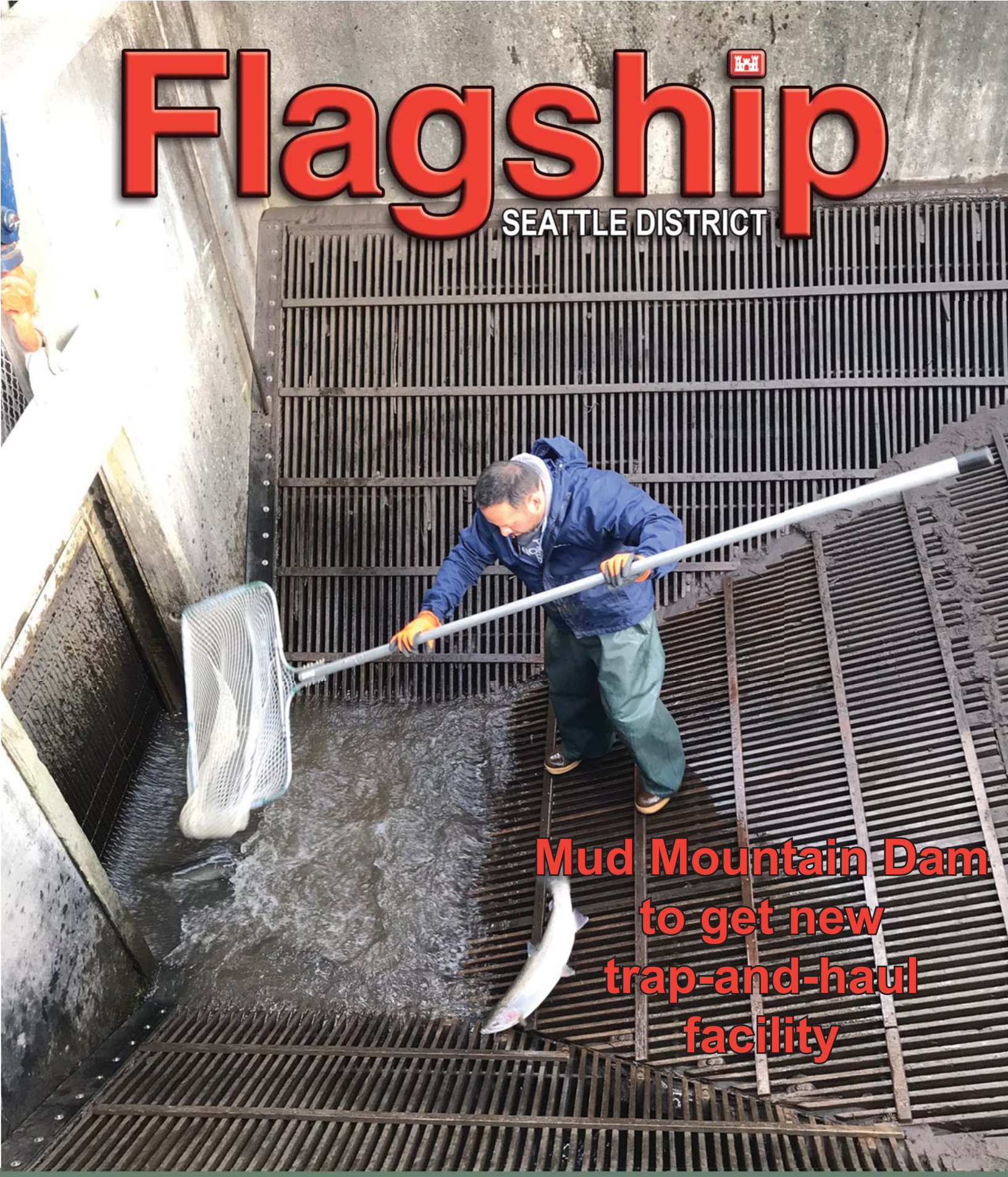
Flagship

SEATTLE DISTRICT



Mud Mountain Dam to get new trap-and-haul facility

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers | April-June 2018 | BUILDING STRONG

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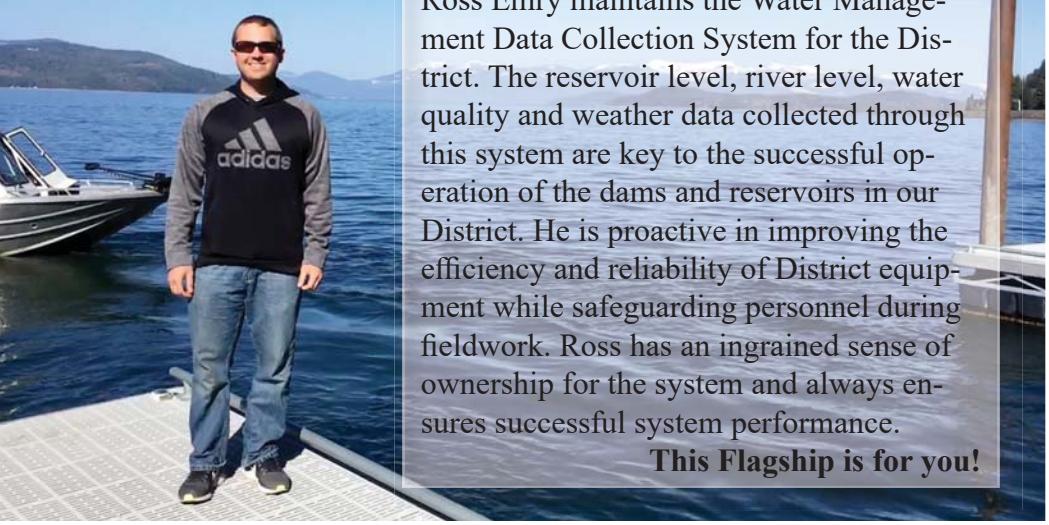
No. 2

