Yankee Engineer

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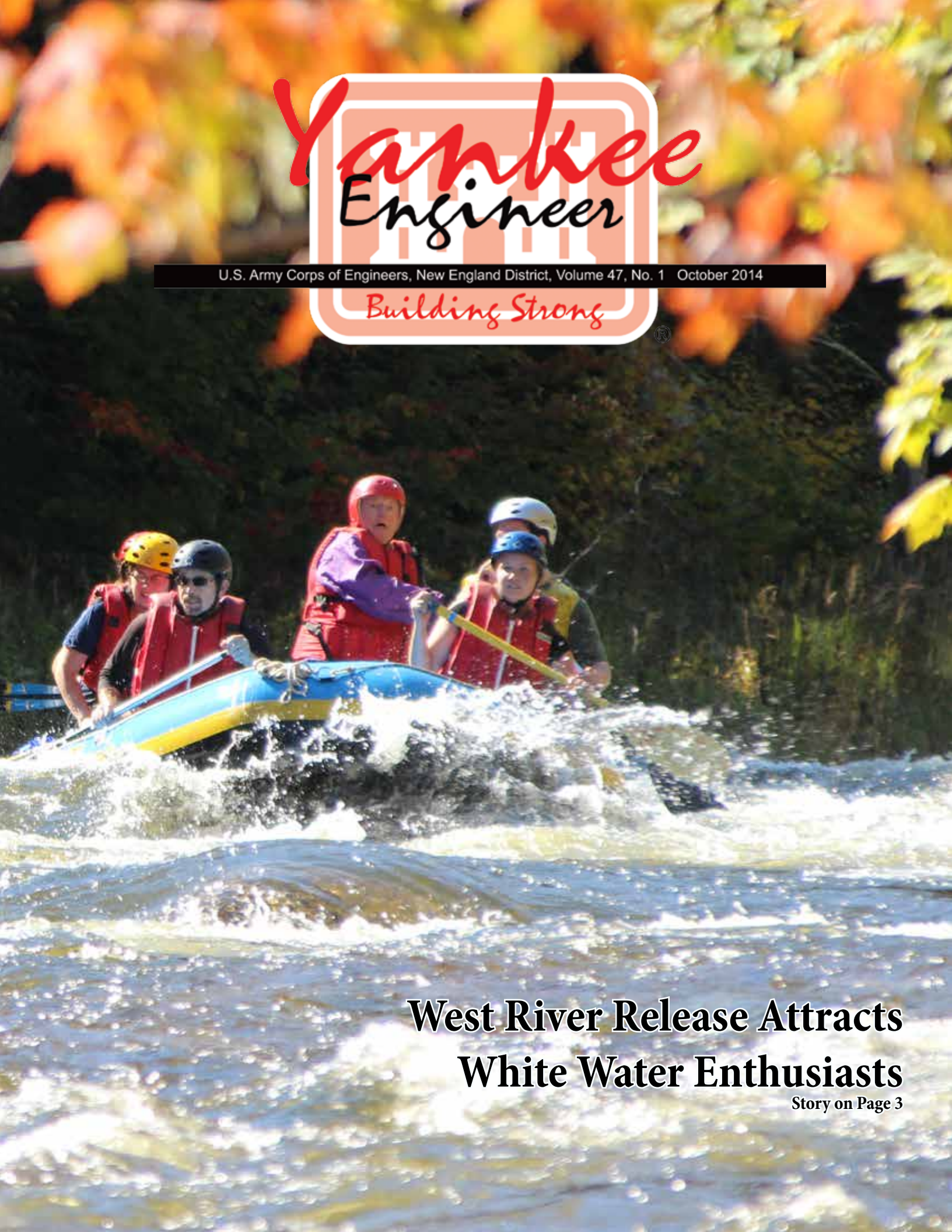
Building Strong®



West River Release Attracts White Water Enthusiasts

Story on Page 3

Yankee Voices

Tim Russell, Bob Giles and Doug Cusson

EAP Can Assist With Ebola Questions

Media coverage about the Ebola virus can cause worry and concern.

