



Yankee Engineer

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Building Strong®

President's FY22 budget funds New England District
flood risk operations and maintenance projects

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Yankee Voices

Lt. Col. Mark Gillman, Chief Master Sgt. Kara Stackpole and
Capt. Gregory Tayetto



Devine named Value Engineering Rising Star

Congratulations to Patricia Devine, Engineering, on her selection as the USACE 2021 Value Engineering "Rising Star" Awardee. Devine was selected for her outstanding leadership in overcoming challenges to deliver a quality Value Engineering (VE) program to New England District. In only two years in the District Value Officer role, she made significant programmatic improvements and added value to the entire VE process.

Devine developed strong relationships with project managers, is seen as an asset to the project delivery, and is often sought for her professional advice. In response to COVID restrictions, Devine successfully implemented the New England District's first ever virtual value studies.

The USACE Value Engineering "Rising Star" award recognizes a USACE professional whose contributions to the VE program are exceptional in their early years of service to the V-CoP; and consistently demonstrate dedication and drive to deliver the highest value to customers.

Deputy Commander visits Westover Air Reserve Base to honor airmen for COVID-19 vaccine efforts

**By Bryan Purtell
Public Affairs Office**

On June 16, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District deputy commander visited Westover Air Reserve Base (ARB) to recognize two outstanding 439th Aeromedical Evacuation Squadron Airmen for their superior COVID-19 vaccination efforts which enabled more than 150 members of the New England District's workforce to receive the vaccine.

Capt. Gregory Tayetto, 439 AES COVID-19 Vaccine Program Coordinator, and Chief Master Sergeant Kara Stackpole, 439 AES Senior Air Reserve Technician, were each presented with the U.S. Army of Corps of Engineers' Bunker Hill Award for extraordinary service by Army Lt. Col. Mark Gillman, New England District deputy commander.

"It's important to recognize these two outstanding Airmen," Gillman said. "The positive impact their actions had cannot be overstated. COVID challenged our workforce's ability to safely do our jobs. Chief Stackpole and Captain Tayetto went above and beyond to serve us so that we could continue serving New England. Your excellent support enabled more than 150 members of our DoD workforce, including our leading edge construction and operations members, to receive the COVID-19 vaccine. Your dedication and positive attitude in supporting the District's and U.S. Army Corps' mission is greatly appreciated."

The New England District operates 33 dams, three hurricane barriers, the Cape Cod Canal, and manages hundreds of millions of dollars in construction projects throughout the six New England states for the federal government each year. The District also manages projects on Westover ARB, where USACE most recently commissioned the Indoor Small Arms Range, a \$10 million facility with 28 firing lanes for weapons utilizing 7.62 mm rounds and below.



Forestdale students make comments on Town Neck Beach project, get a virtual visit from project manager

When the Town Neck Beach Project Manager Mike Riccio put out a public notice for comments on the beach nourishment project in Sandwich, Massachusetts, he didn't expect nearly 100 comments from the 2nd grade class from the Forestdale School. Riccio was so impressed with the comments that he offered to speak to the 11 classrooms of 2nd graders virtually on April 28.

During his presentation, Riccio discussed the role of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) in New England that included the Cape Cod Canal, jetties, erosion and of course, Town Neck Beach. Scott Acone, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/Project Management attended the beginning of the event to say a few words to the kids, and thanked them for their participation in the project process.

After Riccio's presentation, one child from each classroom was given the opportunity to ask a question. The entire event lasted about 30 minutes.

The New England District is proposing a Section 111 Shore Damage Mitigation Study for beach nourishment of Town Neck Beach. The beach has eroded as a result of the Cape Cod Canal Federal Navigation Project (FNP) jetties

at the east entrance of the Canal.

Work on the proposed project would consist of constructing an engineered beach at Town Neck Beach. This would be accomplished using approximately 388,000 cubic yards of beach compatible material that would be dredged, pumped and graded onto Town Neck Beach from a nearshore borrow site adjacent to Scusset Beach.

According to the public notice sent out by Riccio, sediment starvation of the littoral system downdrift of the Cape Cod Canal FNP jetties has resulted in extensive and worsening erosion of the existing beach, which has subsequently and significantly compromised public and private property and infrastructure in the town of Sandwich. Significant loss of the beach and damage to shorefront structures has occurred in recent years, and if the conditions are left unaddressed, those impacts to the community would increase. The recommended plan would restore a barrier beach and dune system to provide protection for the area, and it would reintroduce a substantial amount of material to the impacted littoral system downdrift of the jetties.

Riccio accepted comments on the project until April 3.



Cadets from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute pose with District leadership during their trip to the Cape Cod Canal.