Flagship

SEATTLE DISTRICT

What's Inside

Ross Emry: This Flagship is for you



Ross Emry maintains the Water Management Data Collection System for the District. The reservoir level, river level, water quality and weather data collected through this system are key to the successful operation of the dams and reservoirs in our District. He is proactive in improving the efficiency and reliability of District equipment while safeguarding personnel during fieldwork. Ross has an ingrained sense of ownership for the system and always ensures successful system performance.

This Flagship is for you!

Cover:
Puyallup Tribal Fisheries' field biologist Terry Sebastian nets a steelhead at Mud Mountain Dam's 1941-built trap-and-haul facility. The facility was designed to move 20,000 fish annually. The Seattle District awarded a $112 million contract March 14, 2018, to build a new facility designed to transport 60,000 fish a day, upwards of 1.2 million fish per year, during pink salmon run years.

Photo by Bill Dowell

Flagship

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Embracing CE-SOHMS:
A cornerstone of our District Vision

An active safety culture is integral to achieving our District Vision, "Mission First, People Always, Team of Teams." If our teams fail at safety we will expose both our people and our mission execution to undue risk. The USACE Safety and Occupational Health Management System (CE-SOHMS) is our framework to ensure this triad of mission, people, and teams is mutually reinforcing.

By now, I'm hoping you've heard about CE-SOHMS. If you haven't, you will soon as we complete initial CE-SOHMS training by the end of July. Step one for us to foster workplace safety is to begin with this awareness training.

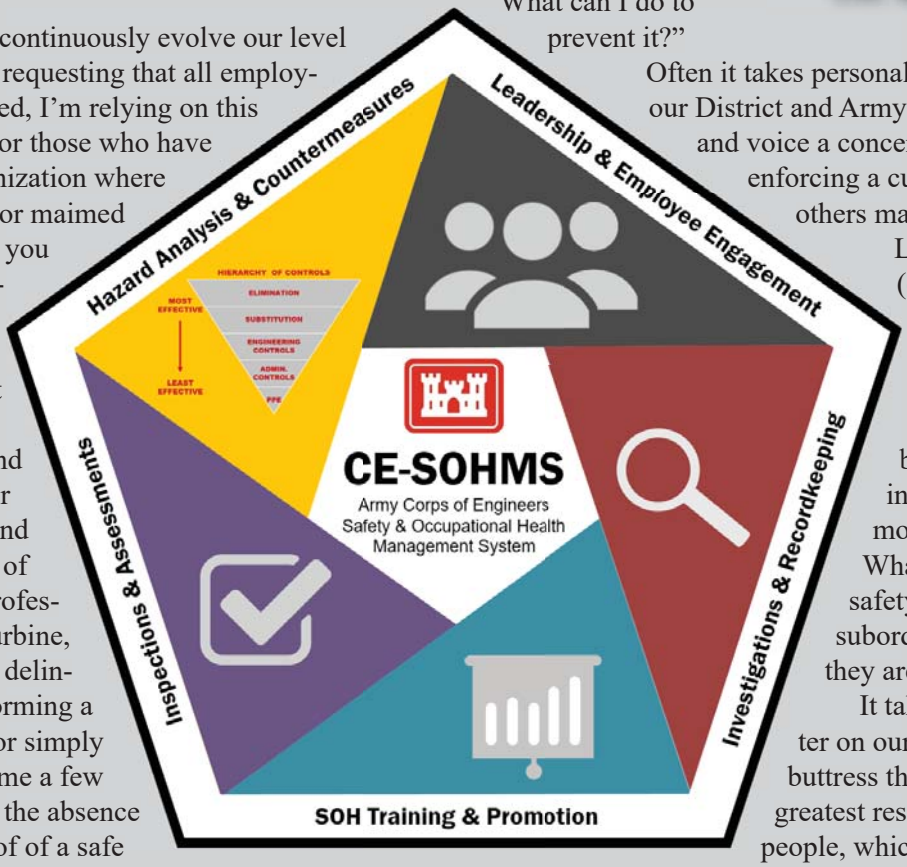
CE-SOHMS isn't a mindless rush to meet generic or over-simplistic standards ("no running with scissors", etc.). Rather than focusing on complying with generic safety requirements, our USACE focus is on moving above and beyond mere compliance to a system of continuous improvement.

For the District to continuously evolve our level of safety, I'm not only requesting that all employees are actively involved, I'm relying on this active participation. For those who have ever served in an organization where a team member is lost or maimed from a safety incident, you know the impact is immediate and devastating across the outfit. I remind you of this, not to churn-up unsettling memories, but to remind everyone of the somber nature of this subject and the unforgiving nature of many aspects of our profession – maintaining a turbine, locking through boats, delineating a wetland, performing a construction site visit or simply driving a vehicle to name a few activities. Remember, the absence of accidents is not proof of a safe operating environment – it can simply be an indicator that we've been lucky.