If you or a loved one is feeling vulnerable, your Federal Occupational Health (FOH) Employee Assistance Program (EAP) stands ready to assist. EAP counselors are available to provide helpful information and support for a wide range of work and family concerns.

Please visit the EAP's website for information or call at any time -- 24/7 -- to learn more.

The phone numbers to reach someone at the EAP are 800-222-0364 and 888-262-7844 (TTY users). Those interested may also visit the website at www.FOH4YOU.com.

Words Worth Repeating

"A real friend is one who walks in when the rest of the world walks out."

- Walter Winchell

Information on the Ebola Virus

Ebola is a severe, often fatal disease, however according to the Centers of of Disease Control (CDC), the actual danger of an outbreak is extraordinarily low.

How does someone become infected with Ebola? According to the CDC, infection can occur when a person comes in direct contact with body fluids of a person who is sick with or has died from Ebola; with objects contaminated with the virus such as needles and medical equipment; or with infected animals such as the blood, fluids or infected meat.

People who are at the highest risk of becoming infected with Ebola include healthcare workers and the family and friends of a person infected. Ebola can only be spread to others after symptoms begin. According to the CDC, symptoms can appear from two to 21 days after exposure. Those symptoms include fever, headache, diarrhea, vomiting, stomach pain, unexplained bleeding or bruising and muscle pain. Diagnosing Ebola in someone who has been infected for only a few days is difficult because the early symptoms are not specific to the infection and are seen in patients with more commonly occurring diseases. The CDC said that if a person has symptoms of Ebola and has had contact with blood or body fluids of a person sick with Ebola, or contact with objects that have been contaminated with infected animals, the patient should be isolated and public health professionals notified.

What treatments are available to someone infected with Ebola? According to the CDC, there are no specific vaccines or medications that have been proven effective against Ebola and that symptoms are treated as they appear. Timely treatment of Ebola is important but challenging since the disease is difficult to diagnose clinically in the early stages of infection. The CDC states that experimental treatments have been tested and proven effective in some animals but have not yet been evaluated in humans.

How can Ebola be prevented? According to the CDC, when cases of the disease appear, there is increased risk of transmission within healthcare settings. Healthcare workers must be able to recognize a case of Ebola and be ready to use appropriate infection control measures. Those include isolation of patients with Ebola; wearing protective clothing by those caring for Ebola patients; sterilizing equipment, using disinfectants and avoiding touching the bodies of patients who have died from Ebola. For more information, go to the CDC website at www.CDC.gov.

YANKEE ENGINEER is an authorized unofficial Army newspaper under provisions of AR 360-1 published monthly. Views and opinions expressed are not necessarily those of the Department of the Army. Contributions from readers are solicited, but publication depends on judgment of the editor. No payment will be made for contributions. Published by the Public Affairs Office, New England District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 696 Virginia Road, Concord MA 01742-2751, 978-318-8777. Printed by the offset method on recyclable paper by the Defense Printing Office in Boston, Mass. Circulation 1600. The YANKEE ENGINEER can be found on the World Wide Web at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/news/yankee.htm. ON THE COVER: Ball Mountain and Townshend Dams both performed water releases for the enjoyment of watersport enthusiasts. Photo by Dale Berkness.

Rafters enjoy the rapids along the West River in Vermont. Ball Mountain Dam and Townshend Dam both made water releases at the end of September. Photo by Dale Berkness

Vermont Projects Perform Late Summer Water Releases For Public Enjoyment

For Vermont canoeists, kayakers and rafters, there was one last water release along the West River at New England District's Ball Mountain and Townshend Dams to end a successful and enjoyable summer water season at the projects. Controlled releases were made on Sept. 27 and Sept. 28 to provide desired waterflows for watercraft fun. Approximately 1,300 watersport enthusiasts visited Ball Mountain and Townsend where the fun began at 10 a.m. and continued until 3 p.m. Both projects released water at 1,500 cubic feet per second.

