



FISCAL YEAR IN REVIEW

US Army Corps of Engineers®

Rock Island District

2015

TOWER TIMES
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District's News Magazine February 2015

Bald Eagles Soar into Rock Island District

TOWER TIMES
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District's News Magazine March 2015

Introducing Engineering to the Next Generation

TOWER TIMES
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District's News Magazine May 2015

Mobile Technology Improves Field Data Collection Process

TOWER TIMES
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District's News Magazine July 2015

Rock Island District Welcomes New Commander

TOWER TIMES
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District's News Magazine August/September 2015

Dive Team Gets a Closer Look at Locks and Dam 15

TOWER TIMES
US Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District's News Magazine December 2015 / January 2016

Blasting Forward with the Red Rock Hydroelectric Project



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of Engineers** ®
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2015

On the Cover



Front cover images from six Tower Times issues published in 2015. The District news magazine provides information on what's happening in the Rock Island District to more than 1,500 people including employees, retirees and members of other Corps Districts.

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Fiscal Year in Review

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This publication is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. Army. Contents of the Tower Times are not necessarily official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the Rock Island District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

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From the Commander, Colonel Craig Baumgartner

Recently I challenged the District's leaders to do something I like to call "Hunt the Good Stuff." Since taking command this past June, I have been astounded by all that is going on within our District. I have at times realized that it is easy for us, during the course of our daily routines, to forget about all that is being accomplished by our teammates. As 2015 came to a close, I had some time to reflect and in doing so I am amazed at all that is accomplished by this outstanding District.

After challenging our leaders, I was not disappointed. The effort to "Hunt the Good Stuff" resulted in the recognition of countless achievements spread across the entire District. The breadth of what this District accomplishes is phenomenal. I think it is important that we all take time to "Hunt the Good Stuff" in what we do. Each and every one of you is providing intrinsic value to our Nation and I couldn't be more proud to lead this team.

It would be nearly impossible to highlight all the great things the people of the Rock Island District are doing. The bulleted lists on the pages that follow capture just a snapshot and shed light on the depth of this organization. Thank you for all you do and continue BUILDING STRONG®. 



Values

**People First, Professionalism, Technical Excellence,
Innovation, Public Service, Stewardship**

Vision

**A premier public service, engineering organization of trusted, talented professionals
delivering innovative and sustainable solutions to the region and Nation.**

Mission

**Deliver vital engineering and water resource solutions in collaboration with our
partners to secure our Nation, reduce disaster risk and enhance quality of life,
providing value to the region and Nation.**

ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS - INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY (ACE-IT)



ACE-IT provides enterprise-wide IM/IT services for USACE including Automation, Communication, Information Assurance, Records Management, Printing & Publications, and Visual Information. These services include local support activities, as well as enterprise services such as centralized AIS hosting, long-haul communications, e-mail support, service desk, and information assurance services. ACE-IT will provide these IM/IT services to all USACE offices.

- Upgraded District network infrastructure to have 10GB backbone to 60 percent of users (includes all Engineering, Geographic Information Systems and Water Management areas)
- Field site bandwidths evaluated and upgraded and standards set. Modern fiber vs. T1 proposals being worked as well.
- End of life hardware replacements completed for all computer room and field site equipment.
- Wireless controller upgraded and additional wireless access points installed and placed in use.
- Further reduced local Automated Information Systems from 77 to 35 for application rationalization efforts.
- Worked with Resource Management and Contracting to use Computer Hardware Enterprise Software and Solutions consolidated buy periods and saved ~\$130/computer.
- Flood event handled without any information technology related issues.
- 100 percent upgrade of old blackberries completed.
- Upgraded 17 servers to Windows server 2012.
- Visual Information group used Google Earth team to create virtual reality tours of recreation sites. 



CONTRACTING DIVISION (CT)

Contracting provides comprehensive contracting and acquisition solutions in times of peace, war and disaster for USACE and its national and global partners. Contracting provides comprehensive contracting and acquisition solutions (to include post-award administration and oversight) for construction, A-E, service, and supply contract requirements in support of assigned missions for the Rock Island District and its regional and national customers. Contracting supports the National Flood Fight Material Center, responsible for the Government Purchase Card Program, 88th Regional Support Command Construction Projects and potential Inland Navigation Design Center support.

- Purchased refresh computers for the District due to ACE-IT Order Trak no longer being available. CT also purchased refresh computers for New Orleans District (MVN) and MVD. All orders were completed through CHES during the consolidated buy time frame resulting in substantial cost savings.
- During FY15, the District was able to attain zero percent overage closeouts due to the hard work of our Oversight/Post Award Branch. The District is the only District in USACE with no overdue closeouts.
- CT established Blanket Purchase Agreements (BPAs) for, aggregate, services and title work which enable our customers a better contract vehicle for purchasing these items while still maintaining competition to achieving fair prices.
- Rock Island District promoted the use of the MVD Sharepoint based tool “Procurement Action Request” for simplified purchases from the Operations Division (OD). This tool enables OD to enter information regarding their purchase in order to generate a list of required documents along with guidelines and templates. This tool significantly improved the number of procurement-ready packages provided to Contracting. The tool also acts as a tracking mechanism of the purchase request. In FY15, only Operations Division was utilizing this tool. In FY16, usage is District wide.
- In response to flooding in Texas in August 2015, Contracting awarded emergency and non-emergency delivery orders for typical sandbags, large sandbags and gabion baskets to assist in the flood fight.
- In FY15, the District made 13,996 Visa transactions totaling \$5,393,144.36 dollars. There were no transactions with underpayments not cleared in 30 days, as required; therefore the District did not appear on any HQ reports.
- During, FY15, CT provided Contracting Officer’s Representative (COR) training for the following locations: Coralville, Red Rock, Saylorville, Mississippi River Project Office, and at the Clock Tower building. Training was also provided to the District Construction COR’s. Topics included responsibilities of CORs, Antiterrorism and Operations Security, Request for Services Contract Approval, Contract Discrepancy Reports and Contracting Officer’s Representative Module. 



“In FY15, the District made 13,996 Visa transactions totaling \$5,393,144.36.”

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS (CC)

The Corporate Communications office fulfills the Army's obligation to keep the American public, the Army, our customers, and employees informed with a goal towards enhancing public understanding, employee morale, employee knowledge, and the Army's public image; and establishing the conditions that lead to confidence in the Corps of Engineers' and the Army's readiness to conduct operations in peacetime, conflict, and war.

- District Librarian, Bob Romic, was chosen as the 2015 USACE Headquarters National Award winner for Information Management/Information Technology (IM/IT) Excellence in Administrative Support. Romic was recognized for significantly contributing to the efficiency and improvement of IM/IT processes, commitment to customer service, developing innovative work products and services; increasing positive employee and customer service feedback, and enhancing the overall reputation of USACE.
- Allen Marshall, provided mission support to New Orleans District during the 10th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. Marshall served three weeks at MVN to assist their Public Affairs Office with public and media relations for the August 29, 2015 anniversary.
- Managed the USACE Electronic Library (UEL) providing Corps-wide access to approximately 3,000 journals and 2,000 online reference manuals on the desktop of USACE's 37,000 employees. Since its launch at the District in 2006, the UEL has resulted in a USACE cost avoidance of \$16.18 million.
- Obtained HQ funding (\$85,000), performed contractual paperwork and coordinated Corps-wide right of entry to the American Society of Civil Engineers Professional Engineer (PE) Exam Review webinars. From FY12 - FY15, this effort has facilitated PE training to 1,447 USACE engineers. 



