(Photos by Angie Pennock, Asheville Regulatory Field Office)

Washington Field Office Wins Second Pelican Award for District

The Washington Regulatory Field Office received a prestigious North Carolina Coastal Federation Pelican Award for Best State or Federal Official or Entity for keeping a watchful eye on the environment after Hurricane Isabel slammed into Cape Hatteras. Just a year ago the hurricane breached a narrow stretch of land that caused flooding and took out a large section of Highway 12. Tons of sand filled the streets of Hatteras Village prompting residents to dispose of it in environmentally sensitive areas. Dave Lekson is Chief of the Washington Field Office.

“As we were helping people recover from hurricane damage there were other people moving the sand that was there. They were swooping it up and filling wetlands and federal navigation channels just as hard as they could. So we had violations going everywhere.”

According to Lekson, there was so much sand that people were trying to create building lots and create high ground. “Basically, they were taking advantage of the situation, circumventing the regulation. And this is where the NC Coastal Federation gave us the award for protecting the environment.”

Lekson added that the Corps of Engineers has worked hard to gain the public’s trust for its environmental stewardship, and is particularly proud to have won recognition from the NC Coastal Federation, an environmental group that keeps a close watch on coastal development. However, the actions of the Washington Field Office convinced the federation that it is definitely a good steward of the environment. And another recipient of a Pelican Award for Best Restoration Project in the Northeast North Carolina Coast, the District’s Festival Park Project Delivery Team, was further proof that the Corps practices what it preaches in terms of its Environmental Operating Principles. “This is rare, rare praise. I accepted this award as an absolute team effort. Enforcement is hard work and I’m very proud of my folks, and I’d stack them up against anybody in the Nation from the standpoint of technical competence and professionalism.”

According to Lekson, the Washington Field Office addressed at least 60 to 70 on site inspections over several months and 24 unresolved citations are almost resolved now. “This is part of our responsibility, not only in responding to hurricane defense, but making sure things are done in an environmentally sensitive manner.”



Tons of sand like this in Hatteras Village were removed, sometimes illegally.

Headlines Fade, But Hurricane Damage Lingers

By Penny Schmitt

U. S. Army Corps of Engineers emergency workers still have weeks of hard work ahead before the damage from 2004 Hurricanes can truly become a memory. While many who rushed to Florida and Alabama after Hurricanes Charley, Frances, Jeanne, and Ivan have returned to home station, more Corps members have traveled to the storm-ravaged states to replace them.

For Wilmington District, the two biggest remaining missions are debris cleanup in several Alabama counties and municipalities, and a temporary housing mission. To date, the Corps' contractor Phillips and Jordan has cleared more than a million cubic yards of debris from Mobile County alone. Work continues in the City and County of Mobile, Butler, Clarke, Escambia, and Monroe Counties. More than 128 families have been housed in trailers. That number is expected to grow to 300



Philpott's Susan Traxel helps a customer during debris removal.



Wilmington District member Bryant Curry surveys leftover debris from Hurricane Ivan.

before the temporary housing mission is completed.

"It may be Thanksgiving or later before the debris is finally cleared and the housing mission completed," said Ron Stirrat, Wilmington's Chief of Emergency Management. "Our office is in daily communication with the six managers of all ongoing missions in Alabama." Members of the Wilmington District are continuing to answer questions from the press, complete financial management documentation, and monitor safety and other aspects of the work. As the District responding to Hurricane Ivan in Alabama, the Wilmington District will also be adding a whole new set of records to its archives. "Ivan will be part of our lives for the next year, and part of our history forever," Stirrat said.

Still in Alabama are Wilmington District Team Members Carol Banaitis, Curtis Brooks, Paula Carper, Bryant

Curry, Kevin Dedad, Elaine Hayes, Cheryl Hoffman, Henry Immel, Mattie Jones, Raymond Lawson, Ben Lackey, Lloyd Perry, Gene Riddle, Carl Smith, and Liz Vallery. They are performing a variety of jobs, including quality assurance for the debris mission, administrative support, coordinating with community governments, and working with the Federal Emergency Management Agency. Scott Aiken and Frances Ferrell are still in Florida working on storm recovery there.

