



FY12 Accomplishments

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District



From the Commander:
 Congratulations on an extremely successful FY12 and an impressive and unbelievable team accomplishment. Over the period of one year you have been absolutely brilliant. FY12 is another year where the Savannah District has set the standard for the South Atlantic Division and in USACE as a whole. Our successes and accomplishments are not only a product of your great effort, but they also demonstrate your ingenuity and ability to solve complex problems and meet our customer's needs. What we have achieved as a whole this year exceeds what we can do as individuals and this is why I am proud to serve with this winning team. The FY12 accomplishments speak for themselves. Thank you once again for another year of outstanding achievement and innovation, and another year of exceptional service to the Army, the other services and the nation. Let's have an even better FY13.
 - Col. Jeffrey M. Hall, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District

What we accomplished:

We placed more than \$1 billion in construction during FY12.

This placement included \$702 million in Military Construction (80 projects); \$273 million in Operations and Maintenance Army (OMA) (242 projects); and \$51.9 million in Civil Works (92 projects).

We turned over 322 projects to customers in FY12.

The turnover included 80 MILCON-funded projects at \$1.44 billion in contract value and 242 OMA-funded projects at \$273 million in contract value. We closed out 204 projects in FY12.

We executed 1,739 contract actions totaling \$676.8 million in FY12.

Our contracting team executed the FY12 workload on schedule. The reimbursable effort at the end of the year resulted in more than 123 contract actions for nearly \$170 million.

We exceeded our small business goals.

Small business contracts awarded in SAS totaled \$288 million, exceeding the district goal of 43.3 percent with a total of 45.36 percent. We continue to provide federal contracting opportunities to qualified small, small disadvantaged, women-owned, service-disabled veteran-owned, HubZone and 8(a) small businesses.

The layout of this report was designed for ease of readership. The total overall numbers for Savannah District are included above. The content on following pages provides more detailed information on FY12 achievements organized by mission areas.

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MILITARY PROGRAM

Our team serves as the Army's lead agency for engineering, design, military construction and real estate services at 11 Army and Air Force installations in Georgia and North Carolina. Our customers include one fourth of the Army and 10 major commands: Army Forces Command, Army Reserve Command, Army Training and Doctrine Command, Army Criminal Investigation Command, Army Special Operations Command, Air Force Special Operations Command, Air Force Air Combatant Command, Air Force Materiel Command, Air Force Reserve Command and the National Security Agency. Our projects range from barracks, headquarters buildings and training ranges to hospitals, child care facilities and aircraft hangars.

Military Construction (MILCON) Overview:

- **Executed 100% of the forecast (locked-in) MILCON program: 19 of 19 projects valued at \$400.7 million.**
- **In addition, we executed 90.48% of the CMR MP03 Metric, exceeding the 85% USACE-wide execution rate.**
- **Executed 100% of the funded reimbursable program: 123 projects valued at \$170 million.**

Major MILCON Accomplishments:

- **Number 1 (again!) in Customer Satisfaction**

The Savannah District has ranked No. 1 in customer satisfaction among Tier 1 districts in the USACE Annual Military Customer Satisfaction Survey with a score of 4.79 out of 5. The survey is conducted every year to determine military installations' satisfaction with engineering agencies that support military construction. This is the **fourth consecutive year** and the **sixth time out of the last seven years** that we have received the highest score. The score reflects our culture of technical competence, unmatched teamwork and loyalty to our military customers.

- **National Recognition from IMCOM and Air Force Customers**

The Savannah District was named the Installation Support Program of the Year by the Army Installation Management Command (IMCOM) for our tremendous work at Fort Bragg, N.C. IMCOM nominated our team for this award, for which we competed with other support agencies throughout the Army. The Savannah District and the Fort Bragg team have worked tirelessly to construct millions of dollars of new facilities for the 82nd Airborne Division, Army Forces Command and Reserve Command, and other units at Fort Bragg. Additionally, IMCOM named our very own Helene Church as Installation Support Professional of the Year, recognizing her outstanding accomplishments as the liaison between the Fort Bragg Directorate of Public Works and the Savannah and Wilmington districts. On the Air Force side, the Savannah District was recognized as the FY11 Air Force Agent of the Year in the construction category. This award highlights our unmatched support to Airmen and their families at Robins Air Force Base, Ga. These awards demonstrate the credibility of the Savannah District as a leader in military programs and customer satisfaction.