On Sept. 28 water releases began at 10 a.m. and lasted until 3:30 p.m. Both projects released another 1,500 cubic feet per second for 600 small watercraft participants to enjoy. The 8-mile run from Ball Mountain to Townshend Lake has Class I-IV rapids. The two September controlled releases were the third this year. The District performed a water release on Aug. 16.

Ball Mountain, located on the West River in Jamaica, attracts 130,000 visitors annually. Other recreational activities include swimming, picnicking, fishing, hunting, nature study and camping at the Winhall Brook Camping Area.

Townshend Dam is located on the West River in Townshend. Recreational opportunities abound at this site as well. Featured opportunities include swimming, picnicking, fishing, hunting and nature study. Townshend welcomes about 81,000 visitors each year.

Although recreational opportunities are an added bonus, Ball Mountain and Townshend were constructed to keep people safe. Ball Mountain Dam began operating as a flood risk management project in 1961. The 915-foot-long, 265-foot-high structure can hold a 54,600-acre-foot reservoir with a capacity to store up to 17.8 billion gallons of water. Ball Mountain cost $11 million to build and has prevented $16.2 million in damages to date.

Townshend Dam was also built in 1961 and is 1,700-feet-long and 133 feet high. Its lake can hold a 33,700-acre – foot reservoir with a capacity to store 10.8 billion gallons of water. Townshend Dam was constructed at a cost of $7.4 million and has prevented $137 million in damages to date. To learn more about year-round recreational opportunities with the New England District, visit http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation.aspx.

Volunteers paint the stairs at Buffumville Park.

Photo by Nicole Giles

Celebrating National Public Lands Day

Citizen stewardship and volunteerism are two very important aspects in keeping New England District projects maintained and looking beautiful. Although this takes place many times throughout the year, it is most concentrated during National Public Lands Day. Every year a call goes out to local residents asking that they come help celebrate their local public lands by performing cleanup work and improvement projects. Every year the call is answered by hundreds of volunteers who aren't afraid to get a little dirty.

Several New England District Flood Risk Management projects celebrated National Public Lands Day -- West Hill, Hodges Village and Buffumville Dams in Massachusetts and Black Rock Lake in Connecticut. National Public Lands Day is the nation's single largest volunteer event that focuses on the care and stewardship of all public lands.

West Hill held its event on Sept. 20 -- the week before Buffumville and Hodges Village so the projects could share team leaders and equipment. Work this year at West Hill Park/Dam included a butterfly/pollinator garden

Photos by Adam Durando

A volunteer plants flowers at West Hill Dam during National Public Lands Day.

A young participant carries flowers for planting at West Hill Dam.

upgrade at the dam site (main dike) with a bench; a fishing access pathway to the inlet channel and brush removal; spreading playground surface material, annual maintenance and aeration; Kestrel and bluebird boxes annual cleaning; brush removal grassland habitat; applying sealant to park bridge railings, planter boxes and benches at the park; annual maintenance of the beach glider swing; seal wood and replace stone dust beneath swings; upgrade the park butterfly garden; annual maintenance of the Woodland Trail; clear water bars, seal bridge deck and brush removal. About 183 volunteers came out for the West Hill event, saving the government approximately $24,540.

Buffumville Lake and Hodges Village Dam once again hosted a large scale event Sept. 27. This year marked Buffumville's 23rd anniversary hosting a National Public Lands Day event. Approximately 112 District team members and volunteers of all ages turned out to lend a hand in completing all scheduled projects for the day.

Projects included trail blazing and trash clean-up at Hodges Village; trash cleanup along Oxford Road at Buffumville; removing invasive species; painting the main stairs in Buffumville Park; wire brushing and painting grills in the park; Island work- fire pit and moving an outhouse at Buffumville Lake; building/installing privacy enclosure for a port-o-john; replacing stair tread and repairing fences at Buffumville Park. Efforts by participants resulted in a savings of $9,561.20 in labor costs.

