



## News from SORP

This content is generated by members for members. Please send us your news, reports, job announcements, manuals and personal updates that may be of interest to recreation planning professionals.

# The Society of Outdoor Recreation Professionals

## Recreation.gov gets a makeover

As part of President Obama's initiative to fuel the economy and create jobs by promoting travel and tourism, I am pleased to announce a new design, improved navigation tools and expanded content for Recreation.Gov, the interagency website that guides visitors to 90,000 sites on public lands such as national parks, national wildlife refuges, forests, waterways and national recreation areas.

Click here to see a short video highlighting all the places you can visit through recreation.gov: [http://www.recreation.gov/marketing.do?goto=acm/View\\_Our\\_Videos.htm](http://www.recreation.gov/marketing.do?goto=acm/View_Our_Videos.htm)

The redesign of [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov) is an initial step in a multi-year strategy to engage visitors with enhanced interactive content and more multimedia, mobile, trip-planning tools. The seven million visitors who use the web site every year will be able to make reservations, see ready-made itineraries for destination cities, and search for activities on interactive maps. We hope you enjoy planning your next outdoor adventure through [www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov).

Sincerely, Ken Salazar, Secretary of the Interior

## The Journal of Outdoor Recreation and Tourism now accepting papers

We would like to inform you that the Journal for Outdoor Recreation and Tourism (JORT) has now been launched officially. We are accepting submissions of full academic papers and research notes. The first issue will appear in January 2013.

Interested authors may submit papers at: <http://ees.elsevier.com/jort>

## Survey Delivers 'Great News for America's Economy and Conservation Heritage'

08/15/2012

MILWAUKEE, WI – Highlighting the reversal of decades of declining numbers, Secretary of the Interior Ken Salazar today announced the results of a comprehensive national survey of outdoor recreation showing a significant increase in hunters and a double-digit increase in anglers over the past five years.

"Seeing more people fishing, hunting, and getting outdoors is great news for America's economy and conservation heritage," said Salazar. "Outdoor recreation and tourism are huge economic engines for local communities and the country, so it is vital that we continue to support policies and investments that help Americans get outside, learn to fish, or go hunting. That is why, through President Obama's America's Great Outdoors initiative, we have been focused on helping Americans rediscover the joys of casting a line, passing along family hunting traditions, and protecting the places they love."

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service's 2011 National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation found that hunters nationwide increased by 9 percent while anglers grew by 11 percent. Nearly 38 percent of all Americans participated in wildlife-related recreation in 2011, an increase of 2.6 million participants from the previous survey in 2006. They spent \$145 billion on related gear, trips and other purchases, such as licenses, tags and land leasing and ownership, representing 1 percent of the nation's gross domestic product.

"The Fish and Wildlife Service is dedicated to connecting people and families with nature," said Fish and Wildlife Service Director Dan Ashe. "We look forward to continuing to work with the States, non-governmental organizations, and additional partners to help keep recreational fishing, hunting, and wildlife watching going strong for people across America's great outdoors."

Other key findings include:

- In 2011, 13.7 million people, 6 percent of the U.S. population 16 years old and older, went hunting. They spent \$34.0 billion on trips, equipment, licenses, and other items in 2011, an average of \$2,484 per hunter.
- More than 33 million people 16 and older fished in 2011, spending \$41.8 billion on trips, equipment, licenses, and other items, an average of \$1,262 per angler.
- More than 71 million people engaged in wildlife watching in 2011, spending \$55.0 billion on their activities

At the request of state fish and wildlife agencies, the Fish and Wildlife Service has been conducting the national survey every five years since 1955. It is viewed as one of the nation's most important wildlife-related recreation databases and the definitive source of information concerning participation and purchases associated with hunting, fishing and other forms of wildlife-related recreation nationwide.

