



## President's Letter to Members

### Be Careful What You Wish For.

The last issue of the NAEP E-News contained an article titled "Surprising Facts about Global Warming." Within 12 hours of the electronic release I was in receipt of no

less than three emails responding to the content of the article. Words like "appalled..."; "Irresponsible..." were included in the emails.

I may have deserved the initial reactions. In a previous article where I had reservations concerning the content, I had specifically stated that the views of the author were not necessarily those of NAEP. For this article, my introduction did not specifically state that. My introduction did challenge the reader to read the article and determine the author's actual point of view. I apologize to those who believed that the paper was an NAEP position. It was indeed the opinion of the author.

What I want to do now is to answer the question on many minds... "What were you thinking?" The genesis of the question is embedded in the belief that the scientific community is emphatically and unanimously convinced of human induced global warming or, as it has been modified — Climate Change. I think that there is a great majority of scientists, many of whom are climatologists, who believe this to be true. However, there appears to be some who remain less than convinced.

For the past three years, while serving as Vice President and President of NAEP, my role has included that of Newsletter editor. I have tried to wear these two distinct hats with enough separation to allow for my editorship to remain unbiased. For the most part, the tenure has been uneventful.

I have solicited articles, requested reprints of articles that were relevant to our Association and I have been able to get a few of our members to provide a closer, personal look at who they are and what has made them "the most interesting professional in the world."

During this period I have been gratified by some kind words expressed about the changes made, the content, and the overall look of the publication (not my doing, but the work of a great graphic artist and the Managing Director). The newsletter has become a labor of love for me. It has become a bit of a sounding board as I have been able to get some authors to write somewhat controversial articles about the profession and NEPA. During the entire time I have tried to elicit a response from the readers. I received what I had been seeking with the last issue.

I take the job of editor very seriously. In this role, I act as an editor, not a censor. I do expect that if the readers feel strongly about the content of the newsletter that they will take the time to express their thoughts and consider strongly to write another article on a controversial issue. The article can be a response, a

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**Early Registration rates for the N-AEP 2013 Meeting end Jan 31st — See pgs 9 or 27 for more information!!**



## Saying What We Mean

An indefinite series of essays about words and phrases that do not necessarily mean what we say

*Sixth in a series by Owen L Schmidt*

### Direct, indirect, and cumulative

The trouble started with the definition of scope in the NEPA regulations, that there may be *3 types of impacts*, the familiar “(1) Direct; (2) Indirect; (3) Cumulative.” 40 CFR 1508.25(c). Note there is no connector between (2) and (3) — neither an “and” nor an “or.” Whether that was intentional we may never know. What we know for sure is that it was published this way in 1978 and has not been changed since.

Nearly every reader inserts an *and* in between (2) and (3), turning it into the more familiar “direct, indirect, *and* cumulative.” That is not how it was written, but most of us read through the missing connector either without notice or we insert the missing connector automatically — assuming it should be an *and*.

This is trouble because the 3-way direct-indirect-cumulative split messes with the natural order of things. In natural systems all consequences are understood to occur in a *chain of consequences*, where one thing leads to another. This is cause and consequence, or cause and effect. All of the events in the chain must be accounted for to the extent the U.S. Supreme Court has called a reasonably close causal relationship. Those consequences that are reasonably close to the cause must be accounted for. Those beyond may safely be omitted.

In a chain of causation, every consequence is the direct result of what immediately caused it. Thus, every consequence in a chain could properly be classified as direct — directly following what caused it. And every consequence is also cumulative, because if one thing isn't adding to or subtracting from another thing, there isn't any consequence at all. Every consequence is an increment (cumulative), because if there is no increment there is no consequence, and every consequence is direct, directly following what caused it.

Against this natural order of things we try to divine 3 types, as though we could scrape all the consequences into 3 distinct piles, or 3 paragraphs, or 3 sections. First the directs, then the indirects, and then the third type — what is supposedly not accounted for by the directs and indirects — the so-called cumulative impacts.

It is quite clear that all consequences are direct (directly following what caused them). In a chain of consequences, those farther down the chain could be called indirect (being farther in place and time from the original cause). Once these chains of consequences are exhausted, there is nothing left over. Nothing is left out. Yet we try to create the impression there are 3 types. Why? Because the regulations say there “may be” 3 types. And we have inserted the word *and* in between (2) and (3), reinforcing the impression there are 3 distinctly different types. The trouble is, there aren't 3 distinctly different types.

We don't necessarily mean what we say, and we don't necessarily say what we mean.

What we mean to say is that there are causes and there are consequences. Actions may cause consequences in the human environment. The proposed action is one obvious cause. Any other type of action can also be a cause: alternative action, connected action, similar action, triggered action, intervening action, dependent action, tiered action, mitigation action, etc. Separate actions can, together, cause environmental consequences that mount up. The *grand sum total* of all increments is what we are looking for — not a separate *type*. What we should be looking for is simply an account of the accumulation of all the increments. Call it “the cumulative impact,” if you like, but it isn't a separate type of impact, separate from direct and indirect. It is the grand sum total of all directs and indirects.

Time and effort spent labeling each consequence in the chain of causation as direct or indirect or cumulative is wasted. No statute or regulation requires that any of these be labeled, or be labeled correctly. No NEPA case known to me has turned on the question of whether these were labeled correctly, or labeled at all.

Time and effort spent trying to divide the events that occur along chains of causation into 3 categories is wasted. For one thing it cannot really be done. Every event in a chain of events is direct or indirect. If this division is attempted, it will have to be redundant because they are all directs and they are all cumulatives. Redundancy is waste.

Time and effort spent trying to divide 2 kinds of things (directs and indirects) into 3 kinds of things (direct, indirect, and cumulative) is wasted — what the reader really wants to know are the causes, the increments, and the grand sum total.

There is no connector — neither an “and” nor an “or” — in between indirect (2) and cumulative (3). That's exactly how the regulation appeared originally in the Federal Register, and

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## Saying What We Mean

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exactly how it has been faithfully reproduced ever since. If there had been a connector, that would have indicated there should be 3 different types. Type 1, Type 2, and Type 3. Type 1, Type 2, or Type 3. But there is no connector. So, okay, there “may be” 3 types. Fine. Consequences may be direct, and they all are. Consequences may be indirect, and some are. Consequences may be cumulative, and when they incrementally change something — which they must do in order to be consequences at all — they are cumulative. Thus they are all cumulative.

If the regulations mean what they say — there “may be” 3 types — well, okay, there may be. Or there may not. For sure, there are causes and there are consequences. All consequences

follow directly from their causes. All are direct. Those consequences further down the chain of consequences may be called indirect, but labeling is not required. Consequences are measured incrementally. The grand sum total of all increments that add to or subtract from each other would represent the cumulative value of all increments. The grand sum total is not a *different* type of consequence, but the grand sum total may be called the cumulative value of all the direct and indirect increments.

There is no time and effort wasted, if we would just say what we mean. There aren't 3 different types, if we just meant what we said.

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## The Paradox of Federal Energy and Defense Installations in the West

**Daniel Pava, AICP**  
**Los Alamos National laboratory**

### The Paradox – Most Polluted or Most Pristine?

Most planners working west of the 100th meridian are aware that federal lands make up a large portion of the lands in the western states. In fact, federal lands comprise nearly 49% of the area of the fourteen states that make up the Western Planning Resources (WPR) family. These lands are usually managed by the Department of Agriculture (USFS)

and the Department of Interior (BLM and NPS). However, the Departments of Defense (DOD) and Energy (DOE) are also federal stewards of western lands. These federal military and energy installations play an important role in local and regional western communities and economies. They also play an important role in regional ecologies. It is a paradox that some of these sites have their share of legacy contamination from earlier missions, but they also include some of the most pristine remaining western ecosystems. In some cases, the sites are located near or surrounded by encroaching urbanization, making them particularly valuable lands both for recreation and habitat preservation.

### The National Environmental Research Parks

All federal agencies must abide by national environmental laws that require best efforts at maintaining the “productive harmony between man and the environment” envisioned in the preamble to the National Environmental Policy Act nearly 40 years ago. Many of these military and energy sites continue to

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## Paradox

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operate without requirements for multiple uses, recreation or other public needs. Instead, they operate to fulfill specific mission requirements that in fact may preclude uses traditionally permitted on lands administered by the federal resource agencies. These sites may not have experienced grazing, farming, mining, or tourism for decades, effectively preserving their landscapes to support other missions. It may seem ironic, but lands used to develop, store and test weapon systems also provide habitat for species that have lost habitat to development and the expansion of urban areas. The National Environmental Research Parks are outdoor laboratories that provide opportunities for environmental studies on protected lands which act as buffers around Department of Energy facilities. The research parks are used to evaluate the environmental consequences of energy use and development as well as the strategies to mitigate these effects.

Los Alamos National Laboratory in northern New Mexico is one example of preserved habitat within a seemingly incompatible government facility. Since the 1970's, Los Alamos and three other DOE sites have been designated as a National Environmental Research Parks. These sites include Hanford in eastern Washington, the Idaho National Engineering Laboratory, and the Nevada Test Site only a little more than an hour's drive from Las Vegas.

These dedicated facilities have become habitat havens where threatened and endangered species can survive under professional and dedicated site stewardship regarded as integral to site operations. Other DOE and DOD facilities such as

Denver's former Rocky Mountain Arsenal and the Rocky Flats Plant preserve landscapes no longer found in the Denver metro area. Planners and land managers at these sites are responsible for ensuring these lands continue to protect resources and contribute to local western economies.



## Los Alamos National Laboratory

The natural setting of the Los Alamos area is panoramic and scenic. It is a contrast of contradictions where nondescript buildings that cradled the birthplace of the atomic age sit astride ancient Anasazi ruins. The mountain landscape, unusual geology, varied plant communities, burned over areas, and archaeological heritage of the area create a diverse visual environment. The topography is rugged.

Mesa tops are cut by deep canyons, creating sharp angles in the land form. In some cases, slopes are nearly vertical. Often, little vegetation grows on these steep slopes, exposing the volcanic geology, with contrasting horizontal strata varying from bright reddish orange to almost white.



White Rock Canyon at Los Alamos

There are five vegetation zones at Los Alamos. In general these zones result from changes in elevation, temperature, and moisture along the 5,000-foot elevation gradient from the Rio Grande to the mountainous western edge of the site. The five zones include Juniper,

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## Paradox

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Juniper Woodlands, Grasslands, Ponderosa Pine Forests, and Mixed Conifer Forests.

This diversity in vegetative communities results in the presence of over 900 species of vascular plants. There is a comparable diversity in regional wildlife with 57 species of mammals, 200 species of birds, 28 species of reptiles, 9 species of amphibians, and over 1,200 species of arthropods so far identified. Federally listed wildlife includes two endangered species (willow flycatcher and Mexican spotted owl), 2 threatened species, 1 candidate, and 8 species of concern.

In 1999, one-thousand acres of canyon lands within Los Alamos were preserved as the White Rock Canyon Reserve that is now managed by the National Park Service. The reserve exists to enhance and ensure protection of the canyon's landscape, habitat, rare wildlife and irreplaceable cultural resources.

Hanford Site in Bloom – Photo by Jim Evans  
(Biodiversity of the Hanford Site Final Report 2002-2003)



## The Hanford Site

The Hanford Site was established in central Washington State in the early 1940s as part of the Manhattan Project. Plutonium for nuclear weapons was created and refined on the site for 50 years. Access to the production facilities and a large buffer zone was strictly controlled for both security and public safety. It would be understating the facts to say anything except that parts of Hanford have experienced severe environmental problems, and that some of these threaten the region beyond its boundaries because of proximity to the Columbia River.

When the site was closed by the DOE, there was: 56 million gallons of radioactive waste stored in 177 underground tanks, sixty-eight of which leaked; 2,300 tons of spent nuclear fuel sitting in (and sometimes leaking from) two pools only a few hundred feet from the Columbia River; 120 square miles

of contaminated ground water; and 25 tons of plutonium to be disposed of and kept under constant armed guard. This is what remains at Hanford after over 7 years of the most intensive environmental cleanup project in history. Hanford's cleanup phase will probably continue until at least 2030, when many of DOE's long-term environmental goals will have been met.

However, the 570 square mile site desert site contains abundant native wildlife and remains surprisingly undisturbed by human activity. Hanford includes the Fitzner/Eberhardt Arid Lands Ecology Reserve, which is the only remaining sizable remnant (120 square miles) of Washington shrub-steppe landscape that is still in a pristine condition.