- **First LEED Platinum Emergency Services Facility in the Army**



This year, one of our projects officially received certification from the U.S. Green Building Council as a Platinum-level facility on the Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) rating system. Our \$2.6 million Community Emergency Services Station (CESS) at Fort Bragg is the **first of its type to earn Platinum status in the Army**. Platinum is the highest level for building sustainability. Features include a rainwater collection system for washing fire engines and flushing toilets, geothermal heat pumps, solar thermal water heating, drought-tolerant landscaping, recycling of construction waste, and much more. In fact, the project saves 35 percent more energy than a typical facility of its kind. Additionally, the CESS project received national recognition through the 2012

Chief of Engineers Award of Excellence in two sustainability categories: "Lean, Clean and Green" and "Building the Future." Great job to everyone on the team who played a role in the execution of this sustainable facility! This is a major milestone.

- **Other LEED Certifications**



The Savannah District received certification this year for other LEED projects, such as the Forces Command/Reserve Command headquarters (pictured) at Fort Bragg. This \$303 million headquarters received a LEED Gold certification in September 2012. Features include a raised-floor ventilation system, low-flow fixtures, sensor-controlled lighting, use of local construction materials and more. Other projects to earn certification this fiscal year include the LEED Gold Consolidated Support Center at Seymour Johnson Air Force Base, LEED Gold Training Support Center at Fort Bragg, and LEED Gold AIT Barracks 33805 at Fort Gordon. All Corps projects are designed to meet LEED Silver criteria, but only a portion are formally certified by the U.S. Green Building Council.

- **Training Barracks Upgrade Program at Fort Gordon**



As part of our continued support to the Training Barracks Upgrade Program (TBUP), this year the Savannah District awarded \$32.3 million in contracts for two barracks, two Company Operations Facilities and one Battalion Headquarters at Fort Gordon, Ga. The entire TBUP effort at Fort Gordon includes the renovation of 40-year old barracks and supporting facilities to provide adequate living, working, and dining spaces for Soldiers. The transformation will extend the life of the buildings an additional 25 years, while giving the buildings a new look and upgrade to current Army standards. Each barracks renovation, when completed, will have the capacity to house 190

enlisted men and women. The total transformation spans 35 buildings and is being completed in multiple phases. Work began in January 2008 and is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2016.

- **Transforming the 82nd Airborne Division Campus**



This year marked a milestone for the Fort Bragg team as we finished the last new barracks for the 82nd Airborne Division area—signifying the completion of an 18-year, \$973 million transformation of the entire 82nd area and creating more than 7,000 personal living quarters. Since the late '90s, the Savannah District has demolished row upon row of '50s era "Hammerhead" barracks and built new, modern four and six-story barracks in their place. These new barracks have private bedrooms for each Soldier within a two-person suite. Each suite has a shared kitchen, common area and bathroom. The transformation also



includes new dining facilities, Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facilities, Company Operations Facilities and battalion headquarters, allowing the 82nd area to operate much like a college campus (pictured top). The last remaining pieces of the transformation are a new 82nd chapel and Division Headquarters (pictured bottom), which are currently under construction and scheduled for completion in December 2012 and August 2013 respectively.

This has been a long and steadfast effort by the Savannah District, the Fort Bragg Department of Public Works and the 82nd Airborne Division to transform living and working conditions and provide modern facilities for world-class warfighters.

- **New schools at Fort Bragg**

FY12 was a big year for schools at Fort Bragg, N.C. The Savannah District completed construction of two schools, the \$44.2 million Shughart Elementary and Middle School and the \$14.9 million Irwin Intermediate School (pictured below). Additionally, we awarded a \$31.2 million contract in August to construct a new school that will combine the current McNair and Murray schools at Fort Bragg. These schools will service Pre-K through 2nd grade. They combine two existing schools that are more than 50 years old into one new, 139,000 square-foot facility for 800 students.