To remove luck from the equation, I'm relying on each employee to actively participate in fostering a safe working environment. Some examples of ways to get involved include performing activity hazard analyses, assisting in mishap investigations, conducting disciplined inspections, correcting observed hazards and providing safety and health suggestions.

Ask yourself, "What can I do this week to improve the safety of my workplace?" and "Where do I think our next mishap will happen? What can I do to prevent it?"

Seattle District Commander
Col. Mark A. Geraldi



Often it takes personal courage (one of our District and Army Values) to speak up and voice a concern about a hazard or enforcing a culture of safety when others may not.

Leaders of all stripes (crew leaders and supervisors) have a unique opportunity and responsibility to leverage the "fishbowl" that they live in at the workplace to model safe behavior. What you actually do for safety influences what your subordinates do – trust me, they are watching!

It takes the entire roster on our team of teams to buttress the well-being of our greatest resource, our dedicated people, which in turn enables our ability to deliver on our commitments. I know that each of you will do your part to protect our workforce and safely accomplish our mission.

-BUILDING SEATTLE STRONG!

MOVING UPSTREAM

DISTRICT AWARDS $112 MILLION CONTRACT TO BUILD NATION'S LARGEST TRAP-AND-HAUL FACILITY

By Bill Dowell
Public Affairs

A contract to build the largest trap-and-haul fish passage facility in the nation was awarded by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials March 14, 2018.

The project will transport Endangered Species Act-listed and other fish around Mud Mountain Dam near Buckley, Washington. Kiewit Infrastructure West Company's $112 million bid and construction plan for project completion by December 2020 earned it the contract award.

"The contractor's ability to quickly construct an operational facility was one of the primary evaluation criteria," said Seattle District Senior Project Manager Leah Hauenstein. "We expect mobilization for construction to begin in May."

The Corps is pursuing an aggressive schedule to minimize risk to ESA-listed species. Recent years have seen large increases in the White River Chinook run. The 2017 count was 16,271, a 174 percent increase over 2016's 9,347 total, which was the best seen in 71 years of return records.

Preparing for mobilization and construction, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington State Department of Ecology and contractor officials look over the construction site March 29.

With historical lows of only a few dozen Chinook 20 years ago, officials believe recent rebounds are results of collaborative efforts in managing ESA-listed fish and designated critical habitat by officials from the Corps, NOAA Fisheries, Muckleshoot and Puyallup Indian Tribes, and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.

For the Corps' part, officials recently made operational changes at the dam as a result of NOAA Fisheries' 2014 Biological Opinion, referred to as a BiOp. Corps and NOAA officials worked together discussing details about dam operations before NOAA issued the BiOp and its recommendations for some major improvements in the dam's fish passage operations. The fish passage facility this contract will build is the most significant of the recommendations and was also included in the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's March 2015 BiOp.

The Corps' regional design team for this massive project included more than 150 employees from three Corps districts and two architecture and engineering firms. Several regional stakeholders also collaborated in the design, including the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe, Cascade Water Alliance and National Marine Fisheries Service.

Mud Mountain Dam is an earthen, rock-filled structure built by the Corps in 1948 for flood risk management, which also provides for fish passage. The project protects more than 400,000 homes and businesses along the White and Puyallup river valleys, between Buckley and Tacoma, Washington.

During dam construction, the Corps also built a trap-and-haul facility in 1941. It captures salmon and transports them upstream past the dam. It is inadequate by today's standards to move the ESA-listed Puget Sound Steelhead, Puget Sound Chinook, and coastal-Puget Sound and Coastal Bull Trout. The facility will also move non-listed coho and pink salmon.

The 1941-built facility was designed to move 20,000 fish annually. During pink salmon migration, in odd years, it manages to move upwards of 20,000 fish per day. The new facility is designed to transport 60,000 fish a day, upwards of 1.2 million fish per year, during pink run years.