## The Idaho National Laboratory

The Idaho National Laboratory is located in Southeastern Idaho and covers 890 square miles of sagebrush steppe on the Upper Snake River Plain. Established in 1949 as the National Reactor Testing Station with the objective of furthering the development of nuclear reactors, today it is a leading center for nuclear safety research, defense programs, nuclear waste technology and advanced energy concepts.

Since 1975 the mostly pristine lands within its borders have been protected and preserved as an ecological field laboratory where scientists from government agencies, universities, and private foundations may set up long-term experiments which answer questions about man's impact on the natural environment.

The Laboratory proper is home to some 400 species of vascular plants. Compared with areas that have a long history of

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Elk in the Grass at Idaho National Engineering Laboratory





## Paradox

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livestock grazing, there is a rich diversity of native forbs (broad-leaved herb other than a grass, especially one growing in a field, prairie, or meadow). Eighty-five percent of the plant species are natives, and three-fourths of those are forbs. Five fish, one amphibian, nine reptile, 159 bird, and 37 mammal species have been documented to occur.

## The Nevada Test Site

The Nevada Test Site and its surrounding restricted access areas are larger than the state of Rhode Island. This unpopulated area comprises some 5,470 square miles located only 65 miles north of Las Vegas, one of the fastest growing urban areas in the United States.

It is amazing to think that a place used for so many years to detonate nuclear bombs is host to such a diversity of life; approximately 1500 animal species, including 924 insect species (but no giant radiation mutated cockroaches!) and 750 different plant species. Most of the site was never used for nuclear testing and is fairly pristine. Elevations range from 2,688 feet above sea level to 7,659 feet above sea level representing both the Mojave and Great Basin desert ecosystems.

The Desert Tortoise, an endangered species, makes its home undisturbed here, as does a herd of wild horses. Many of

Nevada Test Site Rock Valley - Photo courtesy of National Nuclear Security Administration / Nevada Site Office



Desert Tortoise at the Nevada Test Site

the plant species found here are still valued by Native Americans for medicinal, ceremonial and everyday uses. It is indeed a landscape right out of the old west, even as the new west encroaches upon its restricted boundaries.

## Conclusion — What Western Planners Need to Know and Do

The future of DOE and DOD sites in the west will be one caught between the need to preserve lands for continuing missions; and to transfer lands no longer needed in compliance with continuing federal efforts to reduce inventories and expenditures. Congress had mandated that approximately half the lands now held by the DOD need to be disposed through further base realignment and closures.

Lands remaining under federal stewardship or lands that will be assigned to different management will all be subject to continuing environmental cleanup. This work has two benefits: one is that environmental problems will continue to be remediated, and the environment improved. The other is that a good deal of money spent on remediation or management enters the local economy to accomplish this goal.

Lands that remain under the auspices of the DOE and DOD will enjoy the incidental but effective environmental protections afforded by these agencies as they comply with all national laws. Lands that are transferred to other federal resource agencies with different missions will also enjoy environmental protections, but they will no longer be islands of restricted human intervention.

In some cases, such as Lowry Air Force Base near Denver, these federal lands may be the places where new master-planned communities will provide homes and locations for inevitable western growth. Western planners should work to reuse these former federal lands through master planning in order to direct and shape growth that provides choices while minimizing impacts. This may preclude some growth and expansion beyond the urban fringe and reinvigorate western cities. It may also help to preserve some of the places where the new west is bumping up against what we'd like to preserve of the old western landscapes and ecosystems.



## Member Spotlight: Don Deis

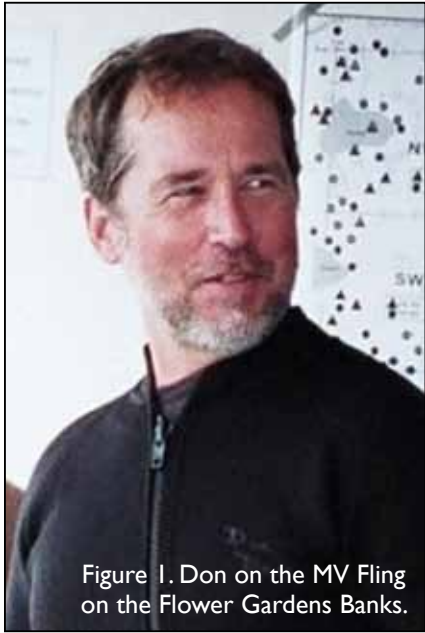


Figure 1. Don on the MV Fling on the Flower Gardens Banks.

**D**on Deis lives in and works out of Jacksonville, Florida. Don became a Certified Environmental Professional in 1991. He is active in the NAEP, the Florida Association of Environmental Professionals (FAEP), and the Northeast Florida Association of Environmental Professionals. He has been on the board of FAEP and is currently serving as a Trustee on the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP). On the

ABCEP board, he is in the process of developing the mentoring program which is designed to assist the newly designated Certified Environmental Professional – In Training and applicants for the Certified Environmental Professional.

Don graduated with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and ecology from Wright State University in Dayton, Ohio, but got his first whiff of the ocean during a summer seminar at the marine science lab at Chincoteague, Virginia. He was hooked on salt water and moved to south Florida for graduate studies in marine benthic invertebrate ecology at Florida Atlantic University in Boca Raton, Florida where he got his Master of Science. He did his research assistance on the impacts of beach nourishment in south Florida on soft and hard bottom benthos and his thesis on benthic indicator species.

He is now in his 34th year as a professional scientist and, in the words of the Grateful Dead, “what a long strange trip it’s been.” He has been fortunate enough to remain true to his benthic ecology background working first with the Florida Department of Environmental Regulation (now the Florida Department of Environmental Protection) as a scientist on water quality and benthic studies and, later, as a dredge and fill permit processor. From there he joined the ranks of scientists-for-hire by joining Continental Shelf Associates, Inc. where he continued

studies in nearshore and offshore benthic resources in relation to oil and gas development and beach nourishment.

Don went on to another small company KBN Associates, Inc. in search of opportunities to work internationally. With that company, he worked in the Middle East and throughout the Caribbean on estuarine and marine habitats, particularly hard bottom and seagrass systems. With KBN, also began his education in corporate acquisitions with KBN being bought by Golder Associates. Don moved on to another small company of marine and estuarine scientists, Coastal Environmental, Inc. That company was purchased by PBS&J which is now Atkins North America, an international firm with headquarters in the United Kingdom. Through it all, Don has remained true to his roots in hard and soft bottom systems having the opportunity to manage and work on great projects including the following.

- The assessment of damage and restoration of the reef after the 187-meter container ship Houston ran aground on the Florida Keys reef tract between Maryland Shoal and American Shoal in the Florida Keys National Marine Sanctuary. The ship ran aground on February 2, 1997 and the goal of the restoration program was to complete it before hurricane season began in September. This was one of the first cooperative Natural Resource Damage Assessment programs between the responsible party and federal and state agencies.
- Development of performance measures for assessment of the effects of the Comprehensive Everglades Restoration Program on the “southern estuaries” including Biscayne Bay, Florida Bay and the southwest Florida coast. Don worked with a multiagency team on that program working with many years of water quality, habitat, and organism data.
- Don assisted on the set up of the monitoring program on the Flower Gardens Banks, a National Marine Sanctuary and the most beautiful coral reef in the U.S. located south of Texas in the Gulf of Mexico. He was later able to manage the team providing the monitoring of that area for NOAA and BOEM for several years. Associated with that program, he managed another BOEM contract to conduct a post-hurricane assessment of sensitive benthic habitats within the northwestern Gulf of Mexico including Bright, Geyer, McGrail, Sonnier, and East Flower Garden Banks.



## Don Deis

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These banks were located near the paths of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita in 2005. Those projects resulted in the project and team being awarded the “Partners in Conservation” award from the Department of the Interior.

- Don has been working since about 1987 with Florida Power and Light Company (FP&L) on their oil spill response planning, training and response efforts. That program resulted in FP&L being awarded the Coast Guard’s Benkert Marine Environmental Protection Award. He has also worked with NOAA on projects related to the Deep-water Horizon release.

Don has been as fortunate in his family life as he has been in his career. He is married to Donna, a high school chemistry teacher in Clay County, and has three young adults (they started as children). His oldest is a statistician living and working in Raleigh, North Carolina. His younger two are twins — Brian, an

undergraduate student in his senior year in biology at University of Central Florida and Christine, in her first year of law school at Florida Coastal School of Law in Jacksonville. Working with his children and family has taught him the importance of mentoring of young adults. He is actively involved in his company’s mentoring program and in Science Technology Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) programs in northeast Florida. He is also involved as a corporate partner in the certification of STEM-related high school academy programs in northeast Florida.

As stress busters, Don, like Forest Gump, runs, along with biking, and lifting weights, and he guarantees that he does not take performance enhancement drugs. Work demands do not allow for too much leisure time, but his hobbies continue his love of the outdoors with hiking, kayaking, and sailing on the list. He raced dinghy class sail boats in undergraduate school and started racing larger sail boats in ocean races when he moved to south Florida. He has owned a cruising sailboat, a bilge-keeled Westerly, for many years and has sailed it throughout south Florida and the Bahamas.

## Get your CEP — Save Thousands of Dollars

The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) has just partnered with American Public University (APU) to allow up to 6 transfer credits to those who hold the Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) credential. The value of these credits can substantially reduce the cost of a Masters of Science Degree in Environmental Policy and Management or can serve to offset elective credits in other Masters programs at APU.



*Certifying Environmental Professionals since 1979*

To find out the details, go to <http://www.apus.edu/TransferCredit/accepted/graduate/internal-policies/abc-env-prof.htm> or visit the ABCEP website: [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org).

Some information on APU:

- It is the first, fully online university to receive the Sloan Consortium’s (Sloan-C) Ralph E. Gomory Award for Quality Online Education (2009) and two-time recipient of the Sloan-C Effective Practice Award (2009-2010).
- APU has more than 150 degree and certificate programs as well as online courses to help with certifications and professional development in subjects ranging from Environmental Hazard Mitigation and Restoration (Grad Cert); Environmental Planning and Design (Grad Cert); Environmental Policy and Management (Capstone, MS); Environmental Risk Assessment (Grad Cert); Environmental Science with four concentrations (BS), Environmental Sustainability (Grad Cert); Environmental Technology (Undergrad Cert), Fish and Wildlife Management (Grad Cert, Undergrad Cert), Transportation & Logistics, Business Administration, Information Technology, and many others.
- APU’s combined undergraduate tuition, fees and books are roughly 20% less than the average 4-year public university’s in-state rates, helping to maximize your tuition assistance program. (The College Board, *Trends in College Pricing 2011*, October 2011.)
- APU will carefully evaluate prior learning, including eligible on-the-job learning, for the award of academic credit.

*This gives you another excuse to apply for your CEP today.*





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## 2013 NAEP | AEP Joint Conference

Walk the Talk: A Convergence of Environmental Professionals



Get the latest information about the NAEP/AEP joint conference. The **Pre Program** is now available with information on tracks, symposiums and the Schedule.

In addition, the following keynote speakers have been finalized.

1. **Nicholas Yost**, keynote during the NEPA Basic Workshop on Monday April 1:

Nick Yost conducts a nationwide practice of environmental and natural resources law from the San Francisco office of SNR Denton LLP. He is the recipient of the American Bar Association's award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy (2010). His practice focuses on the permitting of major projects and the preparation of NEPA documents and their defense in court. As General Counsel of the White House Council on Environmental Quality he drafted the Federal Government's NEPA regulations. Prior to that he founded and was the first head of the Environmental Section of the California Attorney General's office where he played an instrumental role in the development of CEQA. He has also chaired the environmental committees of the California and District of Columbia Bars. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the School of Law of the University of California and Berkeley.

2. **Bill Patzert**, keynote during the Climate Adaptation Symposium on Monday April 1:

Often called the "Prophet of California Climate," Bill Patzert is a scientist at the California Institute of Technology's NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif. His research is focused on the application of NASA satellite data to improving our understanding of our planet's climate and important environmental problems ranging from developing El Niño, La Niña, and longer-term climate forecasts, global warming, to monitoring the health of coral reefs. The author of many scientific and popular articles, Bill works with undergraduate and graduate students from all over the world, and lectures at many local universities. A media favorite, he is often sought out by reporters and is regularly seen on local and national television representing NASA and JPL. In a recent article, he was named as one of the West's most influential individuals in dealing with water issues.

