



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

MEDIA ADVISORY

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FOR: ALL NORTHWEST FLORIDA MEDIA OUTLETS

TO: NEWS DIRECTORS AND ASSIGNMENT EDITORS

EVENT: OPEN FORUM ON CORPS REGULATORY PROGRAM

WHEN: 30 SEPTEMBER 2008

WHERE: FSU PANAMA CITY AUDITORIUM

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS REGULATORY DIVISION TO HOLD OPEN FORUM IN PANAMA CITY TO EXPLAIN CHANGES

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, builders and the general public concerning the latest developments and the future of working with the Corps' Regulatory Division

The fourth of four open forums will be held Tuesday, Sept. 30 in Panama City at the Florida State University Panama City Auditorium. In the past two weeks, similar forums have been held in Fort Myers, Fort Lauderdale and Jacksonville.

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.

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 banking; and 4, a general question and answer period.

The Panama City session will begin with registration at 8:30 a.m. and will finish about 2 p.m. Media interview time will be available at noon and 2 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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