- **'Topping Out' the Martin Army Community Hospital**



This September, the Savannah District celebrated the placement of the last steel beam on the \$333 million Martin Army Community Hospital project at Fort Benning, Ga. The project is scheduled for completion in autumn 2014 and is one of the largest military construction projects undertaken in the district's history. The contract, awarded to Turner Construction, includes the design and construction of a 745,000-square-foot hospital, almost twice the size of the current hospital. With 70 in-patient beds, the new hospital will serve 78,500 soldiers, military retirees, and families of the Fort Benning community with a range of specialties. The design is split into two wings — a clinic and hospital section, equipped with two parking decks for patients and staff members.

- **Hospital Improvements at Fort Stewart and Fort Bragg**



This January, we broke ground on phase one (\$23.1 million) for a hospital renovation and expansion project at Winn Army Hospital on Fort Stewart, Ga. (pictured). This phase includes a 65,000 square-foot expansion and a 1,000 square-foot alteration to the existing hospital. On Sept. 18, we awarded phase two of the project (\$37.7 million), which will add an emergency room and make extensive renovations (55,000 square feet) to the existing hospital. Additionally, we awarded \$22.4 million in August for renovations to the Womack Army Medical Center at Fort Bragg, N.C. This project will alter 79,000 square feet of the existing hospital, to include the emergency department, pharmacy, family medicine, pediatrics, and

administrative spaces. Supporting our warfighters by providing state-of-the-art medical facilities is an important part of our mission. We are proud to deliver these projects to Soldiers and family members.

- **Supporting Warriors in Transition**

In FY12, the Savannah District completed three major Warrior in Transition (WT) complexes at Fort Stewart, Fort Benning and Fort Bragg, totaling \$91.5 million. At Fort Stewart, the \$25.1 million WT complex includes two barracks that accommodate 240 Soldiers, a Soldier Family Assistance Center (SFAC), and an administrative facility. The admin facility is slated for completion early next fiscal year. At Fort Benning, the \$33.2 million WT complex includes a five-story barracks, SFAC, and an administrative facility. And finally, at Fort Bragg, the \$33.3 million WT complex includes a five-story barracks, SFAC, administrative facility, and a battalion headquarters. As part of the sustainable design, the Fort Bragg WT complex is equipped with large solar panels (pictured) that cover



the parking area. All of these WT facilities help wounded and injured Soldiers rehabilitate or transition back into duty or civilian life.

- **NCO Academy at Fort Bragg**

In July, we awarded a \$38.7 million contract to Caddell Construction Company to construct a new noncommissioned officers (NCO) academy at Fort Bragg. The current NCO Academy is housed in 38 separate World War II-era buildings and no longer meets the Army standards for an NCO Academy. The new facility will provide state-of-the-art classroom facilities, equipped for video teleconferencing and other information technology services. The project will include general instruction buildings, transient barracks, organizational storage facilities, and a multipurpose field and running track.

Centers of Standardization (CoS) Program

The Savannah District is the center of standardization in designing seven types of Army and Air Force facilities constructed worldwide. Under our Centers of Standardization (CoS) Program, we work with Army and AF staff to create, maintain, and monitor design standards for repetitively constructed operational facilities. The standardization of USACE processes and facilities has resulted in significant cost and time savings in executing the military construction program. Savannah's CoS facilities are: Command and Control Facilities (C2F), Brigade Headquarters, Battalion Headquarters (Bde and Bn HQ); Company Operations Facilities (COF); Tactical Equipment Maintenance Facilities (TEMF), Brigade Operations Complexes; and Air Force Battlefield Weather Support Facilities (BWF) assigned to Army installations.

