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# Yankee Engineer

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*Aerial view of Wells Harbor, Maine.*

## District proposes the maintenance dredging of Wells Harbor federal navigation project

by Timothy Dugan  
Public Affairs Office

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District is proposing to perform maintenance dredging of the federal navigation project at Wells Harbor in Wells, Maine. The proposal also seeks authority to perform maintenance dredging of the federal navigation project, including the channel, anchorage and outer harbor settling basin, over a 10-year period.

“The proposed work in the federal navigation project at Wells Harbor involves maintenance dredging of the entrance channel, the inner harbor channel and anchorage, and the outer harbor settling basin,” said Project Manager Jack Karalius, of the Corps’ New England District, Programs/Project Management Division. “The harbormaster and project users have reported that shoaling in the entrance channel has created hazardous navigation conditions, that the settling basin is

shoaling, and that some moorings have been lost in the anchorage due to shoaling.”

Maintenance dredging of about 110,000 cubic yards of sandy material will restore the full federal navigation project to its authorized dimensions.

The currently-authorized Wells Harbor federal navigation project has an entrance channel with an authorized depth of 8 feet below mean lower low water (MLLW) and an authorized width

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# Yankee Voices



Laura Lally  
WE Committee's Valentine's Day Event

## Sympathy

... to the family of Construction/Operations retiree **Frank Keefe**, who passed away in Florida, Jan. 14.

...to **Marci Montrose**, Hop Brook Lake, on the passing of her father, **Kenneth Montrose**, Jan. 16.

...to **Christopher Way**, Hop Brook Lake, on the passing of his grandfather, **Aurelio Battistoni**, Jan 17.

... to Engineering/Planning retiree **Chiway Hsiung**, on the passing of his mother, **Chung-Hui Hsiung**, Jan. 18.

...to **Richard Heidebrecht**, Engineering/Planning, and his wife, **Cheryl**, on the passing of Cheryl's father, **Thomas A. Specht**, Jan. 27.

...to **Viola Bramel**, West Hill Dam, on the passing of her father, **Adlia Kenneth Bramel**, Jan. 31. Mr. Bramel was a U.S. Navy Veteran and served on the U.S.S. St. LO CVE 63-VC65 and the U.S.S. Little Rock. He was a survivor of the Battle of Leyte Gulf and battle off Samar in the Philippines during WWII.

## The temperature of your decisions

Many factors enter into the decisions and judgments we make: intellectual abilities, access to information, emotional needs. Now scientists have determined that physical temperature can also impact how we see others and how we behave.

Yale psychologists say subjects were casually asked to hold a cup of warm coffee or iced coffee. Then the subjects were given a packet of information about an individual and asked to assess personality traits. Participants assessed the person as significantly "warmer" if they had previously held a warm cup of coffee rather than an iced one. In a second study, participants held either heated or frozen therapeutic packs as part of a product evaluation study. Then they were told they could receive a gift certificate for a friend or a gift for themselves. Those who held the hot pack were more likely to request the gift certificate for the friend, while those who held the cold pack were more likely to take the gift for themselves.

The findings were originally published in the journal "Science."

## Congratulations

...to **Peter Hugh, Scott Acone, Gary LaCroix, Jack Perry, Jennifer Flanagan, Raushanah Muhammad, Tina Krawczyk, Alissa Turner and Brad Schweitzer**, the January – March 2009 Team of the Quarter.

This team is recognized for their focused effort in awarding more than 40 projects for the Veteran's Administration during the busy fiscal year end period just past. The joint effort reflected great team work as the Tech Lead Unit in Design Branch creatively worked with project managers in other branches and divisions to prepare scopes of work, estimates, conduct negotiations and prepare contract award documentation while coordinating very closely with the staff of Contracting Division. The result is that the District was able to award more than \$5.6 million dollars of new work for our VA customer. The team accomplished all these awards while maintaining their already substantial workload.

The team's willingness to commit dozens of night and weekend overtime hours over a good portion of the summer was instrumental to their accomplishing this noteworthy goal. Their actions have helped to establish a more robust relationship, developed trust and positioned NAE for future work supporting another federal partner. The WE Committee thanks The "VA" team for their great service.





## Threatening Email CID Warns of Old Phishing Scam with New Twist

The U.S. Army Criminal Investigation Command, commonly known as CID, is warning the greater Army community of an older internet phishing scam with a new twist. CID wants to make the public aware of how to recognize this scam and what actions to take should someone receive it.

According to the FBI, the “Death Roll Squad” phishing scam originated overseas and has been circulating on the internet for more than five years. These scammers can mask their identities and locations allowing them to strike quickly and then disappear leaving little to no trace behind. The scammers attempt to deceive recipients into revealing personal, banking or financial information.