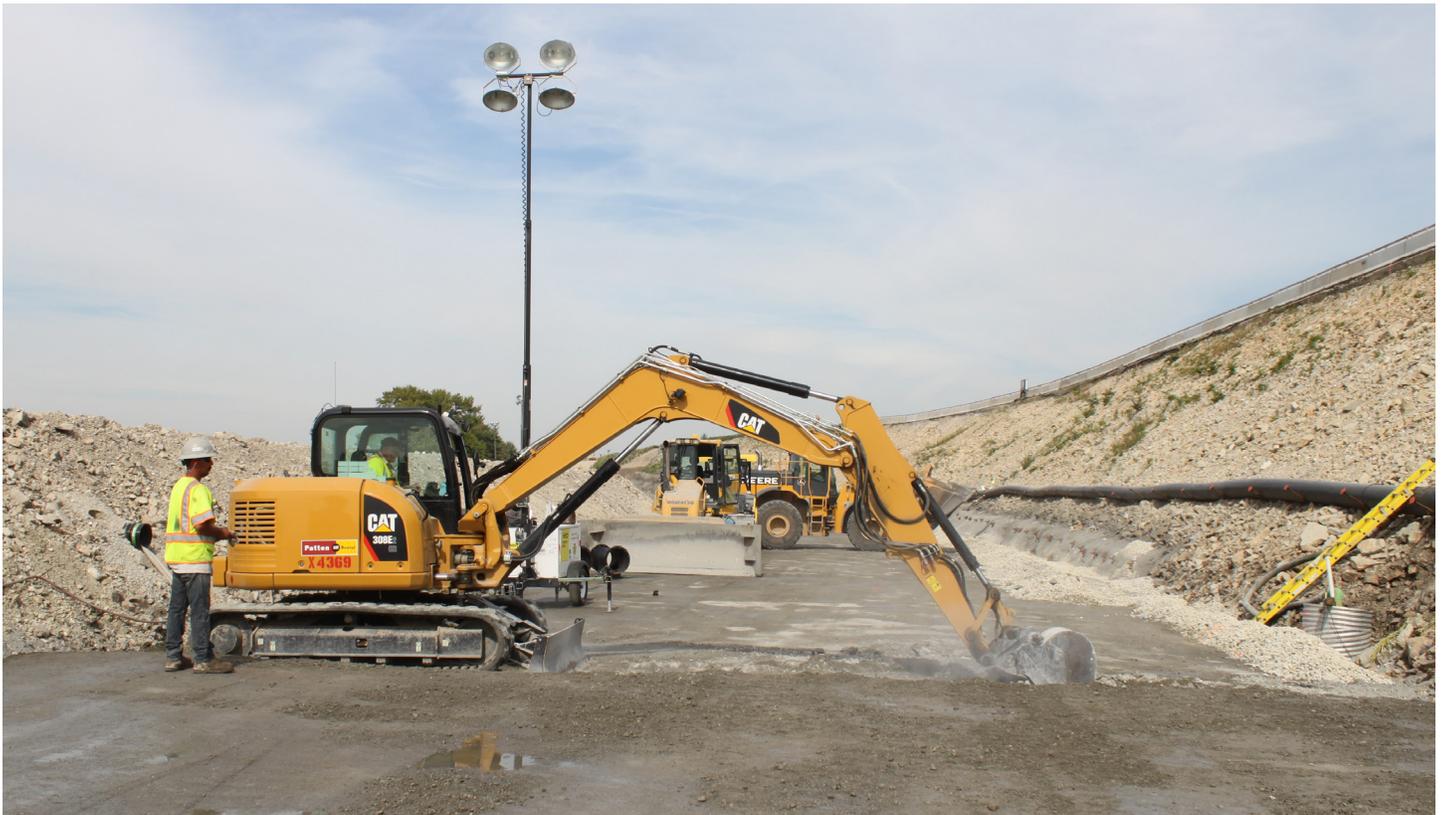
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (EM)

The Rock Island District Emergency Management Program mission is to prepare for and provide timely, consistent, and efficient execution of response and recovery operations required as a result of natural and man-made disasters, national emergencies and military contingencies, with a focus on protecting life, safety, health, property, the environment.

- Emergency Management employee Elizabeth Crutcher was selected to assist HQ USACE with the editing and preparation of the Engineer Pamphlet 11-1-320 financial guide for the Emergency Management Flood Control and Costal Emergency and National Emergency Preparedness Program appropriations. She was also recruited to participate on a team of subject matter experts that went to five USACE Divisions to facilitate budget development workshops with District and Division Readiness Contingency Operations-Emergency Management and Resource Management personnel.



- EM activated the National Flood Fight Materiel Center (NFFMC) in support of historic flooding within Southwestern Division in May-June 2015. The NFFMC activated contractors for both the Sandbag IDIQ and HESCO IDIQ contracts and provided 1,600 large airlift capable sandbags and two miles of HESCO bastion barriers to support Fort Worth District emergency operations. The NFFMC also successfully restocked flood fight commodities at Rock Island, Memphis, Chicago, Philadelphia and Albuquerque Districts, providing a total of 1.2 million sandbags and 500 rolls of polyethylene.
- Several rain events occurred in early June and the District activated the Emergency Operations Center on June 15, 2015, and remained in response mode for several weeks. The rain events produced record flooding on the Illinois Waterway and the District Flood Area Engineers provided direct and indirect assistance throughout the impacted region. Significant events occurring during the flood event included levee over topplings at Mississippi Fox, Marion County, and Zempel Mutual levee systems. Flood Area Engineers successfully provided technical assistance to mitigate the damages from these over topplings.
- Floods of record occurred on the Illinois River at LaGrange, Illinois, and tributary streams to the Mississippi River in the levee districts of Meredosia and Fabius. Highway 61 near West Quincy in Missouri and highway 67 south of Beardstown, Illinois, were closed due to high water. Rock Island District Flood Area Engineers provided direct assistance to reopen these main highways keeping interruptions to safety and security to a minimum. Commodities provided during this event included 41,000 sandbags, 14 pumps, 25 rolls of polyethylene and 2,640 linear feet of Hesco Bastion Barriers. Direct and indirect support to the impacted areas was significantly reduced by the 20 District Flood Area Engineers responding to this event. 



ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION DIVISION (EC)

The Engineering and Construction Division provides engineering and architectural analysis, designs, and services for the construction, operations, maintenance, and remediation of a wide range of water resource, infrastructure, and military projects to our District customers, partners and stakeholders. The EC Division is also responsible for all construction program requirements, including contract administration, quality assurance, construction management, and technical services.

- Through the Levee Periodic Inspection Program and levee risk screening, community stakeholders took steps to reduce their exposure to flood risks by restoring a segment of the Sid Simpson levee system designated through Corps inspections as Unacceptable to an Acceptable rating.
- The 2015 Sangamon River Regional Sediment Management effort engaged key stakeholders; municipal, agricultural, and conservation interests; and the public at a Conceptual Modeling Workshop held in July, an August Town Hall meeting, and a poster presentation at the Governor's Conference on the Management of the Illinois River System in October. Sediment management problems and opportunities were identified that could influence the District's Navigation mission, while also considering the Flood Risk Management and Environmental Protection and Restoration missions.
- The Rock Island District and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources conducted a bank-to-bank survey of 50 miles of the lower Sangamon River. The District then developed a Hydrologic Engineering Centers River Analysis System unsteady flow model with sediment transport capabilities to assist in evaluating alternatives for reducing sediment transport to the Illinois River. The model will be shared with the state of Illinois. The model assist in evaluating alternatives for reducing sediment transport to the Illinois River.

ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION (CONTINUED)

- Finished design and awarded 29 construction contracts.
- Completed engineering during construction for 113 active projects. Notable milestones included roller-compacted concrete placement at Lockport and completion of the 110-foot high retaining wall at Red Rock Hydro.
- Contributed to the completion of the Levee Safety Screening goals.
- One EC employee was selected as a Mississippi Valley Division Emerging Leader; one became a Regional Technical Specialist; and another engaged the public presenting at the Illinois River Governor's Conference.
- Shortly after contract award for the Lockport Stage 1C Forebay Wall Rehabilitation Project, a major differing site condition impacted this \$31.9 million contract. The USACE team, through the use of scheduling experts, cost estimators, engineers and negotiators refined the contractor's proposed schedule, scope and methods, reducing added costs by \$748,000 and lowering the time extension by nine days. The change also required close and successful coordination with Chicago District.
- Construction and Engineering staff worked closely with the contractor and its structural fabrication subcontractor on the \$20.5 million Marseilles Permanent Dam Repair Project enabling immediate start up of the most critical element in the project schedule – fabricating three new dam Tainter gates. Formal partnering has allowed for open communication between all stakeholders and has resulted in streamlined contract issue resolution.
- Successfully completed and closed out all nine remaining PL84-99 Emergency Flood Repair Contracts.
- Worked closely with Operations Division (OD) and the contractor to procure and execute an innovative methodology to successfully clear major blockage in the Government Interceptor Sewer in Davenport, Iowa, restoring maximum storm water flow capabilities.



ENGINEERING AND CONSTRUCTION (CONTINUED)

- Construction and Engineering and contractor team completed Mississippi River bulkhead slots at Lock and Dams 12, 13 and 20. In addition, Engineering developed plans and specifications for Locks and Dam 14 Bulkhead Slots, awarded in July 2015.
- Due to high water in spring and summer 2015, award of FY15 Illinois Waterway Hydraulic Dredging Indefinite Delivery, Indefinite Quantity Task Orders was late in the year. When water levels receded, OD performed surveys to determine dredging needs and provide data work Task Orders. Award of the first Task Order was on Aug. 6, 2015, and all dredging was completed Sept. 2-10, 2015, at Clark Island and Copperas Creek.
- Construction Branch accomplishments included:
 - Oversaw 86 ongoing contracts executing more than 215 individual progress payments for more than \$60.4 million, incurring just \$1.24 in prompt payment interest.
 - 144 individual contract changes completed, for a total absolute value of \$6.8 million.
 - 1,776 contract submittals processed with an average 17-day turnaround time, much less than the 30-day contract allowance.
 - 332 contractor Requests for Information were processed, with an average nine day turnaround.
 - 35 contracts were closed out, starting FY16 with zero contract closeout delinquencies.
 - All work was accomplished with a supervision and administration rate of 3.1 percent and a direct charge rate over 93 percent.
 - Five new hires, two Pathways conversions to permanent, one new Administrative Contracting Officer appointment (for a total of three), and a total of five on board that are Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act Level II certified. 

EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY (EE)

The Equal Employment Opportunity Office promotes fair and equitable treatment for all personnel and applicants and reshapes the culture through a vision of a highly professional diverse workforce that is reflective of our customer base.

- No findings of discrimination in 2015.
- Two final agency decisions issued with no findings.
- Asian American/Pacific Islander Heritage Month observed with artist Anna Ito; District's first Pride month observance held.
- Mandatory training success: Sexual Harassment Assault Response & Prevention (SHARP) Part 1: 99.61 percent; SHARP Part 2: 97.92 percent; EEO/Anti-Harassment/NO FEAR (Notification and Federal Employee Antidiscrimination and Retaliation Act): 98.9 percent.
- 305 employees completed the Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute Organizational Climate Survey (Command Climate Survey). Commander and senior staff were briefed on significant trends. Action plans to address trends and concerns are in the works. 



EXECUTIVE OFFICE (XO)

The mission of the Executive Office is to communicate the District, Corps, and Army goals and objectives to our customers, assist them in leveraging the resources of the region to strengthen the nation, and provide command and control over the operating and technical elements of the District to ensure quality products and services are managed in a programmatic manner. The Executive Office also oversees the strategic planning as well as the District training program. Major services and products include the District strategic objectives; outreach; organizational performance advice; process improvement tools; District training regulation, policy and guidance, competitive professional development process (long-term training and leadership development program); PROSPECT program; Automated Training Management Program (Individual Development Plans and Mission Essential Task List).

- Col. Craig S. Baumgartner became the 48th Rock Island District Commander during a change of command ceremony held on Arsenal Island at Historic Quarters One on June 5, 2015. He assumed command from Col. Mark J. Deschenes who served in the position since June 29, 2012.
- Chief of Engineers Lt. Gen. Thomas Bostick visited the Rock Island District on May 19-20, 2015. During his visit the Chief met with approximately 80 district partners, conducted an employee town hall meeting and toured Brandon Road Lock and Dam.
- Angie Freyermuth was selected as the first-ever Jerry Delli-Priscoli Collaboration Fellow at the Corps' Institute for Water Resources, Collaboration and Public Participation Center of Expertise (CPCX). The mission of CPCX is to enable Corps staff to anticipate, prevent and manage water-related conflicts through collaboration.
- Melody McHugh graduated from the Army Civilian Education System (CES) Civilian Leader Development Basic residence course on Oct. 30, 2015. She is the first employee in our District to complete this CES course.
- Angie Freyermuth completed a 90-day virtual detail with the Institute for Water Resources (IWR). As an IWR team member, Angie reviewed their outreach strategies and provided suggestions for improvement.
- Andrew Goodall is the MVD Emerging Leaders President for FY16.
- The District's MVD Emerging Leaders graduates, Beth Bernauer, Sara Paxson and Jim Homann, participated in the national Federal Employee Viewpoint Survey (FEVS) HQ USACE Project Delivery Team (PDT) in FY15. Sara and Beth continue to serve on the national FEVS PDT for FY16.
- The District continued to emphasize the benefits of Lean Six Sigma training with the certification of 6 Green Belts and several more trained currently working on their projects to complete certification. Nicole Lynch received her Black Belt certification with the completion of a project that reduced the hiring approval process from 14 days to five days. This process has been distributed to many other Districts and Divisions for implementation. 



INLAND NAVIGATION DESIGN CENTER (INDC)

The mission of the INDC is to provide engineering, design, and review services for studies, new locks, new navigation dams, major rehabilitation of inland navigation locks and dams, and select inland navigation lock and dam Operations & Maintenance projects.

Made significant progress in standup of the Inland Navigation Design Center-Mandatory Center of Expertise. Specific accomplishments included:

- Initiation of the Inland Navigation Design Community of Practice for obtaining resources, maintaining and strengthening technical competency, and gaining a better understanding of projected workload and center requirements in the out years. To date we have received more than 550 responses from across USACE.
- Hosted five educational webinars in support of maintaining and strengthening technical competency. Corps wide attendance averaged 70 per webinar.
- Provided oversight for approximately \$2.5 million of reimbursable design and review work across 12 Districts and five major subordinate commands.
- Completed Memorandum of Agreement between the Mississippi Valley Division and Lakes and Rivers Division outlining governance, upward reporting, resources/workflow, and specific roles and responsibilities.
- Completed FY15 Annual report outlining accomplishments for the year and activities scheduled for FY16.
- Established INDC as a separate Division within the District with employees working virtually in St. Louis, Louisville and Pittsburgh. 



INTERNAL REVIEW (IR)

Serves as an agent of the commander of Rock Island District on accounting, financial and managerial issues that require examination by a financial professional.

- Traveled to St. Paul District to brief the command group on the critical need to fill the vacant IR position.
- Participated in hiring board interviews to fill the vacant IR position in St. Paul.
- Conducted two-day indoctrination training for the new St. Paul IR Chief.
- Briefed the MVD Deputy Commander along with the USACE Chief, IR (CEIR) and USACE Chief, USACE Logistics Activity on critical systemic internal control problems with the USACE property book. These briefings led to system changes made to Corps of Engineers Financial Management System (CEFMS) and a new Policy Letter from the Deputy Chief of USACE. CEIR also incorporated my property book review into their 2016 annual plan. 