CoS Program Overview:

- **FY12 Total Awarded: 29 projects valued at \$410 million**
- **22 projects awarded for construction based on 100% design (Design-Bid-Build)**
- **Awarded three new CoS MATOCs for western region**



Major CoS Accomplishments:

- Our CoS team conducted Post Occupancy Evaluations for the C2F, Bn/Bde HQ, COF and TEMF designs across multiple installations, including forts Stewart, Bragg, Campbell, Leonard Wood, Riley, Bliss, Carson, and Joint Base Lewis McChord. We documented systemic issues and lessons learned, and we made recommendations for possible revisions to the standard designs.
- We revamped our CADD/BIM hardware and software and re-trained design staff to convert from a Bentley BIM platform to Autodesk Revit platform for vertical design. This conversion and associated training was completed within the first quarter of FY12 to enable the in-house design teams to develop their FY13 projects using Revit. This conversion is proven to be successful, resulting in improved efficiency and production. The in-house design teams have successfully completed three new Revit Adapt-Build Models (100 percent designs) for Bn HQ, COF, and TEMF. These A-B Models will be posted to the USACE CoS website to share with other designers.
- We completed the development and obtained approval from the Army Facility Standardization Committee for a new standard design for Air Force Battlefield Weather Support Facilities (BWF). Projects developed under the BWF standard design will provide operational facilities for Air Force Weather Squadrons/Detachments that are embedded with Army Brigade Combat Teams.
- We reformatted all our assigned standard designs in accordance with a new, standardized format adopted by HQUSACE and the CoS Management Board. This was a significant and labor intensive endeavor, but it ensured conformity in criteria among all CoS programs in USACE. It also gave us an opportunity to re-evaluate all criteria and design references.
- We worked with HQ IMCOM on a proposal to study and define potential renovation/upgrade schemes for legacy COFs and TEMFs. The intent of this effort is to develop schematic design solutions that could be SRM funded and to bring these legacy facilities in compliance with current standard design criteria to the extent feasible.
- We continued to provide design support and conduct compliance reviews for all USACE Districts worldwide. Significant effort was provided to the USACE Far East District in support of the \$10B Yongsan Relocation Program in Korea and Land Partnership Plan efforts.

Regional Centers of Expertise

Savannah District was named by USACE South Atlantic Division as a Regional Center of Expertise in several subject areas. These designations mean that SAS stands ready as a leader in the southeast region to assist and support other districts, state and federal customers in these technical subject areas. We have been named the:

- **Regional Center of Expertise (RCX) for Army Energy Independence**



(shared with Mobile District) – Under this center of expertise, we have developed the Southeast Energy Initiative in partnership with the Department of Energy Savannah River National Laboratory. Through this partnership, we aim to deliver best-value, renewable energy technologies such as solar, biomass, wind, wave and geothermal energy to federal customers in the region, with help from both the public and private sectors. Pictured left: Biomass Cogeneration Facility at the Savannah River Site, a renewable energy source that provides 20 megawatts of electricity and 200,000 pounds of steam per hour.

- **Regional Technical Center of Expertise (RTCX) for Mitigation Bank Development** – Savannah District's Regulatory Division is a leader within USACE for mitigation banking. Through this center of expertise, we aim to support other federal and state agencies in the mitigation banking community and expand our existing program to provide other natural resource banking opportunities in the region.
- **RTCX for Environmental Services** – Through this center of expertise, we aim to ensure retention of in-house technical expertise and contract capacity required to execute the environmental mission requirements of our military and federal agency customers.
- **RTCX for Subsurface Explorations and Geotechnical Materials Testing** (shared with Mobile District) – Savannah is the largest district for materials testing in nation, with world renowned experts and the Corps' most extensive array of subsurface equipment, including an in-house geotech materials testing unit. We support multiple federal customers across the nation with subsurface investigations and geotech testing services. Pictured: John Haskew (left) and Jim Kanady collect a soil sample using a Geoprobe Direct Push Rig.
- **Regional Mandatory Center of Expertise (RMCE) for Real Estate Appraisal** – Our real estate division aims to expand its appraisal program to provide assistance to other government customers in the region.



Environmental and IIS Program

Savannah District's Environmental and Interagency and International Services (IIS) team works with a variety of military, federal and state customers to manage environmental restoration and environmental quality projects, as well as clean-up at Formerly Used Defense Sites throughout the Southeastern U.S.

