



US Army Corps  
of Engineers®

# Stewardship

## news

**YOUR Thoughts** Volume 1, Issue 4: December 2018

We are looking for contributors and ideas .

✕ If you have a topic, success story, lesson learned, or helpful suggestion—let us know.

Send to: [Tara.J.Whitsel@usace.army.mil](mailto:Tara.J.Whitsel@usace.army.mil)

*Stewardship News is an unofficial publication of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). This online publication is produced quarterly with the purpose of providing its readers information about the USACE Stewardship Program. Editorial views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Mention of specific vendors does not constitute endorsement by the Department of the Army or any element thereof. Managing Editor: Tara Whitsel.*

[Tara.J.Whitsel@usace.army.mil](mailto:Tara.J.Whitsel@usace.army.mil)

## Your Stewardship HQ Update

**POC: Roseana Burick, Past (Acting) Business Line Manager for Env. Stewardship, 202-761-4704.**

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone that made my detail as the Environmental Stewardship Business Line Manager a success. As I transition out of this position there are several big ticket items the team is working on:

- FY21 Budget build,
- FY20 Budget finalization,
- FY19 Work Plan initiation,
- Roll-out of the ENS 101 class in January,
- NRM Gateway Page Updates, etc.

Additionally, I am excited that Heather Burke will be taking on the next 120 day detail in the ES Business Line Manager position, and wish her the best! She will bring her years of partnership knowledge to the program. Headquarters hopes to fill the position permanently during her time in the slot.

As always, if I can assist anyone with anything, please reach out. I am always happy to help. I wish everyone the best, Happy Holidays, and a successful 2019!

"This is the way federal land management should work. Cooperation, not confrontation, should be the hallmark of conservation efforts."

**Dirk Kempthorne**  
Former U.S. Senator and Secretary of Interior Department

### NRM Assessment Tool Reminder

This year the NRM program utilized the NRM Assessment Tool as the method to collect annual data which will then be uploaded into OMBIL. Data entry closed to the field on November 30, 2018. District Offices conducted a review from December 1-15, 2018. If you know of errors or changes that are needed in your data, please coordinate with your District and members of the NRM Users Group (members posted on the Gateway) to ensure that data is reported in the most accurate manner possible. Remember this information serves as source data for many other systems including CWIFD (Civil Works Integrated Funding Database)!

## Project Spotlight: Blue Marsh Lake's Fight Against Spotted Lantern Fly Invasion (Leesport, PA)

**POC: Jeff Piscanio, Blue Marsh Lake, 267-284-6552**

The Spotted Lantern Fly (SLF) was first discovered in eastern Berks County of Pennsylvania in 2014. SLF is an invasive planthopper species that is native to China, India, and Vietnam. SLF uses over 70 different plant species, but strongly prefers another invasive species, *Ailanthus altissima* also known as "Tree of Heaven".

SLF has the potential to greatly impact the agricultural, silvicultural, and forest industries, ecosystem health, and quality of life within heavily infested communities.

In fiscal year 2017, the presence of SLF was confirmed on various areas at USACE's Blue Marsh Lake. SLF populations were concentrated to areas where stands of *Ailanthus altissima* were established. During FY 18, Blue Marsh Lake began implementing invasive species management of both the SLF and *Ailanthus* as recommended by the Pennsylvania Department of Agriculture.

This includes:

- Cataloging *Ailanthus altissima* stands
- Reduction of *Ailanthus* stands
- Systemic insecticidal treatments of host trees (*Ailanthus* only)
- Tree banding for nymph control
- Egg mass scraping



Article Continued On Page 4



# Unraveling the Mystery of Mid-Century Dam Construction (Portland, Or)

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**POC: Wendy Jones, Willamette Valley Project, 541-688-8147 x1020**

As the lake's water level recedes, four concrete slabs and a brick foundation with a drain pipe appear on a wide bench just downstream of the dam. At another lake, a series of arched railroad overpasses emerge along the lake bottom every winter. In the lakeside park nestled among 50-year old Douglas firs and Oregon white oaks, stands the remains of a pioneer homestead and livestock fence. What are these relics and what story can they tell us about our past?