3. **Ray Clark**, keynote Tuesday morning April 2:

Ray Clark is the founder and President of RiverCrossing Strategies, a consortium dedicated to working at the intersection of economic development and environmental conservation. Ray also founded The Clark Group, a Washington based consortium of senior level science and policy professionals specializing in environmental and energy matters. He was formerly the Assistant Secretary of the Army (acting) and the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Environment) where he was responsible for all of the U.S. Army facilities worldwide and steward of more than 14 million acres. He was responsible for military construction, family housing, all real estate transactions and the environmental and natural resource management program. Mr. Clark was also responsible for base closure and transitioning excess military property to economic development. Prior to his appointment to this position, Mr. Clark was Associate Director at the White House Council of Environmental Quality where he acted as advisor to the President, the Chairman of CEQ and Senior White House Staff.

4. **Brett Rohring**, keynote Wednesday lunch, April 3:

Brett Rohring is director of corporate citizenship for Disney. In this role, Brett leads strategic development and oversight of global environmental policy and standards. Brett's career at Disney has spanned more than 26 years where he has held a variety of management and environmental roles within the Company's Parks and Resorts division and corporate headquarters. During this time, Brett has played a significant role in bringing a number of "first-ever" environmental programs to fruition including Disney's first themed recycling program at Disneyland Resort, and installation of the first solar array panel at the Walt Disney Studios. In addition, Brett has led development of a number of environmental education and outreach programs and sustainable design guidelines for the Company. Most recently, he led the development of Disney's new paper sourcing and use policy, which is part of the Company's commitment to promote forest conservation and responsible forest management.

**Register now and get the Early Rate: <http://www.n-aep2013.org>**  
**Make your hotel reservation at the JW Marriott.**



The planning for the 2014 NAEP Conference to be held April 7-10, 2014 in sunny St. Petersburg, Florida is in

full swing. The conference committee recently developed the theme, held a logo contest, and selected the logo shown above from 16 entries. We are in the process of finalizing the budget and have created a preliminary target list of sponsors and exhibitors. In addition to the more traditional NAEP topics, the conference will reach beyond to increase the breadth of topics. We will provide opportunities for learning about new equipment and tools to support our profession.

## Meet the NAEP Board

*NAEP appreciates the service of these four Elected Board Members. NAEP is a better organization due to their efforts on the Board and various Committees:*

### Wendy Haydon NAEP Elected Board Member



Wendy Haydon  
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<http://www.ch2m.com>

Wendy Haydon has worked for CH2M HILL for 22 years — she is an Environmental Planner. Prior to her work at CH2M HILL, she worked as an Environmental Planner at Dames & Moore, and also as a research assistant at Resource Management International while in college (both are companies that no longer exist). Wendy is a Project Manager at CH2M HILL and writes and reviews environmental analyses in Environmental Impact Reports (EIRs) and Environmental Impact Statements (EISs). She is currently working on a

joint EIR/EIS that is addressing a large and complex water storage and conveyance project that is located in California.

Wendy is at At-Large Board member of NAEP. Her term is from April 2011 through April 2014. She is serving on the Education Committee, the Permanent Conference Committee, the International Committee, and she was on the committee that restructured the NAEP Working Groups and Committees. On the Education Committee, she planned and coordinated the September 2012 Webinar entitled, “USACE Permits and Associated Water Quality Certifications: Regulatory Changes Pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act”. Wendy is on the committee that reviewed applications for the first Jim Roberts Scholarship (the scholarship will be awarded at the April 2013 NAEP-AEP Conference to be held in Los Angeles!! Wendy also was on the committee that obtained the four keynote speakers for the upcoming conference. She regularly attends the quarterly NAEP Board meetings and is an active participant.

Wendy has been a member of both NAEP and AEP (California) Superior California Chapter for many years. She was Board Secretary for the AEP Superior California Chapter from 2008 through 2012, having recently stepped down to make way for new people to join the Board. She plans to stay an active chapter member.

Wendy thoroughly enjoys her participation on the NAEP Board and working with the talented, energetic, and enthusiastic group of people on the Board and committees. She is impressed with the body of knowledge that congregates to share ideas to make NAEP a productive and growing professional organization.

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## NAEP Board

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### Brock A. Hoegh, CEP NAEP Elected Board Member



Brock A. Hoegh, CEP  
Director of Environmental Planning  
HNTB Corporation  
Atlanta, Georgia  
Office (404) 946-5713  
bahoegh@hntb.com  
www.hntb.com

Brock has more than 14 years of experience in the consulting industry managing the preparation of NEPA documents for a wide variety of federal infrastructure expansion projects across the country including highway, rail, bridge, pedestrian trails and transit projects. Brock is currently Director of Environmental Planning for HNTB in Atlanta, Georgia, and leads the efforts of professional ecologists, historians, archaeologists and planners.

Brock led the initiation of the INAEP Chapter in 2005 and was President and NAEP Chapter Representative for INAEP from 2006-2010 and moved to Georgia in November 2011. Brock was just recently elected as the current GAEP Chapter Representative. For NAEP, he is currently serving as a National Board Member and is assisting Bill Plumpton within the Chapter Committee as lead for Student Chapters. Brock is also assisting with the Communication Committee with improvements within the NAEP website as well as a reviewer for applications for the Jim Roberts Scholarship.

Brock has been committed to the environmental profession by becoming part of the National and local scene of the profession since 2004. As a NAEP board member, Brock has worked to support NAEP current initiatives as well as work on new initiatives to grow NAEP as an organization in membership, increase our image within the industry, and develop forums for continued interaction and education between members and our industry.

Brock lives in Marietta, Georgia with his wife, Jordana, and three daughters, Nyah, Kinley and Shayden. When he finds spare time, he enjoys playing golf, family movie nights with his girls on Friday, and traveling to Nebraska and Indiana to visit family.

### Paul Looney NAEP President



Paul B. Looney, CEP, PWS, CSE  
Volkert, Inc.  
3809 Moffett Road  
Mobile, Alabama  
Phone: 251-342-1070  
paul.looney@volkert.com  
www.volkert.com

Paul Looney is a graduate of Pennsylvania State University and the University of West Florida (Pensacola). He has 32 years of professional experience as an environmental scientist. In his first professional incarnation he worked in the oil field. He was fortunate enough to travel around the world with Schlumberger in their Anadrill subsidiary. He left the company in Singapore after an experience in Southeast Asia that has formed much of his world view.

The second incarnation of Paul's environmental Career has been in the consulting and regulatory world. He has worked for the Florida Department of Environmental Protection and several environmental consulting companies. He has been with Volkert, Inc. for the last 12 years. Volkert has been extremely supportive of Paul's NAEP involvement and professional development.

Paul has extensive NEPA experience and is a Certified Environmental Professional, a Professional Wetland Scientist, and a Certified Senior Ecologist.

As a regulator, he has done wetland enforcement and helped develop the first program for deadhead logging permitting in the state of Florida. In his consulting experience he has completed NEPA reports for military installations in the Southeast and Puerto Rico. He has also performed hundreds of miles of cross country biological surveys for the proper placement of natural gas pipelines throughout the southeastern United States. Paul has worked for Federal government clients (US Navy, US Air Force, US Army (USACE), USEPA, and National Park Service), State government (LDOTD, ALDOT, ASPA, ADCNR, FDOT, FDEP, NFWFMD), and local government agencies (ECUA, HCUA, MAWSS, City of Daphne, Alabama), as well as private clients.

Paul has been a member of NAEP since 1994. He has held the offices of Secretary, Vice President and President in NAEP

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## NAEP Board

*Continued from page 11*

since becoming part of the Board of Directors in 2004 as the Florida Association representative to the NAEP. With FAEP, he helped organize and operate the Northwest Chapter of FAEP which was formed in 1996. The chapter recently held the Annual Conference for FAEP. Paul was the Vice President and President (several times) of the Northwest Chapter as well as holding the offices of Secretary, Vice President and President for FAEP.

I have had a very rewarding experience with NAEP over the last 8 years. While I am a member of several environmentally oriented associations, I believe that the mission and corporate commitment of NAEP to the practitioners in all aspects of environmental work makes the Association one of the most important and relevant. I have always enjoyed the multidisciplinary aspects of projects and NAEP is the only association that can and successfully does open its doors to all professionals in the business. The two years of my presidency have been rewarding and inspiring.

## Robert P. Morris, Jr. NAEP Secretary



Robert P. Morris, Jr.  
Deputy Chief, Program and Project  
Management Division  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort  
Worth District  
Fort Worth, Texas  
P: 817-886-1395  
robert.p.morris@usace.army.mil

**B**ob has more than 30 years of experience working in the Federal Government, first in the U.S. Army as an engineer officer and, more recently, as a Department of the Army

Civilian with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Following assignments as a facility manager for peacekeeping forces in the Sinai and for the Defense Intelligence Agency worldwide, Bob entered the environmental profession as an Assistant Professor and Director of the Center for Environmental and Geographic Sciences at the United States Military Academy. Along with conducting research into environmental awareness in the U.S. Army, Bob taught senior level seminars in environmental management and environmental security.

Bob has served in multiple senior positions within the Fort Worth District – Deputy Commander, Deputy District Engineer, Deputy for Operations and Security for Task Force Restore Iraqi Oil (in Baghdad), and program manager for the \$5 billion construction program in San Antonio, Texas as a result of the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Act. Bob currently is the Deputy Chief of the District's Program and Project Management Division.

Bob has been a member of NAEP since 2001 and of the North Texas Chapter (NTAEP) since 2003. Bob served the NTAEP as Chapter Representative, Webmaster and Facilities Coordinator. Bob has served on the board of directors for NAEP since 2002, either as an elected board member of chapter representative. At the national level, Bob was the editor of the NAEP e-News in 2003-2004, he currently serves on the Finance and Internet Committees, and has been the Secretary since 2011.

Bob brings the perspective of the Federal government to the board of directors. Relying on diverse, collaborative experiences working in academia, with the American Heritage Rivers Initiative and with many military and civilian stakeholders in Texas, Louisiana and New Mexico, Bob brings a quiet and stabilizing style of leadership to the board. He hopes to continue to build the financial foundation for the NAEP which, in turn, will allow NAEP to continue to improve benefits for our members and chapters. Bob also seek to improve awareness and participation of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in the NAEP.



## *NAEP March 2012 Webinar Announcement*

### *Environmental Planning under MAP-21 Transportation Projects*

Go to [WWW.NAEP.ORG](http://WWW.NAEP.ORG) to register

The *Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act* (MAP-21) contains many significant provisions for accelerating project delivery by targeting the environmental review process required under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

These environmental streamlining provisions call for earlier coordination, greater linkage between the planning and environmental review processes, use of programmatic approaches where possible and consolidating environmental documents. MAP-21 also establishes a framework for setting deadlines for decision making in the environmental review process, with a process for issue resolution and referral, and penalties for agencies that fail to make a decision. The act also expands authority for use of categorical exclusions (CEs) to a variety of other types of projects, including multi-modal projects, projects to repair roads damaged in a declared disaster, projects within existing operational right-of-way, and projects receiving limited Federal assistance.

The Education, Research & Science Committee, with support from the NAEP NEPA and Transportation Practices groups, has developed an informative webinar to help transportation and environmental planning professionals understand the key environmental provisions of MAP-21, how MAP-21 will impact transportation project delivery, and bring us up to date on applicable Federal Highway Administration guidance on accelerated decision making in environmental reviews.

The webinar panel includes NAEP member Lamar Smith, Environment Technical Service Team Manager, Federal Highway Administration, and William Malley, partner with the law firm of Perkins Coie LLP in Washington, DC, with extensive experience as legal counsel to state Departments of Transportation in carrying out environmental studies and permits.

This webinar will focus on practical guidance for environmental practitioners on the implications of MAP-21's environmental streamlining provisions on current and new transportation projects.