Program Overview – FY12 Total \$63.5 million

- **Environmental Quality: \$24.6 million**
- **Formerly Used Defense Sites: \$18.1 million**
- **Installation Restoration/Military Munitions: \$11.5 million**
- **BRAC: \$5.1 million**
- **IIS: \$4.1 million**

Environmental Program

The Savannah District awarded 136 task orders (\$45.7 million) and seven contracts under the Environmental Program. The bulk of the workload came in the final quarter of FY12, when 76 of the 134 tasks and two of seven contracts were awarded. A tremendous effort was made by the district team to execute these contracts on a short schedule to meet execution goals. In FY12, 86 percent of these contract obligations were made to 8(a) small business contractors. The 8(a) Small Business Development program aims to bolster qualified minority and other disadvantaged businesses through federal contracts and other preferences.

Interagency and International Services (IIS)

We grew the IIS program more than 300 percent, from \$1 million in FY11 to \$4.1 million in FY12! We managed a total of 13 projects under IIS for customers such as the Federal Law Enforcement Training Center, National Park Service, Fish and Wildlife Service, and Georgia National Guard Bureau. We awarded six task orders at \$3.3 million, and five of those were awarded during the fourth quarter. Main IIS project awarded this year are:

- Construction of shoreline protection revetment around Cockspur Island to protect the Cockspur Island lighthouse foundation from further erosion. The lighthouse (pictured) is part of the Fort Pulaski National Monument. (Customer: NPS – Denver Center)
- Rehabilitation of Dungeness and St. Mary’s concrete floating docks to meet American Disabilities Act standards. These docks are located at the Cumberland Island National Seashore, Georgia. (Customer: NPS – Regional Office)
- Performance Based Contract to perform environmental investigation at the Clay National Guard Center in Atlanta. (Customer – GaNGB)



Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS)



The FUDS program protects human health and the environment and improves public safety by cleaning up contaminations and munitions at sites that were once owned by the Department of Defense. In addition to the FUDS scheduled contract awards, we awarded a \$2 million task order for USACE Headquarters to support risk management activities for Military Munitions Response Program (MMRP) projects nationwide. The FUDS team was recognized for excellence in unexploded ordnance (UXO) safety education for activities supporting work at Camp Wheeler and other MMRP sites. Also, the FUDS project delivery team conducting the records management quality assurance review assessed the Savannah District as *excellent*, the only district in the nation to receive this highest rating.

Civil Works Program

The Civil Works program is diverse and far reaching. It includes:

- Maintaining the Savannah and Brunswick Harbors to ensure that commerce has safe and adequate access to and from Georgia’s commercial terminals;
- Operating and maintaining three hydroelectric dams and reservoirs along the upper Savannah River—Hartwell, Richard B. Russell and J. Strom Thurmond;
- Working in partnership with federal and state agencies to manage water resources along the Savannah River basin;
- Providing data, information and training to assist with state and county hurricane evacuation decision-making.

Program Overview:

In FY12, we executed approximately **\$76.5 million in obligations and approximately \$80.1 million in expenditures** across the Regular, Sustainability, and American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) Investigations, Construction, Regulatory and Operations and Maintenance appropriations.

In most budget categories, we were “green” in executing the funding provided to us by Congress. “Green” means we achieved a fiscal execution rate of more than 95 percent based on our planned obligations and expenditures.

Major Civil Works Accomplishments:

- ### Savannah Harbor Expansion Project - Final Report

FY12 was a momentous year for the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project (SHEP)! In April, we released to the public via a news conference (pictured) our [Final General Re-Evaluation Report \(GRR\)](#) and [Final Environmental Impact Statement \(EIS\)](#). The final report represents the culmination of 13 years of comprehensive study, analysis and coordination with state and federal agencies and the public. Our final report concludes that deepening the harbor to 47 feet is economically viable, environmentally sustainable, and in the best interests of the United States. The final report recommends the **47-foot plan**, which is also called the “National Economic Development” Plan. It will bring an estimated **\$174 million in annual net benefits to the nation** throughout the life of the project (50 years). For every \$1 invested in the project, the nation will receive a \$5.50 return benefit.