"The longevity of this major task is just a reminder that our Emergency Management function is vitally important over the long haul, not just for a few days or weeks in the year," Stirrat said. "The continuing need for our services and support highlights what many of us forget—the losses and problems that come along with major natural disasters last far longer than the news coverage!"

GIS Helps Pinpoint Hurricane-Damaged Homes

By Hank Heusinkveld

Three massive hurricanes in a row actually helped refine the mission of creating detailed maps and graphics of damaged homes by deployed Corps Geographic Information System technicians. Rory Sutton, Regional GIS Technical Specialist from the Jacksonville District, said by the time Hurricane Jeanne hit workers were able to get to people with severely damaged homes and obtain rights of entry for temporary roofing much more quickly.

"The process has been sped up over what it used to require for several reasons," he said. "The knowledge for aerial photography is advanced beyond what it used to be. We no longer have to develop film, scan film, etc. It's direct digital imagery. Even since past hurricanes in 1995 and 1998 the turnaround has been accelerated from that. If you look at just this hurricane season, starting with Charley and later with Ivan and Jeanne, the process has been sped up even more because we've had a lot of practice."

Sutton said getting data involved several groups of people. Aerial photography, for example, was coordi-



Chief of Engineers LTG Carl Strock gets briefed by an unidentified Corps employee on the GIS mission at Hurricane Ivan ERRO on Eglin Air Force Base, Florida.

nated through FEMA and USACE headquarters. Those photos then went to the Topographic Engineer Center at Fort Belvoir, Virginia and were interpreted. "The interpretation of the photographs to determine roofing damage is packed up and sent to us and we download them here (at Ivan ERRO,

Eglin Air Force Base) and we produce products like maps and photos of hard hit areas. So, what we do is plot maps that show clusters of points where damage has occurred according to the image analysis."

Sutton added defining the areas where the hurricanes did the most damage also sped up the process. "We pinpointed certain areas where the high winds were, and that's where they concentrated flying. We didn't just blanket the entire area because the high resolution photography we receive takes a lot of time to process and takes up a lot of space on the computer hard drives."

Sutton said he sympathizes with hurricane victims. His goal is to keep on improving GIS capabilities so they can get the help they need in a moment's notice.

"We've gone from getting really useful projects that took several months after Hurricane Andrew in 1992 to now getting our first delivery of imagery in three or four days after the storm. When we started this year with Charley our first imagery was delivered a couple of weeks after the hurricane hit. Now it's much quicker."



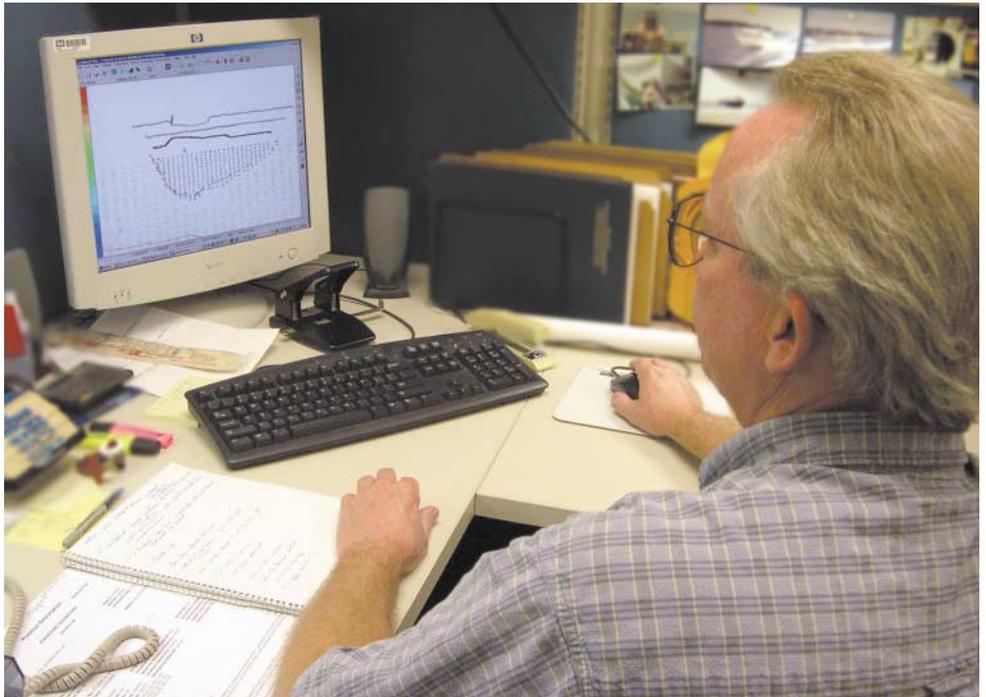
The small, pentagon-shaped dots identify hurricane-damaged homes in Pensacola, Florida.

