



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

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR: ALL SOUTH FLORIDA MEDIA OUTLETS

TO: NEWS DIRECTORS AND ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

EVENT: OPEN FORUMS ON CORPS REGULATORY PROGRAM

WHEN: 23 SEPT. 25 SEPT.

WHERE: FT. MYERS FT. LAUDERDALE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY DIVISION TO MEET IN SOUTH FLORIDA WITH PROFESSIONALS, CONSULTANTS

JACKSONVILLE, Fla. – David Hobbie, chief of the Regulatory Division of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Jacksonville District, and an entourage of technical matter experts will meet next week with consultants, governmental agency officials and builders concerning the latest developments and the future of working with the Corps' Regulatory Division

The two sessions next week will be the second and third in a series of four. The first was held last Thursday in Jacksonville and was attended by about 150 people. The fourth open forum will be held Sept. 30 in Panama City.

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 recent importance in the Fort Myers area include manatee protection, considerations for the Florida panther, development in Cape Coral and a recent improvement in response time to permit applicants.

In southeast Florida issues of concern include the Port Everglades Sand Bypass, Lakebelt mining permits, the Truman Harbor Management Plan, Bal Harbour Beach Renourishment, and the Hillsboro Beach Truck Haul Project.

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.

The locations for the remaining meetings are as follows:

REGULATORY ROAD SHOW 2008

Tuesday, Sept 23	Fort Myers	Crowne Plaza Fort Myers
Thursday, Sept. 25	Fort Lauderdale	Sheraton Fort Lauderdale Airport
Tuesday, Sept. 30	Panama City	FSU Panama City Auditorium

Sessions at each location begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and will finish no later than 3 p.m.

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 904-614-4976 or 904-553-2729 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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