



The Logistician

January 2025

Disposal Accountability

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James Payne of the Memphis District Logistics Office Loads excess property ready for disposal .

USACE Logistics Activity

The Logistician

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For the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), maintaining accountability and efficiency in managing excess and unserviceable property is more than just a routine operation; it's a commitment to upholding fiscal responsibility and environmental stewardship. Through a robust property disposal process, USACE personnel must ensure that every piece of property is handled with precision, whether it's reutilized, transferred, sold, or disposed of.

Caylene Majors, Chief of the Personal Property Management Branch within the Sustainment Division, emphasized the importance of the program: "Property disposal is not merely

about getting rid of excess items. It's about maximizing the value of resources, supporting other federal agencies, and ensuring compliance with regulations. Every piece of equipment has a lifecycle, and we are here to ensure proper management of its end of life through proper disposal, which includes maintaining accountability until the very end."

The USACE property disposal process begins with identifying unserviceable or excess property. Hand Receipt Holders (HRHs) notify the District Property Book Officer (DPBO), who assesses whether the item can be reused or transferred within the organization. "The first



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priority is reutilization within USACE,” Majors explained. “If we can fulfill a need internally, it saves taxpayers’ money and reduces waste.”

Items deemed unnecessary for USACE’s operations are listed on the USACE Excess Marketplace for 14 days, allowing other federal or state agencies to claim them. This practice fosters interagency collaboration and ensures that valuable assets are not wasted. The Excess Marketplace is available at <https://team.usace.army.mil/sites/ULA/PDT/marketplace/default.aspx>.

When items remain unclaimed, they move through additional channels, including the Defense Logistics Agency (DLA), the General Services Administration (GSA), or UNICOR. These organizations facilitate the redistribution, sale, or recycling of property. For surplus property that qualifies, GSA auctions provide an opportunity for public sale, generating revenue that is often reinvested into USACE projects.

Majors highlighted the critical role of trained personnel in this process: “Our team’s expertise ensures every disposal action adheres to complex regulatory requirements. Whether it’s navigating federal property management policies or overseeing public auctions, their attention to detail is unmatched.”

Majors emphasized that because logistics personnel are working across federal organizations with varying processes to dispose of property, additional levels of integrity must be incorporated at the district to ensure that

USACE is doing its part to document and inventory property before disposal.

Sustainability is a cornerstone of USACE’s disposal efforts. For example, the Precious Metals Recovery Program ensures materials like gold and silver are reclaimed for future use. Similarly, hazardous materials, such as printer toner and electronic components, are disposed of through certified programs to mitigate environmental impact.

“We are always looking for ways to minimize waste and promote recycling,” Majors said. “Through programs like USPS BlueEarth, we’ve made it easier for federal agencies to recycle items like ink cartridges responsibly.”

Certain items require specialized handling, from military vehicles to radioactive materials. For these cases, USACE follows stringent guidelines to ensure safety and compliance. Abandonment and destruction are considered last resorts and are conducted only under strict conditions, such as when an item has no commercial value or its disposal cost outweighs potential proceeds.

Majors reflected on the meticulous nature of these processes: “The stakes are high when dealing with specialized property. Our protocols are designed to leave no room for error, ensuring every action aligns with federal regulations and best practices.”

USACE’s commitment to transparency is evident in its policies governing property sales. To prevent conflicts of interest, employees and their

families are prohibited from participating in auctions involving items they previously used or managed.

“Integrity is non-negotiable in our work,” Majors stated. “We must maintain clear boundaries and rigorous oversight; we uphold the trust placed in us by the public and our peers.”

She added that elements like two-person integrity when documenting inventory for disposal can help ensure the high standards of accountability are in place, avoid loss or misuse of property.

The security and integrity of property is ultimately the responsibility of the commander, but when handled properly, logistics personnel can maintain accountability and ensure commanders can focus of the complex missions within their districts.

USACE’s property disposal process is a model of efficiency and accountability. By promoting maximum reutilization, ensuring regulatory compliance, and prioritizing sustainability, the organization exemplifies the best practices in federal property management.

“Our mission goes beyond property disposal,” Majors concluded. “It’s about being responsible stewards of resources, fostering collaboration, and setting a standard of excellence for others to follow.”



Little Rock Logistics Team Transforms Office with Creativity and Teamwork

When the Little Rock District Logistics Team received a new lease, they saw an opportunity to do more than just move offices. They reimagined their workspace, saving thousands of dollars and boosting team morale in the process.