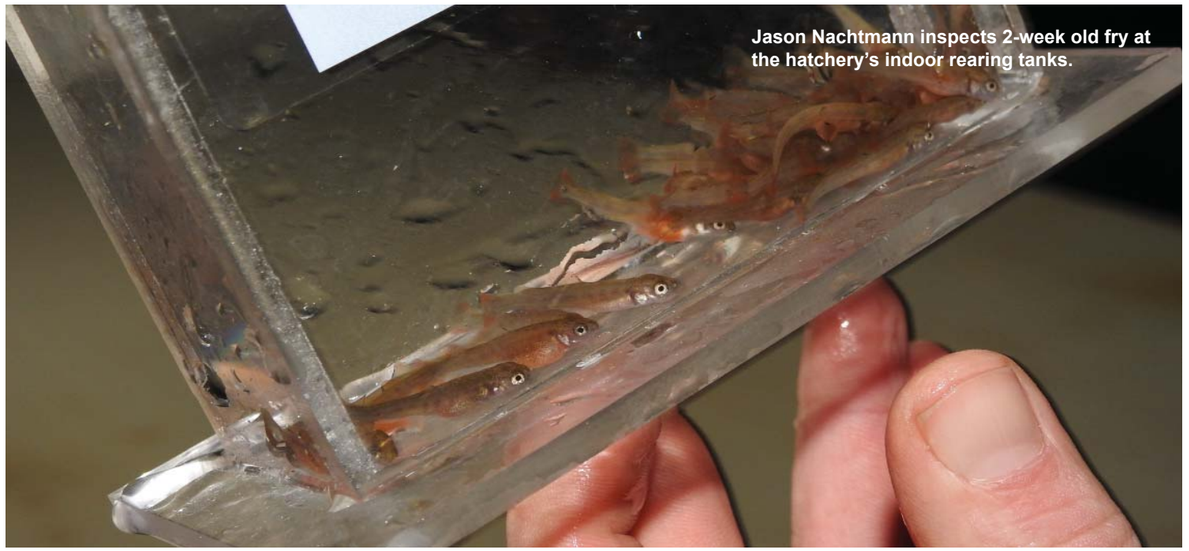
Corps officials worked with land owners in the project footprint, including the Muckleshoot Indian Tribe and Cascade Water Alliance, to acquire needed easements and real estate in time for the March 2018 award date. Corps officials will also continue working with NOAA, U.S. Fish and Wildlife, the tribes, Washington State and stakeholders as they complete construction.

As with any construction project, schedule risks are inherent and include material and labor availability, weather and unanticipated site conditions.

"We're committed, as we know every one of our partners and stakeholders are, to improving fish passage conditions at Mud Mountain Dam as soon as possible," said Hauenstein. "The completed fish passage facility will help restore ESA-listed Chinook salmon, steelhead and bull trout runs, ensuring all fish populations can continue to reach essential upper White River spawning and rearing grounds."

(Top) A model of the proposed fish passage facility is placed over an image of the White River in the location it will be built. Geospatial Section's geographer Justin Jameson and Cartographer Kurt Noble put the image together.

(Below) An image of the current White River location near Buckley Washington. The facility will narrow the river to about 130 feet. This better replicates the natural river channel, allowing Corps operators to move the enormous bedload that flows down the White River and attract fish to the new facility located on the opposite bank from the existing facility.



Jason Nachtmann inspects 2-week old fry at the hatchery's indoor rearing tanks.

Upgrades enhance Murray Springs Fish Hatchery mission

Photos and Story by
Scott Lawrence
Public Affairs

Nestled in the Montana countryside, less than 20 miles from the U.S.-Canadian border, is a little known secret – a fish hatchery owned and maintained by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District, but managed and operated by Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks.

Murray Springs Fish Hatchery was constructed in Eureka, Montana, by the Corps in 1979 to mitigate for the loss of fish spawning habitat in the upper Kootenai River when Libby Dam was built, creating Lake Koocanusa.

The hatchery, named after the artesian springs which supply a steady flow of water at a constant 52 degrees Fahrenheit, is operated by four full-time Montana FWP staff and one seasonal worker.

"When you are designing a hatchery, one of the first things you start looking for is a high-quality water source," said hatchery manager Jason Nachtmann. "This site was chosen because of the quantity and quality of the springs."

What makes Murray Springs truly unique, however, is the hatchery is home to the only Gerrard rainbow trout broodstock in the world. After purchasing Gerrard eggs from the Kootenay Hatchery in British Columbia for more than a decade, Murray Springs Fish Hatchery acquired the broodstock in 2013.

Today the hatchery serves as both a broodstock and production hatchery, producing Gerrard eggs in addition to stocking both Gerrard and Columbia River Redband rainbow trout, Montana's only native rainbow trout.

Each year, the hatchery produces about 130,000 fish with 60,000 destined for Lake Koocanusa and the remainder

(Bottom Left) Christina James fertilizes Gerrard eggs for future broodstock.
(Bottom Right) Christina James takes a half-teaspoon of eggs for future broodstock while John Lord extracts eggs.

going to smaller lakes and recreational fishing ponds in the state.

To maintain steady production, the Corps focused on facility renovations and upgrades in recent years, replacing water pumps and refurbishing fish raceways to enhance species separation, prevent spread of disease and improve water conservation. Although the hatchery generally moves about 3,500 gallons of water per minute, five new pumps are capable of pumping 5,000 gallons per minute about a quarter-mile and 80 feet uphill from the spring to the facility.

Additionally, the Corps purchased a new 300-kilowatt backup generator to be installed in May. Backup power is critical since fish have less than an hour before running out of oxygen if flows are interrupted by power loss.

"The biggest threat to the hatchery's production is a loss of power and an interruption to the delivery of water," said Greg Hoffman, a Corps fish biologist. "The new generator helps address that concern."

The hatchery staff is also putting in supplemental oxygen systems -- regenerative blowers that can pull in atmospheric oxygen and move that through pipes down though the silica similar to what one might see in a fish aquarium.

"It's all about being good environmental stewards," Hoffman said. "It's why we've put so much time, money and energy into improving things here, to restore and create quality fisheries in the Kootenai River valley that were lost when Libby Dam was constructed."