Much like other foreign email scams, the “DRS” scam preys upon the email recipients’ emotions. This latest version claims to have personal knowledge of and access to the victims, but the new scheme threatens physical violence if victims do not comply with the email’s demands.

Prior email scams, rather than threatening harm to the recipients, appealed to the recipients’ sense of empathy or desire for financial gain.

By doing what was asked of them in the emails, often cashing a check, the recipients were told they would be helping the sender or the sender’s family out of a terrible situation in their country.

Other scam emails promised the victims that if they cashed a check sent to them, they could keep a percentage. These checks were bogus, and the victims were out hundreds, or thousands, of dollars.

As fewer people fall victim to these scams, new email schemes are created. Now with the general public having a

better understanding of what scams are out on the internet, these cyber crooks have moved on to yet another human emotion - fear.

The majority of these scams are mass emails, by which no one person is individually targeted, but rather hundreds of thousands of emails are blindly sent out. They are usually written in such a way that a person receiving one may think that it was addressed specifically to them.

CID has no reports of the scammers acting on the threats

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**Much like other foreign email scams, the 'DRS' scam preys upon the email recipients' emotions.**

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and strongly recommends that Soldiers, civilians and family members who receive any suspi-

cious and/or unsolicited emails should delete them without response. However, if someone receives a threat that they feel is legitimate or has any credibility whatsoever, they should immediately contact law enforcement officials.

The United States Secret Service ([www.secretservice.gov](http://www.secretservice.gov)) and the United States Postal Service (<http://postalinspectors.uspis.gov/>) are the primary U.S. law enforcement agencies dealing with these types of scams. U.S. citizens or residents who have not suffered a financial loss and want to report a scam may forward unsolicited emails to the USSS at [419.fcd@uss.treas.gov](mailto:419.fcd@uss.treas.gov).

People can also file complaints with the Internet Crime Complaint Center (IC3) at [www.ic3.gov/crimeschemes.aspx#item-13](http://www.ic3.gov/crimeschemes.aspx#item-13).

U.S. citizens and residents who have suffered a financial loss should contact the nearest field office of the Secret Service by telephone. Victims are advised to continue reporting these scam e-mails to law enforcement agencies.



Photo by Tim Russell.

*Forwarder sorting logs at landing awaiting pickup and transport to the mill.*

# Logging at Hodges Village Dam

By Park Ranger  
Claudia Jean Hixson

The word, 'logging' stirs up a variety of images and emotions. Some people think of it as simply harvesting a renewable resource. Other people may think of careless logging methods that have left forests damaged, clear-cut and eroded. But well planned logging is a necessary part of healthy forest management.

But why do forests need to be managed? They do just fine without us! Yes they do, in a world where fires can be left to burn, floods may be left to spread and negligent people don't wantonly plunder their waters, trees and inhabitants. But public lands must be managed to foster their health as ecosystems, allow for appropriate recreation opportunities and sometimes consider how the resources themselves can help defray the costs of their management and protection.

In the second year of selected logging operations at Hodges Village

Dam, forester and natural resource specialist, Jan Szwed explains why timber harvesting was a necessary course of action at the project.

**Claudia Hixson:** What is the purpose of logging the project's forested areas?

**Jan Szwed:** Several fold. First, we feel that the forests on the property should be growing good quality saw logs for future generations. In the overstocked white pine stands, we are removing all the poorly formed, crooked trees and trees with double tops that will never make good saw logs. Due to the large quantity of such trees in the forest, their removal will also increase the amount of sunlight on the forest floor and allow for the next generation of white pine to become established.

In other stands, we are harvesting poorly formed and low quality species from the over story to release the white pine regeneration that has developed in the under story. These oak stands are growing on very sandy soils that they do not grow well on but the white pine grows very well on.

In two of the stands being harvested, fires in the past have damaged many of the trunks and the trees are filled with decay. The forest on the project is mainly even aged without a lot of diversity. Harvesting will increase the number of age classes and provide structural diversity of the forest and this should result in increasing the biological diversity of wildlife species, communities and ecosystems on the project.

**CH:** Is it done all at once or at different times?

**JS:** The harvesting is taking place during the winter months in order to protect some rare species of amphibians that live near the stands. They are hibernating at this time and won't be disturbed.

**CH:** Is the whole project going to be cut?

**JS:** No. This sale covers 110 acres in four separate areas.

**CH:** When do you start and how long does the operation go on?

**JS:** It started around the first of December and should be finished in

late March.

**CH:** What are the benefits for the environment and the project?

**JS:** The good quality trees that remain will have space to grow rapidly with less competition for soil nutrients, moisture and light. All the vegetation in the under story will prosper with new species that will provide food and shelter for wildlife. The forest will become more diverse as the years pass and natural regeneration becomes established with tree species that are better suited to the sites.