Cape Cod Canal Manager John MacPherson gives the cadets a briefing during their visit.

Worcester Polytechnic Institute cadets visit Cape Cod Canal

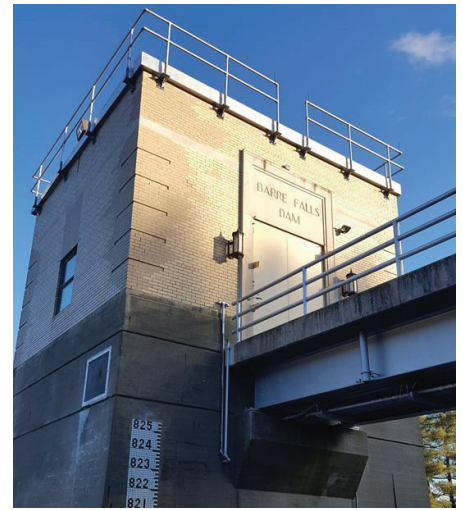
The New England District team at the Cape Cod Canal and District leaders welcomed 13 cadets from the Worcester Polytechnic Institute's U.S. Army Cadet Command (ROTC), engineering major, to the Cape Cod Canal Visitor Center, May 7.

The cadets received a briefing and tour of the Cape Cod Canal's facilities and a briefing by District Leadership provided to help educate the students on some of USACE's missions. As part of the day's event, the cadets received a briefing from Canal Manager John MacPherson on the history, function, and many facets of the Canal and bridges. The students walked the grounds and toured the railroad bridge.

They finished their visit to the Canal with a question and answer period on the broader New England District mission.



A vessel travels through the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier.



Barre Falls Dam gatehouse.

President's FY22 budget funds New England District flood risk operations and maintenance projects

By Bryan Purtell
Public Affairs Office

With the release of the President's Budget for Fiscal Year 2022 (FY22) for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Civil Works program on May 28, the New England District received vital funding for continued operations and maintenance of projects and programs for the next fiscal year beginning Oct. 1.

The budget provides \$6.793 billion in discretionary funding for the Civil Works program, which is the highest annual budget ever proposed for USACE. It includes \$3.445 billion for commercial navigation, \$1.72 billion for flood and storm damage reduction, and \$501 million for aquatic ecosystem restoration. In recent years, the Civil Works program has focused on the maintenance, repair and replacement of the key features of the water resources infrastructure that USACE owns and operates, and on the repair of the aquatic ecosystems that its projects have adversely affected.

In Connecticut, the FY22 budget proposes continuing funding for the operation and maintenance of the eight USACE New England District-managed

flood risk management reservoirs and dams and the Stamford Hurricane Barrier. Additionally, the budget proposes \$401,000 for maintenance work in New Haven Harbor.

In Maine, the budget proposes more than \$1 million in funding for disposal area monitoring and \$4.2 million for maintenance dredging in Searsport Harbor. The proposed budget also includes nearly \$4.3 million for maintenance dredging in Wells Harbor.

In Massachusetts, the budget proposes continuing funding for operation and maintenance of the 12 District-managed flood risk management reservoirs and dams, the Cape Cod Canal and the New Bedford Hurricane Barrier. Additionally, the budget proposes \$13.4 million for Cape Cod Canal navigation maintenance work, \$2.7 million to fund maintenance dredging in Green Harbor, and \$6,000 for a bridge inspection in Plymouth Harbor.

In New Hampshire, the budget proposes \$6.9 million for continuing funding of operation and maintenance of the six District-managed flood risk management reservoirs and dams.

In Rhode Island, the budget

proposes continuing funding for operation and maintenance of the Fox Point Hurricane Barrier and the Woonsocket flood risk management project, and \$350,000 to fund maintenance dredging of Great Salt Pond. Additionally, the budget proposes \$38.6 million to fund maintenance dredging of Providence River and Harbor, \$350,000 for maintenance dredging of the Block Island Harbor of Refuge, and \$500,000 to fund an investigation of navigation improvements in Little Narragansett Bay.

In Vermont, the budget proposes continuing funding for operation and maintenance of the five District-managed flood risk management reservoirs and dams.

Additionally, the New England District anticipates FY22 funding from its higher headquarters for Regulatory permitting activities, the Continuing Authorities Program and other work. Proposed USACE FY22 projects can be looked up by state. The FY22 USACE Civil Works Budget Book is available online at: <https://www.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Budget/>, under the heading Program Budget: Press Books.

