



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

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR: ALL NORTHEAST FLORIDA MEDIA OUTLETS

TO: NEWS DIRECTORS AND ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

EVENT: OPEN FORUM ON CORPS REGULATORY PROGRAM

WHEN: 18 SEPT. 2008 – 8:30 a.m. – 3:30 p.m.

WHERE: JACKSONVILLE – Crowne Plaza Jacksonville Riverfront

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY DIVISION TO HOLD OPEN FORUM, WELCOME MEDIA IN JACKSONVILLE

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – For the second straight year, David Hobbie, chief of the Regulatory Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, will travel the state of Florida with a team of technical matter experts for a series of forums open to consultants, environmentalists, representatives of other governmental agencies and the general public.

The first of these will be in Jacksonville at the Crowne Plaza Jacksonville Riverfront, 1201 Riverplace Boulevard.

The Corps issues environmental permits for projects ranging from vast commercial developments to backyard undertakings by individual homeowners. The Jacksonville District Regulatory Division also has an extensive enforcement section, which assures compliance with federal regulatory laws within the Corps.

Topics to be covered at the forums this year will include: 1, a general session led by Mr. Hobbie; 2, an in-depth discussion of the Rapanos Supreme Court Decision and how it continues to effect wetlands determinations; 3, mitigation rulings; and 4, a general question and answer period.



A **special effort is being made this year to reach out to the media** on regulatory issues pertinent in each separate location or region. Not only will Mr. Hobbie be available to answer questions on these issues, but project managers and specialists in the particular fields of expertise will be on hand to meet the media face-to-face.

Issues of special interest to the media in North Florida at the moment include: surface water withdrawals on the St. Johns River, extensive permitting for expansion of the Port of Jacksonville, continued development in St. Johns County and many others. Efforts will be made to give each reporter an exclusive story.

Editors, news directors and reporters seeking information on specific topics, issues and projects should call Public Affairs Specialist Barry Vorse in advance of the forum in your area.

He can be reached at 904-232-2236 or at barry.d.vorse@usace.army.mil. Further Regulatory Division information is available on the Jacksonville District web site at <http://www.saj.usace.army.mil/regulatory>.

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