Our final report concludes that environmental impacts of deepening the shipping channel can be mitigated to an acceptable level. Mitigation features account for approximately 45 percent of the total project cost, which is estimated at \$652 under FY12 levels. Mitigation includes re-routing the flow of freshwater to reduce impacts to marshlands, purchasing 2,245 acres of freshwater wetlands for the Savannah National Wildlife Refuge, installing a dissolved oxygen injection system, constructing a fish bypass upstream at the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam near Augusta, Ga., and recovering a Civil War-era ironclad from the bottom of the Savannah River, the CSS Georgia. For more information about the final report and the environmental mitigation, please visit our [SHEP website](#).

- ### Chief's Report and Federal Agency Approval



On Aug. 17, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lt. Gen. Thomas P. Bostick released the Chief's Report, granting the agency's approval of the Savannah Harbor Expansion Project. Before the Chief's Report, we received formal approval of SHEP from the three cooperating federal agencies—the Environmental Protection Agency, the Department of Interior (represented by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service), and the Department of Commerce (represented by National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration National Marine Fisheries). The Chief's Report marked an important milestone leading up to the Record of Decision (ROD), which will mark the final step in the process before construction can begin. We anticipate signing of the ROD in November 2012.

- ### Interim Drought Plan Revision Environmental Assessment

In response to a prolonged drought affecting the Savannah River Basin, this year, the Savannah District completed an Environmental Assessment (EA) that provided some long-term changes to our Drought Contingency Plan. The EA provides us with a little more flexibility in the way we manage water levels in the Hartwell, Richard B. Russell and J. Strom Thurmond reservoirs. It reduced outflows in drought levels 2 and 3 during the winter months to help store more water in the reservoirs. It also added stream flow as an indicator for drought trigger levels. In the past, we only used pool elevation to initiate a flow reduction. The water management team now uses the U.S. Geological Survey gauge at the Broad River, located near Bell, Ga. to check stream flow. Because the Broad River is a large, unregulated tributary that flows into the Thurmond reservoir, it provides an accurate representation of natural inflow to the Savannah River Basin. This tributary has a long-recorded history, with more than 70 years of data. Use of stream flow as an index allows us to reduce flows before the reservoirs enter the next drought trigger level. Stream flow will be only used as a secondary indicator during Drought Levels 1 and 2.

- **Hartwell Project Celebrates 50th Anniversary**

FY12 was a symbolic year for the Hartwell Dam and Lake Project, because it marked the 50th anniversary of the completion of the Hartwell Dam and Power Plant in 1962. We celebrated this occasion with a formal ceremony on April 27, 2012—exactly 50 years from the day the Hartwell Power Plant first generated and transmitted power into the grid. More than 350 people attended the ceremony, including representatives from the Savannah District, South Atlantic Division and USACE Headquarters, along with retirees, former construction workers and their families, stakeholders, and Congressional staffers. We also partnered with the community for several anniversary events throughout the year, including a traveling historical photo exhibit.



- **Richard B. Russell Main Circuit Breakers/Static Frequency Converter System**



This year, crews began construction on the installation of the equipment for the main circuit breakers and static frequency converter system at the Russell Dam. When the work is complete it will allow us to operate all four reversible or “pump back” units at the Russell Dam. Currently, three of the four pump back turbines are operational. Pump back turbines reverse direction at night to move water from Thurmond Lake back into Russell Lake. Then, the next day, when power demands are high, the additional water stored overnight is re-generated through the dam to create electricity. It allows us to re-use water over and over again to meet hydropower needs while conserving water within the basin. When

complete, the Russell Dam’s four conventional and four reversible turbines will have a capacity of 668 megawatts of clean, renewable energy. It will be the largest Corps power plant in the eastern U.S. for hydropower production.

- **JST Oxygen Injection System**

This year we completed several modifications to the oxygen injection system at J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake. This system is a required environmental mitigation feature for the Richard B. Russell Pumped Storage Operations that creates a habitat for striped bass that would otherwise be impacted by pump back operations at the Russell Dam. We successfully operated the oxygen injection system during the summer of 2012, allowing the Russell Power Plant to increase the amount of pumped storage and peak power production from the plant for a second summer since the system was completed in 2011. We’ve also finalized a five-year plan for post-construction environmental monitoring that is scheduled to begin in January 2013.