Deputy District Engineer attends ribbon cutting ceremony on new recruiting station

Lt. Col. Mark Gillman, Deputy District Engineer, and Realty Specialist Nekeisha Hubert, traveled to Roslindale, Massachusetts to cut the ribbon on a new recruiting center, June 16. They joined Maj. Gen. Kevin Vereen, Commanding General, U.S. Army Recruiting Command, Commissioner Robert Santiago, Veterans Services and members of the Boston Chamber of Commerce at the event.

“The U.S. Army requested a new 1,860-foot station to reach potential service members within the northern boundary of Arnold Arboretum of Harvard University, the southern boundary of Hyde Park, the eastern boundary of Mt. Hope Cemetery and the western boundary of West Roxbury Parkway,” said Lt. Col. Gillman.

According to Gillman, the location was a rare find because of the proximity within the target audience, it’s visibility and amenities.

“Six recruiters will call this new recruiting station home and we are happy to hand over the keys,” he said.

The Deputy Commander told his audience that the New England District takes care of the Real Estate requirements for 247 recruitment facilities co-located in 127 office



Lt. Col. Mark Gillman, joins U.S. Army representatives in cutting the ribbon on the new Roslindale recruitment center.

locations across all six New England states and the Albany, New York recruiting battalions.

“In a given year, our team members put in thousands of miles on the road visiting each location, meeting with recruiters and landlords, and ensuring facilities like this one in Roslindale continue to meet the needs of the mission,” he said.

Lt. Col. Gillman concluded by

thanking the New England District partners and Hubert, who worked hard across two fiscal years to secrete the lease.

“I’m always excited to attend ceremonies to turn over projects to their new owners,” he said. “This new recruiting station will help many young men and women join the ranks of our U.S. Armed Forces and make us a stronger, safer nation.”



Deputy Commander to take command of Fort Drum battalion

Congratulations and best wishes to Lt. Col. Mark Gillman and his family, who have moved on to their next assignment. The Gillman family have relocated to Fort Drum, New York where Gillman took command of the 41st Brigade Engineer Battalion, 2nd BCT, 10th Mountain Division. During a small, off-site goodbye send off, Gillman received the Army Meritorious Service Medal and a framed New England District command flag.



Park Rangers Samantha Hutchins, Athena Mele and Hannah Speranza pose with Bobber and the Royalston Community School kindergarten class before the water safety presentation.



Park Ranger Samantha Hutchins adjusts Park Ranger Hannah Speranza's life jacket during the demonstration.



Park Rangers Hannah Speranza and Samantha Hutchins and Bobber the Water Safety Dog, hand out goodie bags to the students.



Park Rangers Hannah Speranza, Samantha Hutchins and Athena Mele speak with children about water safety during the program.



Park Rangers Samantha Hutchins and Athena Mele join Bobber the Water Safety Dog in engaging the children during the water safety program.

Tully Park Rangers take Water Safety Program to Royalston Kindergartners

The Park Rangers at Tully Lake in Royalston, Massachusetts, emphasize water safety to young residents through special programs held at the project. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, it has not been safe to hold the programs in person, so it has been canceled these past two years as a safety precaution.

The Royalston Community School kindergarten class usually travels to Tully Lake to participate in the program, but this year the Park Rangers at Tully Lake went to them.

"We were asked to drop off water safety supplies to the school so the children would have some engagement with water safety," said Park Ranger Samantha Hutchins. "We decided it would be a lot more fun for the children

if we brought along our friend Bobber the Water Safety Dog to help with educating them on the importance of wearing your life jacket when in and around water."

This year was the first time the Tully Park Rangers went to the school. The special program was held outdoors with the children socially distanced in keeping with the CDC's COVID-19 guidelines.

About 17 children attended the 30-minute program. During the event, Park Rangers Hutchins, Hannah Speranza, Summer Ranger Athena Mele and Bobber the Water Safety Dog hosted the presentation.

After introductions and their roles as New England District team members,

the Park Rangers and Bobber talked about and then demonstrated the proper way to wear a life jacket. During the demonstration, the Park Rangers emphasized the importance of water safety and initiated an interactive discussion about the children's boating experiences.

At the end of the event, the Park Rangers handed out bags of water safety goodies.

"The faculty and students enjoyed the program," said Hutchins. "We hope to continue to do this program yearly with Bobber in attendance, either at Tully Lake recreation area as we previously have, or we will conduct it at the local elementary school again if we are invited back."