Colorado State University (CSU) archaeologist Naomi Brandenfels is helping to solve these mysteries at the Willamette Valley Project. The Willamette Valley Project is a series of 13 dams on six major tributaries south of Portland, Oregon, that ultimately flow to the Columbia River. The primary function of these dams are flood risk reduction so the lakes are drained each winter to capture the heavy Pacific Northwest rainfalls. The unintended consequence of exposing the lakebeds annually is an increased risk of artifact looting and vandalism. Through a Cooperative Agreement with CSU, Ms. Brandenfels and her colleague, doctoral candidate Florencia Pezzutti, are attempting to map, survey and interpret these historic resources before they are lost.

This mapping effort began when an archaeological survey in the Big Cliff Reservoir uncovered a number of large concrete and metal artifacts. Due to the proximity of the dam, age of the artifacts, and affiliation with a legacy contamination site, the surveyors believed this was part of the 1950's dam construction site. Luckily, USACE carefully documented all phases of dam construction through design memos, drawings, dam construction photos, historic aerial imagery, real estate transactions, relocation contracts, and microfiche documents. Willamette Valley staff and CSU located thousands of these files on ProjectWise, SharePoint, local servers, and even hard copies in the powerhouse. This data was catalogued and provided to CSU for georeferencing and digitizing relevant

## Dorena Dam

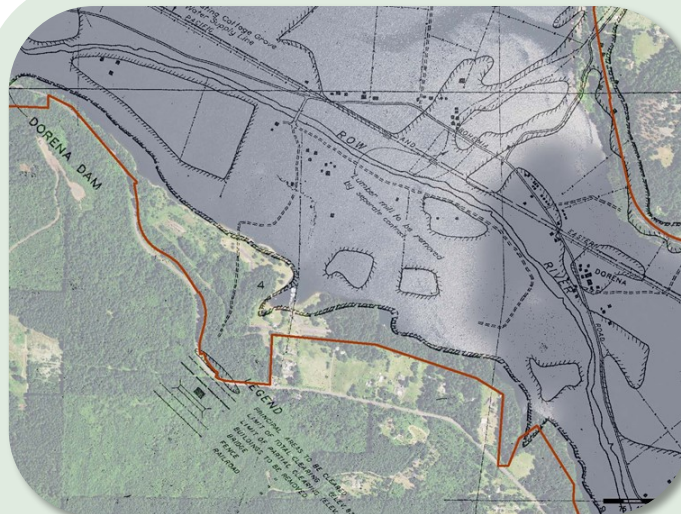
Dorena Dam is located on the Row River, a tributary of the Willamette River in Oregon. An earth fill structure with a concrete spillway, Dorena Dam was completed in 1949 at a cost of \$14 million and has since prevented more than \$3.4 billion in potential flood damages.



With a little over 2,500 acres of land and water, this Willamette Valley Project's Environmental Stewardship program focuses on restoring degraded uplands, wetlands and streams on Corps lands. Recent efforts include replacing exotic and invasive plants with native trees and shrubs, and restoring hydrology and topography to support native plant communities and wildlife habitat.

The Corps works with the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife to support resident game and non-game fisheries within the Row River Basin.

**Photo Top Left:** 1948 Aerial imagery of Dorena Dam construction, showing river diversion, worker housing, and excavated and graded areas within the new lake bed.



**Photo Above:** Reservoir clearing map over the current aerial imagery, showing the lumber mill and old town of Dorena.



**Photo Above:** 1929 Pre-dam aerial imagery showing the lumber mill and old town of Dorena.

data to create a Geographic Information Systems (GIS) database of historic properties in the Willamette River Basin. While the individual files can be helpful, compiling them in GIS allows for greater analysis and a further understanding of their relevance to other data, such as LiDAR (light detection and ranging) and elevation to assess impacts to historic resources.

Initial site visits were made to each dam to create datum points, which were used to reference the historic data in ArcGIS. As the information was digitized, the Project staff and Ms. Brandenfels began field visits to check the accuracy of the GIS data and to confirm the presence of additional historic sites. The most helpful data were pre-dam aerial imagery, engineered drawings of road and railroad relocations, proposed reservoir clearing maps, Definite Project Reports, and Real Estate Memorandums.



## Unraveling the Mystery of Mid-Century Dam Construction

*Article Continued From Page 2*

The team is half-way through the mapping effort for the 13 Willamette Valley Project dams, focusing on the dam construction footprint and the historic resources inundated by the reservoirs. Construction on the first dam began in 1939; the last dam was completed in 1969. Key features include staging areas, quarries, construction worker housing, river diversions, and areas excavated, blasted, filled or graded. There were multiple town sites and lumber mills in the proposed reservoir areas that were removed for dam construction; however, building foundations, roads, and bridges remain today.