OFFICE OF COUNSEL (OC)

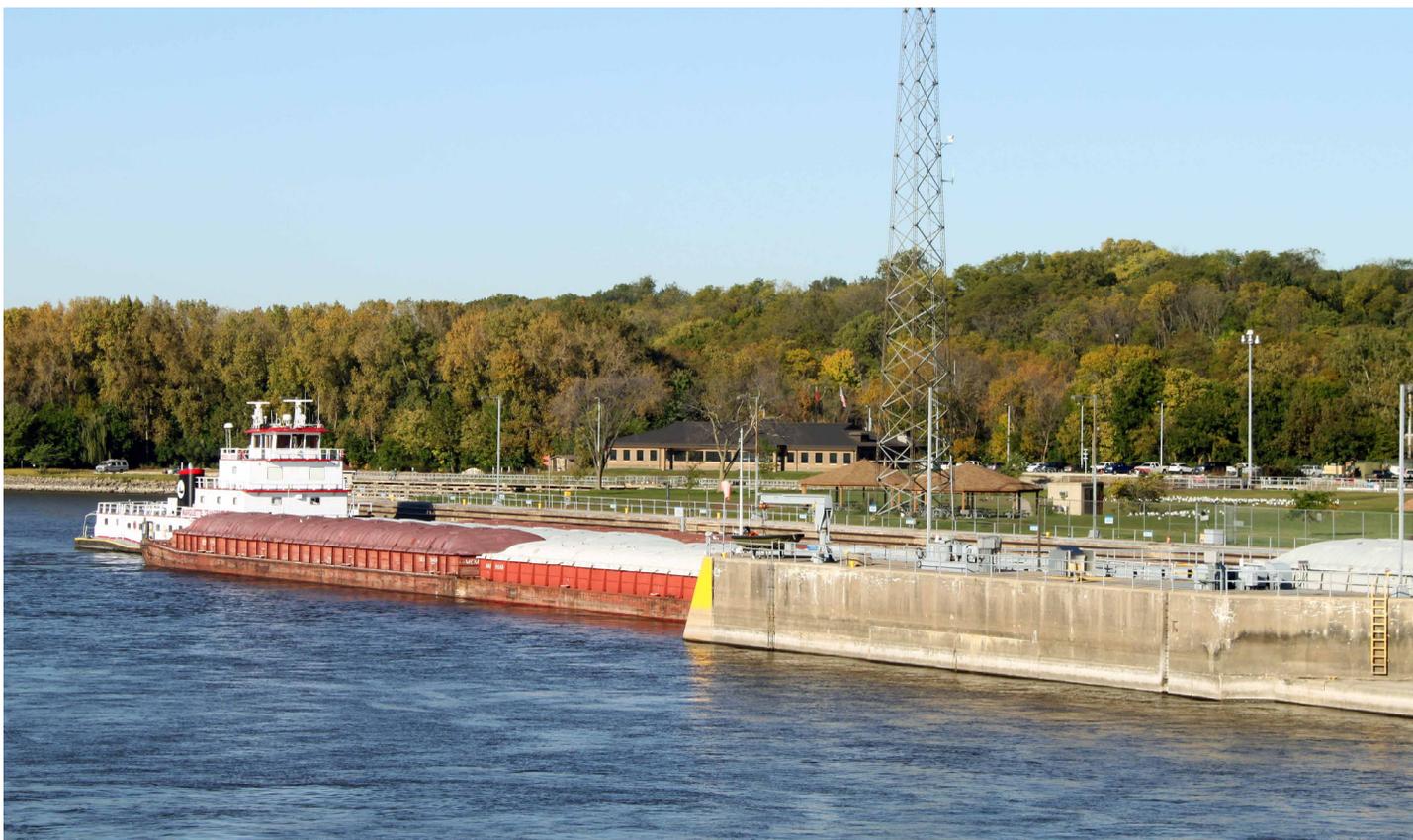
The mission of the Office of Counsel is to provide accurate, clear, responsive, and timely legal advice and services to the Commander and staff of the Rock Island District in support of the District's missions.

- Claims work performance during this rating period exceeded internal OC metrics. Six meritorious adverse tort claims totaling \$39,021.04 were investigated, settled, releases obtained and paid. Four without merit adverse tort claims totaling \$27,928.71 were investigated and denied.
- Affirmative admiralty claims collected totaled \$628,536.64, which was 100 percent of the demand made.
- The District received and processed 50 Freedom of Information Act requests, with all responded to on a timely basis. All periodic Privacy Act Reports were prepared and submitted to MVD in a timely manner. 

OPERATIONS DIVISION (OD)

Operates and maintains Navigation; Flood Risk Management; Emergency Preparedness, Response and Recovery; Environmental Stewardship; Regulatory; Hydropower; Recreation; and Water Supply projects in accordance with their authorized purposes and within the funding appropriated for each project, realizing and maximizing the benefits of those projects for the Nation.

- Increased emphasis on training efforts resulting in more opportunities for workforce including Lean Six Sigma Greenbelt training, supervisory training including both soft and technical skills, leadership training through Civilian Education System and other venues, plus communication and technical skills.
- The District Channel Maintenance Team developed a well laid out justification package to communicate the need for an emergency declaration to perform emergency dredging near the approach to Lock and Dam 20 on the Upper Mississippi River. The team coordinated this effort closely with state and federal agencies, stakeholders, industry and senior decision makers. The declaration moved forward with dredging taking place in October and November 2015, removing close to 300,000 cubic yards of material which greatly reduced the risk to tows losing control and going into the dam, which could have caused significant damage and shut down navigation on the system.



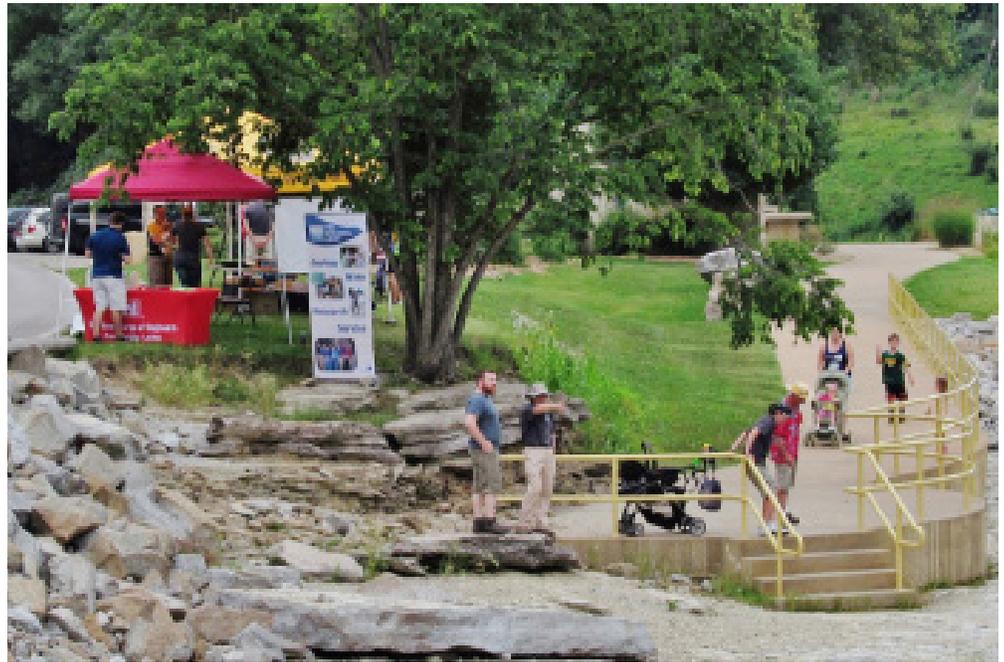
OPERATIONS DIVISION (CONTINUED)