Black Rock Lake hosted a Girl Scout Troop that came to do its annual maintenance of the butterfly garden. (See side story.)

According to the National Environmental Education Foundation, NPLD began in 1994 with three sites and 700 volunteers. It proved to be a huge success and became a yearly tradition, typically held on the last Saturday in September. Since the first NPLD, the event has grown by leaps and bounds. The Foundation states that in 2013, about 175,000 volunteers worked at 2,237 sites in every state, the District of Columbia, Guam and Puerto Rico.

Photo by Amy Charlton

A Connecticut Girl Scout Troop assists Park Ranger Marissa Wright in improving the Black Rock Lake butterfly garden.

NPLD Project Improves Black Rock Lake Butterfly Garden

By Marissa Wright
Black Rock Lake

Several Girl Scouts and Park Rangers gathered at Black Rock Lake on Sept. 14, to winterize and enhance the native butterfly garden and walking path at the Black Rock Lake in Thomaston, Connecticut.

"This event creates a wonderful opportunity to work with the Girl Scouts in order to enhance and preserve our public lands and resources," said Marissa Wright, NPLD coordinator for Black Rock Lake.

Volunteers rolled up their sleeves at the site to pull weeds, deadhead plantings, and mulch the area.

"The butterfly garden and the field habitat in the area contain native plantings that provide food for butterflies, birds and other wildlife," said Wright.

The Girl Scouts do an extraordinary job each year helping the New England District to maintain the beautiful garden. Black Rock Lake team member Amy Charlton, as well as Wright, assisted the Scouts with the event.

A view of the target emplacements at the Combat Pistol/MP Qualifications range.

Photos by David O'Connor

District Completes Construction of Two Firing Ranges at Fort Devens

Members of the New England District team, in partnership with the Louisville and Huntsville Districts, as well as the Security Construction and Range Control teams at Fort Devens recently completed two firing ranges at Fort Devens, Massachusetts.

Dave O'Connor, Project Engineer and Chris Caisse, Construction Representative from the Central Resident Office, joined partner representatives in conducting a joint final inspection of a combat pistol/MP qualifications range at the installation, Aug. 26.

The joint team thoroughly inspected a total of 96 target emplacements, the Control Tower, classroom, storage room, maintenance area, covered mess, bleachers and ammunition supply building as well as all of the circuitry. "Each of the 96 target emplacements sit on a mound of earth and has complex data and power wiring for the targets," said James Morocco, Chief of the Central Resident Office. "The inspection goes over every emplacement and structure."

During the early stages of construction, the joint team conducted an initial

Firing position structures at the Combat Pistol/MP Qualification Firing Range.

inspection to ensure that the position of the first installed target emplacements and wiring was correct and compatible so that the rest of the emplacements could be installed.

The New England District Team of O'Connor and Caisse made daily inspections of the project as work was ongoing, so it was no surprise that it passed the final, joint inspection.

Front view of the Known Distance Firing Range.

"Usually, an inspection like this takes a full day, but because the project was in top shape, the inspection did not take as long," said Morocco. "This particular team has completed over 100 range inspections this year and they stated that this range is rated in the top two, if not the best they have seen."

Construction on this $3.6 million project began in March and was completed in September. Security Construction of Hudson, Massachusetts, an 8A contractor, performed the work for the New England District. Now that the range has passed inspection, Fort Devens personnel can proceed with installing targets and training Soldiers.

In addition to the combat pistol/MP qualifications range, the District completed a $2.1 million Known Distance (K-D) Range at Fort Devens, passing its final inspection on time and within budget. Construction on the project began in March and was completed in late August.