For the resulting data to be useful, the team engaged other Portland District sections, including Operations, Engineering and Construction, Knowledge Management, Dam Safety, Real Estate, and Environmental. In addition to discovering historic features, the GIS data identifies areas that have been heavily disturbed, which assists with environmental and cultural consultations for future projects. The GIS data has the potential to identify and define legacy contamination sites, aid dam safety planning efforts, guide construction of new fish passage structures or dam repairs, and inform native habitat restoration efforts.

**Photo Top:** GIS data showing the Detroit Dam construction worker housing. **Photo Left:** 1950's Detroit Dam construction worker housing.



### Detroit Dam 3

Detroit Dam is located on the North Santiam River in Oregon. Completed in 1953, this concrete dam with gated spillways works with Big Cliff Dam to provide flood risk management.

The Detroit Project encompasses more than 6,500 acres. The reservoir is primarily managed through an agreement with the Willamette National Forest. The Project is also a designated stop along the Mt. Jefferson section of the Oregon Cascades Birding Trail, a self-guided auto tour of nearly 200 prime birding destinations in the Oregon Cascades.

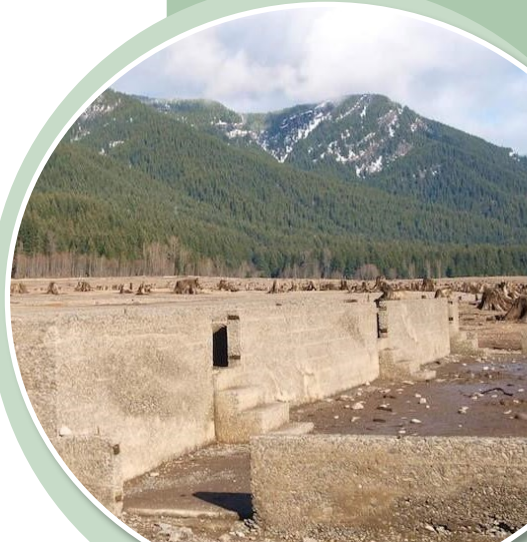


To mitigate impacts from construction of the dams to Chinook salmon and winter steelhead within the North Santiam River Basin, the Corps constructed the Marion Forks Fish Hatchery and the Minto Collection Facility. These are operated by the Oregon Department of Fish and Wildlife with funds provided by USACE.



**Oregon Department of Fish & Wildlife**

**Photo Below:** Remains of the Detroit Dam construction worker housing exposed during low water levels.



## Working with the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Program

**POC: Roxane Krutsinger, St. Louis District Office, 314-331-8624**

The Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership (RFHP) recognizes that reservoirs are inextricable parts of our natural landscapes and aims to promote the protection, restoration and enhancement of habitat for fish and other aquatic species and communities in reservoir systems. USACE, St. Louis District shares the belief that healthy reservoir systems are essential to maintaining the quality of life for the American people by allowing for the storage and release of water for the generation of power and the reduction of flood risk in downstream communities. They also offer ideal recreation opportunities for millions of Americans including anglers and bird watchers. Projects within the St.

Louis District have had great success in gaining funding to enhance their fisheries management programs.

The St. Louis District's Carlyle Lake received an RFHP grant in 2017 to stabilize shoreline and prevent the rapid erosion of valuable habitat. The rapid loss of critical habitat was leading to a decline in fish populations as the fry had little area to take cover and avoid predation. To immediately prevent the loss of more shoreline habitat, the RFHP funding was used to place 1,000 tons of riprap to create a littoral zone.



**Photo Above:** Methods utilized under the RFHP to stabilize shoreline and prevent habitat loss.

*Article Continued From Page 6*





## More on SLF

In a recent article from American Agriculturist, "A summer survey of a least 90 grape growers in the state (PA) found that most growers have doubled or even tripled their spraying in vineyards, anywhere from 4 to 6 sprayings all the way up to 16 spraying to deal with the pest."

"Female lanternflies lay 2 egg masses for a total of between 100 and 120 eggs. While lanternflies only have one generation—the main concern is that it can attack up to 70 different plant species, including corn and soybeans, with preferred hosts being the Tree of Heaven, grapes, black walnut and hops."