- The District recognized U.S. Coast Guard Master Chief Burt Ford with an Army Commendation Medal for the tremendous job he did in overseeing operations of the Coast Guard Cutter Sciota in placement of navigation channel buoys in the Upper Mississippi River System during Summer 2014.
- District staff continued advancement of the Illinois Waterway Public-Private Partnership (P3) Demonstration Project. Progress has been made in developing potential structures for P3 with strong support from stakeholders. Work has also focused on identifying P3 implementation challenges that are being further discussed at state, regional and national levels. Coordination on this important effort continues.
- The District partnered with Google to capture Google Maps Street View images at OD projects sites in areas previously inaccessible (e.g., shorelines, hiking trails, campsites, natural areas). This serves as a great educational and promotional tool to inform the public about our project areas.
- General Regulatory completed 1,290 actions, exceeding all eight National Regulatory Performance Measures.
- General Regulatory provided regular review and feedback to HQ USACE for the review of policy issues and conservation practices being considered, and then implemented as part of the Clean Water Act Interpretive Rule for agricultural exemptions.
- Natural Resources Section had 522 volunteers, 46,812 volunteer hours for a value (cost savings to the District) of \$1,079,952.84.
- Natural Resources Section had 69 partnerships. The value of service provided by partners was \$211,805.67 with partner's investment of \$1,903,648. 

OPERATIONS DIVISION - CORALVILLE LAKE (OD-C)

- Completion of Mehaffey Bridge after two years of construction. The unique design provides a wider opening between pillars making for much safer boating conditions.

- Park Ranger Justin Lind developed a partnership with a non-profit organization called Healing of English River Outfitters (HERO). This partnership allows veterans from all over the nation to hunt at Coralville Lake. HERO connects with all veterans, especially wounded veterans, organizing hunting trips for them. HERO pays for their airline ticket, hunting license and hotel for the most comfortable experience possible. HERO's mission is to



- restore veteran's strength and independence by providing a safe outdoor experience that promotes healing and closure as well as family reintegration. Jeremy Moore, Afghanistan veteran from the 175th Ranger Regiment, Savanna, Georgia, flew to Iowa to hunt Coralville Lake with his father, 1st Sgt. Allen Moore. On his first day of hunting, Jeremy harvested an 8-point buck with his bow.
- Park Ranger Jeffrey Peck was one of only four Corps employees attending the Career Program 18 course on Conflict Resolution Skills. Students came from multiple agencies and locations such as the Pentagon, Homeland Security and Transportation Security Administration. With the wide variety of backgrounds and assorted work experience of the students, Jeffrey reported that this course was by far the best training he has ever attended and would highly recommend it.
 - Park Ranger Darren Schneider coordinated to obtain an Urban Youth Corps Group for Coralville Lake. This program takes troubled young men and women and provides them with structure, discipline, hard work and perhaps most of all, positive role models to emulate. It gives them a sense of accomplishment and pride in completing tasks as part of a group.
 - Devonian Fossil Gorge continued to provide school groups and visitors a first-hand look of remnants of a sea floor that existed more than 375 million years ago. The Gorge's biostrome floor reveals thousands of crinoids fossils, Trilobites, brachiopods, bryozoans, horn corals and more. A dorsal plate of a prehistoric 35-foot-long fish known as Dunkleosteus can be seen at the Visitor Center.
 - Terry Escher, Park Ranger, improved our Interpretive and Outreach programs year with 182 programs reaching 6,831 participants. She was assisted by two dynamic volunteers.
 - Administrative Officer, Kathryn Atkinson, continues to provide incredible support to the Corps on a national level by serving on the National Recreation Reservation System (NRRS) Coach, Assist and Train Team. She works with other Corps projects across the country to troubleshoot and resolve issues related to our NRRS system. 

OPERATIONS DIVISION - ILLINOIS WATERWAY (OD-1)

- Maintenance crew completed repairs to LaGrange and Peoria wicket dams including dewatering of portions of LaGrange Lock for more detailed inspection of components and re-grouting.
- Staff partnered with Engineer Research and Development Center and participated in composite wicket design, testing, and installation; this may eventually phase out use of harder to find high-quality heavy oak timbers.
- Worked with crews at Peoria Lock and Dam to develop pilot program for 12-hour lock shifts, first recent initiative within the District with more following. This looks to be effective and is improving morale and quality of life for the crews on rotational shifts.
- Staff actively participated in the Priority of Maintenance and other regional teams to improve budget and equipment requests. Efforts resulted in increased funding for infrastructure improvements including new miter gates at various lock sites, electrical upgrade at TJ O'Brien Lock and Dam, Dresden Island Dam steam line and boiler replacement, Starved Rock septic system replacement, Starved Rock Visitor Center re-roof, and three new Tainter gates at Dresden Island Dam.
- Executed TJ O'Brien dewatering with two 45-day closures. Successfully coordinated with navigation industry, U.S. Coast Guard and other participants well in advance and was able to pass traffic between the two closures.
- Responded to breakdowns and other emergencies including repair of 10' gash in skin plate of a lower miter gate at Peoria Lock, emergency repair of lock chamber filling valves at Lockport Lock, plus flood fighting of the Illinois Waterway Service Base using HESCO barriers.
- Illinois Waterway Visitor Center remained open seven days a week, despite reduced staffing. The Visitor Center hosted trolley tours from Starved Rock Lodge an average of three times on weekends and once a day during the week.
- Park Ranger Todd Ernenputsch worked with Peoria Area Mountain Bike Association (PAMBA) and Central Illinois Trail Runners Alliance members to host five trail maintenance work days at Farm Creek Reservoirs. PAMBA also includes 20 trained Mountain Bike Patrol members who patrol special events to provide first aid and bicycle repairs. They are all active bikers



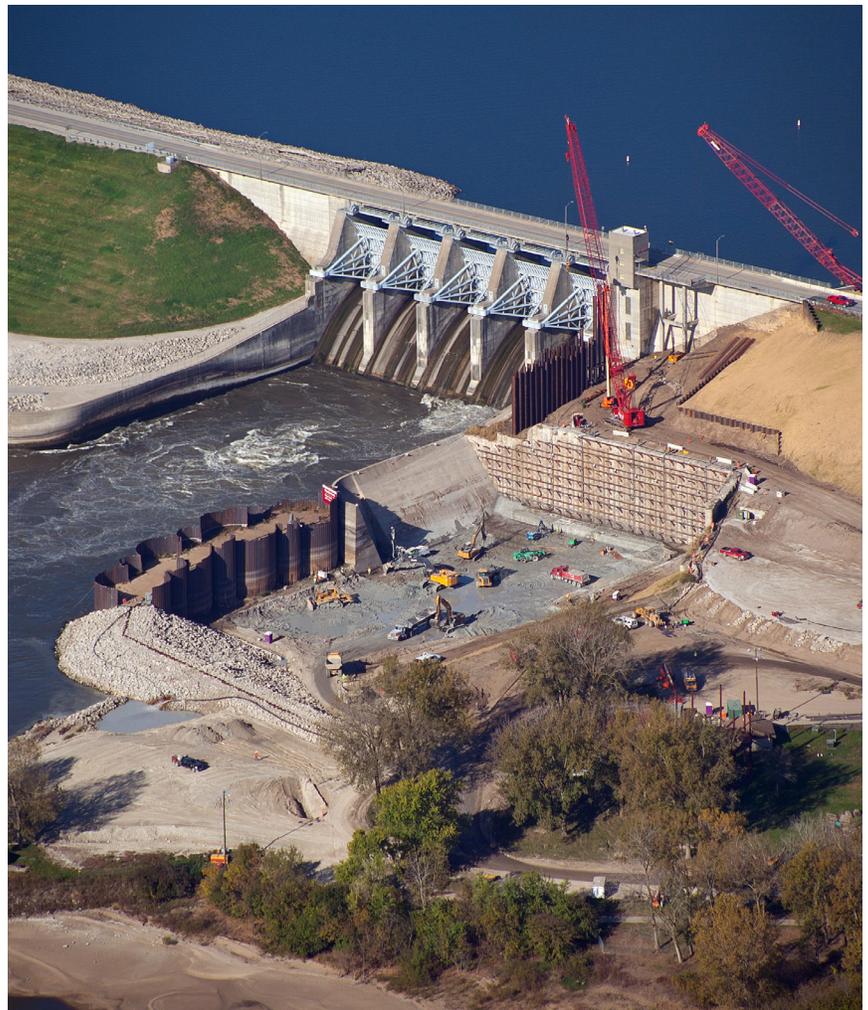
OPERATIONS DIVISION - ILLINOIS WATERWAY (CONT.)