"State agencies, hunters and anglers are the key funders of fish and wildlife conservation through their license and gear purchases," said Dr. Jonathan Gassett, Commissioner of the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Resources Commission and President of the Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies. "An increase in participation and expenditure rates means that agencies can continue to restore and improve habitat and fish and wildlife species, bring more youth into the outdoors and provide even greater access to recreational activities."

The U.S. Census Bureau interviewed 48,627 households across the country to obtain samples of sportspersons and wildlife watchers for detailed interviews. Information was collected through computer-assisted telephone and in-person interviews.

The Survey is funded through a Multi-State Conservation Grant from the Wildlife and Sport Fish Restoration Program, which celebrates 75 years of conservation success in 2012.

The report is the first in a series that the Service will release. The next report of findings will contain State data and will be available in the coming months. In late November, the National Report with more detail participation and expenditure estimates will be available online. From December 2012 to May 2013, the 50 State reports will be released on a rolling basis.

**Click here to download the report:** <http://www.doi.gov/news/pressreleases/upload/FWS-National-Preliminary-Report-2011.pdf>

## **State, Federal Officials Announce New Projects within Millennium Reserve; Calumet Region of Chicago**

*Courtesy of enewspf.com*

CHICAGO, IL--(ENEWSPF)--August 16, 2012. U.S. Interior Secretary Ken Salazar and U.S. Senator Dick Durbin joined state and local officials and organizations in Chicago to announce 12 new Millennium Reserve conservation projects that will further the mission of transforming the Calumet Region of Chicago into a one-of-a-kind public destination that protects and enhances natural ecosystems, supports healthy and prosperous communities, and stimulates vigorous and diverse economic growth.

The Millennium Reserve: Calumet Core is part of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative to reconnect Americans, especially children, to the nation's rich outdoor treasures; build upon public and private

priorities for conservation and recreation lands; and use science-based management practices to restore and protect our lands and waters for future generations.

“One of the major goals of President Obama’s America’s Great Outdoors initiative is to work with states, local communities and other partners to establish a network of great urban parks that will help expand outdoor opportunities in and around cities,” Salazar said. “Today we are helping to achieve this goal right in the heart of Chicago, restoring native habitat while also creating new opportunities for millions of Americans to enjoy the great outdoors.”

The 12 model projects announced today represent the scope and depth of Millennium Reserve, from small in scope and geography to large-scale and complex. In all cases, the projects have strategic goals and outcomes that align with the Millennium Reserve vision.

**Click here to read the rest of the story:** <http://www.ewsp.com/latest-news/latest-local/35655-state-federal-officials-announce-new-projects-within-millennium-reserve-calumet-region-of-chicago-.html>

## **America Walks announces the launch of our newly-funded program: Walking in America - Working with Communities to Promote Walking**

America Walks has received funding from the National Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to bring workshops, technical assistance and other support services to local communities. As their recent Vital Signs report says, "Improving spaces and having safe places to walk can help more people become physically active."

Simply put, America Walks will help build the effectiveness of organizations, individuals and businesses in implementing projects and campaigns that further walkability.

Here's a summary of what American Walks will do:

- **Hold Community Workshops** - Conduct Workshops in Local Communities - for both communities seeking to generate interest in walking to those with active organizations ready to develop a strategic action plan. America Walks will help bring together diverse community stakeholders to build support for walking and improve walkability in your community. We will offer continued technical support and coach communities to complete a Walk Friendly Program application ([http://www.walkfriendly.org/?utm\\_source=Walking+in+America+&utm\\_campaign=Walking+in+america&utm\\_medium=email](http://www.walkfriendly.org/?utm_source=Walking+in+America+&utm_campaign=Walking+in+america&utm_medium=email))

- **Sponsor an Electronic Technical Assistance Center** - showcasing the soon-to-be-released Steps to a Walkable Community - a guide for citizens, planners, and engineers that will serve as first-stop shopping guide for choosing successful walking initiatives.