New Survey Team Set To Monitor Oregon Inlet

It's early fall, and a dense fog lies over Wanchese, North Carolina, a small harbor town on Roanoke Island in the Croatan Sound. Calm water slaps gently at the docks, and early morning silence is punctuated by birdcalls and the sounds of early-rising watermen getting down to business. A crew reads the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' survey vessel, Sanderson, to leave its new berth at the Wanchese Seafood Industrial Park and set out for a day of surveying conditions in one of the several channels through and related to Oregon Inlet.

The scene is familiar, but the venture has not yet become a settled routine, for this crew is part of a newly established team sent to step up hydrographic survey in the notoriously dynamic Oregon Inlet. The Corps now has a permanent crew at Wanchese, berths the Sanderson at its docks, and will work side by side with many of the fishermen and boatbuilders who make their living in Croatan, Roanoke, and Pamlico Sounds and sail through the treacherous inlet for the open Atlantic Ocean.

Barry Holt, known as 'Fuzzy' around the district, heads up the office. The Sanderson is crewed by Barry and several other technicians on a rotational basis until two new positions can be filled. This team will carry out weekly surveys in the rapidly changing sands and waters. The data they gather is uploaded to the Corps' navigation website within two days after a survey is complete. Mariners who have on-board GPS equipment can download waypoints and use the survey data to follow the deepest water.



Marc Reavis receives survey data from the new survey office at Wanchese at his desk in the District headquarters in Wilmington.

Oregon Inlet is garnering this added attention as a result of the final decision made by the President's Council on Environmental Quality, the Department of the Interior, the Department of Commerce, and the Corps to scrap the planned construction of jetties to stabilize the inlet channel. Instead, increased survey and more intensive dredging of the existing project were chosen as the approach all parties could support.

The survey schedule is truly a big advance over past practice, which only called for surveys on a bimonthly basis. Oregon Inlet is subject to such rapid changes that a bimonthly schedule could not keep up with the shifting shoals and currents in the inlet. Even with weekly surveys, this dynamic inlet

requires mariners to be extra-vigilant. "We also caution mariners that there will be times when the weekly schedule will be overruled because of weather," said Marc Reavis, Chief of Survey for the Wilmington District. "From October to March, nor'easters can and do play havoc with our ability to safely navigate the channels, just as they make navigation dangerous for other mariners."

"No wise seaman will ever think of a trip through the Oregon Inlet as a walk in the park," said Reavis. "However, we think we will be able to keep channel information much more current with our new schedule"

– By Penny Schmitt

To get survey information on Oregon Inlet and other Federal Navigation Channels in North Carolina, visit the Wilmington District Navigation Web Page at <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/nav>

National Public Lands Day Draws Over 50 To Philpott Lake

By Susan Traxel

Volunteers Build New Trail and Clean Up Lake Shore and Fire Trails

Philpott Lake got a much needed helping hand when more than 50 volunteers donated three hours of trail-building and clean-up efforts on National Public Lands Day (NPLD), Saturday, October 2, 2004. Local volunteers joined thousands of others at 500 sites nationwide. The theme for this year's event was "Lend a Hand to America's Lands," and volunteers from the surrounding areas of Henry, Franklin and Patrick Counties certainly responded in kind. Philpott Lake's NPLD project attracted local Girl Scouts, employees from Gateway (an environmental agency), couples, teens, and families with small children who lived nearby. All of them dedicated their Saturday to the day's activities.

Since its inception in 1994, National Public Lands Day has dramatically demonstrated Americans' concern for their public lands. The first event was sponsored by three federal agencies and attracted 700 volunteers to three sites. Last year, nine federal agencies and over 125 state and local partners supported the work of 80,000 volunteers at 550 sites.