The remaining trees are the biggest, straightest and in three years or so the forest will be quite aesthetic.

**CH:** How do you select a logging company and how much supervision do they need?

**JS:** Peg Lorenzo of our Real Estate Division in Concord sent out the sale prospectus to approximately a dozen companies. Hull Forest Products of Pamphlet, CT was the high bidder.

At the start of any job it's important that all the employees of the logging company realize that we care a great deal about how we want the forest to look when they are done so keeping an eye on them for a few hours every day is important.

**CH:** How do they know what you want cut if you can't be there?

**JS:** The trees we wanted removed have been marked with blue paint.

**CH:** What is the public's reaction so far?

**JS:** Some people don't care, some don't like it, and others are glad to see the forest being managed for the future.

We hope that the many hikers, bikers, horseback riders and other enthusiast of the woods at Hodges Village Dam will be patient with the clamor and change of scenery.

Very soon, results will be seen in new plant growth, the reestablishment of light-loving birds and animals and even in the opened-up vistas to enjoy as visitors travel along.



*Crane moves new tank system into place at the Cape Cod Canal.*

Photo by Kevin Burke.

## Canal receives new tank system

The Cape Cod Canal implements an environmental based safety back up with a new high tech fuel tank system for the boat basin.

The new system consists of two 3,000 gallon steel tanks contained in a 30 mil polyethylene membrane which will provide secondary containment, according to Roger Mathurin, Supervisor, Marine Operations Center.

“Encasing both the poly and steel tanks is a six inch thick monolithic

reinforced concrete vault to provide two-hour fire protection, ballistic and vehicle impact protection,” he said.

The fuel system holds diesel to fuel patrol boats, the canal's electric truck, dump trucks, slope mower, tractor front end loader, and all diesel-powered equipment at the canal.

The new system, which was operational on Feb. 11, took about two weeks to install.

It replaces two aging 2,000 gallon and one 2,500 gallon tanks that were first installed in the 1960's.

# Lewis and Clark presentation captivates students

The third graders at the Killam School in Reading, Mass., left the world of cell phones and fast food restaurants and traveled back to a much simpler, much harsher time during the New England District's Lewis and Clark (Corps of Discovery) Expedition presentation, Jan. 23. About 74 children split into morning and afternoon groups to participate in the presentation.

Park Rangers Delia Vogel and Viola Bramel lead the children on an interactive 50 minute hands-on journey into the historic adventures of the Corps of Discovery Expedition.

President Thomas Jefferson dreamed of a united country from the Atlantic to Pacific and in 1803, Congress approved his request to have an expeditionary group made up of volunteers from the U.S. Army explore the west to discover the North West Passage – a water route that went across the country.

Jefferson selected Captain Meriwether Lewis, his private secretary, to lead the expedition. Lewis in turn selected a former colleague, Captain William Clark to co-lead the journey. The expedition left Washington, D.C., on July 5, 1803 and concluded in Oregon in March 1806.

The Lewis and Clark expedition has been integrated into many school curriculums and often request the District's presentation. "The children learned about team work, history, hardships and stamina," said Vogel. "They also learned about plants and animals (Jefferson's gift to our nation, a great scientist). These programs can be used to support any subject or curriculum- MCAS."

First the Park Rangers quizzed the children on their knowledge of the Lewis and Clark Expedition, as they are currently studying the subject. "The children were able to answer questions about names, events and tools," said Vogel.

A navigation exercise followed where the Park Rangers selected two students to help with the demonstra-



Photos by Laurie Ward.

*Inset: Park Rangers Viola Bramel and Delia Vogel display the animal mounts used during the presentation. Above: Park Ranger Viola Bramel takes questions from her audience.*

tion. One child was blind folded and the other child was asked to verbally direct the first child across the room. "This really required team work and good directions," said Bramel.

Vogel and Bramel then talked about how the Corps of Discovery prepared for their trip compared to how people prepare for trips today. The children participated in a race to see who could back for the expedition the fastest. Students also tried on period costumes that represented what Colonial Soldiers would have worn.

Now that the students were packed, dressed and ready to go, the Park Rangers then simulated what the first night in camp would have been like, complete with taped sounds of animals the expedition may have heard, while sleeping outside in their tents.

Vogel and Bramel also showed the students various animal mounts of wildlife the team brought back or recorded for President Jefferson and the nation. Park Rangers also talked about the hard times during the expedition to include lack of food and the harsh conditions they some times faced.

Other highlights from the presentation included students tasting birch soda from an American Birch tree, viewing objects from inside the Discovery Trunk that contained items that

the explorers sometime traded with the Native Americas, performing a skit that summarized all they learned during the presentation, and receiving the Corps replica of Peace Medal coins and coloring pages at the day's conclusion.