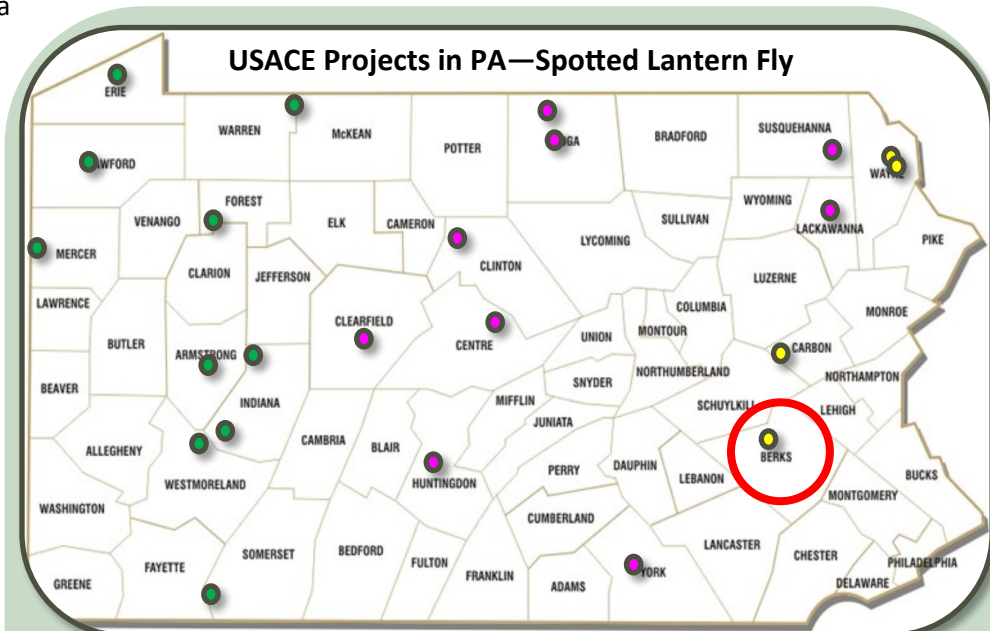


Volunteer service was utilized to catalog Ailanthus tree and stand locations within the Natural Resource Management (NRM) units that are immediately cared for by Blue Marsh Park Rangers/Natural Resource Specialists. GIS software was used to prioritize stands with high density stands being the top priority and single trees being low priority.

After priority was established, basal bark herbicide treatments with Pathfinder II, active ingredient Triclopyr, were conducted. Trees started showing signs of deterioration within a week of application. A total of 76 trees that were logged were treated with herbicide. However other trees that were not cataloged by the volunteer, due to clustering, were identified and treated. An estimate of about 10 acres of trees were treated.

During herbicide application, larger trees were evaluated for suitability for use as a "trap tree" for systemic insecticide, Transtect 70 WSP, active ingredient Dinotefuran. Trees that displayed preference by the SLF due to swarming of the tree were marked with a white 'O'. Trap trees had to display this preference and meet the minimum criteria of a 6 inch diameter at breast height. Identified trap trees were not sprayed with herbicide and left standing. A total of 23 trees received a basal bark treatment with Transtect throughout the park as their preference by SLF was identified during patrol and the herbicide treatments. Within days, death of SLF was observed at the treated trees. Established trap trees will be sticky banded in the spring/summer time (May to August) for the emergence of nymphs. These bands will be changed every two weeks and counts of collected nymphs will be cataloged and reported to the PA Department of Agriculture as part of their tree banding program and SLF monitoring. The trees will be treated annually with Transtect during the months of June through August when the SLF reaches its adult stages.

Identification of egg masses began in November and an inventory list of buildings will be used to perform a check for egg masses and cataloging the number of scrapings conducted. Egg masses will be scraped and bagged for disposal to control cataloging errors and leaving eggs behind. This will be performed by staff and is intended as a volunteer activity to be coordinated for volunteer work days/events. At this time egg masses have been identified on the Visitor Center, Administration Building, information/interpretive sign boards, trees in the administration area, and around trap trees.



**Graphic Above:** Spotted Lanternfly and egg masses found at Blue Marsh Lake—highlighted in the red circle. Currently the state is quarantined in the South Eastern 13 counties. The remainder of the dots (Yellow—Philadelphia District), Purple (Baltimore District), and (Green—Pittsburgh District) are all USACE Projects that could be impacted by the spread of the pest.