"Saturday clearly showed the commitment of the American people to our special public places," said Kevin Coyle, president of the National Environmental Education & Training Foundation, which coordinates NPLD. "By the thousands they gave up a Saturday to come out to preserve and protect America's lands. In all, more than \$8 million worth of labor and supplies was contributed."

Volunteers not only received the reward of seeing the fruits of their labor, but they enjoyed sharing lunch with Philpott Rangers provided by donations of local merchants, receiving certificates, patches, thank-you vouchers for free drinks and a "one day-use" admittance to participating Federal Agencies of their choice.



Girl Scouts show bags of trash they helped pick up during National Public Lands Day.

Environmental fair displays were set up by several agencies in the afternoon. Demonstrations and hand-outs were available to all who visited the booths and spoke with representatives.

"Despite a modest volunteer turn out, those who participated were able to complete a new section of trail which will make the Philpott Park Trail a complete loop. People who enjoy walking for exercise now have an extension to their walking route through a safe and natural environment," reported Scott Kraynak, the local NPLD coordinator. "Additionally, we collected over 16 bags of litter that will not only increase the sanitary level of our park and add to the esthetic value, but the litter collected was counted and recorded, with the information being sent to the Ocean Conservancy for the International Coastal Cleanup. Kraynak said, "We are grateful to all who pitched in and look forward to even more local residents lending a hand a year from now."

"The Spirit of Volunteerism"

By Rick Wigley, Philpott Ranger



Throughout the Nation, volunteers play a significant role in accomplishment of the Corps' environmental stewardship and recreation missions. Recently, Philpott staff members took the opportunity to recognize the contributions of Philpott volunteer, Milton William Mitchell (aka. Mitch) and presented him with an honorary plaque for providing over 600 hours of volunteer service valued at over \$7,600.

Assisting with 50th Anniversary Celebration plans, assisting customers at the visitor assistance center, researching the history of the region and project, organizing photos and cemetery records, disseminating historical records and documents to local libraries, and assisting rangers and staff with day to day business are just a few of the contributions Mr.

Mitchell has dedicatedly provided. In addition, Mitchell has contributed by inspiring others with his sound work ethic, pleasant demeanor and wealth of knowledge.

At age 80, Mitch and his wife Linda have a combined family of eight children and 15 grandchildren. After over 40 years as the Vice President of Marketing of a major paper, Atlantic Publications, he retired to the Martinsville area. Mr. Mitchell also served during WW II with the U.S. Navy Seabees, 90th Battalion and did his tour of duty in the South Pacific. When not occupied with family matters and volunteering for the Corps, Mitchell enjoys tending to his several acre garden or traveling to the "Eastern Shore" for a saltwater fishing excursion. Mitchell's dedication and spirit of volunteerism is a prime example of selfless service, and we are proud to have him as an integral part of our team.

In addition to recognizing Mitchell, we also owe the Girls Scouts, Boy Scouts, 4H Clubs and other organizations a big hand for their volunteer efforts. Other Philpott Lake Project volunteers who deserve recognition are Ed and Carolyn Jouret of Wildwood, FL and Mark Durfee and his wife Joann Bortignon of Detroit, MI, who provide campground host services. We wish to thank all of our volunteers for their dedicated service to Philpott Lake and the surrounding community. Their services enhance our visitors' experience, and help ensure the sustainability of our resources.

Justin Arnette: From UNCW to Kabul

Photos by Justin Arnette and Jim Barr, New Orleans District

Just two short years ago Justin Arnette graduated from UNCW with degrees in geography and environmental studies. Little did he know that two years later he'd find himself working for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Afghanistan. "Never, never. It was quite an experience," he says. "I'd recommend it to anyone. It's definitely not the easiest environment to live in. It's not for everybody, but I'd recommend anyone who's interested to do it."

Volunteering as a geographic information system (GIS) specialist, Arnette was the only deployed person with GIS skills in the country. He found that because of their war-torn past the people of Afghanistan weren't able to keep up with technology and had few, if any, computers, let alone computer literacy. Through his part-time work with the U.S. Agency for International Development he became the country's primary mapmaker. "I did some analysis, which is what GIS is really used for, but at the moment they really didn't have a lot of data so I had to start from scratch on things. I was just getting it started in the infancy stage. But Afghans like maps, I tell you that



ARNETTE PHOTO

A typical street scene in downtown Kabul.