(Top)The Murray Springs Fish Hatchery.
(Left) Mike Guckenberg nets a 6-year-old gerrard rainbow trout for egg extraction.
(Bottom) Jason Nachtmann, Montana Fish, Wildlife and Parks, adjusts the overhead cover on the fish run.

HAM I AM

By Kasey Krall
Public Affairs

Leo Stull, a lock and dam operator at Lake Washington Ship Canal, is a ham radio enthusiast. The American Radio Relay League (ARRL), the national association for Amateur Radio®, defines amateur radio, also known as ham radio, as "a popular hobby and service that brings people, electronics and communication together. People use ham radio to talk across town, around the world, or even into space, all without the Internet or cell phones."

Stull has been a licensed amateur radio operator, also known as a "ham," since June of 2017, but his affinity for the hobby has been around much longer. He became interested during his youth due to his family's involvement – his uncle owned a shop that sold and repaired radios and other electronic equipment. Stull and his grandfather would often visit the shop and Stull would help out by installing components into radios, soldering, and replacing diodes. He would also get the chance to meet and talk to other radio operators who came into the shop.

During his time in the Army as a fire team leader, Stull gained more experience with radios and related equipment. He expanded his knowledge of antennas and learned how to work various types of radios.

There are different sizes and styles of antennas that a ham could use for communication depending on what frequency and band they're utilizing. Stull enjoys testing out different materials for his antennas and often communicates on air with other hams about what they have found works best. "Ninety percent of the hobby is the antenna," Stull explained. "A big part of it is getting involved with other people and learning as you go, sharing ideas of what you experimented with and what works for you and what doesn't."

Stull currently belongs to the Puget Sound Repeater Group (PSRG) and is in the application process to be a Seattle Auxiliary Communication Service (ACS) member. PSRG is comprised of over 200 amateur operators in the Seattle area. They meet on air at 9 a.m. and 9 p.m. daily and host a net, a group getting together to transmit under the guidance of a net administrator, on the very high frequency (VHF) radio spectrum.

The VHF spectrum is usually used for local communication but has the potential to reach other operators within North America, depending on the band meter.

ACS also uses VHF, but the primary goal of this group is to practice readiness during emergency situations. In the event of a breakdown in standard communication forms, ACS members would assist authorities and emergency operations in receiving and transmitting messages. ACS augments the city's emergency disaster response.

Stull said a primary reason for making contact on air is to test equipment and make sure everything is functioning properly. He and other operators committed to assisting during a crucial event want to be certain that their equipment is consistently functional, and daily or weekly tests are the best way to do so.

Left: Lock and Dam Operator Leo Stull, USACE Seattle District employee, at Lake Washington Ship Canal.
Above: Logo of Puget Sound Repeater Group, a local ham radio organization of which Stull is a member.

In addition to communicating through the two locally based VHF groups, Stull is also interested in communicating longer distances with high frequency (HF) radio. HF is capable of traveling intercontinental distances and operators using this spectrum could potentially reach others around the world.

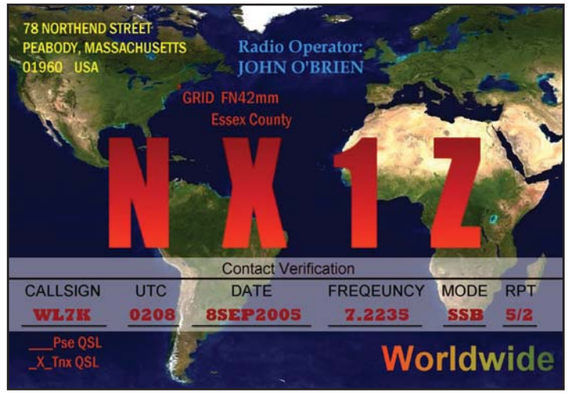
Many ham radio operators enjoy keeping a log of contacts they've made. They usually record the other operator's call sign, location, and the date and time contact was made. Some people even exchange QSL (call sign) cards, like business cards, through the mail. Although Stull has not yet made contact with any operators outside of the country, he has talked to other operators in the Seattle area who have made contact as far away as Canada, England, and even Guam.

"Communicating through ham radio operation really is a great and exciting hobby," Stull said. "You are always learning something from people you meet."

Knowing that he can help keep the lines of communication open when all other methods have failed gives Stull a sense of pride and peace of mind.

"I really enjoy what I do and knowing that I have the capability to communicate during an emergency situation. Ham radio is a valuable asset to our communities during times of need."

Stull is interested in hearing from other Corps members who also have an interest in ham radio operation. He can be reached at lstullsea@comcast.net.



Above: Stull operating in his "ham shack," a space designated for ham radio equipment and activities. (photo courtesy of Leo Stull)

Above left: An example of a QSL (call sign) card. QSL cards are exchanged between hams as a way of recording the date, time, frequency, and other information about a radio contact. These cards are created by the ham and can have a wide range of designs. Many hams keep a collection of QSL cards they have received. An operator's call sign is based on their country/location and is issued with the operator's license. Stull's call sign is KI7OJZ (card created by John J. O'Brien)

Below: Some of Stull's radio equipment, including a new multiband radio. (photo courtesy of Leo Stull)

Utility vehicles are staged in preparation of hurricane recovery efforts near the Aguadilla Area Office. (Courtesy Photo)

Seattle District supports new family in Aguadilla

By Dallas Edwards
Public Affairs

A shaky video taken from a cell phone highlights what made Puerto Rico a memorable assignment for many Corps personnel in the wake of two devastating hurricanes.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' most viewed social media video of 2017 shows a neighborhood somewhere near Aguadilla with a family gathered. What you cannot see is the destruction that hit the area just weeks earlier. The viewer quickly senses the anticipation and realizes there is something about to happen.