who can be found at Farmdale throughout the year riding for pleasure, yet always willing to stop and assist other users.

- With assistance from the Mississippi River Project this year, and St Paul District last year, we have made extensive progress in catching up on deferred maintenance at Farmdale and Fondulac reservoirs. Most of the work has been removing trees in rip rap and too close to concrete.
- Kevin Ewbank serves as Division Program Manager (PM) and as a Peer Supporter for the Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Program. As PM he has coordinated CISM responses to nine incidents that resulted in five Response Teams deploying to an MVD site in the last 12 months. Kevin personally responded as a Critical Incident Response Team member to one incident in Vicksburg, Mississippi.
- Park Rangers are currently certified as instructors for Motorboat Operator, Tractor and ATV equipment operations; CPR and First Aid Instructor; and Suicide Prevention and provide these services as needed for lock and dam sites along the Illinois Waterway. Our Certified Pesticide Applicator and nuisance trapper is also seen at other sites. 

OPERATIONS DIVISION - LAKE RED ROCK (OD-R)

- During the 2015 recreation season, 146 volunteers graciously provided more than 14,500 hours of service at Lake Red Rock. The majority of this service was provided by a team of 45 work campers filling 28 positions that are essential to the operation of recreation areas. This service included custodial work, fee collection, campground hosting, Visitor Center staffing, environmental stewardship, day use area maintenance, trail maintenance, mowing and promotional work.
- Construction of the Red Rock Hyrdoelectric Facility went into high gear during FY2015. This plant is being constructed by Missouri River Energy Services (MRES) to supply clean renewable energy to their customers to include local Pella, Iowa residents. This is an ongoing effort between MRES, the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission, and USACE that will culminate in the completion of the plant in early 2018.



OPERATIONS DIVISION - LAKE RED ROCK (CONT.)

- The Red Rock Lake Association provided resources for our annual volunteer awards program; sponsored an annual special event, Balloon Fest, attracting 5,500 visitors; provided resources through grants to add a vault toilet, water fountain and other interpretive elements to the newly created Natural Playscape and the Volksweg Trail.



- Partnered with the Marion County

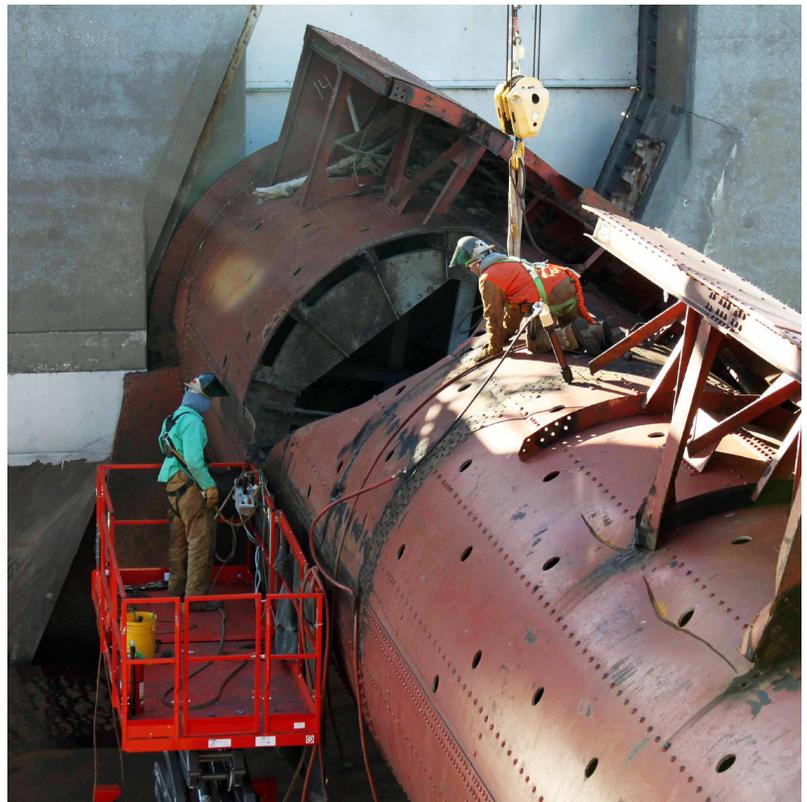
Development Commission to provide a visitor's guide for the county; Pella Convention and Visitor's Bureau to provide a visitor's guide to Pella; and Vermeer Manufacturing to provide product testing of equipment in resource areas.

- 7,400 visitors were provided programs on Lake Red Rock's three-fold missions of Flood Risk Management, Recreation and Environmental Stewardship. Approximately 250 programs, including water safety, night hikes and other Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics topics, were provided by Corps staff, volunteers and guest speakers throughout the year.
- The Corps completed the 2010 Des Moines River Regulated Flow Frequency Study, which concluded that large floods are occurring more frequently than previously estimated. It was determined the Des Moines I and the Southeast Des Moines (SEDM) Remedial Works levees do not provide an adequate level of protection for the base flood elevation or freeboard requirements. The Corps and the city are working together to identify solutions to correct these problems and to enable the city to have Federal Emergency Management Agency accredited levees and flood protection. These efforts include a Corps led Project Delivery Team working with city officials to create a Des Moines & Raccoon Rivers Feasibility Study. Meanwhile, the city is evaluating improvements to the system to satisfy Corps Section 408 review requirements to correct deficiencies. These deficiencies and improvements include the Corps-owned and operated SEDM levee (Red Rock Remedial Works).
- The Corps of Engineers and The Nature Conservancy (TNC) formed a partnership under a Memorandum of Understanding in 2000 to find ways that water regulation, flood protection, environmental and economic concerns can be considered to avoid detrimental impacts, or to improve river conditions. There are nine model river project partnerships throughout the United States in the Sustainable Rivers Program. The Des Moines River is one that has recently become a focal point of consideration for this beneficial initiative. Meetings have been jointly led by the Iowa TNC and the District to gather information about problems and possible solutions for better ecological or economic sustainability. Stakeholder meetings have also been conducted by Iowa Department of Natural Resources biologists, water related recreationalists and others. 