ARNETTE PHOTO

This unwelcome scorpion found its way into the flak jacket of Arnette's roommate.



Arnette, second from left, poses with USACE colleagues. Also pictured is John Hazelton, front center, also from the Wilmington District.

much. I made one of Kabul, and they marked it up with site names for me. They have typical software, but most of the computers are used for translation."

Working for both USAID and the Corps of Engineers, Arnette quickly became the go-to guy for numerous missions. "The Corps side was all military work, helping out with the ANA (Afghani National Army) brigade site maps for planning, and USAID was all civil: water, power, irrigation, roads. I was doing so many projects for different people that they'd all come up with different ideas of what they wanted, and I'd have to figure out how to make that happen."

Arnette said a lot of U.S. workers didn't know where locations were in Afghanistan because of the lack of maps. He said they'd heard of a city or they had coordinates, but didn't exactly know where it was. On one particular project working on ANA border guard sites along the Pakistan border, he was able to scrounge up enough data to produce usable maps. "There were 18 sites and they ranged anywhere from a brigade to a company-level size. I did the maps

using old Soviet photos, aerial photography, anything we had. We set it up to do building layouts to make a site plan, and also just for location maps so other people would actually know where the sites were.”

Despite dismal conditions in and around Kabul, Arnette found the country enticing and the people full of hope. He found time to immerse himself into Afghanistan’s culture.

“It’s a beautiful country, even with all of the dust storms. The people liked us, they’re very supportive, and they’re very hard working people.”

Fighting still continues. Arnette believes mortar rounds that were fired



Donkeys are an effective mode of transportation in Afghanistan's rugged mountains. (Page 9 photos courtesy Jim Barr, New Orleans District)

sporadically into Kabul were blatant messages that bad guys are still around. “We had a couple close ones like glass breaking. We could hear it, and the whole building shook when the round went off, but if you hear the explosion and live through it don’t worry about it. Move on.”

As for military life Arnette found that he liked being a civilian better. However, he developed close friendships with several Soldiers who still contact

him and vice versa. “No, I didn’t really fit in with military life! They liked the fact that I knew what I was doing and I liked the fact that they worked hard to protect me. We had an understanding. There were several officers that became good friends and we’re actually staying in touch now that we’re back in the states. Very good people.”

His deployment was short-lived, but Arnette feels the experience changed him.



This contract Afghani stands guard at the Saur e-haus dam site.



Arnette’s colleague from the Baltimore District, Heidi Cherry, a hydraulic engineer, at the Saur e-haus Dam. According to Arnette the dam is on the verge of collapsing.

“I definitely appreciate what I have here a lot more than when I left. I don’t think things bother me as bad. You know, you kind of get caught up in your own life. It’s mellowed me out a lot. It’s a nice feeling not to be upset all the time about something that really isn’t worth it.”



Jan Wutkowski

Drought Monitor

<http://www.drought.unl.edu/dm/index.html>

The Drought Monitor is “a synthesis of multiple indices, outlooks and news accounts, that represents a consensus of federal and academic scientists.” The National Drought Mitigation Center offers drought maps of current conditions, short-term and long-term drought indicators, and animations of the United States. Land managers can view climate outlook maps for about the next 12 months. Researchers can find archived data of droughts since 1999. Users can learn about the National Drought Mitigation Center involvement with the North America Drought Monitor cooperative effort.

Cornell Lab of Ornithology: Urban Bird Studies

<http://www.birds.cornell.edu/programs/urbanbirds/index.html>

The Cornell Lab of Ornithology has distinguished itself by creating great public-oriented educational programs. Their Urban Bird Studies program encourages urbanites to participate in a global data collection project that will be utilized by scientists at the Lab. Anyone can participate, and project participants can choose from various programs such as Dove Detectives, Gulls Galore, Pigeon Watch, Crows Count, and Birds in the City. This site is also available in Spanish.

