



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
San Francisco District

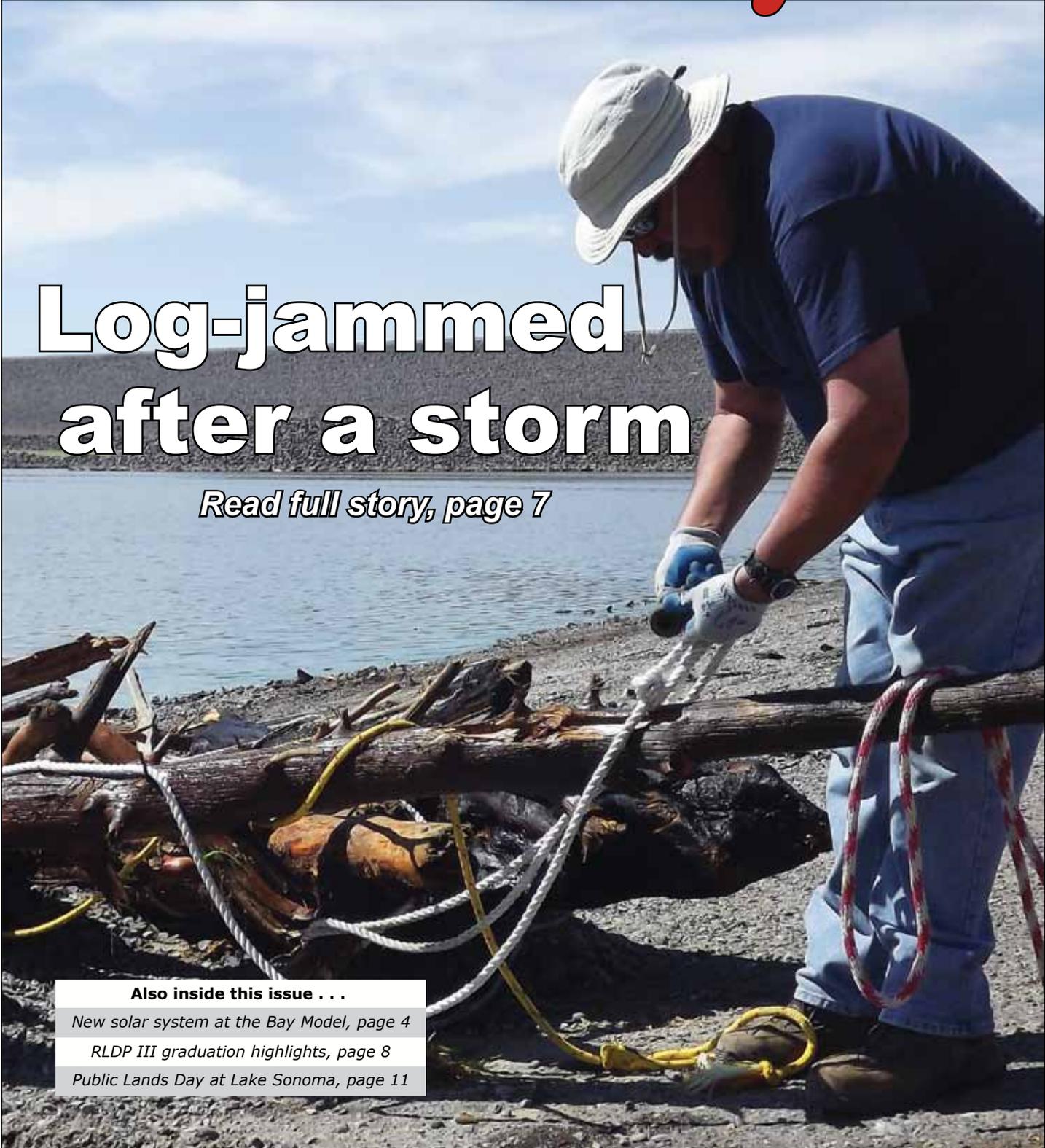
Oct/Nov 2011

Vol. 3, Issue 4

SPN **Surveyor**



www.spn.usace.army.mil



Log-jammed after a storm

Read full story, page 7

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COMMANDER'S CORNER

FY11 highlights district challenges, achievements

By Lt. Col. Torrey A. DiCiro
San Francisco District Commander

On Sept. 30, we closed the books on Fiscal Year 2011. With a tightened federal budget, FY11 was a year to learn how to be resourceful as a district. We have so many talented folks on this team who can do tremendous things that extend well beyond our district boundaries. Here is a look back at some of the highlights of FY11.