- **Support Walking Advocates through Webinars and Telephone Conferences** - our bi-monthly on-line presentations will feature the latest walking initiatives and key topics needed for success. Sign up here to receive e-notices for walking initiative webinars & phone conferences:

<http://visitor.r20.constantcontact.com/manage/optin/ea?v=001nkQbX5l1Qs9E9CRhNruhDw%3D%3D>

**For more information:** [http://americawalks.org/walking-in-america-working-with-communities-to-promote-walking/?utm\\_source=Walking+in+America+&utm\\_campaign=Walking+in+america&utm\\_medium=email](http://americawalks.org/walking-in-america-working-with-communities-to-promote-walking/?utm_source=Walking+in+America+&utm_campaign=Walking+in+america&utm_medium=email)

## **Land of Many Uses Under Siege**

*Courtesy of westernviews.org*

As the Associated Press reports, the outdoor recreation industry is once again challenging the State of Utah’s attempts to seize control of more than 30 million acres of federal public land. In 2003, the industry and state fought a similar battle over public land rights-of-way, but then-Governor Michael Leavitt backed down.

Now, Utah Governor Herbert is trying to assuage industry representatives that his motives are not nefarious, noting the legislation he signed into law earlier this year and a lawsuit the state recently filed over 12,000

backcountry routes and roads would leave Utah's five national parks, several of its national monuments and 33 wilderness areas under federal ownership. Once again, the industry is not backing down.

As Outdoor Industry Association President and CEO Frank Hugelmeyer explained to Deseret News:

"Of greatest concern is the governor's lawsuit challenging the federal government over jurisdiction of the federal public lands and some road claims within national parks, monuments and wilderness areas. We have not and will not sit silently on threats to the nation's recreation infrastructure....Beyond setting bad national precedent, these policies threaten the recreation infrastructure that is fundamental to the outdoor industry, good economic policy cannot be divorced from bad public lands policy."

A similar battle is playing out in Colorado over speculative oil shale development. In advertisements signed by more than 100 Coloradans concerned about the fate of their public lands, the Colorado Wildlife Federation (CWF) thanked Interior Secretary Salazar for "standing up for our water and wildlife." As Suzanne O'Neill, CWF's executive director, noted, "Our water and wildlife and the outdoor jobs that they support are just too valuable to gamble away on oil shale speculation by premature commercial leasing that will tie up more federal public lands in Colorado without public benefit."

In both cases, the outdoor industry's leverage point is its economic clout. According to the Associated Press, the outdoor industry's biannual trade show "injects more than \$40 million yearly" into Utah's economy, and "the outdoor industry and related services represent a sizable chunk of Utah's income—roughly \$4 billion a year, or 5 percent of the state's gross product." Colorado's recreation industry sees similar benefits.

Unlike the battles in the 1980's over ownership and use of federal public land (the Sagebrush Rebellion), those now working to protect our public lands for their inherent environmental value now have economic clout behind them. It's a significant and welcome change.

## **Job Announcement – Bureau of Land Management**

Outdoor Recreation Planner

SALARY RANGE: \$73,655.00 to \$113,860.00 / Per Year

OPEN PERIOD: Tuesday, August 21, 2012 to Tuesday, September 04, 2012

SERIES & GRADE: GS-0023-12/13

POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Permanent

PROMOTION POTENTIAL: 13

DUTY LOCATIONS: Few vacancies in the following location: Sacramento, CA

WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: Status Candidates (Merit Promotion and VEOA Eligibles)

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: FS-717542-MQ12

### **JOB SUMMARY:**

Bureau of Land Management

This position serves as the program manager of the Off Highway Vehicle (OHV) Recreation Program on public lands in California. The Outdoor Recreation Planner is the State Director's principle advisor on all OHV recreation programs, including policy interpretation, budgeting, managing, strategic planning, and organizational assistance to the program leaders.