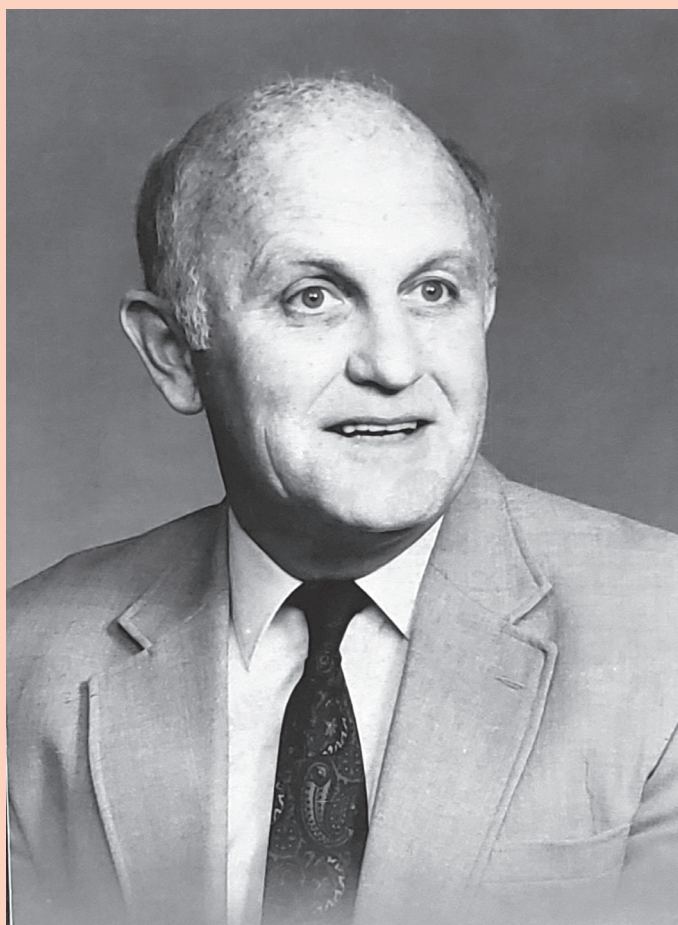
District seeks comments on proposed modifications to the Massachusetts In-Lieu Fee program

The New England District is seeking comments on modifications proposed by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts Department of Fish and Game to the state In-Lieu Fee (ILF) program for the addition of four individual projects.

The Department of Fish and Game is the sponsor of the Massachusetts ILF Program which serves as an alternative form of compensatory mitigation for aquatic resource impacts. The Massachusetts ILF program is authorized by the USACE, New England District. A copy of the signed ILF agreement entitled "Commonwealth of Massachusetts Final In-Lieu Fee Program Instrument," dated May 2014, includes details about the ILF program goals and objectives in general and can be found at the following link: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Portals/74/docs/regulatory/Mitigation/MA/MAILFInstrument.pdf>

These four proposed projects would provide compensatory wetland and stream mitigation for permitted impacts in the following service areas: Coastal South Service Area, Coastal Central Service Area, and Coastal North Service Area.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from members of the public; federal, state and local agencies; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity through July 15. The public notice with more detailed information is available for review on the District website at: <https://www.nae.usace.army.mil/Missions/PublicNotices>, file # NAE-2007-02926. (NAE Press Release)



Gallery member Joseph Finegan remembered

Joseph W. Finegan retired Chief, Water Control Division, Engineering Directorate and Distinguished Civilian Gallery member, passed away May 19.

"Joe was my first 'boss' and was always willing to mentor, coach, and teach new engineers about our water management missions," said Scott Acone, Deputy District Engineer for Programs/Project Management in an announcement to the District about Finegan's passing. "He continued to be an ambassador for the Corps until the end."

Finegan's distinguished career began in June 1956 as an Engineer trainee, and with progressive assignments in planning, design and regulation of various water resource projects, he advanced into more responsible positions, culminating with his selection as Chief, Water Control Division, in June 1988.

He served 17 years as Chief, Reservoir Control Center, a position in which his expertise in the regulation of New England Division reservoirs was, and remains, unparalleled and is widely recognized.

Under Finegan's overall direction the New England Division's new satellite data collection system was integrated to permit the collection of field data at 50 locations in New England and the transmission of that information via an orbiting satellite to Waltham, Massachusetts. His dedicated public service, loyalty and leadership truly exemplified and enhanced the image of a distinguished federal employee. He retired on June 30, 1990.

He is survived by his wife of 60 years, Patricia, daughters Debra and Susan, grandsons Connor and Jack Vasu and his sisters Barbara Forsey and Ruth Izzo.

Dredging up the past



Photo by CJ Allen

Col. Philip Feir, New England District Commander, assists Richard Carlson, retired Chief of Construction in unveiling the Distinguished Civilian Gallery display at the June 23, 2010 Founder's Day ceremony as Judy Carlson and William Scully look on.

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