- **Thurmond Lake Campground Partnership Agreement**



The team at J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake made Savannah District history this year by signing the very first cooperative partnership agreement and lease agreement for Corps-managed campgrounds with a non-profit group, Outdoor Recreation and Outreach, Inc. The agreement is estimated to save \$350,000 in federal appropriated recreation funds. Under the agreement, ORO will operate five Corps campgrounds at Thurmond Lake, and camping revenues from those parks will be re-invested in that particular campground instead of going to the U.S. Treasury. This is significant because it allows the Corps to keep more recreation areas open despite declining federal recreation budgets, while providing a funding source for site improvements. This is a tremendous effort by the Thurmond Project and District Team to find creative solutions to provide service to the public.

- **Corps' Bartram Trail named National Recreation Trail**



This spring, the Corps of Engineers' Bartram Trail, located at J. Strom Thurmond Dam and Lake, was designated by the Department of Interior as a National Recreation Trail. Spanning 27 miles, The Bartram Trail is a multi-purpose recreation trail for hiking, walking, and biking. The trail was named after William Bartram, America's first native-born naturalist artist and the first author in the modern genre of writers who portrayed nature through personal experience as well as scientific observation. This national designation reflects great credit on the Thurmond Project as a leader in providing quality outdoor recreation to the region.

- **New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam Section 216 Study**



This year we've made some progress on the process to rehabilitate the New Savannah Bluff Lock and Dam in Augusta, Ga. The City of North Augusta, S.C., has offered to contribute \$300,000 to update the Section 216 study. This study is essential to provide updated data and associated costs for rehabilitating the structure. The Corps built the lock and dam in late 1937 for the federally-authorized purpose of commercial navigation, but since 1979, there has not been a commercial need for lockages through the structure. Even so, the cities of Augusta, Ga., and North Augusta, S.C., heavily rely on the pool formed by the lock and dam for water supply, recreation and economic growth. In 2000, Congress directed the Corps to rehabilitate the structure. After the Section 216 report is complete with updated cost estimates and a revised Environmental Impact Statement, we will be poised to begin rehabilitation (pending funding) and transfer ownership of the structure to the City of North Augusta. We anticipate being able to start the study update in summer of FY13.

Real Estate Program

Our full-service real estate team continued its exceptional service this year. The team buys, manages and sells land for both military and federal government use. The diverse workload spans a broad spectrum from management of recreational lake areas and timber harvesting to leasing military recruitment stations. It also includes land acquisition and property management overseas.

Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP)

- **Expanded HAP: Paid 1,971 applicants a total of \$552 million in benefits**
- **Traditional HAP: Paid 245 applicants a total of \$25 million in benefits**

In January 2012, the Real Estate team was selected to solely administer the Homeowners Assistance Program (HAP) after the consolidation of three National HAP service centers. HAP provides financial assistance to qualifying service members and certain DoD civilian homeowners who suffered financial loss on sale of their homes while relocating during the mortgage crisis or a Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC). This year a group of 55 Savannah District HAP professionals continued to process a record number of benefit payments for Expanded HAP and Traditional HAP (i.e. BRAC-related housing market decline).



Military Leases & Acquisitions

- Acquired 22 leases in support of our overseas mission at \$3 million in annual rent
- Completed acquisition of 25 acres for expansion at Moody Air Force Base, Ga., expansion totaling \$216,000
- Executed \$13.1 million for military recruiting facilities
- Executed major leases for the Army Medical Command that provide off-post medical facilities for soldiers and their families at Fort Benning, Ga., totaling \$185,000 in annual rent with a construction cost of \$861,000.
- Executed a major lease at Fort Stewart, Ga., for the Integrated Disability Evaluation System (IDES) with a construction cost of \$1.1 million and annual rent of \$399,000.
- Fort Gillem, Ga. - Disposed of 1.78 acres to the Associated Credit Union for \$85,000
- Columbus, Ga. US Army Reserve Center - Disposed of 2.2 acres to the Department of Education