Our workforce answered the call to help out with recovery efforts when disasters struck this nation. Our debris team worked with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in Joplin, Mo., and parts of Alabama to clear roads and remove debris from homes and businesses. We had over 15 of our civilian men and women helping to pick up the pieces following that disaster.

Most recently, we had one of our public affairs specialists deploy to Minot, ND, to provide emergency communication and media relations services on the ground there.

And six members of our Debris Removal Team based out of Sausalito, Calif., drove a boat and equipment to Lake Cochiti in New Mexico to haul out 125 tons of navigation-choking debris following unusually heavy rains in that area. Read the full story on page 7.

Also in FY11, we executed the largest Operations and Maintenance Program in our district's history at \$73 million. This



was a team effort by Engineering, Project Management and Contracting all coming together to make this happen.

We achieved a green rating, which means greater than 95 percent of funds obligated, not only in O&M, but in two of the other three major civil works programs. These include General Investigations and Construction General. Where we came up short was in Continuing Authorities.

In FY11, our Regulatory Division met targets for eight of eight national regulatory performance measures. This is the first time since 2008, the year these measures were established. We achieved this milestone by establishing more Regional General Permits, better use of current RGPs, constant scrubbing of the regula-

tory database and establishing an internal permit tracking system. This is a great win for the Regulatory Team.

We have opened up discussions with the Sacramento District to take over the management of projects that reside in our district boundaries. These include projects in the Guadalupe River in San Jose, Berryessa Creek in San Jose, Napa Creek and the San Lorenzo River in Santa Cruz.

With many of these projects nearing construction completion, we have the chance to take over many of the project management services including project closeout, turn-over to the sponsor and O&M manuals.

We are also working with our sister districts on other projects. Our Hydrology and Hydraulics Water Resources Section is providing a number of districts with H&H design and numerical modeling. Our district's Project Management Division is in talks to support Albuquerque and Sacramento districts with P2 scheduling.

Most recently, we were able to award a contract using expiring FY11 money to install mechanical lifts at Veterans Affairs (VA) hospitals in San Francisco and Menlo Park. The VA receives this type of money very sporadically, so when they get it, it is a tremendous service that we can provide to the Soldiers when we execute these contracts quickly and efficiently. A tremendous team effort by ETS, PPMD and Contracting.

Thank you for a successful FY11!

District Commander

Lt. Col. Torrey A. DiCiro

Deputy Commander

Maj. Christopher W. Crary

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SPN Surveyor

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District takes on running challenge



Members of the San Francisco District Running Team in front of AT&T Park.

By Brandon Beach

District Public Affairs Office

Under the backdrop of AT&T Park, home of the San Francisco Giants, 13 San Francisco District employees competed in the JPMorgan Chase Corporate Challenge Sept. 21.