Technology Review: Supercomputers and Hurricane Prediction

http://www.technologyreview.com/articles/04/09/ap_091604.asp

This article, from Technology Review, discusses the ways supercomputers are employed in the prediction of a hurricane’s likely course and strength. The supercomputers are capable of resolving “complex mathematical equations that describe the atmosphere’s behavior across the globe, hundreds of microprocessors perform billions of calculations each second on observations collected by sensors dropped by aircraft and other monitors,” while acknowledging that these predictions are still imperfect. The author concludes with a discussion of some reasons why the predictions are particularly challenging and reviews the National Atmospheric and Oceanographic Administration’s plans for “a new higher resolution model that better addresses the interaction of the sea, land and atmosphere.”

Virginia Herpetological Society [pdf]

<http://fwie.fw.vt.edu/vhs/>

The Virginia Herpetological Society (VHS) proclaims itself to be a “society for everyone interested in the Education, Conservation, and Research of amphibians and reptiles.” The main VHS site links to a host of resources including photos of, and information about, anurans, lizards, sala-

manders, snakes, and turtles. The site also links to such features as the Virginia Snake ID Guide, downloadable Virginia Herpetological Atlases, Marty’s Timber Rattlesnake Summary, Species Accounts, and the Photograph of the Month. Site visitors can even test their knowledge with a fun photographic Virginia Herp Quiz.

Open Directory Project: Structural Engineering

http://www.cbel.com/structural_engineering/

The Structural Engineering website is part of the Netscape Communication Corporation Open Directory Project. Open Directory hopes to build “the largest human-edited directory on the web,” and as such the links posted here are a part of that ‘human-edited directory.’ Entries (at press the number was 684) can be ordered by alphabet, by topic, or by popularity. A link at the bottom of the page takes you to a form for submitting a site and provides additional information on the Open Directory Project and how to become a volunteer editor.

National Association of Conservation Districts

<http://www.nacdnet.org/>

Currently there are over 3000 conservation districts throughout the United States and National Association of Conservation Districts (NACD), formed in 1946, acts as a unified voice that represents the interests of these districts and also helps develop national conservation policies and partnerships with other agencies and organizations. In the directory section visitors can learn more about the NACD and look through the site’s interactive map to learn about where the various conservation districts are located. Also included on the site are electronic publications, which includes the organization’s in-house weekly news briefs (called eNotes) and their publications produced through effective joint-partnerships, such as Forestry Notes and Conservation.

One For Fun!!

Oxymorons

<http://www.oxymorons.info/>

An oxymoron is a “literary figure of speech in which opposite or contradictory words, terms, phrases or ideas are combined to create a rhetorical effect by paradoxical means.” For those with a love of oxymorons, this website will be of great interest. Visitors can read growing lists of oxymorons, organized by subject (such as religion, relationships, and household), or run through the listings by first letter. The site also has an oxymoron of the day, such as, “If I could drop dead right now, I’d be the happiest man alive,” spoken by Samuel Goldwyn. The site is rounded out by a series of forums where visitors may discuss with other visitors the merits of such terms as “jumbo shrimp” and “anarchy rules.”

Certificates of Appreciation presented to Brunswick, Onslow, New Hanover, and Pender for Mosquito Abatement Program



Howard Varnam, Chief of Navigation Branch, recognized dedication and continuous participation in planning, presenting, and executing the mosquito control program from members of the four counties. Their expertise is valued and necessary to the maintenance of upland dredge material disposal sites for protecting the public from mosquito borne illnesses and annoyances. This partnership with the Wilmington District has been in place since the early 90's.

Gloria Price, Operations Division, who has worked with the team for the past several years, said she was proud to be a part of the presentation to this deserving team. Team members present were: John Woelkers, J.R. Batchelor, Octavius James, David Jenkins, Sharon Neuschafer, Keith Studt, Jeff Brown, Rick Hickman, Ken Sholar, and Mark Kenion.

Reaching Out

Penny Schmitt traveled to Wanchese to be interviewed for the TV show "On the Banks" about the Corps' dredging and survey activities in Oregon Inlet. The show is aired on regional television and is sponsored by the U.S. Park Service.