**Date and Time:** Tuesday, March 12, 2013 at 2pm ET (1pm CT, 12pm MT, 11am PT)

**Duration:** Event will last 90 minutes

**Location:** Wherever it is convenient for you

**Questions:** Please contact Tim Bower at 856-283-7816 or email him at [naep@naep.org](mailto:naep@naep.org)

**Registration Fees:**

- NAEP members — \$79.00
- NAEP Affiliate Chapter members that are not NAEP members — \$107.00
- Non-members (NAEP or Affiliated Chapters) - \$119.00 (Save \$40—please consider joining to receive the member rate for this and future events)
- Full time Students can participate at a reduced fee of \$39.00

Go to [WWW.NAEP.ORG](http://WWW.NAEP.ORG) to register



## Chapter's Committee Report

In the last couple of months, a few chapters have elected or appointed new Chapter Presidents and Representatives to NAEP:

NWAEP: Shane Phelps is the new Chapter Representative

NTAEP: Rusty Branch is the new Chapter President

RMAEP: Trisha Fanning is the new Chapter Representative

GAEP: Brock Hoegh is the new Chapter Representative

GAEP: Bruce Hart is the new Chapter President

TAEP: Tom FitzHenry will be the new Chapter Representative

Congratulations to all on their new positions and welcome to the Chapters Committee. NAEP thanks all outgoing Chapter Representatives and Presidents for their many years of service to both NAEP and their individual Chapters.

Chapters with new representatives and presidents should let both Tim Bower and Bill Plumpton know and send contact information so all can be welcomed to the committee and get involved. A reminder that chapter officers – President, Vice President, Secretary, and Treasurer – and chapter representatives to NAEP need to be general members of NAEP, so please check your membership status to make sure your membership is current.

The Chapter Committee met in November and December and spent most of our meeting time further developing our action plan for our top priority – to maintain and strengthen existing NAEP – Chapter relations. We have developed a draft Chapter Leaders web page and are in the process of collecting materials from Chapters to populate the web page. The purpose of the chapter leader's page is to create a central location for items related to starting and running a chapter. In the future, chapters looking to create new materials or upgrade existing ones could refer to the chapter leader's page for examples of other chapter materials to avoid reinvention and to promote standardization and efficiency. The chapter leader's page also provides a long-term place to store some materials.

To help populate the chapter leader's web page with items

to be shared and potentially used by others, chapters should send materials to Tim Bower, NAEP Managing Director at [naep@naep.org](mailto:naep@naep.org). Materials to include, but not limited to, governance documents such as bylaws and operating policies, reports, conference action plans, marketing materials, membership forms, scholarship forms, brochures, flyers for events, and other items that may benefit or help run a chapter. The more information shared between chapters via the chapter leader's web page, the more valuable it will become over time, particularly for new chapters.

As a value-added service to NAEP's chapters, Tim can easily archive chapter materials at virtually no additional cost to NAEP. Chapters wishing to have Tim archive materials should send materials directly to Tim.

Short-term activities for future meetings of the Chapters Committee are:

- Continue developing our action plan for our highest priority item from the retreat – to maintain and strengthen existing NAEP – Chapter relations
- Reviewing NAEP and chapter memberships and other data to both look for new members and to make sure that we are serving our current members well.
- Initiate brainstorming for our second highest priority from the retreat – to work to create new affiliate chapters in states or regions presently without one. This is an exciting item and activity and we encourage anyone in a state or region without an NAEP chapter to consider starting one.
- Finalize the development of the NAEP – Chapter joint marketing brochure.

A reminder that, while all Chapter Representatives and Presidents are members of the Chapter Committee, all chapter leaders are welcome to participate in the committee and to get involved, even if you haven't participated previously. We could always use more volunteers and now is great time to get involved and move NAEP and its Chapters forward for mutual benefit.

If you have an idea or activity for the Chapter's Committee to tackle, interested in starting a chapter in a state or area presently without one, or have questions about the committee, contact Bill Plumpton, committee chair at (717) 763-7212 ext 2142 or [wplumpton@gfnet.com](mailto:wplumpton@gfnet.com).



## President's Letter

*Continued from page 1*

critique, or a statement of countervailing facts concerning the scientific issue at hand. This is the essence of scientific debate, and I believe, continued learning. One of my guiding philosophies has been that as soon as a professional believes he knows everything on a subject and stops learning, he starts to atrophy. Learning is how we continue to progress in our careers.

I have expressed in many messages to the readers that I want to have dialogue between us scientists. I also have admitted freely that I do not know everything. I was taken to task by a reader once before about admitting I do not know the details of climatology. I continue to maintain that I am still learning. I am not a trained climatologist.

Although I understand the commentators on the Weather Channel when they talk about a specific storm event, I do not confuse weather with climate. Climate is much more complex and would take me quite a lot of study to fully comprehend. I am trying to become better educated. As such I will also listen to opposing views on the prevailing scientific theory about climate. I truly believe that learning can come from reading and exploring all aspects of a scientific question.

Without knowing all sides of an issue I will also maintain that we all can fall prey to some aspect of groupthink. This was one of the more salient points that I gleaned from the article.

I remember in high school and college learning about Jean Baptiste Lamarck, one of the first to develop a theory of evolution. Unfortunately, while he was a great biologist (he was one of the first scientists to use the term biology), his theory of evolution was eventually found to be incorrect. However, in order for me to truly understand the concept of Darwinian evolution, I needed to understand the concepts that the eventual theory either disproved or improved upon. I do not know what the current high school curriculum includes for Biology, but if it does not present the other sides of the evolutionary question (an evolution of thought, if you will) we are doing new scientists a disservice. It is up to us to help the young become properly educated in the process of scientific thought.

After studying, understanding, and seeing specific examples, I am now convinced of the process of evolution as currently understood. I can see the error in the theories of "intelligent design" but will not decry a person the right to believe in it, unless they are only educated in that one aspect. Learning comes from knowing all aspects of a question. True belief in a scientific

"fact" must also be a capability to see where there are errors and where the "facts" could be improved.

At this point, my scientific belief has only one real true immutable fact — gravity works...here on earth. If observation were all I used to form even that simple theory, could I really "see" that gravity works anywhere else? Everything else appears to be in flux and current ideas are either improved upon or repudiated as researchers discover new concepts.

As part of the code of ethics and the Guidance for Practice I am encouraged to: *Conduct my analysis, planning, design and review my activities primarily in subject areas for which I am qualified, and shall encourage and recognize that participation of other professionals in subject areas where I am less experienced. I shall utilize and participate in interdisciplinary teams wherever practical to determine impacts, define and evaluate all reasonable alternatives to proposed actions, and assess short-term versus long-term productivity with and without the project or action.*

This creed is also something I take seriously. I also expect it of others with whom I deal professionally. In my capacity as editor I believe that, despite the majority opinion in general science and climatology circles that climate change is occurring, is human induced, and can potentially be ameliorated with quick action. However, I need to present the newsletter as a publication that permits all views to be fairly heard. I also need to be open to modifications of my belief. Our learning of climate facts depends on this openness of dialogue. The importance of us all learning climate change theory is very important to our very future.

Since we are not a peer reviewed publication, I also feel that I need to accept any submittal whether I agree with the conclusions or not. I really want this publication to be an instrument of and for the membership. As best I can, I will keep this a democratic publication with the overarching goal of informing the members who do not share the same areas of expertise.

Like all other publications with a scientific core, I expect and encourage the members to allow us to benefit from all of the areas of the profession from the eminent experts that are our members.

In the light of the democratic voice I am looking for in this publication, I do not refer to a small cabal of white-haired (or balding) men when I speak of eminent experts. I believe our membership is composed of a great number of people in various levels of their professional career who are experts in what they

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## NAEP Education Committee Report

*Happy New Year!*

*Greetings and wishes for a prosperous new year from the Education Committee*

The Education Committee has been collaborating with the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP) and the California Association of Environmental Professionals (AEP) to offer a NEPA Basics Training Workshop on Monday, April 1, 2013, immediately preceding the regular programming for the 2013 NAEP/AEP Joint Conference. Nicholas Yost will be the keynote speaker at the training session luncheon. Mr. Yost conducts a nationwide practice of environmental and natural resources law from the San Francisco office of SNR Denton LLP. He is the recipient of the American Bar Association's award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy (2010). This promises to be an enriching educational opportunity for entry-level National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) practitioners. The conference itself has a dedicated NEPA track sure to entice both entry-level and seasoned professionals.

The NAEP Webinar Series will be back by popular demand in 2013:

- NAEP – Tuesday, March 12, 2013, **MAP-21**
- APU – Wednesday, April 17, 2013
- NAEP – Wednesday, May 15, **NEPA Case Review**
- NAEP – Wednesday, June 19, 2013
- APU – Wednesday, July 17, 2013
- NAEP – Wednesday, August 14, 2013
- NAEP – Wednesday, September 18, 2013
- APU – Wednesday, October 16, 2013
- NAEP – Wednesday, November 20, 2013
- NAEP – Wednesday, December 18, 2013

The Education Committee is committed to providing cutting-edge information to its members. Please submit webinar topics for consideration to NAEP Headquarters at [naep@naep.org](mailto:naep@naep.org).

The Education Committee is thrilled with the response from NAEP members, affiliate members, and other environmental professionals to the NAEP Webinar Series that was initiated in 2011. The series continued with six webinars in 2012, along

with three additional webinars that were developed as part of an education alliance with American Public University (APU):

- January 25, 2012, **Native American Consultation**
- February 2012 [APU Part 1], **Preparing to Stand Out**
- March 21, 2012, **Using Avoidance Strategies to Facilitate Review of Renewable Energy Development Projects on Public Lands**
- April 25, 2012, **CEQ Guidance on NEPA Review**
- June 20, 2012, **NEPA Case Review**
- July 18, 2012 [APU Part 2], **The Perfect Resume**
- September 19, 2012, **USACOE Permits and Associated Water Quality Certifications: Regulatory Changes Pursuant to Sections 401 and 404 of the Federal Clean Water Act**
- October 17, 2012 [APU Part 3], **Leveraging LinkedIn to Land Your Next Job**
- November 14, 2012, **OMB and CEQ Memorandum on Environmental Collaboration and Conflict Resolution**

The Education Committee is seeking volunteers to assist in webinar development and presentation of the NEPA Basics training course in support of Chapters throughout the nation, as well as an individual to serve as the chair of the Ethics Subcommittee. If interested, please contact Ms. Marie Campbell at [mcampbell@sapphosenvironmental.com](mailto:mcampbell@sapphosenvironmental.com). The Education Committee met via teleconference on January 9, 2013 at 1:00 p.m. PST.

## NAEP Permanent Conference Committee Update

The Permanent Conference Committee is planning ahead for annual conferences through 2016, with plans set for 2014 in Tampa Bay, Florida. Finding great cities with a range of venues and attractions is the fun part of conference planning. Having strong NAEP member representation and support in the host conference city helps make our conferences successful. Would you like to see the national conference come to your area? Let us hear your ideas! Contact the PCC Co-Chair, Carol Snead at [carol.snead@hdrinc.com](mailto:carol.snead@hdrinc.com). Are you interested in joining the PCC? Contact Carol about that too!!





## NAEP Environmental Policy Committee Report

By *Judith Charles, Co-Chair*

The Environmental Policy Committee has held several teleconferences with NAEP members during the last six months of 2012 and would like to extend a special thanks to our speakers. On August 8, Nathalie Tisseaux, NOAA, and Michael Booth, Cardno TEC, spoke on a NOAA study on climate change adaptation. On September 12, NAEP's Abby Murray and Tim Bower provided instructions on how to access and use the new NAEP NEPA Forum. If you haven't accessed the board or are having problems please contact Abby Murray ([naepmbrsvcs@bowermanagementservices.com](mailto:naepmbrsvcs@bowermanagementservices.com)) or see the instructions: <https://naep.memberclicks.net/assets/documents/nepaforumoverviewanddirections.pdf>.

Mr. Lamar Smith, FHWA, discussed the key provisions of "Moving Ahead for Progress in the 21st Century Act" (MAP-21) transportation legislation and provisions for "efficient environmental reviews" and the implications for NEPA practitioners with committee members on October 10. Mr. Justin Wright, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Office of Federal Activities, joined the group on November 14th to discuss EPA's e-NEPA electronic filing of EISs ([www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/submiteis/index.html](http://www.epa.gov/compliance/nepa/submiteis/index.html)). Specifically, Justin reviewed how to prepare PDF files of EISs that meet the new filing requirements.