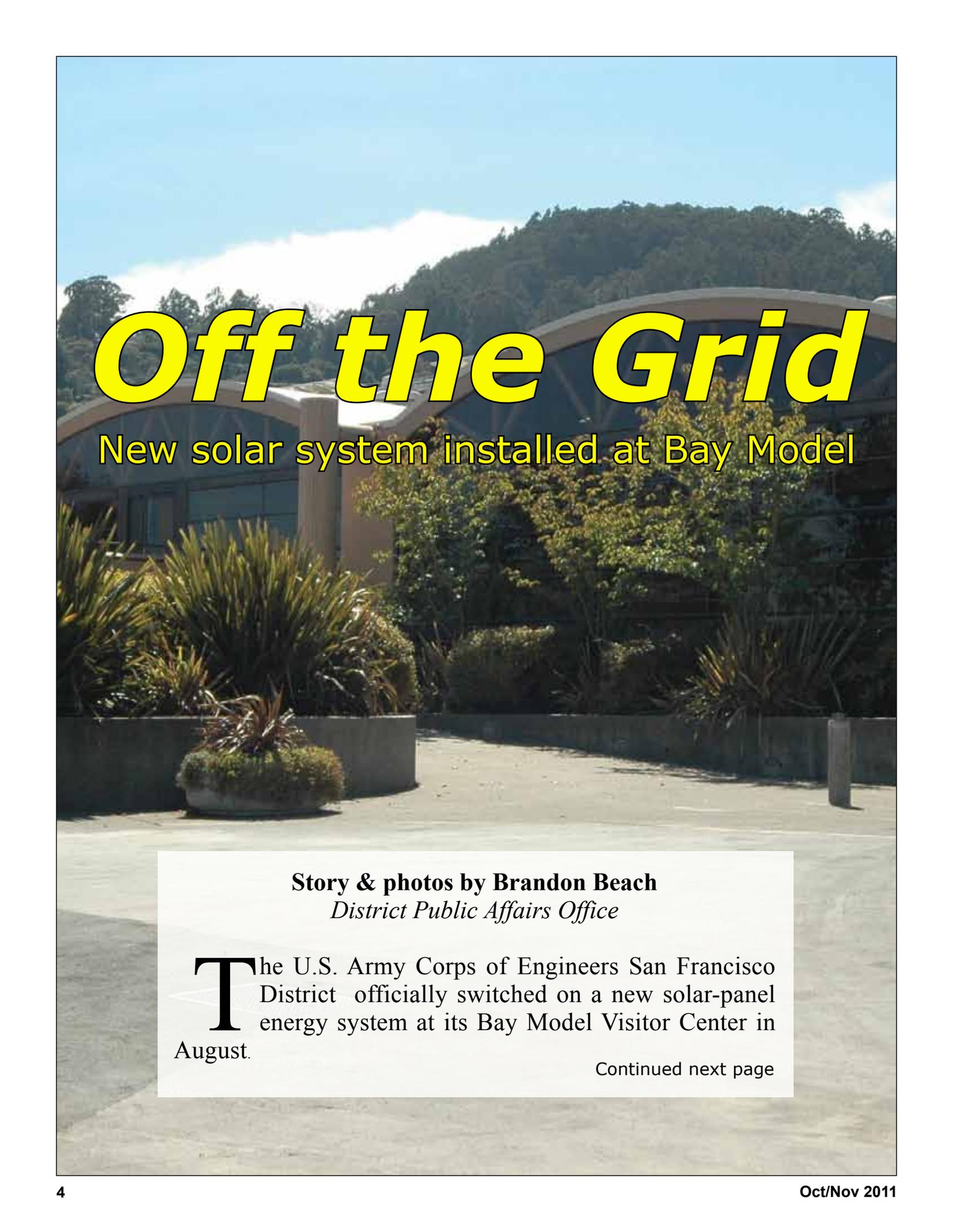
Held annually in San Francisco, this year's "challenge" started at the Lot A parking area near the iconic baseball stadium by the bay. The 3.5-mile looped course led runners through parts of China Basin, over Lefty O'Doul Bridge on 3rd Street, around the ballpark and back.

SPN fielded two men's teams and a co-ed team. The top men's team of Brandon Beach, Lt. Col. Torrey DiCiro, the district commander, Andrew Smith and James Zoulas finished with a combined time of 1:34:42. It earned them a 38th place finish out of the 333 San Francisco-based corporate teams in the field. The co-ed team of Tessa Bernhardt, Jessica Burton Evans, Maj. David Kaulfers and Rede Shifferaw finished in 66th place with a time of 1:54:53.

This was the 27th running of the Corporate Challenge Series, with twelve cities hosting similar events. A record 8,747 participants raced in San Francisco. Proceeds from the race went on to support Larkin Street Youth Services.

On the cover

Dan Denofrio of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District's Debris Removal Team ties off large pieces of debris in order to haul them off by truck. Unusually massive rains following the Las Conchas Fire caused the Cochiti River in New Mexico to flood, bringing with it fire-ravaged debris. The team removed 125 tons of debris from Lake Cochiti. (Photo by Ronna Schelby, USACE Albuquerque District)



Off the Grid

New solar system installed at Bay Model

Story & photos by Brandon Beach

District Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District officially switched on a new solar-panel energy system at its Bay Model Visitor Center in August.

Continued next page

Solar continued ...

With 2,200 panels stretched out across the visitor center's barrel-shaped roof, the system is the largest of its kind owned by the Corps within the South Pacific Division footprint, joining a similar project completed last year at Lake Mendocino park headquarters.

Both projects were funded by monies from the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act and move the district closer toward meeting President Obama's Executive Order 13514, which seeks to reduce federal government emissions by 28 percent before 2020.

"If both plants live up to their design estimates, the [new system] will put us somewhere between 28 and 33 percent overall energy reductions," said Mike Dillabough, chief of the district's Operations and Readiness Division. "We'll be the first [USACE] district to meet the president's energy reduction goal."

Not only is the new rooftop system designed to supply energy to the 145,000 square-foot Bay Model Visitor Center, formerly a World War II-era shipbuilding warehouse, but to the district's adjacent baseyard as well.

Power production of the system is estimated at 777,680 kilowatt hours per year. Current annual usage at these two Sausalito-based facilities is just under 770,000 kWh. The potential exists not only to zero out the two facilities' energy usage, but to also produce a surplus of energy that can be sold back to the grid, with PG&E cutting a check.