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**Photo Top Left:** Spotted Lanternfly and egg masses found at Blue Marsh Lake. **Graphic Bottom Left:** Cover Page of Penn State Ag Science.

# An App For Boundary & Encroachments

**POC: Madelyn Martinez, ENS Program Manager, NWS, 206-764-6940**

Here's a phone/tablet app that you can use for conducting your boundary encroachment survey without the use of multiple instruments and an airgap computer to compile the data and transfer it to a DoD computer. The digital form is built using Survey123, an ESRI app that can be used to create a list of questions related to the boundary encroachment survey. Seattle District was able to develop this app through a collaborative effort with GIS staff, a DA intern, Park Rangers, Real Estate, and District ENS staff, after having conversations with other districts such as Walla Walla District's Pest Management Program online reporting tool, DoD's EDD Map for Invasive Species Identification Tool, Tulsa District's Innovation Team, and Portland District's development of a

RecAssessment field tool for Park Rangers using the ArcGIS Collector app. Here are the steps in developing an app for your surveyors:

The first thing to do is to make sure you have Boundary Encroachment Guidelines. These provide you guidance on the types of encroachment to report and corresponding actions. It also helps out in development on the types of questions to ask in the app. During the development of the Boundary Encroachment Guidelines, have Real Estate review the document so you have

**Graphic Above:** Screen shot of the Survey 123 Tool utilized to track encroachments during inspections.

some form of agreement in the process of reporting and the type of actions to follow. An important part of coordination is making sure you have an agreed process and the types of data they would need for REMIS.

Once this is in place, ask your GIS department if the district is setup with ArcGIS Online (AGOL). This allows you to use an approved program in gathering the data through the AGOL apps. Your GIS staff creates a user ID for you, and an email is sent to you with a link to complete registration. From there you can work with your GIS folks in developing specific questions following the guidelines from the Boundary Encroachment document and catering to your District's boundary lines and areas being surveyed. After the form is published users download the Survey123 app onto their device (iOS or Android), login with their AGOL account, and start BETA testing the form, addressing any glitches and developing the report form template.

Survey123 allows you to answer a guided set of questions with dropdown menus, take GPS coordinates of the encroachment, and take pictures all with the same device. When viewing or downloading the data, it's all together and synchronized across any number of users. This skips the tedious steps of transferring data points to an airgap computer and making sure the data coincides with the points and pictures. Also, when out in the field, data can still be collected without cellular coverage. It will save and transmit it once coverage is available.

To review the data collected, go to <https://survey123.arcgis.com/surveys> and sign-in with your user ID. The website gives you the ability to see all the data points and photos, basic analysis of the data, download as a Word document, Excel spreadsheet, or various GIS format. The report templates can be catered to the way you'd like to present the data for your record keeping and/or for Real Estate. In addition, those who have access to AGOL such as other surveyors or managers, can access data and review them from their desktop or phone while in the field and the data is finally submitted into the cloud. This is a good tool to have. For questions on the application and the process of using this tool, contact [Madelyn.T.Martinez@usace.army.mil](mailto:Madelyn.T.Martinez@usace.army.mil); for technical details contact [Lawrence.P.Lin@usace.army.mil](mailto:Lawrence.P.Lin@usace.army.mil) or [Nathan.C.Malmborg@usace.army.mil](mailto:Nathan.C.Malmborg@usace.army.mil); and for field experiences, contact [Andrew.J.Huddleston@usace.army.mil](mailto:Andrew.J.Huddleston@usace.army.mil).

**Photo Bottom Right:** Raystown Lake's Pollinator Garden at Sunset

## ENS 101

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Attention ES Folks!

Are you new to the Corps or new to the role of Environmental Stewardship? Do you have a need or desire to develop a better understanding of your role in the responsible management and conservation of Corps land and water resources? If so, I encourage you to learn more about "ENS-101" and consider registering for the course.

**Course Dates:**  
January 29-31

**Course Location:**  
J. Percy Priest Lake

**Tuition:** There is no tuition cost for this training. However, labor and travel are the responsibility of each student's organization.

This course will cover all aspects of the environmental stewardship program.

**Registration Suspense Date:** 12/31/2018. Step 1: Receive approval from appropriate supervisor.

Step 2: Email Tara Whitsel indicating you want to attend the course and supply the following information: Name, Project, Job Series/Grade, Years with the Corps, Primary Job Responsibilities.