This project provides the Army and Marines with a 60-lane, multi-use facility that extends to 600 meters at the longest distance. New England District's Nick Skianes, Project Engineer, and Chris Caisse, Construction Representative, oversaw the construction and the daily inspections. Tantara, an 8A, Hubzone Woman-owned business from Worcester, Massachusetts, performed the work for the District. "This is one of the rare times that we had a Design/Build project with an 8A contractor," said Morocco.

The Known Distance range is much different from the combat pistol range. "There is a platform at the far end of the range that is about 8-feet below the level of the shooters," said Morocco. "The targets are on a lift that raises and lowers them. The targets are graded and loaded manually, so there is a person sitting below the target when the person above is shooting."

According to Morocco, there is a canopy for shrapnel that protects the operator. Previously, the targets were lifted by hand, but technology has advanced and the District installed electronic lifters for this project.

Because the range will be used jointly by the Army and Marines, the District built multiple firing points in yards for the Army and in meters for the Marines. "We have a 100-meter shooting spot as well as a 100-yard shooting spot for each shooting position up to the 600-meters," said Morocco.

The New England District has completed three firing ranges for Fort Devens this year alone, making the total firing ranges constructed on the installation at seven. The District will partner with Louisville and Huntsville once again to construct another range in the near future.

"While many people believe that Fort Devens is closed, there is an active Army Reserve containment area as well as nearly 5,000 acres of training area," said Morocco. "This training area hosts an average of 135,000 people annually including military, federal agencies such as the FBI, CIA, DEA, Secret Service and Homeland Security as well as numerous local police departments."

Assisting Fort Devens by constructing these firing range facilities is in keeping with the USACE Campaign Plan initiative, "Support the Warfighter."

Photos courtesy of Deepwater Wind.

The New England District has granted Deepwater Wind a permit to place wind turbines such as this one off of the Block Island Coast. Robert DeSista, Acting Chief, Regulatory/Permitting Division signs the permits for the Block Island Wind Farm and Block Island Transmission System.

Corps Approves Deepwater Wind's Permit Request to Construct Five Wind Turbines Off Block Island Coast

By Timothy Dugan

Public Affairs Office

The New England District on Sept. 4, approved the Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC, and Deepwater Wind Block Island Transmission System, LLC, permit request to construct five wind turbine generators and do other work off the southeast coast of Block Island, Rhode Island.

Workers inspect a wind turbine similar to one that will be placed in the Block Island Wind Farm.

Deepwater Wind Block Island, LLC plans to construct and maintain the Block Island Wind Farm (BIWF), a 30-megawatt offshore wind farm located in Rhode Island waters. The BIWF will consist of five 6-megawatt wind turbine generators (WTG), a submarine cable interconnecting the five WTGs, and a 34.5-kilovolt submarine transmission cable. Deepwater Wind Block Island Transmission System, LLC plans to construct the Block Island Transmission System (BITS), a 34.5-kilovolt alternating current bidirectional submarine transmission cable from Block Island to the Rhode Island mainland (approximately 25.1 miles).

There are two separate permits. One authorizes the five wind turbine generators and the cable linking them to Block Island. The other permit is for the cable from Block Island to Narragansett, Rhode Island, where it will hook up to the power grid.

The authorized work includes:

1) installation of five offshore wind turbine generators (WTGs) and associated foundations including the placement of 0.35 acre of permanent fill;

2) installation of two linear miles of submerged Inter-Array Cable including the placement of up to 0.1 acre of fill

for cable armoring;

3) placement of up to 355 cubic yards of fill for armoring of the Inter-Array Cable at the base of the foundations;

4) installation of 6.2 linear miles of submerged Export Cable including the placement of up to 0.3 acre of fill for cable armoring;

5) Export Cable aerial crossing of approximately 45 linear feet over Trims Pond in the town of New Shoreham (Block Island); and

6) a temporary trench excavated between mean low water and mean high water for the Export Cable landfall at Crescent Beach on Block Island with a temporary disturbance area of approximately 0.01 acre.