"On the high side, we're looking at \$120,000 a year," said Dillabough. "With



More than 2,200 solar panels absorb the sun's rays to produce energy from on top of the Bay Model.

that money, 50 percent would go to the Treasury [Department], and 50 percent would go to a special account for us to use for future environmental improvements."

Such improvements could be as small as switching to energy saving light bulbs across the district to installing more solar panels at SPN facilities in Sausalito or at the lakes.

"Between the Bay Model and the baseyard, we have tons of roof space still available," said Dillabough. "The goal has always been to make the power plant into a megawatt capability versus the kilowatt capability it is right now, and we're close. I see no reason why we can't achieve this."

Construction at the Bay Model continues through the end of October. Projects include repainting the building exterior and updating the museum's exhibits, with

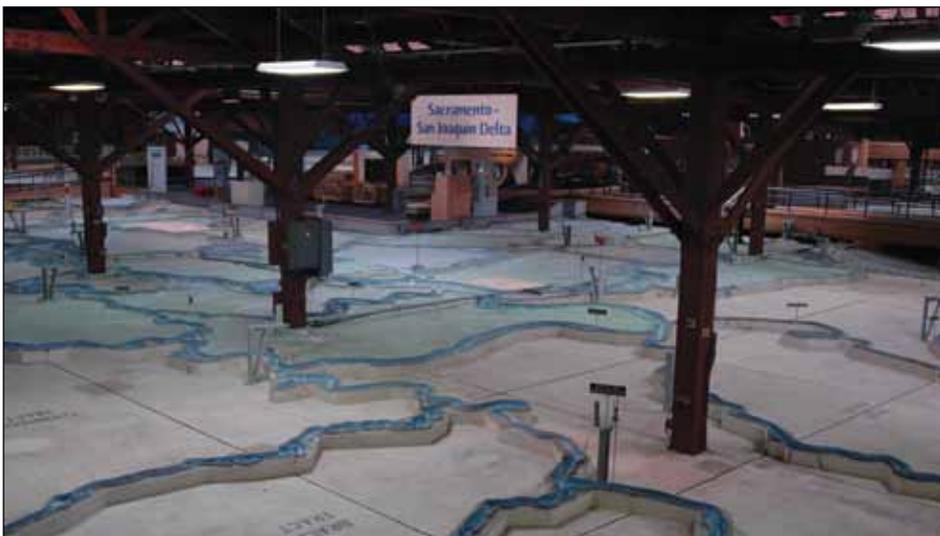
improvements being made to the model's hydraulic inner workings.

The model, a piece of Bay Area history since it was built in 1957 as a three-dimensional replica of the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento Delta, remains open to the public during construction.

Special Recognition

Team members for **BMVC Solar Plant** include: [Operations and Readiness] Capt. Matt Brauer; [Bay Model Visitor Center Staff] Chris Gallagher, Bill Cope, Linda Holm, Thomas Downs, Ilse Gonzalez, Tammi Skalitzy and Tom Quinn; [Engineering and Environmental Services] Darren Shappett, Jeff Ide, Tessa Bernhardt and George Liu; [Construction Branch] Dennis Chung, Kevin McCullough, Emmanuel Lee, Hatim Mustafa, Charles Ingraham and Maj. Thomas Giannini; [Contracting] Linda Hales, Shirley Turnbo, Rick Vredenburg, Fernando Garcia and James Hallmann; [Public Affairs] JD Hardesty and Brandon Beach; [Project Management] Irene Lee and Robin Liffmann; [Programs] Sabella Moreno; [Executive Office] Capt. Ben Faw; [Safety Office] A.R. Smith and Sgt. Gregory McCoy

Team members for **Lake Mendocino Solar Plant** include: Cpt. Matthew Brauer, Dave Serafini, Marvin Horton, Carlos Hernandez, Jack Morehead and Laura Smith; [Contracting] Linda Hales, Shirley Turnbo, Rick Vredenburg, Fernando Garcia and James Hallmann



The Bay Model, a three-dimensional replica of the San Francisco Bay and Sacramento Delta, was used by scientists to simulate tides, currents and river flows. Today, it is a public museum.

California Coastal Cleanup Day



Volunteers pitch in to clean up Angel Island

Story & photos by **Brandon Beach**
District Public Affairs Office

Volunteers from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District hauled out nearly 900 pounds of trash and recyclables from the beaches of Angel Island during the 27th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day Sept. 17.