Based on the enthusiastic participation from the students, Vogel and Bramel believe the event was a success. "It was tremendous," said Bramel. "Our presentation is very hands on and stimulating. They seemed to really enjoy it."

Killam School Teacher Laurie Ward agreed. "The children loved their presentation," she said. "They learned hands on how the 31 explorers traveled over 2,000 miles to the West Coast under President Jefferson's reign."

The Corps celebration of the Corps of Discovery began in 2003 during the bicentennial commemoration that continued through 2006. Interest in the expedition, especially in schools, continues to this day.

In 2008, Vogel and Bramel gave their presentation in five schools – 12 presentations to 376 teachers and students. They have also given the presentation to Boy Scout Troops and other organizations that have requested it through Sally Rigione of the Public Affairs Office.

# District proposes the maintenance dredging of Wells Harbor federal navigation project

*Continued from page 1*

of 100 feet from deep water in the Gulf of Maine, extending northwesterly about 2,050 feet, through the jettied inlet to about the point where the jetties diverge. The navigation channel then reduces in depth to 6 feet below MLLW, turns southerly into the inner harbor, and continues upstream a total of 2,560 feet. The inner harbor channel is also 100 feet wide, except in the bend where it carries a width of 125 feet for a distance of about 950 feet through three turns.

The 6-foot deep MLLW anchorage area is located west of the channel in the area upstream of the channel bend. The anchorage is 350 feet wide, and is tapered at its northern end where it joins the channel. The anchorage is 1,085 feet long, and has an area of about 7.4 acres.

The outer harbor settling basin is located between the shore arms of the two jetties in the outer harbor, is generally rectangular in area, approximately six acres in size, and has been dredged to depths of between 6 and 12 feet below MLLW to provide adequate capacity to intercept shoal material between dredging events.

"The channel provides access to and from the ocean for small commercial fishing, shellfishing, and seasonal recreational craft based at Wells Harbor," Karalius said. "It is the only developed harbor area in the town of Wells and is the largest public anchorage area in Maine between York Harbor in York, and Saco Bay in Saco."

The most recent dredging of the entire federal navigation project was performed in 2000 when approximately 150,000 cubic yards of sand was dredged by a hydraulic pipeline dredge and pumped onto Wells Beach and Drakes Island Beach. Interim dredging of the 8-foot entrance channel by the

government-owned special-purpose dredge CURRITUCK was performed in 2002 and 2004, when approximately 10,000 cubic yards of sand was dredged each time and placed in a nearshore area off of Wells Beach.

The proposed work will be performed by a private contractor under contract to the government. A hydraulic cutterhead dredge will remove the material from the harbor bottom and

by the government-owned dredge CURRITUCK, contingent on availability of the dredge and all required approvals.

An Environmental Assessment for this work is being prepared and will be made available for review upon request. Consultation is being conducted with the National Marine Fisheries Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service to determine that the proposed activity will not significantly affect any species or critical habitat designated as endangered or threatened pursuant to the Endangered Species Act. The proposed work is maintenance involving previously dredged areas and previously used disposal sites and is not likely to affect any cultural or archaeological features or resources.

The Corps is assessing the effects the proposed project is likely to have on Essential Fish Habitat (EFH), and has made a preliminary determination that there will be no significant impacts on the designated fisheries resources. Full determination will be made upon completion of the EFH assessment.

The public notice for this proposed work, with more detailed information, is available for review on the Corps website at <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil>. Select "public services" and then "navigation" and then "public notices" or go directly to the link at: <http://www.nae.usace.army.mil/navigation/pubnot2.asp>.

Public comments on this proposed work should be forwarded no later than March 20 to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District, Programs/Project Management Division (ATTN: Mr. Jack Karalius), 696 Virginia Road, Concord, MA 01742-2751 or by email to [nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil](mailto:nae-pn-nav@usace.army.mil).



*Wells Harbor, Maine*

pump the material by pipeline to the adjacent Wells and Drake Island Beaches, where the town of Wells will beneficially use the sandy material to nourish the eroding beaches. The proposed work will be done in the year or years in which funds become available.

Also, the town of Wells is planning to conduct maintenance dredging, of about 20,000 cubic yards of material, from the town's mooring areas adjacent to the federal project in the inner harbor. This work would be conducted in conjunction with the maintenance of the federal project.

In addition, or as an alternative, to the dredging of the entire Federal project, interim dredging of the 8-foot entrance channel will be performed on an as-needed basis when the channel shoals and creates hazardous navigation conditions.

The outer harbor settling basin and the inner channel may also be included. This interim dredging will be performed

# Dredging up the past . . .



*Abdul Bangora throws a "pie" at Col. Brink Miller, New England Division Engineer, during the NED Wellness Kick-Off Day in this February 9, 1993 photo.*

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