The transformation began with an unexpected inspiration. "I was in Work Force Management for a meeting and they had a nice accent wall about the shade of our walls," Patton recalled. The team took a collaborative approach to design, with Ronda Black collecting paint samples from Home Depot and Lowes. "As a team we sat down and decided the colors," Patton said. "We took the paint samples and laid them against the carpet samples. We wanted to them to blend well together and not show stains!"

Cost-efficiency became a hallmark of their redesign. The team received a price quote from their standard furniture contractor that approached \$12,595 for four cubicles. "After a lot of discussion we found some desks that fit what we wanted, contacted Vibrant Works," Patton explained. "The quote came in at \$369.00 a desk - saving \$10,750.00. We also coordinated with Fort Worth District Logistics who had excess wall lockers that matched - \$0.00 spent!"

The transformation extended beyond desk arrangements. "First I will share that we are in a separate small GSA leased building with only a

few amenities, the only sinks we have are in our restrooms and all our kitchen appliances sit on top of our supply cabinet," Patton said. After completing a digitization project, they repurposed their file room. "We now have a full size refrigerator, in the process of installing an L-shaped cabinet with a kitchen sink, allowing for us to have a separate area for our supplies and our break area," she added. "Hoping to add a small table with chairs so we can enjoy our lunch instead of sitting at our desks."

The open workspace design brought unexpected benefits. "There are no barriers, no walls we can see when someone is on the phone or working on a project - no unintended interruptions," Patton noted. "Conversation flows while still sitting at your computer working - no need to get up and walk around. As a DLM I enjoy the sound of my team talking and laughing while still hitting all the targets!"

The team's approach reflects a deeper philosophy. "We can do anything we set our minds to! We work extremely well as a team!" Patton said. The district facilities committee has taken notice, with members praising the workspace's potential. "What we hear the most is how great this is for team work," Patton explained. "We are hoping with our new work space we can encourage and help others to do the same!"

Ultimately, Patton believes in the power of workplace environment. "We generally spend a lot of time at work and making it comfortable and fun makes individuals want to come to work!"

What began as a simple office move has become a testament to creative problem-solving and team collaboration — proof that with imagination and teamwork, even a workspace can become a source of inspiration.



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New Orleans District Logistics Personnel Receive Awards

**From Brian Pirtle, Mississippi Valley Division
Regional Logistics Planner**

During the New Orleans District winter awards ceremony at the Logistics Office had three employees receive a total of five awards for their outstanding service during Hurricane Francine and for the development of a phone application to improve the uploading of Voyager receipts from the field.

Kevin Calico and Wilbert Mitchell each received a Civilian Service Achievement Medal for their constant monitoring and repairing of emergency power systems during the hurricane Francine on September 11-12, 2024.

During the storm there were several issues with the automated fuel pumping system that were found during surveillance of the system. The issues were trouble shot and repaired, preventing the loss of emergency power during the storm. This prevented the loss of communications between the district and region thereby ensuring the continuing flow of vital information both to and from the district without interruption.

Calico and Mitchell also received a

commander's coin from Col. Cullen Jones for their efforts in mitigating the damage in headquarters building during the storm due to water intrusion. Calico and Mitchell continuously checked all the rooms in the headquarters building for leaks and breaks in the windows and roofing systems. Several areas were found to show signs of water intrusion. These areas were quickly assessed, and measures were put in place to reduce or eliminate damage to the building.

Stewart Hartman along with Tammy Duvic, district safety specialist, were presented Commander's Coins for their development and of a phone application to work with the current New Orleans District phone app that allows the field site personnel to upload their Voyager Receipts directly to an inbox, so they do not have to keep, handle, scan, or email in their receipts to transportation. This has helped prevent many lost receipts, increased readability of the receipts, increased efficiency and reduced the number of reported errors for voyager transactions.



Kevin Calico

Stewart Hartman

Wilbert Mitchell



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Logistics Team Executes Safe and Efficient Boat Recovery Mission in Ohio

The logistics team at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Pittsburgh District demonstrated expertise and commitment by completing a challenging recovery mission for the Berlin Lake field site in Ohio. Led by Jason Shackleford and assisted by Justin Nalley, the team safely retrieved an inoperable boat and trailer, overcoming significant logistical challenges.