Some 50 volunteers showed up on Saturday for a four-hour dusting of the island, boarding the district-operated vessel, *John A.B. Dillard, Jr.*, at 7 a.m. for a 20-minute voyage across the Bay.

Once on the island, volunteers were given a safety brief by A.R. Smith, the district's safety officer, and handed latex gloves, trash bags and data cards to document any found items. The cards were later turned over to the California Coastal Commission, the organizing agency of the statewide volunteer event, to track the trends of people's discarded trash.

"Some of this debris is brought in by the tides and comes from the ships and ferries around the Bay," said Tammi Skalitzky, a park ranger at the Bay Model Visitor Center and a CCCD volunteer coordinator, with 55 sites in Marin County under her watch. "A lot of it also comes from land-based sources."

Researchers from the California Coastal Commission estimate that up to 60 percent of washed-up debris makes its way onto beaches via storm drains and creeks.

"I'm always amazed at the amount of

Styrofoam and water bottles that turn up every year," said Helen Cosma, a volunteer. "It's really sad."

Cigarette butts are also high on that list every year.

Some of the more unusual items found at Marin County sites were a cigar box with letters dating back to 1837, a large Persian rug, World War II-era rifle, tractor tire and a Leonard Cohen CD, still in playing condition.

This year, cleanups took place at more than 800 sites on California beaches, rivers, creeks and parks, with 62,963 volunteers joining the effort and collecting a staggering

591,743 pounds of trash and recyclables at the end of the day.

"It doesn't seem to matter where people clean up anymore, as we have finally reached the point where there are more cleanup locations inland than there are along the coast itself," said Eben Schwartz, director of California Coastal Cleanup Day. "What seems to matter now is that everyone in California has the opportunity to forge a connection to the coast."

Learn more about the California Coastal Commission at www.coastal.ca.gov.



[Above] Some 50 volunteers donated their time and energy to help restore the beaches of Angel Island during the 27th Annual California Coastal Cleanup Day Sept. 17. Among those volunteering were Greg Altman, top left, a boat operator from the district's baseyard in Sausalito, Dan Tiscareno, middle, a district budget analyst, and Helen Cosma, a private citizen.

Crew removes 125 tons of debris from Lake Cochiti

By Jasmine Chopra-Delgadillo
District Public Affairs Office

In the span of 12 days, six members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District's Debris Removal Team removed 125 tons of navigation-choking debris from Lake Cochiti within the boundaries of the Pueblo de Cochiti Reservation in New Mexico.

The debris was created in part by the recent Las Conchas fire, the largest inferno in New Mexico's history.

Unusually massive rains following the fire caused the Cochiti River to flood, bringing with it fire-ravaged debris, mostly large dead trees that threatened life, property and navigation.

The team deployed three small boats equipped with gear like spears and ropes to haul the debris.

Several Sandoval County residents and business owners were hit hard, like Becky and Jim Mullane, owners of Dixon's Apple Orchard. Not only did the Mullane's lose more than 300 fruit-bearing trees to the fire, the family also lost their home. The ensuing flood destroyed several hundred more of their apple trees.

Since New Mexico is usually a drought-prone state, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District does not have the vessels equipped for or personnel trained in waterborne debris removal. That's why in addition to removing the debris, the San Francisco District team trained Albuquerque District personnel on how to rig and remove downed trees from the water.

Debris will continue to transit down the canyons and into the river as additional rain events occur, said Marty Plisch, San Francisco District crew member.

The team deployed three small boats equipped with common but effective gear like spears and ropes to haul the debris. Team members included: Rick Curry, Dan Denofrio, Plisch, Erik Romani, Ray Santos and Hung Shin.

The priority was to get those trees and



Ronna Schelby

Six members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District's Debris Removal Team hauled away scorched debris such as the tree trunks photographed above in September. Unusually massive rains following the Las Conchas Fire caused the Cochiti River to flood, bringing with it fire-ravaged debris.

One method of removing debris from Lake Cochiti is for teams to choke, tie and haul huge mounds of debris out of the water. In the span of 12 days, the team removed 125 tons of navigation-choking debris from Lake Cochiti in New Mexico.

other debris out of the water as soon as possible, so they would not pose a risk to life or property, said Ken Danielson, chief of the SPN Navigation/Structural Section.

And that is exactly what the team did; removing 125 tons of debris and ensuring that upon their return to San Francisco, Albuquerque District personnel would still be able to press on with the debris removal mission. In an effort to give new purpose to the debris, some of the useable trees will be offered up to residents for fire wood.