Suddenly, the lights turn on in the house and you can hear people off camera excitedly comment, "There it goes!"

The family inside erupts into cheers and starts chanting, "USA! USA!" You can hear a joyful laugh from the individuals near the camera.

In September, Puerto Rico was hit by back-to-back hurricanes, Irma and Maria. The island suffered catastrophic damage, which left most of the island without power.

The Corps identified a need for the Aguadilla Area Office and chose Seattle District to set up and lead it in support of power and restoration efforts in the western part of the island. This initial team consisted of Seattle District Deputy Commander Lt. Col. Andrew Olson, Quality Assurance Representative (QAR) Jim Lampman and Joint Base Lewis McChord Area Engineer Steve Kelley, who were tasked with setting up the office and beginning power restoration in the area. The desire to help the local population drove their efforts to turn the power on quickly. They were surprised by how patient, resilient and appreciative the Puerto Rican people were.

The team wanted to make sure communication with the contractor was strong and so the goal was to co-locate the Corps office with the contractor's area office. They set up shop at Rafael Hernandez Airport, which operated as Ramey Air Force Base up until 1974.

There were other organizations already in place at the site, including The Federal Emergency Management Agency and several military units that focused on providing emergency food, water and medical care to the local population.

"When we arrived in Aguadilla, we operated out of one of the Corps' Emergency Operations trailer," said Lampman. "The first couple of weeks [while waiting for equipment to arrive] were primarily to understand the lay of the land, assimilate the other staff members who arrived and get repairs moving with our contractor Power Secure."

Olson was happy with the contractor from day one and was impressed about their willingness to get the job done as efficiently as possible.

Members of the Corps, PREPA and contractors meet the first morning after contractor crews arrived, November 7, 2017. (Courtesy Photo)

"We were pleased to learn that [restoring power] was something they were used to doing," explained Olson. "They had a really a good idea of what they were doing and how to operate and be efficient in approaching the problem. They simply wanted to get to work and we all had this common goal to turn the lights on from the get-go."

Olson was very proud of everyone on the team's willingness to come together to help the Puerto Rican people.

"As far as the team goes, I was always impressed with everyone's willingness to adapt," said Olson. "As part of this emergency response mission we had individuals with various levels of experience and everyone had an outstanding 'can-do' attitude and I was happy to see everyone come together to get the job done. I was honored to be part of the team."

Some estimates put the damages from the hurricanes in Puerto Rico at nearly $100 billion.

"I'm not sure anyone understood the actual scope of the damage from the hurricane or the condition of the power system before it hit," said Lampman.

Lampman noted the Puerto Rican people's positive attitude and kindness towards the team and that made him proud to be there.

"The vast majority of the locals I had contact with were very interested in how long it would take to restore the power, but also very understanding that it was a long process," said Lampman. "I found the Puerto Rican people to be friendly, with an ability to withstand adversity that I am not sure most of us in the U.S. can match. I have doubts that if parts of the mainland was without electricity for weeks, even months in some cases, that we would handle the situation with as much grace as I saw from them."

Lampman and other QARs would bring stories back to the area office nightly.

"My favorite part of each day was seeing our quality assurance guys come back and share the stories from the local population," said Olson. "People would give our guys food and they were so happy to have them there. They were very warm and receptive to our assistance."

The gratitude shown by the locals was a very memorable part of Olson's deployment.

After power was restored on Thanksgiving Day in a mountain neighborhood, members of the community provided a quick meal to the team. During the gathering, a member of the Puerto Rico Electric Power Authority proudly declared to the team, "Today, you are my family!"

While it was great to see neighborhoods get their electricity turned back on, the thought of other areas without power kept the crews motivated to keep going. Sometimes people would see their neighbors' electricity turned on and they could hear the celebration; they would still go to bed without theirs.

"One thing about power restoration is that the lights in a house are either completely on or the house is completely dark," explained Olson. "One family's world could have just lit up while there friends' nearby are still completely in the dark. Crews were always motivated by seeing the lights turn on – they would be glad for that but had a strong desire to go back and help those who were still in the dark. That feeling of urgency throughout the whole team was very cool."

Seattle District's Ben Puyleart, a Quality Assurance Representative, who was deployed to the Aguadilla Area Office, filmed the video near the town of Anasco. While that video is one snapshot of one neighborhood in the weather torn island, these moments are still happening.

At the end of March, in order to better service the last 4 percent of customers on the island, the Aguadilla office relocated to the eastern mountains of the island in Caguas and it was renamed the Montaña Area Office. In mid-April, the office leadership began to transition from Seattle District to Jacksonville District.