On November 8, the committee held a teleconference with Michael Murphy, Vice-President with HDR, Inc. in Portland Maine, on 'Hydrokinetic Energy, Project Development Overview in the U.S.' Michael presented a very informative discussion highlighting marine and instream projects, the U.S. Department of Energy's Water Power Program, regulatory and environmental considerations, permits, and potential environmental issues.

NAEP will be posting the Energy and Environmental Policy group's quarterly board of director reports for the first and second quarters of 2012 on the NAEP Members Only page. These reports highlight current events and legislative news in energy and environmental policy including air quality and global climate change, biological resources, water resources, and transportation.

The NEPA Working Group is presently preparing the Annual NEPA Report. If you would be interested in helping with the report, please contact Ron Lamb at [ronaldlamb@comcast.net](mailto:ronaldlamb@comcast.net); Joe Trnka at [jtrnka@kirkham.com](mailto:jtrnka@kirkham.com); or Judith Charles at [judith.charles@yahoo.com](mailto:judith.charles@yahoo.com)

When you're ready to further develop your team  
When you're ready to invest in your organization's future  
You are ready for American Public University

American Public University is ready to help your team succeed. We're a nationally recognized university with certificates and bachelor's and master's degrees for environmental science, policy, and management professionals – completely online. So your employees can take classes on their own time. And people are taking notice. 99% of employers surveyed would hire one of our graduates again.\*

When you're ready, visit [StudyatAPU.com/NAEP](http://StudyatAPU.com/NAEP)



\*APUS Alumni Employer Survey, January 2011-December 2011  
We want you to make an informed decision about the university that's right for you. For more about our graduation rates, the median debt of students who completed each program, and other important information, visit [www.apus.edu/disclosure](http://www.apus.edu/disclosure).



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## Florida Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

The Florida Association of Environmental Professionals ([www.FAEP-FL.org](http://www.FAEP-FL.org)) is comprised of the FAEP and eight local chapters. The local chapters enable the FAEP to remain active throughout the state of Florida, addressing issues that are of State, regional and local interests. The FAEP provides numerous monthly networking and educational sessions throughout the state offered by the eight FAEP local chapters. To see a list of upcoming events, please visit the FAEP website and the local chapter links — [www.faep-fl.org](http://www.faep-fl.org).

If you have any questions about the FAEP, please contact FAEP President Kristin Bennett at 772-781-3414 or [Kristin.Bennett@tetratech.com](mailto:Kristin.Bennett@tetratech.com).

### Tallahassee Chapter

*January 9th* Networking Social and Dart Tournament – 5:30-7:00 Rays Steel City Saloon – 515 John Knox Road, Tallahassee. This will be fun event to raise money for our scholarship fund. It is 5.00 per person to enter the dart tournament. Don't know how to play darts? No worries, no experience necessary to enter. Don't want to play darts? Cheer on your friends and just network. Can't make it? Consider a donation to our scholarship fund anyway.

*February 13th* Lunch meeting on Protected Species – 11:30-1:00 Rays Steel City 515 John Knox Road, Tallahassee. Speakers include Tom Ostertag of FWC and Jason Dickey with Cardno Entrix.

*February 26th* CEP Application Workshop – FDEP offices 2-5 p.m. The Tallahassee Area Association of Environmental Professionals will hold a workshop for certification of environmental professionals through the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP). The workshop instructors will be NAEP and ABCEP members. The event will be held in Room 609 at the Florida Department of Environmental Protection's Blairstone Road office from 2:00 to 5:00 PM on Tuesday, February 26th.

There will be no charge for the workshop and attendees will receive a discount on their testing/certification fees. FAEP

members and potential members are welcome to attend. The instructors will give a detailed presentation about the certification program, answer questions and assist attendees in navigating the application process.



### Treasure Coast Chapter

The chapter hosted a **Scrub Plant Identification** workshop in Jonathan Dickinson State Park (JDSP). The workshop was led by Anne Cox, Ph.D., Ecolo-G, Inc. and

Chris Lockhart, Habitat Specialists, Inc. Both instructors have spent countless hours in working and studying scrub habitat. Dr. Cox is recognized as a leading expert on the topic of the federally endangered Four-petal Pawpaw Four (*Asimina tetramera*) and Chris Lockhart has contributed to the conservation efforts at JDSP through her involvement with the Friends of Jonathan Dickinson State Park association and contributions to the park's management efforts.

The Treasure Coast Chapter hosted its annual Environmental Award Ceremony and Silent Auction. The proceeds for the Silent Auction were donated to the Palm Beach County Envirothon, a field-oriented, educational program where high school students learn to use critical thinking skills, develop both problem-solving and communication skills and conduct hands-on investigations about environmental issues.

The awards consisted of the **Education/Communication Award** given to **Alyssa Dodd** of Palm Beach County Environmental Resources Management Department, for the creation of the "Lake Worth Lagoon: Discover a Local Treasure" newspaper series. The **Volunteer Award** was given to **Dr. Paul Arena**, Faculty Advisor for the NSU Nature Club for his continuous volunteer efforts and projects including the restoration and enhancement of the Lantana Nature Preserve.

### Central Chapter

*January 24th* – Luncheon meeting topic is Applying Lean and Six Sigma principles to environmental projects, using groundwater remediation as an example.

*February 21st* – Social at Blue Martini at the Millennia Mall.



## FAEP

Continued from page 18

### Northeast Chapter

January: Matt Trammell from Environmental Consulting & Technology (Topic: Brownfields & Port Development).

### Southwest Chapter

January 15 – Lunch meeting with guest speaker Ms. Bobbi Rogers who will present an overview of the Charlotte Harbor Environmental Center (CHEC) mission and programs. 11:30am-1pm at the South Florida Water Management District Lower West Coast Service Center 2301 McGregor Boulevard Fort Myers FL

The Tampa Bay FAEP University of South Florida, Tampa Campus, Student Chapter is hosting meetings over the next two months to gain members and provide professional speakers to the students. The meetings are January 14, and 31 and February 11 and 26. Check the FAEP web site for more complete information.

January 25 The SWFAEP Chapter is pleased to be a co-host of the **22nd Annual Southwest Florida Water Resources Conference** to be held at the Royal Palm Yacht Club in Ft. Myers. The theme of the conference is "Water and Energy." To register and get more information, please visit <http://awra.caloosahatchee.org/2012/>



## Illinois Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

President: Robert Sliwinski, Vice President/NAEP Representative: Greg Merritt, Treasurer: Christopher B. Burke, Past President: Nathan Quaglia, Board Members at Large: Ron Deverman (NAEP Past-President), Suzanne Frances, Dr. James Montgomery, Patrick VerHalen, Dawn Consentino, Liz Pelloso

Newsletter Editor: Eric Sikora, Executive Administrator: Debra Hatchett, Website: [www.iaepnetwork.org](http://www.iaepnetwork.org)

### Membership Update

IAEP currently has 172 members of which are 142 general, 6 national, 8 student and 16 are corporate.



### Recap of the Clean Construction and Demolition Debris Guidelines

On Sept 19, 2012 Jim Huff from Huff and Huff presented on Clean Construction and Demolition Debris and Uncontaminated

Soils Update. Thirty-six members attended the seminar on an update about the new guidance that changes how landfills accept demolition debris and testing for soils to certify that they are uncontaminated for use as fill material.

### Recap of the USACE NEW Floristic Quality Assessment Program

On December 12, 2012 Robbie Sliwinski from U.S. Army Corps of Engineers presented a preview and tutorial of the new beta version floristic quality assessment program. This preview provided an insight on what features the program has as well and the inclusion of the new plant nomenclature and new wetland indicator status' that the USACE released late this year. Thirty-three IAEP members attended the seminar in Rosemont.



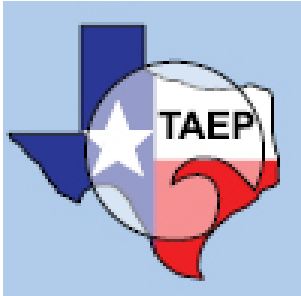
Robbie Sliwinski presents the NEW FQA program



IAEP members take notes on the new features of the program

### Upcoming Student Career Seminar

IAEP will be holding its annual student career seminar on January 26, 2013 at DePaul University Lincoln Park Chicago campus. Students from local Colleges and Universities are invited to this free seminar.



## Texas Association of Environmental Professionals Chapter Report

TAEP ([www.taep.org](http://www.taep.org)) sponsors monthly guest speaker luncheons, a yearly conference, monthly young professional networking events, sponsor seminars, and joint meetings with

other related organizations. One of the guiding principles of TAEP when it was founded was the promotion and fostering of environmental education. Consequently, a large portion of TAEP's revenue is given back to the community in the form of scholarships and grants. TAEP provides scholarships to full-time students seeking both graduate and undergraduate degrees in environmentally related disciplines from Texas colleges and universities. TAEP also supports the Texas Envirothon (for high school students) and the Science and Engineering Fair of Houston (for middle and high school students).

For chapter information and event registration, please visit [WWW.TAEP.ORG](http://WWW.TAEP.ORG)

## ABCEP Emerging Environmental Professional Achievement Award



The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) Emerging Environmental Professional Achievement Award recognize environmental professionals for their leadership, professional involvement, commitment to foster environmental improvement, and actions to help make the world a better place for future generations. ABCEP welcomes participation by other environmental organizations in co-sponsoring these awards. The nominee's contribution/achievements must be documented to include leadership at the local, regional, national and/or the international level. We are requesting nominations from you, your company, or agency describing outstanding environmental contributions from young professionals. Nominations may include young professionals whose leadership, projects or programs have advanced the environmental profession as recognized by others.

Evidence may be provided in the form of references containing personal testimonies or corroboration of professional experiences; achievements, commendations from employers, Board of Directors and/or other professional associations or societies; commendations from governmental and/or private sector groups.

The Award is announced at the end of each calendar year. The recipient will be featured in the ABCEP Newsletter and participating organizations' publications. Recipients will be eligible to apply for certification as either a CEP-IT or CEP. Application fees to join ABCEP and participating organizations will be waived for the first year.

The ABCEP Trustees are responsible for selecting the winner of the award. More than one award may be given each year.

**Deadline: February 25, 2013!**

Please contact Nadine Jackson-Bey the Academy's Executive Director by sending an e-mail at [office@abcep.org](mailto:office@abcep.org) if you have any questions about the nomination or the process.

To nominate click the link below:

[http://www.abcep.org/emerging\\_environmental\\_professional\\_award.html](http://www.abcep.org/emerging_environmental_professional_award.html)



## President's Letter

*Continued from page 15*

do. Writing is a powerful tool for teaching and learning. It can be wielded by us all. Writing is truly the democratic voice of the people. Each of us has something to contribute that will be of interest to the rest of the members.

I want to thank the many people who emailed me with their concerns about the global warming article in the last issue. I will also say that far from being a settled case in the scientific community, I know of several very intelligent and educated members who are not totally on board. I have defended the right of one of our members to express his views. I now invite others to do the same.

I am not completely ignorant of the discussion going on in the scientific community concerning global warming, climate change, periodic weather phenomenon, etc. I have been accused of being entirely ignorant by my expression of not knowing everything about climate change theory. However, I am still trying to learn.

I have started several times to read the book *Unstoppable Global Warming* by Dr. S. Fred Singer and Dennis Avery. Each time I get to a point where I stop reading because it appears that the facts do not add up to me. I realize each time that I am not an expert, but I question when the authors use the same citations over and over again to make their points. My scientific training tells me that something is not quite right in the scientific basis of the writing. The aim of the book is to convince the reader that we have gone through these cycles before and that the current climate we are experiencing is all part of a larger 1,500 year cycle.

Where I depart from completely accepting their arguments is when it appears that they first claim that warming ended in the late 90's. Then they appear to argue the other side claiming that if warming really is happening, humans aren't causing it, or that the warming is not from Carbon Dioxide. The pretzel logic becomes unbearable for me and I stop within 100 pages, completely confused as to what the authors are trying to tell me.

Some of what is presented has some validity. The 1,500 year cycle does have some interesting ideas attached to it. I depart from their arguments when I do not see the same trends in data that they provide. Much of the book reads very much like unsubstantiated information disguised as facts.

I do not know the qualifications of the authors beyond a quick internet search. Yet, both wrote this book purporting to understand global climate and explain it as a cyclical phenom-

enon. When they question the findings of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), I also have to question whether they are "conducting their analysis in areas where they are qualified."