Plisch said that although many recreationists were disappointed the lake was closed while the men were removing the debris campers seemed appreciative of efforts to clean the lake and keep it safe.

Cochiti Dam and Lake are located on the Rio Grande approximately 50 miles north of Albuquerque. Cochiti Dam is a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers flood risk reduction project which reduces the impact of heavy runoff on surrounding communities.

CONGRATULATIONS, CLASS OF 2011!



Chopra-Delgadillo

Seventeen employees from every district within the South Pacific Division as well as personnel from South Pacific Division proper, graduated Sept. 15 from the year-long Regional Leadership Development Program III, which is aimed at developing leaders who accomplish missions and continuously improve teams within the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Building an effective division takes building effective leaders

By Jasmine Chopra-Delgadillo
District Public Affairs Office

Purpose, direction and motivation — most crave it, but how do most get it? Some glean it from the “School of Hard Knocks,” others from a life-changing event. Some garner it from a deep personal reserve and others from divine inspiration.

For members of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, purpose, direction and motivation was honed through participation in the South Pacific Division’s Regional Leadership Development Program, also known as RLDP III.

Seventeen employees from every district within the division as well as personnel from South Pacific Division proper, graduated Sep. 15 from the year-long program aimed at developing leaders who accomplish missions and continuously improve teams.

Through RLDP III, participants gained a firm understanding of the Corps culture, its values and fundamen-

*All of you will be
called upon to
deliver solutions.*

Col. Mike Wehr
South Pacific Division Commander

tal business principles. Through researching, writing, mentorship, travel, retreats and projects, graduates gained an understanding of regional level operations, national-level business processes and along the way; they expanded their power to influence their organizations.

“You are graduating from this program at a unique time filled with specific challenges,” said Col. Mike Wehr, commander of the South Pacific Division, referring to economic environments that threaten growth. “All of you will be called upon to

deliver solutions and we cannot afford to find solutions only from the top down.”

For most, the experience was like going to graduate school while working full-time in terms of the time, effort and discipline required to complete the program. Participants continued to work on their normal job functions while contributing anywhere from 200 to 500 personal hours to RLDP III assignments.

Among the major work-product produced by the graduates were two separate projects. Traditionally each year, RLDP III participants together produce one major team project, but this year’s passionate participants felt strongly about researching and advocating vastly different topics. So the class opted to produce two separate ones. One project focused on methods to improve morale, welfare and recreation for employees and their families and the other project focused on best practices in customer relations and communication in the In-

Continued next page

RLDP III continued ...

teragency and International Services business line.

“This program made me realize I am part of something important, filled with so many opportunities for myself and others,” said Alyson Strickland, a park ranger with the Sacramento District. “I feel empowered to establish a strong sense of cooperative teamwork because I have learned many tactics for creating a harmonious environment.”

For others, like Dina Aman, a project engineer with the Los Angeles District, participation in the program could not have come at a better time.

Aman oversees construction of Department of Veteran Affairs clinics, nursing homes and infrastructure upgrades and said assuming responsibilities of such projects was a challenge.

“My position instantly put me in a visible leadership position which is something I was not accustomed to,” said Aman. “I had to take hold of projects in an environment and culture I knew very little about and I had to deliver.”

Aman credited RLDP III with helping her meet the challenges of her high visibility role and added that working for the benefit of Veterans is a source of pride for her.

RLDP III reignited her passion to serve customers in a way that boosted customers’ confidence in the Corps, Aman said.

For Joshua Carpenter, an Albuquerque District regulatory specialist, RLDP III exposed him to Corps functions he doesn’t perform.

“You can know that something exists, but until you confront it and experience it, you cannot internalize it and make it part



courtesy of SPK Public Affairs Office

This border station in El Paso, Texas, is an example of project completed under the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Interagency and International Services program. Established in 1992, the IIS program allows USACE to perform planning, design and construction services for other federal and state activities, as well as partnering with international government agencies.

of your life experience. RLDP III exposed me to the management side of things that I’m not normally aware of.”

He added the RLDP III reinforced his belief in trusting people to do their jobs and helped him hone the skill of selecting the right person for the right job to facilitate teams that deliver.

Laurie Suda, chief of the environmental section of the Planning Branch for San Francisco District, who is already a graduate of the prestigious Naval War College and a dozen other leadership courses, said he still gained many insights from his participation in RLDP III. “This was probably the best practical leadership training I’ve had in the 42 years I’ve been with the Army,” said Suda.

Participants ranged in ages from people in their late twenties to people in their early sixties and represented varied job functions and pay grades from GS-09 to GS-13, highlighting the Corps’ commitment to building leaders at every level

within the agency.