The request for support came from Vanessa Bishop, Supervisory Natural Resources Specialist at Berlin Lake. Bishop sought assistance with an out-of-service boat and trailer, which was deemed unsafe for towing and was sinking into the ground. After evaluating photos of the equipment and discussing potential options, the logistics team determined it would not be cost-effective to repair the trailer for transport.

Shackleford explained the planning process that followed. "I decided to contact Thomas Markish, the Maintenance Supervisor, Huntington District Pittsburgh Repair Fleet (R3F-PRS) on Neville Island, to utilize their GSA rollback recovery vehicle. I have years of experience operating that vehicle when I was previously assigned to the R3F-PRS," he said.

Once access to the rollback vehicle was confirmed, the team carefully prepared for the mission. Shackleford detailed the methodical steps taken to ensure a safe and efficient recovery. "I began accessing the situation more by obtaining complete measurements of the

vehicle, boat, and trailer. It was determined that the project site would have to move the boat and trailer to a location that I could gain access to recover the property," he said.

The team also addressed a critical challenge: the boat's engine created an overhang that exceeded the rollback vehicle's limits. Shackleford requested that the engine be removed and placed inside the boat to ensure safe transport. During the recovery, Shackleford operated the vehicle while Nalley served as a spotter, ensuring the safety of personnel and equipment. After securely loading the boat and trailer, the team transported them 80 miles to the Neville Island disposal site.

"Knowing the vehicle limits and the load being secured, it became an easy and flawless recovery only requiring myself as the operator and Mr. Nalley as the spotter," Shackleford said.



The successful completion of this mission highlights the logistics team's dedication to supporting field sites. "Completing this mission demonstrates the logistics team's effort to go above and beyond to assist a project site who may have limited resources or personnel to get the job done," Shackleford said.

The lessons learned from this operation—meticulous planning, equipment expertise, and a focus on safety—serve as a model for future missions, underscoring the vital role of logistics in the USACE's efforts to support its field sites.



The logistics team was able to remove the damaged boat for disposal. (Courtesy photo.)



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St. Louis District Logistics Office Improves Disposal Procedures

From Brian Pirtle, Mississippi Valley Division Regional Logistics Planner

This month's Mississippi Valley Division spotlight shines bright on the St. Louis District Logistics Office (DLO) Supply Team for realigning property disposal procedures to better meet the needs of the district as well as improved the overall property management transactional process. In doing so, team lead Debra Millender established designated dates and times bi-monthly at the district to execute turn-ins for the 32 offices at the district headquarters as well as dedicated dates and times for the 15 area offices at the logistics warehouse located 20 minutes from the district headquarters.

This process recently enabled the office to flawlessly execute a UNICOR turn-in of property valued at \$1,074,411.98.00. By streamlining operations and thinking of ways to improve processes such as this brings great credit to the level of support the DLO provides to the district and ensures excess property disposal procedures are executed properly and efficiently. Ultimately, the new adopted process has enabled the clearing of the district disposal hand receipt account well ahead of anticipated new directives on managing disposal accounts. The St. Louis District Supply team consisting of Debra Millender and Prather Alexander (shown in pics) are dedicated to providing the best possible customer service and experience while simultaneously maintaining compliance with local and agency applicable policies, procedures, and regulations.



Debra Millender moves excess property in preparation for disposal. (Courtesy photo.)



Prather Alexander loads excess property into a truck. Total property disposed of was valued at more than one million dollars. (Courtesy photo.)



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Excellence in Logistics: Insights from the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center Assessment

Huntsville Engineering and Support Center (HNC) recently underwent a logistics assessment by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Logistics Activity's (ULA) Logistics Assessment Branch (LAB). Chris Farmer, Chief of the LAB, led the December assessment, which offered unique insights into HNC's operations and best practices.

"Huntsville Engineering and Support Center is unique, to say the least," Farmer said. "They have their fair share of USACE missions, including facilities design, medical facilities standardization, and the Tri-Service Automated Cost Engineering System (TRACES), which involves collaboration with the U.S. Air Force and Navy."

One of the standout aspects of HNC's Logistics Management Office (LMO) is its exceptional handling of excess property management. According to Farmer, the LMO team has "mastered the processes associated with excess turn-in, leveraging the installation Defense Logistics Agency to their fullest potential." By doing so, they avoid reliance on a Supply Support Activity (SSA) located a half-day's drive away, ensuring efficiency in their operations.

