



**US Army Corps
of Engineers®**
Jacksonville District

NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to highlight progress at Everglades Coalition

Corps Theme: "Partnering for Progress Towards Greater Everglades Restoration"

Jacksonville, Fla. – Progress is being made on restoring America's Everglades, thanks to successful partnering between the federal, state and tribal organizations involved in the largest ecosystem restoration project in history. Representatives of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, will highlight progress to date when they participate in the 22nd Annual Everglades Coalition Conference, Jan. 18-21 in Orlando, Fla.

Many restoration milestones were met in 2006, among them:

- Storm water treatment areas at Taylor Creek and Nubbin Slough were completed.
- Phase II of Kissimmee River restoration began.
- Construction on an aquifer storage and recovery pilot project began near Lake Okeechobee.
- The final report for Tamiami Trail was approved and land acquisition work began.
- Land acquisition and demolition required for the 8.5 Square Mile Area Flood Mitigation Project was 99% complete.
- The Site 1 Impoundment (Fran Reich Preserve) reservoir and water conveyance project implementation report and environmental assessment was signed by the Chief of Engineers.



Col. Paul L. Grosskruger, commander of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, will address the Corps' role as a federal partner in Everglades restoration, during a "Partnering for Progress – The Politics of Restoration" panel discussion. Grosskruger has commanded the Jacksonville District since July 2006. He previously served as chief of staff for the U.S. Army Engineer School at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo. A combat veteran, he planned and conducted operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, where his battalion earned the Presidential Unit Citation. Grosskruger holds a bachelor's degree in engineering mechanics from the U.S. Military Academy at West Point and a master's degree in civil engineering from Iowa State University. In addition to the partnering panel, Grosskruger will also participate in the panel discussion, "Getting the Water Right for Nature."

Dennis R. Duke, Jacksonville District's program manager for ecosystem restoration, will participate in three panel discussions, "The Everglades Agricultural Area Strategic Plan: Getting the Flow South," "More Efforts Needed for Lake Okeechobee and Estuary Recovery," and "Bringing the Everglades Back to Health: Decompartmentalization and Scientific Uncertainties." Duke manages the South Florida environmental restoration program, which includes the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Plan (CERP). He is a registered Professional Engineer with over 28 years experience with the Corps in planning, construction, disaster recovery and project management. He also served with the Corps for three years in Saudi Arabia. He holds a bachelor's and master's degree in civil engineering and water resources planning from the Georgia Institute of Technology.

Discussing Kissimmee River restoration successes, lessons and issues is Stuart J. Appelbaum, chief of the Jacksonville District's Planning Division. He previously served as chief



of the Restoration, Coordination and Verification (RECOVER) Branch and chief of the Ecosystem Restoration Branch, where he led the team that developed CERP. Appelbaum holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of New York and a master's degree in water resources engineering from George Washington University.

Cheryl Ulrich, chief of the Corps' South Florida Restoration Branch, will participate in panels to discuss "Florida Bay: The Bottom Line" and "Preserving Restoration through CERP and Acceler8: Focus on Biscayne Bay." She has worked with the Corps on Everglades restoration for eight years, and holds a bachelor's degree in civil engineering from the University of Florida and a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of California at Berkeley.

The Corps' representative on the "He Who Writes the Rules, Rules" panel is Beth Lewis, Esq., assistant district counsel. She will discuss the regulations that guide the CERP implementation process and ensure the Everglades receive much-needed water. Lewis provides guidance on implementation of CERP and on complex federal and state rule development processes on water resources and wetlands issues. She is a graduate of the University of Virginia and obtained her law degree from The National Law Center at George Washington University.

Paul C. Stevenson, registered landscape architect at Jacksonville District, is a panel member for "Into the Woods: Recreation Opportunities and Issues in the Everglades." Stevenson has been with the Corps since 1990 and is currently overseeing development of a Master Recreation Plan for the Everglades. He holds a bachelor's degree in landscape architecture from the University of Florida and a master's degree in public administration from the University of North Florida.

"The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is a proud partner in the journey to restore America's Everglades," said Grosskruger. "It is always an honor to meet with the Everglades Coalition



members. They are some of the most focused and dedicated people involved in environmental issues. We look forward to celebrating accomplishments, sharing lessons learned, and establishing the foundation for our future mutual success.”

For further information on Everglades restoration, please visit www.evergladesplan.org.

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