[tara.j.whitsel@usace.army.mil](mailto:tara.j.whitsel@usace.army.mil)



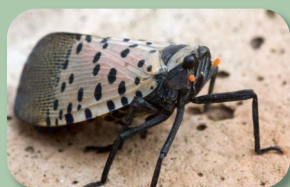




## More on SLF

### EMERGENCY RULE—SPOTTED LANTERNFLY.

The New York State Department of Agriculture and Markets has adopted an emergency rule addressing a quarantine of the spotted lanternfly. The spotted lanternfly is an insect nonindigenous to the United States. The emergency rule requires a certificate of inspection from an appropriate state official for importation into New York of articles capable of being infested by or with spotted lanternfly, if the articles originated from or passed through certain counties in Delaware, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, or Virginia. The emergency rule became effective 19 SEP 18.



Graphic Top:

Printed in Omaha  
 World Herald, Sunday  
 October 14th, 2018

Additionally, an artificial reef of habitat structures called spider blocks was constructed in the water adjacent to the protected shoreline to provide cover for aquatic species. This successful project was completed in March 2018.

The St. Louis District's Rend Lake received \$10,000 from the RFHP grant program in 2017. The funds were used to purchase the materials to construct over 1,100 artificial structures (spider blocks and porcupine balls) which were placed in 56 locations around the lower three quarters of the lake. Additionally as part of this effort, Rend Lake partners with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources to maintain 26 locations where donated Christmas trees are placed to create areas of cover for the fish. Though this project will not completely solve the lack of habitat in an area the size of Rend Lake, it will have a measureable and lasting effect as a first step in a new phase of their habitat enhancement program. The success of the artificial structures was already evident during

the Fall 2018 crappie season. Fishermen were catching their limit in an hour and were having trouble finding the smaller fish designated by creel limits at Rend Lake. The Corps of Engineers at Rend Lake plans to continue developing new designs and structures to enhance more locations, including shallow area locations.

The most recent RFHP grant awarded in the St. Louis District went to Lake Shelbyville. The lake has been working tirelessly to improve their shoreline stabilization efforts. Frequent flooding makes the establishment of significant stands of native vegetation difficult. The lake was awarded \$30,000 from the RFHP to construct and place structures to replace the native vegetation including 250 Georgia cubes, 500 modified Georgia cubes locally known as "Shelbyville Cubes", 30 artificial logs, 30 artificial stumps, and 4,800 square foot of native vegetation plantings. This work will double the aquatic plant nursery currently found on Lake Shelbyville and stabilize 5,000 feet of highly erodible shoreline. The investment made by the RFHP and the hard work done by the staff at Lake Shelbyville has led to over \$800,000 in partner funds and volunteer effort contributed toward the project. This work is currently in progress and is expected to be completed in December 2019.

## Some Interesting Articles/Links:

- ① National Geographic: Interactive Map on Bird Migration  
<https://www.nationalgeographic.com/magazine/2018/03/bird-migration-interactive-maps/?beta=true>
- ② FiveThirtyEight: Invasive Species  
<https://fivethirtyeight.com/features/what-happens-when-humans-fall-in-love-with-an-invasive-species/>
- ③ USFS National Wildlife Health Center: <https://content.govdelivery.com/accounts/USDAAPHIS/bulletins/2109b9f> The USGS National Wildlife Health Center (NWHC) is providing this Bulletin to Tribal, State and Federal wildlife health partners for situational awareness concerning Rabbit Hemorrhagic Disease virus 2 (RHDV2) in the United States. RHDV2 is a foreign animal disease that prior to this report had not been detected in domestic, feral, or wild rabbits in the United States. Please distribute this Bulletin to your respective agency staff and local partners as appropriate.



**Photo Above:** Spider blocks and Porcupine Balls are ready for placement in Rend Lake. **Photo Below:** Efforts to stabilize Lake Shelbyville's shoreline as part of the RFHP grant.