“I’m grateful to work for an organization that is willing to invest so much in its employees and future leaders,” said Kimberly Carsell, a biological sciences study manager who left the private sector to begin her career with the Corps two years ago. “This program gave me the tools to stand up to self-doubt, participate instead of shy away from conflict (and) move from a “doer” to a “leader.”

Upon receiving their “diplomas,” each graduate was given a post-utilization assignment, a project for the benefit of the workforce or its customers that must be completed within one year. The long-range intent of the program is for graduates to be highly adaptive to change; cultivators of effective teams that are capable of delivering successful projects.

For more information on RLDP III, contact Allison Bremner, the program’s curriculum specialist, at 415-503-6539.

Congratulations to Charles Fenwick, Irene Lee, Laurie Suda and Kathleen Ungvarsky, SPN graduates of RLDP III.



EMPLOYEE NEWS

SPD/SPN luncheon reunites old friends

Story & photos by Ryan McClymont
District Public Affairs Office

When asked, “What do you miss most about the Corps?,” SPN and SPD retirees quickly respond the friends they made during their years of government service. Herbert Humphrey is a testament to that statement by continuing to attend the retiree luncheon 31 years after retirement. “I like to hear what the corps is up to these days, but what I really enjoy is seeing my friends,” said Humphrey.

Humphrey retired from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in 1980 after 35 years of service and is currently 93-and-a-half years old. “At my age, the half counts,” he said. He worked in the planning division, and his favorite part of the job, besides the great group of friends he worked with, was accompanying division commanders once a year to Washington D.C.



Deanna Wong (back) and Herbert Humphrey

One of those friends, Deanna Wong, retired from the Corps in 1996 after 42 years of government service. Looking back, she said, “What I miss most are the people. I tried to get to know everyone, and we were like one big family.” She enjoys attending the annual retiree luncheon because it gives her a chance



South Pacific Division Deputy Commander Col. Phillip Keller addresses Corps retirees Sept. 22.

to visit and catch up with dear friends.

Humphrey and Wong were two of 50 retirees and current staff who attended the Sept. 22 event sponsored by the South Pacific Division and the San Francisco District, which was held at the Marines Memorial Hotel in San Francisco.

At the conclusion of the meal, the State of the Division and District addresses were given by Col. Phillip Keller, SPD deputy commander, and Lt. Col. Torrey DiCiro, SPN district commander. Keller thanked the retirees for creating the strong foundation the Corps is built on and fielded questions about the status of several division projects. DiCiro spoke about the highlights

of the previous year, which included; the contribution the command vessel the *John A.B. Dillard, Jr.* was adding to the debris removal mission, the completion of the solar power grid at the Bay Model Visitor Center and the importance of the debris removal mission in relationship to the upcoming America’s Cup.

Flower arrangements, Corps castle decorations, special door prizes from See’s candies and careful planning and coordination all added to the successful outcome of the event. Special thanks are extended from both the command and the retirees to Anica Balkan for her effort in organizing and executing the luncheon.

Lake Sonoma park manager retires

Story & photo by Brandon Beach
District Public Affairs Office

Merle Griffin, park manager at Lake Sonoma, retired last month after 42 years of government service.

Griffin was recognized during a retirement ceremony held at Lake Sonoma Sept. 29. Among his many achievements was overseeing the completion of \$30 million worth of projects under the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act.

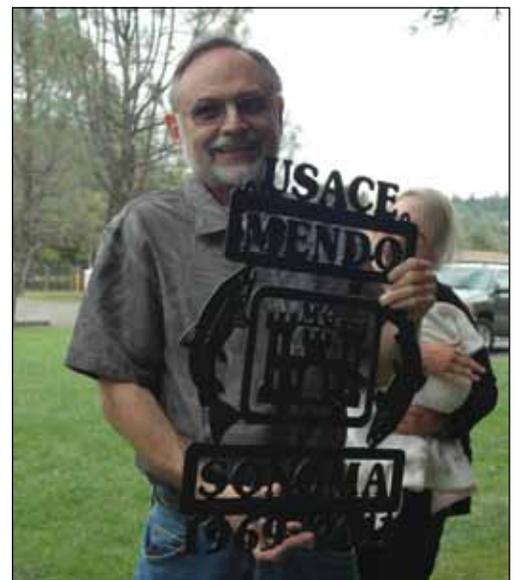
“You showed tremendous leadership and quick turnaround when ARRA funds literally tripled your workload,” said Lt. Col. Torrey DiCiro, SPN commander,

during his remarks.

