

S: 1 June 2001

CECW-ON

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS,
ATTN: CHIEFS, OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: Operations and Maintenance Business Information Link/Recreation Deployment

1. This memorandum announces the deployment of the recreation component of the Operations and Maintenance Business Information Link (OMBIL) for data input and full implementation. The last update year for the Natural Resources Management System (NRMS) was FY 1999. Since OMBIL/Recreation replaces the NRMS, annual data, at a minimum, must be entered in OMBIL for FY 2000 in the September 2000 data month. (At local discretion, monthly data may be entered for FY 2000; however, this is not required.) Monthly data for FY 2001 should be entered for each month, beginning with October 2000. All initial data entry should be complete by 1 June 2001.
2. A Point of Contact (POC) for OMBIL/Recreation has been designated at each district and division (Encl 1). These POCs serve as first line support for OMBIL/Recreation users in their areas of responsibility. They facilitate information transfer and conduct training for project staff, as needed. In addition, an OMBIL/Recreation User's Group, composed of 1 representative from each division, has been established. The User's Group Charter and the initial roster of members are provided at Encl 2. The User's Group serves as ombudsman for the field, evaluating field suggestions for modifications to the program and making recommendations to HQUSACE on suggestions of merit. The POCs and the User's Group provide a support structure for all OMBIL/Recreation users during the deployment and throughout the operating life of the program.
3. A series of 3 train-the-trainer workshops were conducted for District and Division POCs for OMBIL/Recreation. These workshops were conducted on 23–25 January 2001 for North Atlantic Division, South Atlantic Division, and Great Lakes and Rivers Division representatives; on 13–15 February 2001 for Northwestern Division and Pacific Ocean Division representatives; and on 27 February–1 March 2001 for Mississippi Valley Division and Southwestern Division representatives. District and Division POCs have been provided information and support materials to train project staff in recreation data input and retrieval. These support materials are posted on the OMBIL website, <http://ombil.usace.army.mil>.

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4. A great deal of information has been preloaded in OMBIL/Recreation. Static data from the Natural Resources Management System (NRMS) and facility data from the National Recreation Reservation Service (NRRS) has been preloaded and should be checked carefully to assure its accuracy. A modification to the Visitor Estimation and Reporting System (VERS) has been made which allows automatic upload of appropriate visitation data to OMBIL when the monthly VERS program is run. This VERS modification will be deployed from the Engineering Research and Development Center in March 2001.

5. Coordination with other business functions will be critical to the successful deployment of OMBIL/Recreation. Extensive data has already been entered into OMBIL by other business functions, which must be considered when doing initial data entry for OMBIL/Recreation. In particular, data entered by the Environmental Compliance business function will require coordination.

6. An extensive User's Manual has been developed for OMBIL/Recreation. This manual includes a definition for every data field, as well as guidance regarding the frequency of data entry. The manual also clarifies which data fields on common forms should be entered for OMBIL/Recreation and which data fields refer to other business functions. OMBIL/Recreation users should reference the User's Manual when entering data to assure the appropriate data is entered accurately and timely.

7. Point of contact for OMBIL/Recreation in CECW-ON is Judy Rice, (202) 761-4751. Questions regarding OMBIL/Recreation may also be directed to respective POCs and User's Group members identified on the enclosures to this memorandum.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

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Directorate of Civil Works