"Without a shadow of a doubt, the District Logistics Manager Christopher Demarcus and his team have cornered the market in excess disposal property management," Farmer said.

The HNC Logistics Management Office's teamwork was another highlight of the assessment. The close collaboration within the office supports the center's critical missions seamlessly.

"Mr. Demarcus has a reserved spot at the table for



The Huntsville Engineering and Support Center Logistics Office and the Logistics Assessment Branch. (Courtesy photo.)

critical daily operational processes across the Center," Farmer said. "When accountable property is received, whether inbound or outbound, his team touches it all. This level of integration ensures property is quickly brought to record." The office's contract logistics support further enhances its ability to cover satellite offices across the USACE footprint.

HNC's recent move into a state-of-the-art facility presented new opportunities for the LAB team to assess. Farmer noted the building's one-year warranty, an uncommon feature for USACE facilities, and its potential to streamline operations.

"The command has reduced their overall footprint by consolidating numerous buildings into the new facility," Farmer said. "Starting February 1, 2025, the LMO will assume a more robust role in facility management, supported by facility contracts to aid in managing this advanced space."

The assessment took place

from December 2 to 5, 2024, with a robust team led by Farmer, including supply assessor Stacy West, transportation assessor Michael Vance, and facilities assessor Theron Hall. They worked closely with HNC's LMO staff, including Christopher Demarcus, Antonio Bonnette, Russ Quimby, Trenton Hager, Winston Greene, Jeff Rowe, Monty Spicer, and Kevin Davidson.

The HNC command team's response to the assessment was overwhelmingly positive.

"The command team appreciated the external look the assessors provided and the sharing of successful processes seen across the USACE enterprise," Farmer said. "Overall, the assessment validated the successes and contributions the Logistics Management Office provides daily to the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center."



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Streamlining Logistics: How QLDMS is Improving

USACE Logistics Operations

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is leveraging cutting-edge technology to streamline its logistics processes and enhance efficiency across the organization. The Quality Logistics Data Management System (QLDMS), a secure, web-based application, is reshaping how logistics data is managed, analyzed, and utilized. Eric Kersey, the QLDMS Program Manager, recently shared insights into the system's development, features, and impact.

"QLDMS facilitates and supports the performance functions involved in logistics areas such as facilities management, emergency operations, transportation, sustainment, and business process re-engineering," said Kersey. "It enables data analysis, enhances process improvement, and expands standardized logistics processes throughout USACE."

Inspired by the need for a consolidated data repository for the Command Logistics Review Program (CLRP) assessments, QLDMS replaces outdated paper-based processes with a robust electronic system. Kersey highlighted its role in providing a comprehensive snapshot of logistics readiness while integrating stakeholder requirements to ensure compliance with cross-functional logistics regulations.

One of the system's standout features is its electronic pre-assessment process. "Thirty days prior to the onsite assessment, the assessment is opened in QLDMS, allowing personnel to answer checklist questions, provide comments, and upload supporting

documentation," said Kersey. This approach completes approximately 80% of the assessment before the evaluation team's arrival, minimizing disruptions to daily operations and reducing travel costs.

Another significant capability is the tracking of corrective actions.

"Once a deficiency is identified, a corrective action is entered into QLDMS. A deficiency report is generated 30 days later, and a briefing is held with stakeholders," said Kersey. "This prevents similar problems and improves processes, ensuring issues are addressed at their root cause."

At the district and division levels, QLDMS provides real-time visibility into logistics readiness and trends. "It highlights best practices, facilitates resource allocation, and supports manpower and gap analysis studies," Kersey said. By identifying training needs through assessment data, the system also helps logistics personnel acquire targeted knowledge and skills.

The consolidated database enhances efficiency by significantly reducing the time required for assessments. "The previous process took 60 to 90 days to produce a report and up to 180 days to resolve deficiencies. With QLDMS, final reports are delivered within 30 days," said Kersey.

The system's impact is evident in cost savings and improved productivity. For example, during a recent assessment in Alaska, the pre-assessment process enabled the team to reduce onsite staff by one member, saving \$3,200 in travel expenses. "Regional and district

personnel find QLDMS easy to use, and its pre-assessment feature significantly reduces onsite disruptions," Kersey said. Since its inception in FY20, QLDMS has identified over 800 deficiencies and systemic trends across logistics operations, leading to the implementation of key process improvements which foster a stronger Logistics Community of Practice.