- Adrian Rhodes, N.C. Air Force Reserve Center: Disposed of 4.26 acres - Economic Development Conveyance to the City of Wilmington, N.C.
- Disposed of 0.79 acres to the Associated Credit Union for \$130,000 at Fort McPherson, Ga.
- Disposed of .48 acres to the Fort McPherson Credit Union for \$50,000
- Disposed of 0.11 acres to the Veterans Administration at Fort McPherson, Ga. for \$12.5 million

Regulatory Program

The Regulatory Division evaluates permit applications from developers, communities and private citizens who plan construction or excavation near streams and wetlands in the state of Georgia. The Savannah District has authority for issuing permits for the following programs: Section 404 of the Clean Water Act, Section 10 of the Rivers and Harbors Act, and Section 103 of the Marine, Protection, Research and Sanctuaries Act. The team also oversees one of the most robust mitigation banking programs in the nation. Mitigation banks are streams, wetlands or other aquatic areas that have been restored, established, enhanced, or preserved. These lands are used to generate credits that are sold to permittees as compensation for any environmental impacts associated with a USACE permit.

- **FY12 total Program Amount: \$5.1 million**
- **Clean Water Act Section 404 permits awarded: 657**
- **Budget execution – GREEN in all metrics (95% or higher)**

Program Successes:

- **Outreach**

As part of their job duties, members of the Regulatory Division are required to participate in community outreach events to educate the public about the Corps of Engineers Regulatory Program. This year, our outreach program resulted in **574 hours** of community service activities. This is a testament to our team members' dedication as stewards of the environment and stewards of public service.

- **AVATAR**

Our online AVATAR continues to aid the public in understanding the regulatory permitting process, however, the site must be updated to comply with the Americans with Disabilities Act. This year, we awarded a contract that will bring this useful online tool into compliance for those with hearing or visual impairments.

- **General Permit Program**

The Savannah District successfully developed Regional Conditions to allow full implementation of the 2012 Nationwide Permit Program on schedule. All required state approvals were obtained. Also, we re-issued Programmatic General Permit 0083 (PGP 0083) for private single family docks in the coastal counties of Georgia. PGP 0083 is administered by the Georgia Department of Natural Resources (GADNR). If an applicant obtains approval from the GADNR and meets all the conditions of PGP 0083, they automatically have approval from the USACE.



P2 – Project Management Information System

Project Managers throughout USACE use P2 as a standard information tool to facilitate project planning, execution, management and reporting in accordance with the USACE Project Management Business Process (PMBP).

Finishing at the top!

The Savannah District has consistently maintained a leadership position as one of the top performing districts within USACE for the level of P2 data quality, as measured by established HQ USACE metrics. Savannah achieved an average Scheduled Actual Cost score of **99.9 percent**, and Baseline Summary Report score of **100 percent**, resulting in SAS finishing at the top of USACE for each metric in FY12. This is the second year in a row that Savannah District has achieved that ranking.

Major P2 Accomplishments:

- The P2 Team developed a draft set of internal P2 Standard Operating Procedures (SOP). These SOPs document local processes that the SAS team employs in addition to HQ USACE standard business processes. The intent is to ensure that intellectual capital developed locally can readily be transferred to other employees that are new to P2 and/or SAS.
- We supported HAP's high profile "Awaiting Buyer" initiative by creating new P2 projects and budget items, which allowed HAP to certify more than 1,000 purchase requests and commitments (PR&Cs) totaling more than \$175 million in one week's time. This effort was the result of excellent team work and commitment to the mission.

Emergency and Contingency Response

Savannah District's Emergency Management Division stands ready to deploy in response to defense operations and natural disasters, both at home and abroad.

FY12 Program Amount: \$1 Million

- **Overseas Contingency Operations (OCO)**
This year the district deployed 46 team members in support of OCO. We continue to have one of the highest response rates in USACE for this mission.
- **Ohio Severe Storms**
In June, a series of severe storms caused major damage to power lines throughout southern Ohio, leaving thousands of residents without power. After President Obama declared a state of emergency, the Savannah District deployed 12 team members on the Emergency Power Planning and Response Team to support the Corps' Pittsburgh District. These team members helped set up generators to provide temporary power to the area (pictured).



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District

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