But remember, they are published authors who are provided the freedom to portray their information as they wish. It is up to the reader to remain skeptical, watchful, and find several sources to weigh their scientific information upon. I have used guidance contained in the "Skeptical Environmentalist (Bjorn Lomborg, 2001) to help filter out fact from fiction in much of my scientific search for knowledge.

Without a stronger basis in the science of climatology, I still cannot make a clear yes or no decision on the contents of the book or the capabilities of the authors. However, I do know that I have yet to wholly accept their premise and I cannot arrive at the same conclusions as the authors. I will not likely finish their book because I am not finding information worth my time in the book. The readers of this newsletter are also in a position to accept or reject the information in an article based on those same criteria.

Given my acknowledged lack of climatological expertise, I tend to look at climate change through different scientific areas. I have read articles in both scientific journals and more publicly accessible publications like Smithsonian Magazine and National Geographic. The presented evidence of climate change in aspects of archeological investigations and in-depth monitoring of melting polar areas provide me with information that makes me come away more convinced that we are experiencing a problem.

I read an article in the *Washington Post* that detail 2012 as the warmest year on record and cannot come to any other conclusion but that there is warming occurring. I can read journal articles about the changes in animal migrations, plant flowering, and the movement of plant species poleward as warming increases. I always have my environmental skeptic hat on, but I am finding less and less information that supports the idea that there is no warming. What is still undetermined for me is whether it is human induced. I keep reading, I keep looking for more information.

Many of the global warming phenomena I have observed or researched (increased storm frequency, more powerful storms, frequency of "100-year" storms) have been explained to me as simply the result of increased reporting, not an actual change in climate, and certainly not a direct connection to human induced

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## President's Letter

Continued from page 21

change. We all do have to remember that observation is not direct causation.

I understand and accept that the explanation of increased news coverage could be correct. I can also realize that nothing I have read to date supports that premise either. I do not understand how we can see and hear heavily reported weather phenomenon and not realize that change is happening.

We really are living in exciting times. I believe we are seeing the development of a great scientific body of work that will become something as important for us as evolution has become. I also believe that we are part of the development of the information that will either disprove or modify important scientific facts that will become the final, or next evolution, of climate change theory.

Further, however, I believe we are in the midst of a rapidly changing climate situation that requires action sooner rather than later. In the meantime many of the actions taken by individuals and governments to reduce energy use, reduce carbon dioxide emissions, save money on energy bills, and become more sustainable cannot be bad. There is evidence of increased levels of carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. Can efforts to reduce atmospheric concentrations be bad?

Until we learn all there is to learn about the climate, it is wise to keep our options open and work toward reducing resource depletion.

So, what I did in the last issue was to accept an article that was obviously a point of view. I should have made it clearer that the article was written by an individual and did not represent the views of NAEP. That was my error.

I still believe that the author had a right to express what he understood about the subject. The feedback I received refuted much that was stated in the article (look at the links below provided by one or the correspondents at the end of this piece). Some of the graphics that were included also troubled me. Trend lines appeared to be somewhat off, data appeared to be incomplete. However, I still believe that the content of the article, an opinion piece for sure, had a right to be included in the newsletter.

If you write me I will respond to you. I will be respectful and I will challenge you to provide us with your knowledge. The members who wrote to me were each given an individual response from me directly.

I do want to compliment our members for having manners and tact. While I was in no way totally forgiven for the faux pas

Continued on page 23

## Advertising Opportunities in the NAEP Newsletter

The NAEP Newsletter is offering a limited amount of advertising space in the publication. Advertisements will be limited to two pages per issue for 2013 and once that space is filled per issue there will be no other advertisements accepted. Advertisers will have the opportunity to purchase space in all remaining issues of 2012 so that they can be assured of space in each issue. This is a great opportunity to both support NAEP and gain access to a potential readership of over 6,500.

Ads can be purchased in either quarter or half page sizes and is priced at a very affordable price that starts at \$375 per ad for a quarter page ad when 6 ads are purchased. The purchasing of ads in advance allows the advertiser to reduce their costs and allow you to make sure your ad space is reserved.

For more information on advertising opportunities or to reserve your space please contact Tim Bower at 856-283-7816 or by email at [naep@naep.org](mailto:naep@naep.org).





## President's Letter

*Continued from page 22*

of publishing the article, by the time we had exchanged a couple of emails, we had come to an agreement and the majority were willing to provide a separate article for a future issue. Despite the disagreement concerning whether the article should have been published, I am heartened that it appears that there will be several upcoming articles presenting a different point of view. I am looking forward to getting exactly what I asked for.

The subject matter is still being determined for some, climate change is at least the subject of one of the developing articles. I hope our continued scientific exchange helps us all avoid groupthink and arrive at a similar place of knowledge.

Here are the links I mentioned previously. They are provided with some of the comments from the correspondent to keep their context. Readers are encouraged to read and understand what is being presented and use it to help form your knowledge base on climate change.

## Climate Change vs. Global Warming

Tracking carbon by biome over time - NOAA's Carbon Tracker Program -

[http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/carbontracker/documentation\\_obs.html#summarytable](http://www.esrl.noaa.gov/gmd/ccgg/carbontracker/documentation_obs.html#summarytable)

Ice-core evidence of abrupt climate changes (Alley) has been known since 2000, but does not change anthropogenic contributions -

<http://www.pnas.org/content/97/4/1331.full>

IPCC data on changes in temperature, sea level, and Northern Hemisphere snow cover, (pre-dating 1998) -

[http://www.ipcc.ch/publications\\_and\\_data/ar4/syr/en/mains1.html](http://www.ipcc.ch/publications_and_data/ar4/syr/en/mains1.html)

IPCC online mapping system which lets you load different modeled scenarios -

<http://www.ipcc-data.org/maps/>

HadCRUT – This database (and others) seems to be maintained by the Hadley Centre of the UK Met Office (not the IPCC) -

<http://www.metoffice.gov.uk/hadobs/>

According to the CDIAC, gases have different decay rates – and ozone and water vapor relatively short lifespans. All must be taken into account when attempting to predict the “Global Warming Potential” at any given time, over any given period. The footnotes on this website are a great read (radiative forcing...note the increase in methane...). Fascinating.

[http://cdiac.ornl.gov/pns/current\\_ghg.html](http://cdiac.ornl.gov/pns/current_ghg.html)

### Climatic Change vs. Global Warming – what is the difference?

**IPCC** - Climate change in IPCC usage refers to a change in the state of the climate that can be identified (e.g. using statistical tests) by changes in the mean and/or the variability of its properties, and that persists for an extended period, typically decades or longer. It refers to any change in climate over time, whether due to natural variability or as a result of human activity. This usage differs from that in the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC), where climate change refers to a change of climate that is attributed directly or indirectly to human activity that alters the composition of the global atmosphere and that is in addition to natural climate variability observed over comparable time periods.

**EPA** - “Global warming is an average increase in the temperature of the atmosphere near the Earth’s surface and in the troposphere, which can contribute to changes in global climate patterns. Global warming can occur from a variety of causes, both natural and human induced. In common usage, “global warming” often refers to the warming that can occur as a result of increased emissions of greenhouse gases from human activities.”



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All donations are tax-deductible. Go to [NAEP.org](http://NAEP.org) and click Scholarship Foundations to make your contribution. You can also donate when you renew your NAEP membership.

Thank you,  
Gary F. Kelman, Chair

James Roberts Scholarship Committee  
Mel Willis  
John Perkins  
Bruce Hasbrouck  
Teri Hasbrouck





## Become a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP)

### OBTAIN THE RECOGNITION YOUR CAREER DESERVES:

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- Does this environmental certification include an objective peer review of your abilities? Yes
- Is your environmental certification accredited by a third-party certifying body? Yes
- Then your environmental certification must be a CEP from The Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP).



### Certification is available in five areas:

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- Operations
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- Research/Education

Beginning in 1979, experienced environmental professionals were able to become certified through a comprehensive peer review addressing years of experience, responsibility, and knowledge. Certifications are nationally-recognized and available for a wide range of eligible professionals including:

- Federal/state/local agency staff - Consultants - Researchers - Compliance managers
- Enforcement officials - Activists

Initially offered as a certification through the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP), the Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals (ABCEP) established organizational independence in 1993. In 1999 ABCEP became a nonprofit organization. In 2005, the ABCEP achieved accreditation by the Council of Engineering and Scientific Specialty Boards (CESB – [www.cesb.org](http://www.cesb.org))

The ABCEP CEP brings heightened confidence in the professional quality of documents, evaluations, and decisions. Certified individuals satisfy the professional requirements outlined by the USEPA, ASTM, and other regulatory agencies, providing assurance to employers and customers. For the individual, certification increases opportunities for promotions, marketability, and career advancement. Certified individuals maintain their knowledge, experience, and credentials through continuing education, teaching, mentoring, publishing papers, and complying with the Code of Ethics.

**Become a CEP-IT:** The ABCEP offers mentoring and a CEP-In Training (CEP-IT) designation to junior and mid-level professionals developing towards CEP eligibility. The CEP-IT increases individual and firm marketability, enhanced career opportunities, and enhanced networking opportunities.

**More Information:** Contact ABCEP at [office@abcep.org](mailto:office@abcep.org); [www.abcep.org](http://www.abcep.org); or 1.866.767.8073 Do you have an upcoming meeting and need a speaker? Speaker opportunities by CEPs about ABCEP are available in certain geographic locations.



Call for papers for publication in the scholarly journal:

## **Environmental Practice**

The journal of the National Association of Environmental Professionals

Kelly Tzoumis, Lead Editor

### **GREAT LAKES SUSTAINABILITY**

**vol. 15 no. 4**

**with Guest Editor Dr. Susan Hedman, Great Lakes National Program Manager, USEPA**

The Great Lakes hold 95% of the United States' fresh water supply, which is one-fifth of the fresh water on the Earth. As a result, the Great Lakes have immense environmental, economic, and cultural significance, especially for the roughly 30 million people who live, work, and recreate in the Great Lakes basin. The Great Lakes ecosystem is under significant environmental stress due to potentially harmful and disruptive algal blooms, invasive animal and plant species, climate change, legacy pollutants such as PCBs and metals, and airborne contaminants such as mercury that are being added to the ecosystem every day.

To respond to the need for policy solutions to these threats, President Obama launched the Great Lakes Restoration Initiative to restore and protect the Great Lakes. At the same time, the United States and Canada entered into negotiations to update the Great Lakes Water Quality Agreement.

In light of the many difficult and complex challenges facing the Great Lakes ecosystem today, and given the current focus on its restoration and protection, this issue of *Environmental Practice* is dedicated to exploring the challenges faced in Great Lakes restoration. We welcome a variety of perspectives and submissions from scholars, practitioners, and students. Manuscripts are particularly sought with a focus on public policy.

**Deadline for submittals is  
May 15, 2013 to  
[dcarro17@depaul.edu](mailto:dcarro17@depaul.edu)**

Published by Cambridge University Press

**Sample issues of the journal**

**can be found at:**

[http://journals.cambridge.org/action/  
displayJournal?jid=ENP](http://journals.cambridge.org/action/displayJournal?jid=ENP)

**Guidelines for publication can be found at:**

<http://journals.cambridge.org/action/>

The editorial office of *Environmental*

*Practice* is located at

DePaul University's Department of Public Policy.

For questions, please contact Dan Carroll,

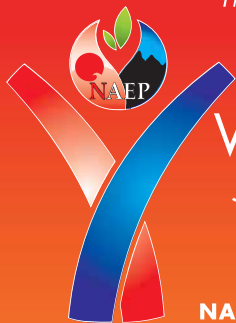
Managing Editor, at 773-325-2298

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[kellytzoumis@gmail.com](mailto:kellytzoumis@gmail.com)





## WALK THE TALK

JW Marriott L.A. LIVE

Los Angeles, CA

April 1 - 4, 2013

NAEP | AEP JOINT CONFERENCE

# Pre-Conference Program

**JANUARY 11, 2013**

### IN THIS UPDATE

Special Sessions and Events

Keynote Speakers

Mobile Workshops

Track Descriptions

Conference-at-a-Glance

Thank You, Conference Sponsors!

### REGISTER NOW!

Click here to register for the early conference registration rate of \$445, which includes all meals.

### HOTEL RESERVATIONS

Special hotel rates for attendees at the JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE are \$179 single/double. Click here for additional information.