The Outdoor Recreation Planner manages and coordinates the partnership with the California Department of Parks and Recreation, Off Highway Motor Vehicle Recreation (OHMVR) Division. This partnership is the largest and most complex program in the Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and provides essential OHV program funding for planning, development, acquisition, management, and resource protection.

Travel and relocation expenses will be paid consistent with the Federal Travel Regulations and Departmental policy. The use of a relocation service company and home marketing incentive will not be offered.

Currently only one vacancy exists, however more than one vacancy may be filled through this announcement should the need arise.

### **DUTIES:**

Major duties at the full performance level include, but are not limited to:

Develop statewide direction, policies, standards, and objectives for planning, managing, and coordinating the OHV program.

Manage the OHV Program, which involves understanding, interpretation, and resolution of controversial issues and how they are affected by federal and state laws, ecosystems, and the public.

Oversee and monitor BLM's grants submitted to the OHMVR Division and ensure compliance with state and federal regulations.

Review and evaluate the effectiveness of OHV programs and provide technical assistance to staff, managers, and program leads.

Analyze and evaluate design and operational issues on trails and other areas open to OHV recreational use.

Represent the State Director or Associate State Director at meetings and conferences and make authoritative decisions regarding policies, laws, and regulations.

**For more information:** <https://my.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/323853400>

## **Job Announcement – US Army Corps of Engineers**

Supervisory Natural Resource Manager

SALARY RANGE: \$57,408.00 to \$74,628.00 / Per Year

OPEN PERIOD: Thursday, August 16, 2012 to Wednesday, August 29, 2012

SERIES & GRADE: GS-0401-11

POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Permanent

DUTY LOCATIONS: 1 vacancy in the following location: Pasco, WA

WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: Status Candidates (Merit Promotion and VEOA Eligibles)

JOB ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: WTHG12997390727538

### **JOB SUMMARY:**

Civilian employees serve a vital role in supporting the Army mission. They provide the skills that are not readily available in the military, but crucial to support military operations. The Army integrates the talents and skills of its military and civilian members to form a Total Army.

### **ABOUT THE POSITION:**

Ice Harbor Project is a multi-purpose hydropower project, with missions that include operation and maintenance of the facility for flood control, hydroelectric power generation with six main generating units, navigation locks, fish facility with two fish ladders, recreation and natural resources management. Ice Harbor Dam is a hydropower generating facility, generating power for the Bonneville Power Administration for distribution throughout the western states. Ice Harbor Project has approximately 80 employees. Ice Harbor Lock & Dam is located on the Snake River in South Eastern Washington State. It is about 15 minutes east of Tri-Cities (Pasco, Kennewick and Richland), Washington. The area is desert with irrigated agriculture crops along with related businesses. The outer area is mostly farming area producing wheat, corn, grapes, apples and other crops. There are many wineries in the area. The population of the metropolitan Tri Cities area was 253,340 in 2010 recently rated the fastest growing city in the nation. The Tri-Cities receives an average of 7 to 8 inches of precipitation every year. Winds periodically exceed 30 mph when Chinook Wind conditions exist. While there are an average 225 clear days every year, these are mainly between April 1 and November 1. Temperatures range from as low as -25 °F in the winter to as high as 110 °F in the summer.

### **Who May Apply:**

- Current Army Civilian Employee
- DoD Transfer (Excluding Army)
- Non-DoD Transfer
- Appointment of Certain Military Spouses, E.O. 13473
- Reinstatement
- 30% Disabled Veteran
- Veterans Employment Opportunity Act (VEOA)
- Veterans Recruitment Authority (VRA)

- Non-Appropriated Fund (NAF)
- Persons with Disability
- Executive Order 12721
- Interagency Career Transition Assistance Plan (ICTAP)
- Postal Service/Peace Corps and Other Unique Authorities
- OPM Interchange Agreement Eligible

**DUTIES:**

Incumbent responsible for oversight of the Recreation and/or Visitor Assistance program at one or more lake projects. Management of the recreation facilities and/or visitor assistance program may include patrol of land and water areas, enforcement of Title 36 warnings and citation records, fee collection, gate attendance contracts and operations, visitor use surveys and trend analysis, safety for operating project employees and visitors, project security program, search and rescue point of contact, regulatory buoy system, recreation area bulletin boards, reservation system, caretaker, and fee collection contracts, and automated systems coordinator for various reports, e.g., Visitor Estimate and Reporting System (VERS), (OMBIL) etc..