The Corps issued a public notice on Oct. 2, 2012 seeking public comment on the proposed Block Island Wind Farm and the Block Island Transmission System. The application for the federal permit was filed with the Corps in compliance with Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, which provides for federal regulation of any work in, or affecting navigable waters of the United States; and with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, which regulates the discharge or fill of material in U.S. waters, including wetlands.

The BIWF and BITS were subject to joint review under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). The Corps public notice, with more detailed information, can be viewed at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Regulatory/PublicNotices.aspx. The Corps permit and Environmental Assessment can be viewed at http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/ProjectsTopics.aspx under "Rhode Island."

For additional information on these permit actions (file # NAE-2009-789 and file # NAE 2012-2724) contact Regulatory Permit Project Manager Michael Elliott by e-mail at: michael.j.elliott@usace.army.mil.

District Awards Contract For Paving Improvement Project at Cold Regions Laboratory

By Timothy Dugan
Public Affairs

A paving improvement project at the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory (CRREL) in Hanover, New Hampshire, will be completed under the terms of a $130,889 contract recently awarded by the New England District.

Work will be accomplished by GT Contracting LLC, of South Lyon, Mich. The contract was awarded on Sept. 15. The work on this project involves improvements to pavement, curbing, entry ramps, drains and manholes which are intended to correct broken and/or uneven pavement, curbing, concrete, and damaged drains or manholes in various locations at the Cold Regions Research and Engineering Laboratory in Hanover.

Tasks include saw cut of existing pavement in particular areas and removal of existing pavement, removal of some curbing and removal of some concrete ramps, removal of base materials to specific depths between 12 to 24 inches, depending on location, creating a solid, compacted base, backfilling and compacting, paving, and sealing all joints.

Work could also include repair of manholes and drains, and placement of filter fabric prior to paving; and resetting of curbing, loam, seed and mulch grass edge. The contractor will furnish all necessary labor, equipment and materials.

The project will be managed by the Corps of Engineers and all work will be accomplished under the supervision of a Corps' Quality Assurance Representative to assure compliance with contract requirements.

For more information about the Corps' New England District contract solicitations for work or contract awards visit the website at: http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/BusinessWithUs/Contracting.aspx.

Repairs to the Bearskin Neck Stone Jetty Repair Project to begin under $2.8M Contract

The New England District recently awarded a $2,889,400 contract to repair the Bearskin Neck Stone Jetty in Rockport, Mass.

Work will be accomplished by Classic Site Solutions, Inc., of Springfield, Mass. Work consists of repairing the 540-foot-long jetty that was damaged by Hurricane Sandy.

Repair work on the Bearskin Neck Stone Jetty supports the USACE Campaign Initiative, "Support the Warfighter."

Work is scheduled to start on or about Oct. 15 and will take about six months to complete.

The Bearskin Neck project, along with the repairs for the Block Island Harbor of Refuge in Block Island, Rhode Island, was featured in the September issue of the Yankee Engineer.

Famous Photographer Comes to Life During Women's Equality Day Celebration

The Federal Women's Program and the Equal Employment Opportunity Office hosted a Women's Equality day Celebration, Aug. 26.

Denise Kammerer-Cody, FWP Manager, thanked everyone for attending and introduced the keynote speaker. Local performer Sally Matson served as the presenter for the event, performing "Margaret Bourke-White…Courageous Photographer."

Sally Matson shows the audience some of Margaret Bourke-White's photographs.

Matson, dressed in period clothes, told Bourke-White's adventures climbing on skyscrapers, leaning out of airplanes and going into war zones. Born in 1904 in the Bronx, New York, to an engineer father and an educated homemaker mother, Bourke-White originally wanted to be a scientist, studying Herpetology, Paleontology and zoology as well as art, swimming and aesthetic dancing at about seven colleges throughout her academic career.

She started to take pictures of the Cornell University Campus as a way to make money, then her career quickly blossomed into industrial photography. Her first cover was Life Magazine, but her first magazine photo came from Fortune. Fortune quickly became one of the leading photographic magazines thanks to Bourke-White, and she gained much recognition in the process.