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2013 CONFERENCE PLANNER

Lynne Bynder, CMP

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## L.A. LIVE



### Please Join Us for the 2013 NAEP/AEP Joint Conference!

The conference committee is hard at work planning an informative and engaging event for environmental professionals. The conference will be held in an outstanding, state-of-the-art conference facility at the JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE, located in the vibrant L.A. LIVE complex in downtown Los Angeles.

The hotel and conference facility sport a front-row seat to some of Los Angeles' top attractions, including the Staples Center, the Nokia Theatre, Regal Cinemas, and a wide variety of shops and restaurants. In addition, many world-class attractions can be reached via public transit, which is easily accessible from the complex.

The conference program will feature dynamic regional and national keynote speakers, a pre-conference symposium on climate change, and a pre-conference NEPA Basics workshop. There will also be comprehensive update sessions on NEPA and CEQA that will cover the latest legal and policy developments for the two laws. Concurrent conference sessions will cover topics including Air Quality & Climate Change; CEQA; Cultural Resources; Energy; Land Use, Water & Sustainability; NEPA; Public Involvement; Transportation & Noise; Visual Resources; Wetlands; and Wildlife & Habitat. There will also be numerous other conference and social events, including several mobile workshops and a 5K Scholarship Walk/Run through some of downtown Los Angeles' top attractions.

For more conference information visit <http://www.n-aep2013.org/>



# Special Sessions and Events

## NEPA BASICS WORKSHOP

Monday, April 1 • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Additional fee applies

Lunch will be provided

This workshop will cover the basics of NEPA, including the policies, procedures, and environmental documents necessary for successful compliance. It is primarily designed for new and mid-level NEPA practitioners and will inform agency staff, consultants, regulators, applicants, and other interested professionals about best NEPA practices.

NEPA is a far reaching law applying to virtually all federal agencies and most of their activities that affect the environment. Additionally, many State, local, and private undertakings must be evaluated pursuant to NEPA if they receive federal funding, require federal permits, or would take place on federal land.

The key to successfully implementing NEPA is attaining a working knowledge of the regulations, legal interpretations, and typical federal agency practices. This workshop will cover all of these aspects of NEPA.

Topics addressed in this workshop include:

- NEPA's legal and regulatory framework
- Determining whether NEPA applies to a proposed action
- Key steps in the NEPA environmental review process
- Determining which type of NEPA document to prepare
- Scoping for NEPA analyses
- Successful integration of NEPA with other environmental laws
- Direct, Indirect and Cumulative Impact analysis
- Determining significance of impacts
- Developing and evaluating a reasonable range of alternatives
- Writing adequate and feasible mitigation measures
- Legal adequacy of NEPA documents and NEPA case law
- Most common NEPA mistakes

Lunch will be provided, and Nicholas Yost will be the featured keynote speaker. Formerly general counsel of the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) during the Carter Administration, Mr. Yost was the lead draftsman of the CEQ NEPA regulations. He is currently a partner at the law firm of SNR Denton LLP in San Francisco, CA.

## CLIMATE CHANGE SYMPOSIUM

Monday, April 1 • 9:00 am - 3:00 pm

Additional fee applies

Lunch will be provided

The Climate Change Symposium will cover the latest science supporting climate change, including revised forecasts on climate change consequences and recent guideline changes from CEQ, federal, and State agencies on addressing climate change impacts. It is designed to inform agency staff, consultants, regulators, applicants, and other interested professionals in analyzing and addressing climate change impacts during NEPA and CEQA review, and best practices for infrastructure and facility design to adapt to climate change consequences.

Recent CEQ guidance directs federal agencies to review potential climate change impacts and provide climate change adaptation of infrastructure and facilities during NEPA review. Additionally, many federal agencies are reviewing potential climate change impacts and implementing best practices in climate change adaptation for new facilities and retrofits of existing facilities.

This symposium will cover all of these aspects of climate change regulation, NEPA and CEQA analysis, and best practices.

Topics addressed in this symposium include:

- The latest science and forecasts on climate change from JPL/NASA
- CEQ guidance on addressing climate change impacts in NEPA
- Determining whether detailed climate change impact analysis and adaptation measures apply to a proposed action
- Key steps in a climate change environmental review process
- Best Practices in developing climate change adaptation for projects, facilities, and infrastructure
- Guidance on developing Climate Change Adaptation Plans for key facilities
- Examples of Climate Change Adaptation and Coastal Resiliency Strategic Plans from the Port of Long Beach and Port of Tampa

Lunch will be provided, and Dr. William (Bill) Patzert will be the featured keynote speaker. Dr. Patzert is a lead scientist at the NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory. His research is focused on the application of NASA satellite data to improve our understanding of our planet's climate and environmental problems ranging from more accurate long-term climate forecasts to monitoring the health of the oceans.

## 5K SCHOLARSHIP WALK/RUN

Wednesday, April 3 • 6:30 am - 7:30 am

Additional fee applies

Please join us for the first annual NAEP-AEP 5K Scholarship Run/Walk. This is a fun, non-competitive, non-timed event to raise funds for the NAEP Jim Roberts Memorial Scholarship Fund and the AEP Student Scholarship Program. We will literally be "Walking (and running) the Talk" on a flat, scenic course on the streets surrounding Staples Center and L.A. LIVE.





**WALK THE TALK**  
JW Marriott L.A. LIVE  
Los Angeles, CA  
April 1-4, 2013  
NAEP | AEP JOINT CONFERENCE

# Keynote Speakers

## **NEPA BASICS WORKSHOP** **NICHOLAS YOST,** **GENERAL COUNSEL OF THE PRESIDENT'S** **COUNCIL ON ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY** **DURING THE CARTER ADMINISTRATION**

Monday, April 1 • 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Additional fee applies  
Lunch will be provided



Nick Yost conducts a nationwide practice of environmental and natural resources law from the San Francisco office of SNR Denton LLP. He is the recipient of the American Bar Association's award for Distinguished Achievement in Environmental Law and Policy (2010). His practice focuses on the permitting of major projects and the preparation of NEPA documents and their defense in court. As General Counsel of the White House Council on Environmental Quality, Nick drafted the federal government's NEPA regulations. Prior to that, he founded and was the first head of the Environmental Section of the California Attorney General's office where he had a key role in the development of CEQA. He has also chaired the environmental committees of the California and District of Columbia Bar Associations. He is a graduate of Princeton University and the School of Law of the University of California, Berkeley.

## **CLIMATE CHANGE SYMPOSIUM** **DR. WILLIAM PATZERT, LEAD SCIENTIST,** **NASA JET PROPULSION LABORATORY**

Monday, April 1 • 12:00 pm - 1:00 pm

Additional fee applies  
Lunch will be provided

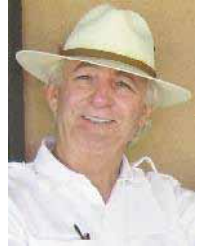


Often called the "Prophet of California Climate," Bill Patzert is a scientist at the California Institute of Technology's NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL) in Pasadena, Calif. His research is focused on the application of NASA satellite data to improving our understanding of our planet's climate and important environmental problems ranging from developing El Niño, La Niña, and longer-term climate forecasts, global warming, to monitoring the health of coral reefs. The author of many scientific and popular articles, Bill works with undergraduate and graduate students from all over the world, and lectures at many local universities. A media favorite, he is often sought out by reporters and is regularly seen on local and national television representing NASA and JPL. In a recent article, Bill was named as one of the West's most influential individuals in dealing with water issues.

## **OPENING PLENARY** **RAY CLARK,** **FOUNDER AND PRESIDENT,** **RIVERCROSSING STRATEGIES**

Tuesday, April 2 • 8:30 am - 9:30 am

Ray Clark is the founder and President of RiverCrossing Strategies, a consortium dedicated to working at the intersection of economic development and environmental conservation. Ray also founded The Clark Group, a Washington-based consortium of senior-level science and policy professionals specializing in environmental and energy matters. He was formerly the Assistant Secretary of the Army (acting) and the Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Installations and Environment) where he was responsible for all of the U.S. Army facilities worldwide and steward of more than 14 million acres of land. He was responsible for military construction, family housing, all real estate transactions, and the environmental and natural resource management program. Ray was also responsible for base closure and transitioning excess military property to economic development. Prior to his appointment to this position, he was Associate Director at the White House Council of Environmental Quality, where he acted as advisor to the President, the Chairman of CEQ, and Senior White House Staff.



## **KEYNOTE LUNCHEON** **BRETT ROHRING,** **DIRECTOR, CORPORATE CITIZENSHIP,** **ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY,** **THE WALT DISNEY COMPANY**

Wednesday, April 3 • 11:30 am - 1:30 pm

Brett Rohring is director of corporate citizenship for The Walt Disney Company. In this role, Brett leads strategic development and oversight of global environmental policy and standards. His career at Disney has spanned more than 26 years; he has held a variety of management and environmental roles within the company's Parks and Resorts division and corporate headquarters. During this time, Brett has played a significant role in bringing a number of "first-ever" environmental programs to fruition, including Disney's first themed recycling program at the Disneyland Resort, and installation of the first solar array panel at the Walt Disney Studios. In addition, Brett has led development of a number of environmental education and outreach programs and sustainable design guidelines for the company. Most recently, he led the development of Disney's new paper sourcing and use policy, which is part of the company's commitment to promote forest conservation and responsible forest management.





# Mobile Workshops

## TOUR OF PORT OF LOS ANGELES HARBOR

Monday, April 1 • 3:00 pm - 6:30 pm

\$60 additional fee

The Port of Los Angeles Harbor tour will consist of a one-hour presentation on a ship, located approximately one hour away from the conference site. The bus will depart from L.A. Live to the Port of Los Angeles. The Port of Los Angeles is America's Port, the busiest container port in the nation. The Port of Los Angeles is the leading economic engine for Southern California and the nation. It is known for record-setting cargo operations, groundbreaking environmental initiatives, progressive security measures, diverse recreational and educational facilities, and the emerging LA Waterfront. The tour narrator will describe the key features, general efforts to green the operations and maintenance activities, recent and planned landside and marine development, and related climate adaptation planning through the key area of the harbor. The Port of Los Angeles is involved in cutting-edge green operations, including programs such as Ocean-Going Vessel Emission Reduction, Clean Truck Program, and Alternative Maritime Power Program. Bring a sweatshirt or light jacket since the ocean breezes can get chilly.



## ECOLOGICAL RESTORATION IN THE URBAN ENVIRONMENT

Wednesday, April 3 • 8:00 am - 1:30 pm

\$60 additional fee

The Ecological Restoration in the Urban Environment tour will highlight two habitat conservation sites in the City of Los Angeles: the El Segundo Blue Butterfly Habitat Restoration Area and the Ballona Wetlands. These two sites highlight the importance of conserving high-quality functional habitats as part of the urban fabric. A bus will be leaving from L.A. Live to the two restoration areas near the LAX airport. A box lunch will be provided.

The El Segundo blue butterfly (ESB) historically resided in the 3,200-acre coastal dunes complex, bordered on the west by the Pacific Ocean and the east by Los Angeles coastal prairie. The area has since been converted to an urban landscape and the dunes reduced to about 307 mostly degraded acres. The ESB was placed on the federal endangered species list in 1976, beginning a continuous effort by the City of Los Angeles to restore the El Segundo Dunes for the butterfly and other native species. The City of Los Angeles established a 203-acre Habitat Restoration Area within the dunes, immediately adjacent to LAX, the sixth busiest airport in the world.

The Ballona Wetlands is a complex mix of habitats, including estuarine and brackish marshes, freshwater marsh and riparian habitats, seasonal wetlands, and uplands. The area offers opportunities for education, ecological restoration, and community service in urban Los Angeles. More than 7,000 participants partake in these learning and restoration activities each year. Between 1999 and 2007, volunteers removed more than 450 tons of invasive plants, trash, and debris from the wetlands. More than 800 native plants have been planted by volunteers until they were established in the coastal sand dunes of Ballona. These native plants have reproduced, creating habitat for native insects, reptiles, birds, and small mammals.