While fiscal constraints may influence updates, Kersey envisions QLDMS as the system of record for all USACE Organizational Inspection Program (OIP) assessments.

"Our long-term vision is to enable data-driven decision-making and enhance resource allocation," said Kersey. A recent FRAGORD now mandates the use of QLDMS for logistic inspections, underscoring its growing importance.

Kersey emphasized the collective role of district and division personnel in maximizing QLDMS's potential. "By engaging with QLDMS, you help identify and prevent issues, reduce duplication of effort, and strengthen logistics support for the USACE mission," he said.

For those interested in learning more or contributing to its development, Kersey encourages contacting him directly at eric.d.kersey@usace.army.mil or via the QLDMS email box at ULA-QLDMS@usace.army.mil. With QLDMS, USACE is charting a course toward more efficient and standardized logistics processes, ensuring readiness and support for its diverse missions.

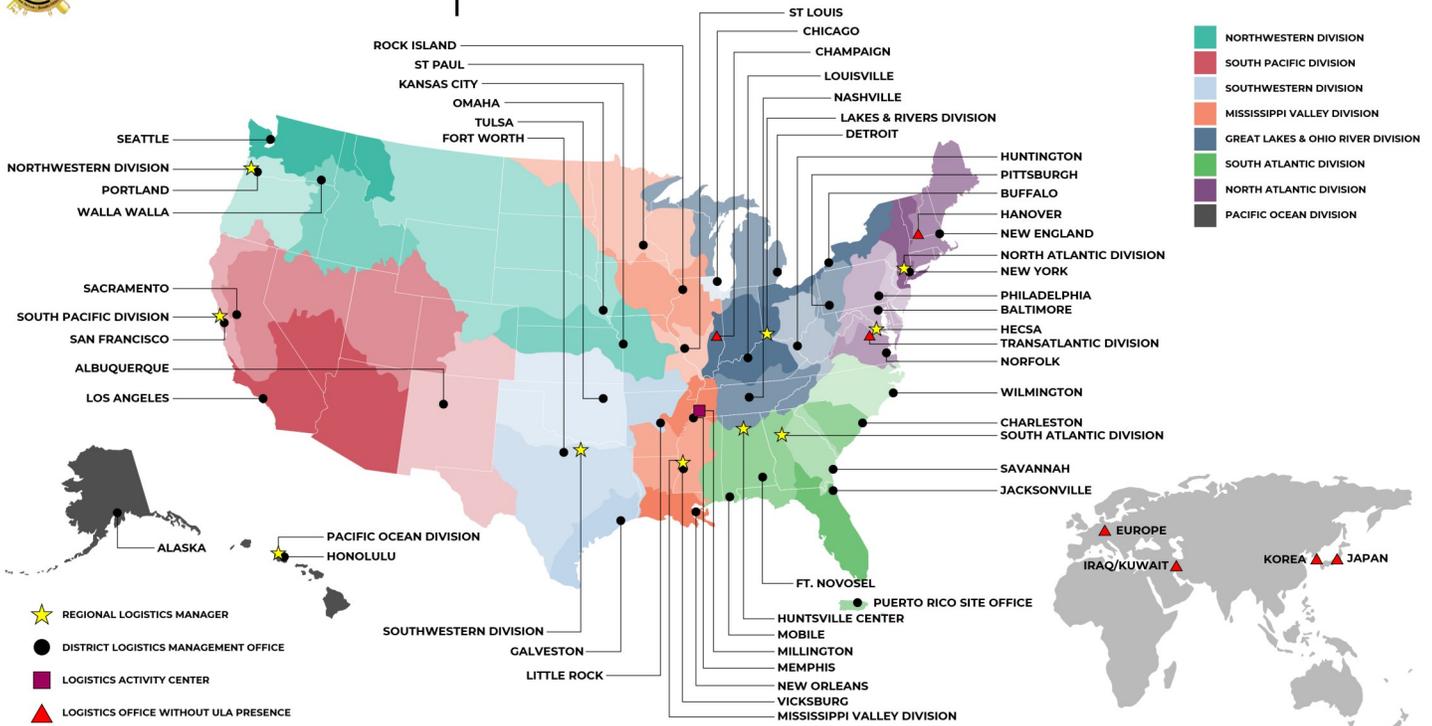


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