Noel Clay and **Frank Snipes** spoke to the Beach Nourishment Committee at North Topsail Beach on 20 October. The town is co-sponsor with the town of Surf City in a hurricane and storm damage reduction project feasibility study. The subject was minimum requirements for public access and public parking. Maps were provided as part of the ongoing feasibility study to show where the town presently meets the criteria.

Retiree Report

While meeting at McDaniel's Creamery this month, we had a rather large crowd. We almost filled up the back room, however if any of you other folks would like to be with us, we can easily make room.

There has been a lot of traveling going among our group. Between hurricane threats Jean and Dan Grimsley made a trip to Colorado, Nebraska, Wyoming, and South Dakota, as well as a trip to Maryland to attend an Air Force reunion. The reunion was hosted by Dan's former commander who is now an 87 year old, retired Major General, heading up the NSA Cytological Museum at Ft Meade.

Kaye and Buddy Johnson attended an All-Class high School reunion in Morehead City. There were more than 400 in attendance. Most of them must have been Buddy's underclassman. By the way Buddy came into the lunch with his hand all bandaged up. It seems that he put his hand into some clippers. He was looking to getting that hand out the cast this week.

The Shufords said they had been rather busy working in the yard to keep up with Dan Grimsley in Liberty Landing. Congratulations are in order since Cheryl and Ed made a trip to San Diego in September to celebrate their 35th wedding anniversary.

For November, the Retirees have decided to meet again at the McDaniel's Creamery on the first Thursday in the month at 11:30 AM. Telephone calls will be going out reminding everyone of this.

Corps Family News

Rosemary Cohen (photo right) is the proud aunt of nephew Will Rogers Hiers born on September 25th. He's the new baby brother of three-and-a-half year old Sarah Brianne Hiers.



Ryan Alexander, son of District Engineer COL **Ray Alexander**, graduated from Infantry One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Georgia on 27 August. Ryan, a Private First Class in the Virginia Army National Guard's 116th Infantry Regiment, 29th Infantry Division, is a cadet in his third year at the Virginia Military Institute.

Laura Brock, daughter of **Carolyn Brock**, was nominated for the Morehead Scholarship at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and the Park Scholarship at NC State. She is a senior at Laney High School.

Tim Feith, oiler on the Snell, and his wife, Lisa, are the proud parents of a baby born nine weeks premature, and weighing in at two pounds, 11 ounces. She is 16 inches long. She was born September 26th at New Hanover Hospital. They have named her Zoi Marie Feith.

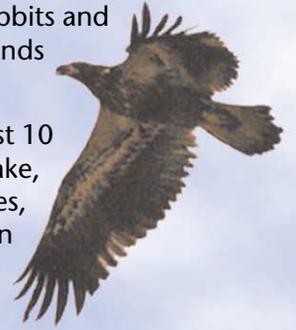


Bald Eagle Released At Falls Lake

*By Carol Banaitis, Forester, Falls/Jordan
Photos by Rebecca Warren, Falls*

In front of television cameras, newspaper photographers, politicians, Corps of Engineers rangers and others, a rehabilitated bald eagle was released in September at the dam on Falls Lake. Earlier this summer, the eagle had been found south of Raleigh. The bird's care was a cooperative project involving several steps. Raleigh resident Freda Butner identified the sick eagle and secured it for transport. Piedmont Wildlife Center of Chapel Hill, North Carolina administered pain medication and rehydration fluids before transporting the eagle to the Carolina Raptor Center (CRC). CRC of Huntersville, NC received the juvenile bald eagle on June 20th. After a complete examination that revealed no major injuries but a very hungry bird with parasites, the eagle was placed on medical treatment and a diet of fish, rats and rabbits and given exercise in CRC's 200-foot long flight cage. The eagle gained almost two and a half pounds during its stay and weighed 8.8 pounds at its release.

The newly released eagle may find the Falls Lake area hospitable. Eagles have nested there for the last 10 years, with three nesting territories used the past season. Just down the road is B. Everett Jordan Lake, known as the best location in the state of North Carolina to see bald eagles. Between the two lakes, seventy-three eagle chicks have fledged since nesting began. The Corps of Engineers has worked in partnership with state, federal and local agencies, volunteer organizations and the public to achieve this level of success in working toward the recovery of our national symbol, the bald eagle.



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