



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

NEWS ADVISORY

For Immediate Release: August 25, 2011

Contact: Omaha District Public Affairs Office

Margaret.e.oldham@usace.army.mil

402-995-2416

Learn about the America's Great Outdoors Initiative And Attend the Launch of the Yellowstone River Conservation Pilot

Omaha, Neb.— The Assistant Secretary of the Army for Civil Works, the Honorable Jo-Ellen Darcy, will participate in the launch of the Yellowstone River Outreach and Education Pilot Program Aug. 31, at 9 a.m. The ceremony will take place at Pompey's Pillar National Monument.

The purpose of the new outreach program is to educate Yellowstone River Conservation District administrators and supervisors, local government officials, real estate professionals and others on how to use the new data and tools available from interdisciplinary cumulative effects studies, completed by the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and state and local entities.

The Yellowstone River Conservation District Council will offer five educational training sessions throughout the Yellowstone Watershed this fall and winter. Upon completion of the training program, the project contractors, Civil Dialogue and Applied Geomorphology, will compile accomplishments, challenges and recommendations. A Yellowstone River Outreach Plan will be prepared to guide future fundraising efforts and educational activities of the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council.

In 2004, the Yellowstone River Conservation District Council and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers entered into a cost-sharing agreement to conduct the Yellowstone River Corridor Comprehensive Study. The Yellowstone River corridor study area includes 600 miles of river from Gardiner, Montana, to the confluence with the Missouri River in North Dakota. The study purpose is to perform a cumulative impacts assessment for the entire river corridor and develop a comprehensive plan that provides for sustainable use of the river and its floodplain for both economic and environmental needs. The primary purpose is restoration and preservation of the environmental quality of the Yellowstone River.

The partnership between the local Yellowstone River Conservation District Council and the Corps of Engineers' Omaha district is an example of President Obama's America's Great Outdoors Initiative, which focuses on promoting community-level efforts to conserve outdoor spaces. Ms. Darcy will discuss the initiative and its momentum and progress.

###

If you would like to cover this event, please contact Maggie Oldham, Omaha District Public Affairs, 402-995-2416. For interviews with ASA (CW) Jo-Ellen Darcy and Omaha District Commander COL Robert J. Ruch, contact Maggie Oldham by Friday, Aug. 26, 2011, to schedule an appointment. Additional information about the new outreach and education program can be obtained by contacting Mary Ellen Wolfe, Civil Dialogue, 406-209-6545.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers – MRJIC 1616 Capitol Ave., Omaha, Neb. 68102 <http://www.nwo.usace.army.mil/>
Find us on Facebook [facebook.com/OmahaUSACE](https://www.facebook.com/OmahaUSACE), Twitter twitter.com/OmahaUSACE, YouTube [youtube.com/OmahaUSACE](https://www.youtube.com/OmahaUSACE) and Flickr [flickr.com/OmahaUSACE](https://www.flickr.com/OmahaUSACE)