Among the awards Griffin received during the ceremony were the Achievement Medal for Civilian Service, presented by DiCiro, and the Department of the Army Civilian Retired Lapel Pin.

“It’s been quite an adventure,” said Griffin, holding his baby granddaughter in his arms. “I really enjoyed it. I’ll miss all of you.”

Merle Griffin receives a gift during a retirement ceremony held at Lake Sonoma Sept. 29. The custom-made metal sign represents the two USACE locations where Griffin served for 42 years, Lake Mendocino and Lake Sonoma, from 1969-2011.



Public Lands Day draws volunteers to Sonoma

By Linda Clapp

Special to "SPN Surveyor"

Volunteers for this year's National Public Lands Day on Sept. 24 ranged from preschoolers to several retired boaters.

More than 175 students representing five Sonoma State fraternities and sororities joined with boaters, cadets, scouts and families for a strenuous morning at Lake Sonoma.

Three boat owners, based at Lake Sonoma Marina, took 30 sea cadets and college students on the lake to clean more than six miles of shoreline.

Another 70 students and families walked three miles of lakefront picking up litter. Volunteers moved two truckloads of mulch on the roadside native planting area. Fraternity members removed three loads of blackberry and pyracantha bushes that were overgrowing the turtle habitat near the hatchery.

Students also worked with hatchery personnel and other

adult volunteers to remove invasive vegetation on the newly restored riparian streambed used by returning steelhead trout and Coho salmon.

The morning started with coffee, donated by Starbucks, and volunteer sign-ins. Three hours later, Lake Sonoma Marina, Friends of Lake Sonoma and the Zinful Chef served up a hearty barbeque for all participants. Other local merchants donated PFDs, tools and gloves.

The U.S. Naval Sea Cadets, Pyro Division, (students aged 13-19), and based at the U.S. Coast Guard Training Center in Petaluma, Calif., had a great time on the lake and after lunch bivouacked at Liberty Glen.

Redwood Empire Boy Scout Troop 7 sent 20 Scouts and 10 adult leaders to tackle stream and beach clean-up at Yorty Creek. They then celebrated by canoeing out to Rustler's Camp and staying the night.

Clapp is a park ranger at Lake Sonoma.



Clapp

Youth volunteers clear invasive plants at the newly-restored riparian streambed located near the fish hatchery at Lake Sonoma.

Members of Oakland-based rowing club meet "Dillard" crew

Story & photos by Scott Nielsen

District Public Affairs Office

Members of the Oakland Strokes received a down and dirty lesson on keeping the San Francisco Bay clean and clear for boats and shipping Sept 29.

The junior rowing club's tour is part of an outreach effort by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers San Francisco District to provide awareness of the critical role keeping shipping channels clear plays for our local economy.

"Boats and ships hitting floating debris can cause thousands of dollars in damage to the vessels, or worse, loss of life," said Kixon Meyer, captain of the *John A.B. Dillard, Jr.*, a district-operated vessel.

The *Dillard* removed three tons of debris on an average day. That debris would quickly pile up and clog shipping channels without the Corps.

"It is such an amazing vessel and a benefit to everyone using the bay," said Beth Anderson, director of the Oakland Strokes.



[Above] Kixon Meyer, captain of the "Dillard," talks with youth from the Oakland Strokes rowing club.

[Right] Marty Plisch, a boat operator, removes a large piece of debris from the waters just outside the Port of Oakland.





In the spotlight

San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge

1

District Public Affairs Office

On Sept. 2, Bob Smith of the SPN Regulatory Division made a compliance inspection of the self-anchored suspension bridge portion of the eastern span replacement of the San Francisco-Oakland Bay Bridge.

The inspection tour was led by Bob Kicks of American Bridge-Fluor Joint Venture, the bridge builder. The Regulatory Division issued the California Department of Transportation a

10-year permit in 2002 to construct the new bridge and demolish the old bridge. The new construction was scheduled to take five years, with an additional two years for demolition.

CALTRANS is currently seeking an extension of their Corps permit. Their current schedule is to open the new bridge on Labor Day 2013 and start demolition of the old bridge one week later.

The following photos were taken by Bob during his compliance inspection.



2



Jay Rehor

5



4



3

[1] Views of the two Bay bridges, old (front) and new (back); [2] Yerba Buena Landing; [3] an east-bound support; and [4] looking down from a temporary access ladder. [5] Bob Smith, left, and Bob Kick of American Bridge-Fluor, inspect a cable mock-up. (Photos by Bob Smith).