# The SAT?

*The Stewardship Advisory Team (SAT) is an 18-member team that consists of area representatives from Corps HQ, Divisions, Districts, Projects, and Research elements. The SAT's function is to provide oversight for the Stewardship Support Program (SSP) and serve as an ad-hoc committee to the Chief of the Natural Resources Management Branch in HQUSACE. Rotating SAT members serve 4-year terms.*

## What's the SAT Up Too!

**POC: Jeff Piscanio, SAT Chair, 267-284-6552**

The SAT is comprised of great—hardworking NRM folks, ready to tackle the many pressing issues facing the ES mission. Here's a few items, from our October meeting in Duluth, MN, that the team would like to share with you:

1. The National Recreation Strategic Plan: The RLAT (Recreation Leadership Advisory Team) is taking a look at the plan with the questions of was this plan successful? Was it useful? And, what direction do we take for the future? Some different strategies were laid out such as: Do we create one plan for REC, one for ES, or should both BL's be included in one plan for entire NRM branch. Team: Patti Williams and Phil Smith Co-Chairs, Meredith Bridgers, Heather Burke, Roseanna Burick, Titus Hardiman, Brian Mangrum, and Scott Strotman. Advisor: Jeff Krause.

2. EDD Maps App for Boundary Encroachment: Madelyn Martinez, ES Business Line Manager, Seattle District, gave a presentation on ArcGIS Online and using Arc Survey123 app for boundary line maintenance and encroachment ID. While districts and projects can get started—the SAT would like to look at the important question of standardization levels so that the data collected can be useful at the HQ level as well.

3. Prescribed Fire: A new version of ER 1130-2-40 is being finalized. There are some issues involving counsel such as where we get authority to do it and how we contract for it. A summary of activities from around the SAT represented Districts/Divisions revealed several different ways to accomplish the task; in-house, contract, inter-agency MOU, etc. The team is looking for examples of MOU's to update the ER.

4. ES Module on NRM Gateway: Existing pages were rebuilt and updated. It is recognized that topics need to be added and expanded upon such as boundary and real estate. Team goal is to update the format to have a more modern look in addition to identifying subject matter experts to manage and maintain current contents.

5. Cultural Resources/Curation/Tribes: Field staff, some new memos regarding archaeological survey collection, non-fee title collections, and regulatory collections will be coming out in the future.

## YOUR Team Members

Division	MSC Level Team Member	District or Project Level Team Member
NAD	Mike Vissichelli	Jeff Piscanio (Chair)
SAD	Ryan Hartwig	Rocky Millenbine
LRD	Jeff Defosse	Jeff Chopp
MVD	Lynn Neher	Charlie Deutsch
NWD	Mike Langesley	Vacant
SWD	David White	Ken Shingleton
SPD	Phil Smith	Andrew Wastell
POD	Gayle Rich	Justin Kerwin



## Ranger Kevin Wright Receives Recognition from KY-TACF

Park Ranger Kevin Wright of Carr Creek Lake, Louisville District, received recognition from the Kentucky Chapter of the American Chestnut Foundation (KY-TACF), "in appreciation of your efforts to restore American chestnut."

KY-TACF president, Rick Caldwell, along with board members Rex Mann and Ken Darnell, presented Ranger Wright with a wormy chestnut wood plaque in recognition of Kevin's efforts at Carr Creek Lake for the restoration of the American chestnut tree.

Kevin's efforts include a chestnut display planting at the Carr Creek Lake office, the management "in-situ" of a pure American chestnut tree on USACE lands and the management of a backcross breeding orchard on USACE lands.

As noted prior to the plaque presentation, Kevin's activities are never "just enough!" Kevin didn't just plant a display planting near the office, but he obtained TACF's 3- panel interpretive sign to share the chestnut story with the visiting public. The 3-panel sign tells the story of the American chestnut tree, the chestnut blight that decimated the species throughout the eastern US and efforts being made to restore the species to its former range. Kevin also has encouraged and hosted school groups at the display planting where he has not only been able to tell them about the American chestnut tree, but also show them examples of living trees – some with blight and some without.

The nearly 200 tree backcross breeding orchard that Carr Creek Lake hosts falls under Kevin's management duties. Not only has Kevin spent time pulling weeds and mending fences, but he has managed to gather volunteers throughout the years to accomplish much of the orchard management. Even the orchard planting was completed through Kevin's efforts to recruit several high school FFA chapters to come out and help.

Kevin—Thank you for your dedication and hard work! We look forward to hearing more about the project you are growing!

*Photo Above: Rick Caldwell, KY-TACF presents an award to Park Ranger Kevin Wright for his dedication to the American Chestnut Restoration effort.*