During her career Bourke-White photographed iconic buildings such as the Chrysler Building and became the first foreign photographer to have unlimited access to the Soviet Union. In 1936 she was recognized as one of the 10 most notable women of her time. While in the Soviet Union, Bourke-White began photographing people instead of buildings. She traveled all over the world and photographed many famous people. One of her most notable photos was of Mohandas Gandhi in 1946. Other people Bourke-White photographed were Franklin D. Roosevelt, Winston Churchill, and Pope Pius XII.

Bourke-White traveled all over the world, photographing images during World War II and the Korean War. She pioneered quality photojournalism and the photo essay. She also published 11 books before her death from Parkinson's Disease in 1971.

After Matson's performance, Lt. Col. Charles Gray, Deputy District Commander, presented her with a Bunker Hill plaque in appreciation for her coming to the District.

President Barack Obama issued a proclamation in recognition of Women's Equality Day stating, "On August 26, 1920, the 19th Amendment was certified, securing for women the fundamental right to vote. The product of decades spent organizing, protesting, and agitating, it was a turning point on the long march toward equality for all, and it inspired generations of courageous women who took up this unfinished struggle in their own time. On the anniversary of this civil rights milestone, we honor the character and perseverance of America's women and all those who work to make the same rights and opportunities possible for our daughters and sons."

Photos by Brian Murphy

Sally Matson as Margaret Bourke-White during the New England District's Women's Equality Day event.

Lane restrictions have begun on the Cape Cod Canal's Sagamore Bridge.

Photo by Kevin Burke

Travel Lane Restrictions Begin on Cape Cod Canal's Sagamore Bridge

By Timothy Dugan
Public Affairs

Travel lane restrictions on the Cape Cod Canal's Sagamore Bridge in Bourne, Mass., began Sept. 22, as the team works to complete the $12.3 million bridge painting project, according to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District officials.

Lane restrictions will be temporary and will avoid dates of peak traffic volume. The plan is to take only one lane daily during 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and leave open one lane going on Cape and two lanes going off Cape. Lane restrictions will be a daily set-up of traffic control devices during daylight hours only. All travel lanes will be open each night and on weekends. This schedule will last three weeks.

Then, after Columbus Day, starting on Tuesday, Oct. 14, Sagamore Bridge travel lanes will be restricted to **ONE LANE IN EACH DIRECTION** – one lane going on Cape and one lane going off Cape daily during 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Additionally, lane closures may be possible on weekends, if needed by the contractor team to complete the bridge work. Workers will begin to dismantle and remove the access platforms and the containment system that were needed on the bridge painting project. This schedule will last to about the end of December when work and cleanup are scheduled to be completed. Motorists should consider avoiding peak travel periods or seeking alternate routes to avoid delays.

During the lane restrictions, no wide loads will be permitted to cross the span, and state and local police will be on duty to assist the motoring public. This bridge work is critical to maintaining the structural integrity of the bridge, which is a vital component to the transportation system of the Cape, the Islands and southeastern Massachusetts.

Message boards and bridge work alert e-mails are used to help inform motorists of pending lane restrictions and bridge work. To sign up for bridge work alert e-mails send an e-mail to CapeCodCanalBridges@usace.army.mil with the subject "Bridge Work Alerts." An e-mail alert is sent when there is a major change to the bridge work status or schedule. The Cape Cod Canal website is http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/CapeCodCanal.aspx.

Additionally, updates are available from the Corps' New England District via Facebook and Twitter: on Facebook: http://www.facebook.com/CorpsNewEngland; on Twitter: http://twitter.com/CorpsNewEngland.

Dredging up the past

Photo by C.J. Allen

From left: Jamie Kordack, Rick Magee, a volunteer group leader and Joe Faloretti go over the project sheets just prior to going out to work during National Public Lands Day in this September 2003 photo.

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