Performs all supervisory duties for assigned Lake Project Office including: Assign work to subordinates based on priorities, difficulty of assignments, and the capabilities of employees; provide technical oversight; develop performance plans and evaluate employees; interview candidates for subordinate positions; recommend hiring, promotion, or reassignments; take disciplinary measures, such as warnings and reprimands; identify developmental and training needs of employees; provide and/or arrange for needed development and training.

Oversees the conservation, preservation, restoration and use of all lake natural resources. Develops guidelines, standards and procedures for analyzing public needs, demands, site carrying capacities and resource capabilities. Monitors and evaluates recreation trends and developments for planning future facilities, methods of work, and programs. Coordinates overall development and maintains land and natural resources management plans.

**For more information:** <https://my.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/324189300>

**Job Announcement – US Army Corps of Engineers**

Natural Resources Specialist

SALARY RANGE: \$60,681.00 to \$78,883.00 / Per Year  
 OPEN PERIOD: Monday, August 20, 2012 to Wednesday, August 29, 2012  
 SERIES & GRADE: GS-0401-11  
 POSITION INFORMATION: Full Time - Permanent  
 PROMOTION POTENTIAL: 11  
 DUTY LOCATIONS: 1 vacancy in the following location: Lewisville, TX  
 WHO MAY BE CONSIDERED: ARMY CAREER/CAREER CONDITIONAL EMPLOYEE  
 JOB ANNOUNCEMENT NUMBER: SWHB12043837-726612

**JOB SUMMARY:**

This position is also being announced under SWHB12043837-726733 as a non-professional 0025 series, but only one vacancy exists.

Civilian employees serve a vital role in supporting the Army mission. They provide the skills that are not readily available in the military, but crucial to support military operations. The Army integrates the talents and skills of its military and civilian members to form a Total Army.

**ABOUT THE POSITION:**

US Army Engineer District, Fort Worth, Operations Division, Trinity Regional Project Office, Fort Worth, Texas 76102, Lewisville Lake Office, Duty Location: Lewisville, Texas

The Lewisville office is located Lewisville, Texas. With a small community atmosphere, Lewisville provides all of the urban amenities. In Lewisville, you will notice attractive neighborhoods, abundant recreational, educational and cultural entertainment, great shopping, fine dining, and diverse businesses and industries. Lewisville has glittering lakes, and DFW International Airport is convenient and easy - only 10 minutes away. For more information see <http://www.visitlewsville.com/>

Current Army employees with competitive status (including Army employees serving on a career or career conditional appointment).

**DUTIES:**

Identify possible short and long-term partnership support opportunities/solutions. Provide recommendations to the OPM in order to leverage funding for identified budget deficits. Work with project and lake staffs in the preparation of various planning documents (i.e., Operational Management Plan). Develop, negotiate, and administer partnering agreements with public entities/groups; private entities. Plan, organizes, and coordinates the recreational and natural resources management activities. Advise partners on methods and techniques to: minimize operation and maintenance costs within the parks / natural resources areas; minimize overuse resulting adverse impacts to natural resources.

Listed below are other duties you will perform:

- Work with project and lake staffs in the preparation of various planning documents (i.e., Operational Management Plan)
- Develop, negotiate, and administer partnering agreements with public entities/groups; private entities
- Plan, organizes, and coordinates the recreational and natural resources management activities
- Oversee activities of natural resource volunteer programs

**For more information:** <https://my.usajobs.gov/GetJob/ViewDetails/324544800>