(Left) The Aguadilla Area Office staff hold an evening meeting. (Courtesy Photo) (Bottom) Aguadilla Area Office's Lt. Col. Olson and Oscar Sisquieros pose for a photo with three PREPA authorities and Cabo Rojo Mayor Bobby Ramirez (middle) shortly before power was restored to more than 2,000 residents, November 11, 2017. (Courtesy Photo)

Rural infrastructure gets boost from USACE

By Patricia Graesser
Public Affairs

The City of Worley, Idaho's wastewater collection system had deteriorated to a point where infiltration and inflow entered the system, and partially treated wastewater flowed into Rock Creek when lagoons couldn't contain wastewater long enough for adequate treatment. For Worley, Idaho, federal funds helped the city complete a design for a solution. With a design in hand and additional federal funding, they begin collection system construction this spring.

"Without this funding, we probably couldn't build our project or we'd have to raise our rates so high people wouldn't be able to pay them," said Brenda Morris, Worley Treasurer. "It has been a total benefit to the community."

A 100-year-old steel pipe siphon is replaced, which is a major component of the Bitter Root Irrigation District canal system. (Courtesy Photo)

Under Section 595 of the Water Resources Development Act of 1999, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers can provide design and construction assistance to non-federal sponsors in rural states for water-related environmental infrastructure and resource protection and development projects. Projects may include wastewater treatment, water supply, and related facilities, environmental restoration, and surface water resource protection and development.

The Rural Idaho and Montana Section 595 Environmental Infrastructure Program relies on annual appropriations to deliver needed water supply and storm and waste water improvements to the citizens of rural Idaho and Montana. Seattle District has provided assistance under this authority since 2002.

Managed out of Omaha and Walla Walla Districts, appropriations for Montana are split between the Omaha and Seattle Districts and appropriations for Idaho are split between the Walla Walla and Seattle Districts. Seattle District manages projects west of the continental divide in the state of Montana and in the northern Idaho panhandle area. The districts work closely together to efficiently execute the program.

"Environmental infrastructure all over the state (Idaho) is aging, and the upgrades needed almost always are millions of dollars. It is very difficult for a small town to handle with any kind of a bond," said Karen Kelly, project manager for Idaho projects.

"These projects are a way to quickly get money into local economies to help them with long term sustainability," said Seattle District's 595 Montana program manager Jeff Dillon.

Seattle District has worked with Three Forks, Montana to use the Section 595 program to improve their drinking water system and for design of a water storage and distribution system.

"We used it to extend water lines and loop dead-end lines. We had pipes that

Section 595 appropriations funded a project to improve a dangerous diversion dam in Ravalli County, Montana. (Courtesy photo)

dead-ended and when the fire department would use hydrants, the water in those pipes would churn and people would get rust in their pipes," said Three Forks mayor Steve Hamilton. "We had a one million gallon water tower that had rust in spots and refurbished it so it is as good as new." The Section 595 funding paid for portions of both projects.

"It has been great. We have a reverse osmosis project we're looking at and would consider using the program for that if possible," said Hamilton.

The locals initiate the process with their requests submitted to USACE by U.S. Congress members from their state. Once USACE allocates the projects across the country, Omaha and Walla Walla Districts, as lead districts for Montana and Idaho respectively, assign specific projects for Seattle District oversight.

At times, sponsors are cobbling together funding for projects from a variety of sources.

"The Corps often provides funding that closes the gap for these towns or, as Rural Development often says, we 'ride in on a white horse like a knight in shining armor' to provide the funds necessary for a town to undertake a project that they otherwise couldn't," said Kelly.

The Corps may provide assistance in the form of design-only, design and construction, or construction-only. Some projects may be limited to advancing project design. For construction projects, district engineers review engineering designs and specifications to ensure the project is technically sound. The district staff also ensures environmental compliance and adequate real property to complete the project.

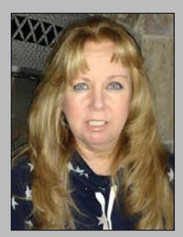
"We work hard to be efficient with this program and keep our overhead low," said Dillon. "Our philosophy is to put as much of the money in the hands of the locals as possible."

"So many towns need, and are deserving of, funding. We work very closely with Idaho Department of Environmental Quality, USDA-Rural Development, and Idaho Department of Commerce to prioritize projects and leverage the funding available from each agency to get the most 'bang for the buck,'" said Kelly.

"The program allows small communities to survive by continuing to help them provide basic environmental services," said Kelly.

Crews work to replace a 100-year-old steel pipe siphon, which is a major component of the Bitter Root Irrigation District canal system. (Courtesy Photo)

Quarterly Awards



Donna Fiscus
Maintenance Control Technician
GS-9 and below

Steven G. Hansen
Lock and Dam Mechanic
GS-10 and above

Sarah Deyermond
Supervisory Contract Specialist
Supervisor

Celebrating Engineers Week

Seattle District USACE employees celebrated National Engineers Week, February 18-24, with some fun lunchtime events, including a bridge building contest and a paper airplane challenge. Bridge building teams were supplied with popsicle sticks, clothes pins, toothpicks, straws, paper, and glue to assemble the sturdiest structures possible. They tested their bridges' load capacity with candy bars, stacking as many as they could before their constructions collapsed. The paper airplane challenge tested participants' coordination and creativity as they attempted to land their planes as close as possible to the bullseyes placed on the first floor. (photos by Kasey Krall)