OPERATIONS DIVISION - MISSISSIPPI RIVER (OD-M)

- Maintenance Section successfully performed dewaterings of Lock 20 in 2014 and Lock 22 in 2015, with a combined work effort of more than \$6 million in the past two fiscal years. Major work efforts focus on critical installation of sill beam systems, miter gate adjustments, chamber inspections and repairs, and valve work.
- Maintenance Section provided emergency response to the severely damaged roller gate at Locks and Dam 14 after a tow accident. Crews were able to quickly, in a matter of months, repair an approximately 10' x 20' hole in the center of the roller gate including internal structural members. This combined effort, with the support of Engineering's Structures Section, ultimately saved several hundred thousand dollars and reduced the risk to the system by ensuring the roller gate was back in service before winter conditions.
- Successful planning efforts have led to the systematic replacement of miter gates through the Priority of Maintenance (POM)/Workbook Process. Gates have been installed at Locks 17, 18, 20, 21 and 22. Gates at Locks 11, 12, 13, 14, 15, 16, and 19 (lift gate) are currently



OPERATIONS DIVISION - MISSISSIPPI RIVER (CONT.)

under construction or will be awarded for construction in FY16. This incredible effort is the result of approximately \$50 million of financial investment/execution over the program and significantly increases the reliability of our navigation system through replacement of the most critical component, lock miter gates.

- Continued regional planning efforts through the POM/Workbook Process successfully lead to several other major contracted repair efforts across the District's lock and dam system. Significant repairs and improvements include; the ongoing installation of downstream bulkhead slots at all locks (making it possible to dewater the lock chambers following the condemnation of the old poiree dam system), several lock guidewall grouting stabilization projects, Lock and Dam 18 concrete repairs, and Dam 21 repairs and painting. These strategic investments total nearly \$50 million of critical infrastructure repairs improving system reliability and making it possible for required maintenance to continue. 

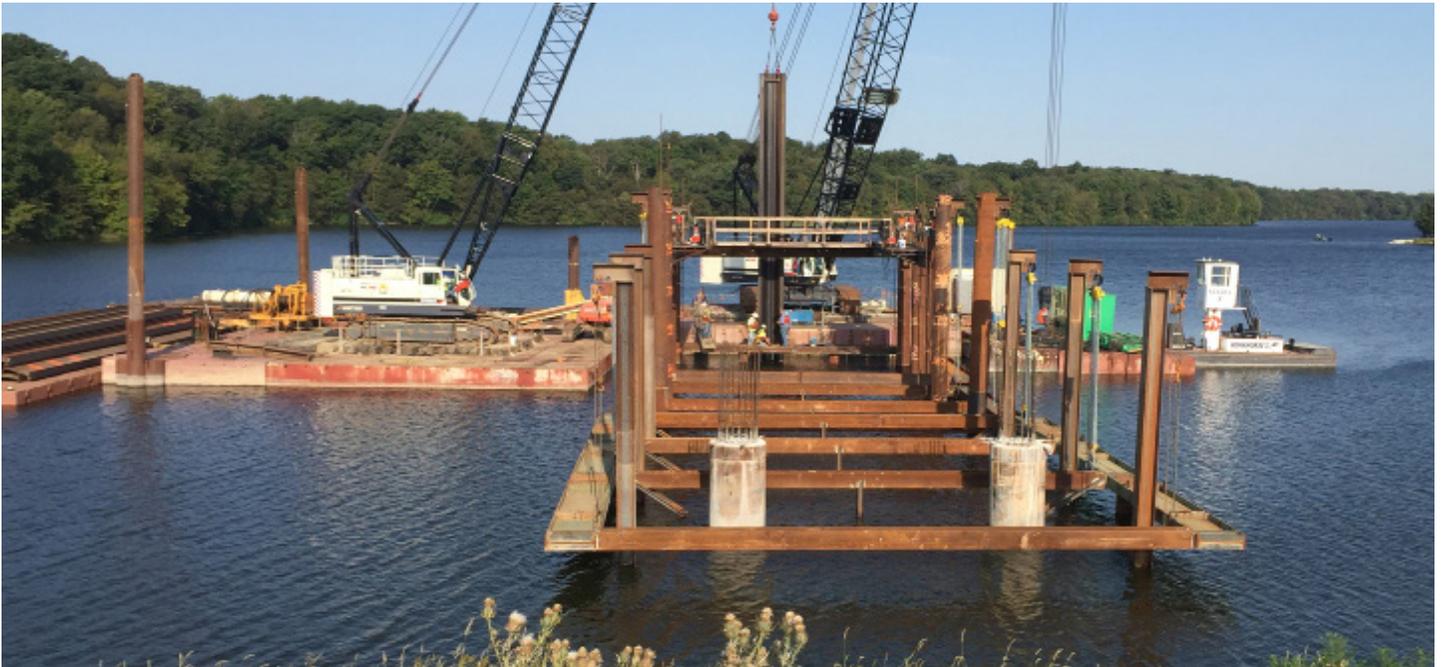
OPERATIONS DIVISION - SAYLORVILLE LAKE (OD-S)

- Continued to incorporate safety Activity Hazard Analyses into daily work efforts.
- Barrier Dam Pump Station three pump failures; OD-S led District efforts for short-term and long-term repairs and a temporary deviation to the water regulation manual.
- Procured 11 submersible pumps and control panels, Yelomine discharge pipe and materials, and installed more than \$400,000 of materials prior to flood season.
- Two pumps repaired in short term and returned prior to flood season.
- Long-term pump repair contract awarded.
- Strategic planning enabled Saylorville Lake to receive \$1 million for design of supplemental pump station and sustainability funding to replace HVAC units at Visitor Center.
- Final Sedimentation re-survey of Saylorville Lake report, utilizing LiDAR and Hydrographic data, was completed and shared with Iowa Department of Natural Resources and Des Moines Water Works.
- Managed flood fight materiel and maintained equipment to deploy in support of District's National Flood Fight Materiel Center.
- Diversion Dam Sluice Gate replacement project under construction. Strategic planning put this project in a position to receive construction funding in FY13 and 14. Contract was awarded in FY14.
- Saylorville Lake master plan revision completed and signed by Commander, January 2015.
- Completed initial assessment of reservoir water regulation opportunities.



OPERATIONS DIVISION - SAYLORVILLE LAKE (OD-S)

- Continued partnership with Iowa State University and Head Football Coach, Paul Rhoads, to promote Water Safety on multiple billboards around the Des Moines metro; received HQ USACE and Army kudos.
- Pilot Site for Federal Highway and Institute for Water Resources Roadway Mapping.
- Selected as HQUSACE site for Common Risk Model for Dams security evaluation.
- 83 Volunteers donated 13,791 hours of service.
- Collected \$708,854 in recreation use fees.
- Visitation estimated at 1.6 million visits.
- Student Conservation Association student researched & collected GPS locations and mapped all utilities on the project. 



PROGRAMS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT (PM)

The mission of the Programs and Project Management Division is providing integrated resource analysis, evaluation, and management services to satisfy a wide spectrum of water resource needs and goals, support to military and emergency missions, and other requested support for customers, partners, and stakeholders.

- Initiated Rehabilitation Evaluation Report for Lock & Dam 18.
- Worked with five Upper Mississippi River states to develop plan for a regional Upper Mississippi River hydraulic model for integrated flood risk management.
- Coordinated transfer of the real estate for the deauthorized Lucas-Berg dredged material disposal site back to the Metropolitan Water District of Chicago.
- Managed key major maintenance projects including Marseilles Dam repairs, TJ O'Brien dewatering, Starved Rock Visitor Center roof replacement, Dresden steam line and boiler replacement, Lock 19 guard gate, Lock 14 bulkhead recesses, Mississippi River lock miter gates, Dresden Dam gates, and Big Creek supplemental pump station design.



PROGRAMS AND PROJECT MANAGEMENT (CONT.)