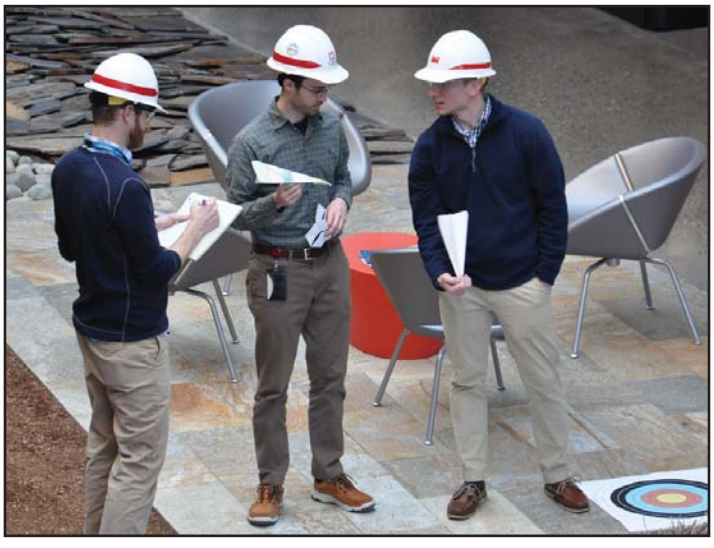
Right: Civil Engineer J.C. Van't Land (left), office support assistant Rian Yena (center), and technical services assistant Norma Franco give their bridge some added stability in the form of colorful straws, one of the materials provided to the teams.

Above: Mechanical engineers Michael Wellner (second from left) and Darius Hajian (second from right), civil engineer Slava Govorushkin (left), and electrical engineer Steve Kuan work together to construct an innovative and sturdy bridge.

Right: Biologist Nathan Malmborg (right) prepares to launch his paper airplane as engineering technician Lawrence Lin (center) and chemist Alison Suess look on.

Above: Mechanical engineer Michael Weigley (left) and electrical engineer Darim Yi test the flexibility of their bridge.

Right: Meteorologist Michael Warner (left), geologist Jonathan Moen (center), and DA intern Thomas Banham deliberate over the winning paper airplane.



Out and About:

Jeff Ross, supervisory contract specialist, passed his CORB and is our newest contracting officer with an unlimited warrant.

Retired/Moving On:

Alan Eastridge
William Roberts
Morgan O'Brien
Rieta Kauzlarich
Susan Smoley

Hurricane/Wildfires:

Blake Backus
Joshua Black
Jennifer Brito
Kelley Brown
Steven Burress
Capt. Lamar Cantelou
Victor Cline
Vincent Daniels
Capt. Joseph Gambino
Thomas Gay
Kyle Gazaway
Darrick Godfrey
Andrew Huddleston
Stephen Lesky
Joseph Marsh
John McAvoy
Ben McKenna
Edward Morente
Caroline Mueller
David Muellerleile
Susan Newby
Kenneth Parsons
1st Lt. Jeff Pendleton
Abigail Pickard
Alison Pieper
Ian Pumo
Will Rackcliff
Victor Ramos
Amy Reese
Robert Reeves
Jonathan Springer
Michael Suh
Jonathan Watson
Michael Wevodau

Deployed:

Mamie Brouwer
David Cook
Sean Doherty
Charles Ifft
Avril Jones
Steven Kelley
Jon Lockhart
Bruce Okumura
John Solomon

Condolences:

Matthew Brookshier, former geologist with Engineering Division, passed away September 14, 2017.

Edward "Lee" Murray, IT specialist, passed away unexpectedly March 26.

Welcome TO THE DISTRICT

Michael Arne
Reality Specialist
Reality Services Br.

Nicholas Cooper
Info. Systems Sec. Officer
ACE-IT

Sharon Dailey
Contract Specialist
Albeni Falls Dam

Brian Fair
DA Intern
Civil Design Section

Connie Grant
Nat. Resource Mgr.
LWSC

Musa Halley
Lock/Dam Operator
LWSC

Christian Jordan
Carpenter
LWSC

Chip Murdock
Safety Specialist
Albeni Falls Dam

Richard Smith
Maintenance Worker
Albeni Falls Dam

Curt Stepp
Contract Specialist
Contracting Div.

Alison Suess
Chemist
Tech. Services Br.

Harry Vicente
Lock/Dam Operator
LWSC

Kevin Welsh
Env/Safety Coordinator
LWSC

Ryan Witmer
Laborer
Libby Dam

Public Affairs Office
Seattle District (CENWS-PA)
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
4735 East Marginal Way South
Seattle, WA 98134-2392

Better Know a Section

The Albeni Falls Project Resource Maintenance Section

The Albeni Falls Project Resource Maintenance Section is responsible for maintenance for the largest recreation mission in the Seattle District. Their primary facilities consist of four USACE campgrounds, three day-use areas and the Clark Fork Drift Yard. The majority of facilities have a significant infrastructure resulting in a wide variety of maintenance challenges. The team is proud of the fact that they strive not only to maintain the facilities but also to improve all parks thus creating a better experience for the 270,000+ visitors they receive annually.

The Albeni Falls Project Resource Maintenance Section is Joseph Fitzgerald, Connor Johnson, Richard Smith and Dale Stolley.