- Executed the Des Moines Levee Systems feasibility cost sharing agreement and initiated the feasibility study.
- Successfully transitioned project management responsibility for the Great Lakes and Mississippi River Interbasin Study (GLMRIS) Brandon Road Study from Chicago District to Rock Island District.
- Obtained Deputy Commanding General for Civil and Emergency Operations (DCG-CEO) approval to waive 3x3x3 requirements for the GLMRIS Brandon Road Study.
- Obtained DCG-CEO approval to exceed the authorized cost and proceed with construction completion of the Des Moines & Raccoon Rivers project.
- Awarded final contract for the Des Moines & Raccoon Rivers project.
- Awarded Upper Mississippi River Restoration (UMRR) construction contract for Pool 12 Stage II.
- Conducted UMRR senior leaders summit.
- Completed Freeborn County Section 206 feasibility study, Minnesota.
- Completed construction of 290th Street Bridge Section 14 project, Cedar County, Iowa.
- Completed 10 PL84-99 Levee repair projects.
- Provided key Geographic Information System (GIS) support for Rock Island Arsenal Public Works Department to locate and map base infrastructure.
- Provided GIS support to MVD for New Madrid earthquake planning exercise.
- Assisted in District implementation of standardized mapping processes for emergency management tools such as FREEBOARD.
- Provided Project Management Business Process and Project Management Information System 2 (P2) support to District in managing more than 200 active projects. 



REGIONAL REAL ESTATE DIVISION NORTH (RE-R)

The Regional Real Estate Division North is committed to providing timely and quality real estate information, products and services through effective planning, acquisition, management and disposal activities to ensure customer satisfaction and support of the District mission. Our goal is to achieve excellence in meeting the needs and developing the trust of our customers.

- Bonnie Tanamor completed five years of intensive training, mentoring, review, and successfully passed the state exam to obtain her General Appraisal Certification.
- Over the last three years, Alex Gau has completed 93 percent of the tract digitization within the District while also supporting the Real Estate Division for Geographic Information System services throughout the North Region and extensive Management and Disposal services at Lake Red Rock.
- Jim Lovelace completed eight Real Estate Cost Estimates at levee and drainage districts in support of the PL84-99 process at St. Louis District, meeting or ahead of all suspense dates while also performing regularly assigned projects in support of the Regional Appraisal Branch.
- Doug Nelson was selected as a member of the editorial review committee for the Appraisal Institute as they develop a new text book on the Appraisal of Rural Property.
- In addition to many other actions and accomplishments, Regional Real Estate Division North completed 446 outgrant renewals, collected \$2.49 million for outgrant consideration payments, and maintained an inventory of 1,660 Real Property assets. 



“In FY 15 the Regional Real Estate Division North completed 446 outgrant renewals, collected \$2.49 Million for outgrant consideration payments and maintained an inventory of 1,660 Real Property assets.”

RESOURCE MANAGEMENT (RM)

The Resource Management Office provides quality, accurate, reliable, and timely services to customers. This includes but is not limited to financial analysis and information, resource and reference material, expert maintenance of the District financial records and providing District support to achieve maximum customer satisfaction and serve as a model for other Corps Districts.

- Executed just over \$278 million of direct and indirect funds.
- District Total Labor Multiplier for both Consolidated Departmental Overhead and Operations were amongst the lowest in the Regional Business Center.
- Rock Island District Permanent Order 15-02 established the Inland Navigation Design Center (INDC) Mandatory Center of Expertise (MCX).
- A new revolving fund (RF5200) account was established by HQ USACE for the INDC-MCX to capture the overhead costs associated with the operation of the INDC-MCX.
- One RM employee (Susie Walters) completed Lean Six Sigma Black Belt training. 

“The District executed just over \$278 million of direct and indirect funds” — FY2015

SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (SO)

The Safety Office provides safety services and safety program management to ensure that our District provides a safe and healthy environment for its employees, contractors, and the public.

- Completed Safety and Occupational Health audits and inspections at every Operations Division (OD) site and the Clock Tower Complex. Deficiencies were provided to units for corrective measures and the Safety and Occupational Health Office (SO) staff assisted in solutions for safety competence; this comprises thirty five sites and unit locations.
- Provided weekly and daily support to the OD Dewatering projects at Lock and Dam 13, Lock and Dam 21 and Chicago Lock. SO staff is on site at each of these projects at least once a week to assist the site safety officer and keep eyes on the ground.



SAFETY AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH (CONTINUED)

- Completed review of every major construction contract safety plan and visited these construction sites multiple times while assisting Engineering and Construction (EC) staff with safety requirements for contractor work.
- Maintained a team of Collateral Duty Safety Officers (CDSO) for each work unit. Conducted monthly safety meetings by webinar and telephone. Met as a group of thirty five CDSO's for an in house face-to-face meeting for continued hazard awareness and first responder to accidents training each year.
- Completed an Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) General Industry Safety Class for 27 employees prior to dewatering projects this year. Continued ongoing specific training related to assisting OD in an injury reduction plan. Completed many specific high hazard training classes for EC and OD staff for mission safety requirement.
- Developed Load Handling Equipment Project Delivery Team (PDT) comprised of several experienced crane operators and subject matter experts. Conducted a three day class for new crane operators using our trained train-the-trainers providing a huge cost savings for OD, a major convenience and safety improvement for equipment operations.
- Assisted OD and all affected employees (some EC) with medical surveillance physicals; there were nearly 250 physicals completed and reviewed by SO. SO assisted the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center with every new hire physical and pre-employment drug screen (for those required).
- SO has been very active in supporting continuous improvement in creating many Quality Management Systems (QMS) processes. To date, SO has nearly 12 QMS processes published. 



SECURITY AND LAW ENFORCEMENT (SL)

The Security and Law Enforcement Office provides threat assessments, guidance, and oversight to the District for the protection of District employees and the security of Government property.

- Developed and implemented District HQ Visitor Control Policy.
- Developed and redefined the Anti-Terrorism (AT)/Operational Security (OPSEC) Contracting coversheet process for conducting required contractor background checks, training and visitor control for work performed throughout the District by external companies.
- Steve Caudle became AT Level II certified and designated the Antiterrorism Officer for the District; completed OPSEC level 2 training; completed and signed more than 150 AT/OPSEC coversheets; and participated in 10 Staff Assistance Visits.
- Alyssa King completed 1,127 contractor background checks prior to working at various District sites.
- Alyssa King and Steve Caudle completed Joint Personnel Adjudication System training enabling them to review background checks for new and existing employees; developed a Random Anti-Terrorism Measure process; and developed and implemented Threat Assessments for Corps Day and Change of Command.
- Implemented District-wide elevation of security measures from ALPHA to BRAVO.
- Produced 190 Access Control Lists for contractors entering Government property.
- Assisted in a Greenbelt project which improved in-processing for new employees.
- Passed a MVD Assessment known as the Protection Program Review.
- Completed more than 277 Service Trak requests which provide employees computer network access.
- Assisted CPAC in in-processing more than 100 new hires which includes background investigations and building access cards.
- Issued more than 650 Common Access Cards (CAC's) and countless CAC unlocks.
- Assisted Operations Division in developing process for background checks and security and law enforcement checks for the District's volunteer program. The District currently has approximately 2,000 volunteers.
- Initiated 75 Office of Personnel Management background checks for District volunteers, new hires and security clearances request. 





SMALL BUSINESS (DB)

The Rock Island District Small Business Program ensures that small businesses have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in Rock Island District acquisitions through contracts or subcontracts. The District's program provides outreach to inform small businesses on how to do business with us.

- Project Acquisition Strategy Board (PASB) was held 11 out of 12 months in FY15. Prior years PASB was held quarterly or as needed. Having this meeting on a regular re-occurring basis allows the District better buy in and feedback on Acquisition Strategy from District offices.
- Achieved all FY15 Small Business Goals other than Women-Owned Small Businesses.
- The District obligated 90 percent of all dollars expended in FY15 to Small Businesses.
- The Small Business Office participated in more than a half-dozen Small Business Outreach events.
- FY15 is the first year the District has achieved its Historically Underutilized Business Zones (HUBZone) Small Business goal in the past several years. 



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Rock Island District

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