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# Mobile Workshops

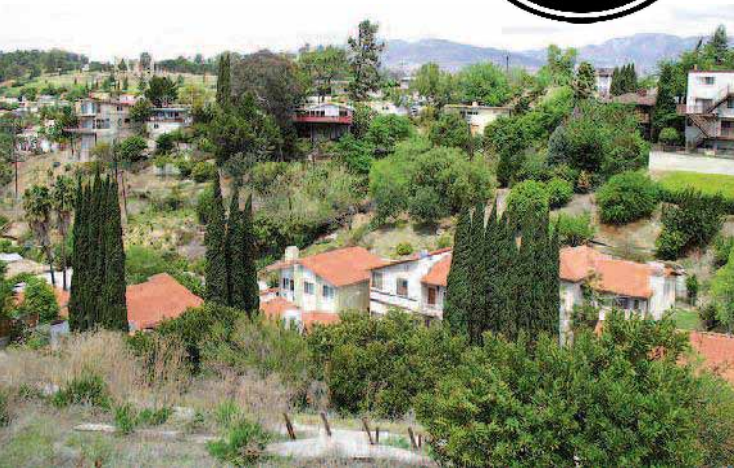
## **RENEWABLE ENERGY AT THREE SCALES: RESIDENTIAL, COMMERCIAL, AND UTILITY**

Wednesday, April 3 • 11:30 am - 6:00 pm

\$60 additional fee

This mobile workshop will investigate examples of Southern California's innovative renewable energy and energy conservation measures at residential buildings, commercial properties, and utility-scale installations. A bus will depart from L.A. Live to visit the three sites. The tour will begin at the Glassell Park neighborhood's Rio Vista Apartments, a LEED Platinum-certified property that is the first joint-use development in the County of Los Angeles that co-locates affordable housing with an Early Education Center on Los Angeles Unified School District surplus land. The tour will then go to Sapphos Environmental, Inc.'s Pasadena headquarters, which has been designed to meet LEED standards through the office's location, the use of innovative wastewater technologies, construction waste management, and energy efficiency, including a complete conversion to solar power, for which the firm received awards from the California Air Resources Board and the Minority Business Development Agency. The tour will end approximately 60 miles north of Los Angeles at EDF Renewable, Inc.'s Pacific Wind Energy Project, an 8,500-acre, 140-megawatt wind farm that began commercial operation in August 2012.

Projects such as Pacific Wind are instrumental in helping the State meet the California Renewable Portfolio Standard, which requires retail sellers of electricity to purchase 20 percent of their electricity from renewable sources by 2017.

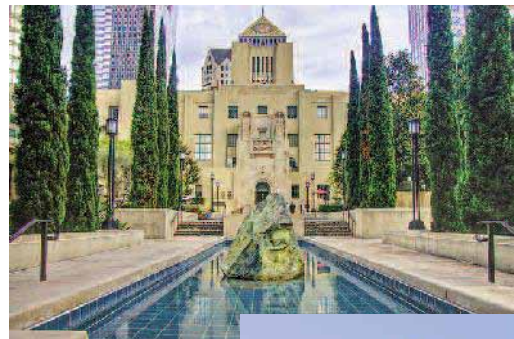


## **WALKING TOUR OF REHABILITATED AND ADAPTIVELY REUSED HISTORIC BUILDINGS**

Wednesday, April 3 • 1:45 pm - 5:00 pm

\$60 additional fee

The Rehabilitated and Adaptively Reused Historic Buildings tour begins at the historic center of the Spanish Pueblo de Los Angeles founded in 1781, LA Plaza de Cultura y Artes, whose mission is "to celebrate and cultivate an appreciation for the enduring and evolving influence of Mexican and Mexican-American culture." From there, the tour travels via public transportation to Pershing Square, the first public park in Los Angeles, to join a guide from the Los Angeles Conservancy for the remainder of the tour of downtown Los Angeles, focused on historic buildings rehabilitated and adaptively reused following the Secretary of the Interior's Standards. The tour includes the Bradbury Building (the oldest building in downtown Los Angeles), the Grand Central Market, the Biltmore Hotel, the Los Angeles Central Library, and the Subway Terminal Building. The tour includes a stroll down Broadway, which has a concentration of historic theaters that have been restored and adapted, and a visit to Angel's Flight, a funicular railway that connected elite Victorian mansions on Bunker Hill to downtown, which has been restored to use. A number of the buildings have benefited from the California Mills Act Property Tax Abatement Program (since 1972) and the City of Los Angeles Adaptive Reuse Ordinance (1999). The tour ends with lunch at the hip downtown restaurant Bodega Louie.





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# Track Descriptions

## **AIR QUALITY & CLIMATE CHANGE**

Several states across the country have passed legislation aimed at restricting and reducing greenhouse gas emissions resulting in increased climate action planning at the local level and the assessment of project-generated emissions in environmental documentation (NEPA and CEQA). Implementation of legislation, along with climate action plans and individual projects, focus on greenhouse gas-reducing solutions that can place sensitive receptors closer to toxic air contaminant sources (e.g., high density housing near mass transit). This track will discuss approaches to integrating health issues into environmental documents and present specific analysis tools for assessment of increased health risk. Sessions will also be unveiling and discussing recent changes and advancements in air quality models and case studies.



## **CEQA**

The sessions in the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) track cover some of CEQA's tough issues and examine new ways of analyzing environmental effects. This year's sessions include an introduction to CEQA for out-of-staters, practical advice on writing EIRs, the latest on streamlining CEQA documents pursuant to SB 375, a lesson on successful CEQA analysis for a municipal ban on plastic bags, and a critical look at the use of CEQA exemptions. The ever popular annual update will review the past year's CEQA litigation and legislation. And, for a behind the scene's view at the State Capitol, you won't want to miss the session on the latest push in the California Legislature to "modernize" CEQA.

## **CULTURAL RESOURCES**

Cultural resources are often an afterthought in the world of environmental compliance, and yet, by law, they are equally as important. Indeed, neglecting to address them adequately can lead to project delays, at best, to political black eyes at worst, and everything in between. The sessions in the Cultural Resources track are designed to assist environmental professionals understand and negotiate some potential pitfalls of cultural resources compliance.

## **ENERGY**

Accommodating American energy demands has always required balancing economic and societal needs with environmental principles. The recent emphasis on renewable energy development, however, has spawned new tensions, unearthed new challenges, and created some odd bedfellows. The Energy track will shed light upon these unique challenges, with discussions that will include the management and planning of solar and wind energy on federal lands, as well as addressing the associated concerns of environmental interest groups, local residents, and Indian Tribes. Mediation as a specific mechanism to address these concerns will also be discussed. The Energy track sessions promise to offer insights into some of the most dynamic and complex challenges facing environmental professionals today.

## **LAND USE, WATER & SUSTAINABILITY**

Land management and watershed supply decisions are often the most far reaching "big picture" determinations facing federal, State, and local agencies. This track will address many environmental issues that cross jurisdictional borders and resource disciplines. Presentation topics will include cleanup strategies for contaminated development sites, emerging trends in green infrastructure, recycling strategies for construction sites, and developments in water infrastructure planning.

With sustainability, energy efficiency, and the risk of climate change at the forefront of Southern California's planning efforts, and the limited fiscal resources available to local governments to address these emerging issues, many organizations have taken a regional approach to addressing sustainability and energy efficiency. This session will discuss several examples of successful regional efforts to improve sustainability, energy efficiency, and address climate change risks in the Southern California region without straining local government fiscal resources.





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## NEPA

The sessions in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) track bring fresh ideas on how to make the NEPA process a useful and effective tool that produces better outcomes. The sessions include panels examining how to improve NEPA practice and presentations on how NEPA is being successfully applied. Sessions will also provide real-world practical advice on NEPA practice. The track includes the annual NEPA update with a review of recent case law, regulatory changes, new guidance, and a look ahead at emerging issues.

## PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Engaging the public is an important factor in the success of projects. There are large segments of the public not currently engaged in this public process. If the goal of a project is to be successful and you need an engaged public to be successful, then how can we reach and engage them? This track includes presentations from leading professionals. They will present information on where the public audiences are and how the industry is reaching them in ways never before imagined.



## TRANSPORTATION & NOISE

The Transportation and Noise track will address different aspects and challenges related to transportation and the environment. Topics will include green streets, best practices for addressing the environmental evaluation of high speed rail in the northeast corridor, noise and vibration impacts in burgeoning urban areas, environmental provisions of the June 2012 federal transportation act (MAP-21), and traffic analysis.

## VISUAL RESOURCES

Assessment of visual or scenic resources in the landscape is a renewed area of interest across the country – especially given the development of large-scale renewable energy projects and infrastructure development. Sessions within the track will address the latest developments in visual impact assessment (VIA) methodology, renewable energy VIA, as well as assessing sensitive critical viewsheds, historic properties, and urban areas. There will also be two interactive panel discussions featuring national experts to address these issues.

## WETLANDS

Two sessions are offered for the wetlands track this year. The focus this year is on restoration and mitigation. The first session is three (3) separate presentations regarding different projects and unique challenges. The second session is a panel discussion regarding a project with long-standing issues and the process to resolve them.

## WILDLIFE & HABITAT

This track will describe the evolution and implementation of nesting bird mitigation measures followed by an interactive discussion of Habitat Conservation Plans (HCPs) in California.



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# Conference-at-a-Glance



**AICP Certification Credits**  
CM credit pending on sessions, workshops, symposiums, and mobile workshops



**MCLE Certification Credits**  
MCLE credit pending on sessions

MONDAY, APRIL 1, 2013	
8:30 am - 6:00 pm	Conference Registration
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	NEPA Basics Workshop, <b>Keynote Speaker: Nicholas Yost, Partner, SNR Denton LLP, San Francisco</b> (lunch provided) - Additional fee applies
9:00 am - 3:00 pm	Climate Change Symposium, <b>Keynote Speaker: Dr. William Patzert, Lead Scientist, NASA Jet Propulsion Laboratory</b> (lunch provided) - Additional fee applies
9:00 am - 5:00 pm	Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals
12:00 pm - 6:00 pm	Exhibits Set-up
3:00 pm - 4:45 pm	Environmental Careers Seminar
3:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Mobile Workshop - Tour of Port of Los Angeles Harbor (\$60 additional fee)
6:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Opening Reception: Pool Deck, JW Marriott Los Angeles L.A. LIVE

TUESDAY, APRIL 2, 2013							
7:30 am - 9:00 am	Continental Breakfast						
7:30 am - 6:30 pm	Conference Registration						
7:30 am - 6:30 pm	Exhibits Open						
8:30 am - 9:30 am	Opening Plenary Session, <b>Keynote Speaker: Ray Clark, Founder and President, RiverCrossing Strategies</b>						
Session Block 1 9:45 am - 11:15 am	Grand Boulevard Initiative	NEPA/Section 106 in the Public and Private Sectors	What do Ports and Burning Man Have in Common? Emissions Inventory Case Studies	Visual Impact Assessment Method Progress	Best Practice Principles for Environmental Assessments	Welcome to California! Complying with California's Mini-NEPA	Nesting Bird Mitigation
11:30 am - 1:30 pm	AEP Awards Luncheon and NAEP Awards Luncheon						
Session Block 2 1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	Rail Planning in the Northeast Corridor	Section 106 and the California High-Speed Rail	Tools and Guidance for Assessing and Communicating Health Risk	Renewable Energy and Urban Visual Impact Assessment	Can CERCLA Decision-Making Be Improved with Broader NEPA-Like Consideration?	Preparing a Successful Program EIR for a Plastic Bag Ban	HCP Jeopardy
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Break						
Session Block 3 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	Noise and Vibration in Urban Environments	Section 106 and Visual Effects	Ready, Get Offsets, Go!	Assessing Sensitive Landscapes	What NEPA that Works Looks Like	Community-Based Mitigation to Address Cumulative Impacts	Putting Energy into Greenhouse Gas Thresholds
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm	Reception at the Grammy Museum, Target Terrace						

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- VISUAL RESOURCES
- CULTURAL RESOURCES
- WETLANDS
- ENERGY
- WILDLIFE & HABITAT
- LAND USE, WATER & SUSTAINABILITY
- MOBILE WORKSHOPS
- NEPA
- LEADERSHIP MEETINGS
- PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT



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 CM credit pending on sessions, workshops, symposiums, and mobile workshops

**MCLE Certification Credits**  
 MCLE credit pending on sessions

WEDNESDAY, APRIL 3, 2013							
6:30 am - 7:30 am	5K Scholarship Walk/Run ( <i>additional fee applies</i> )						
7:30 am - 6:00 pm	Conference Registration						
7:30 am - 6:00 pm	Exhibits Open						
Session Block 4 8:00 am - 9:30 am	Map-21 Environmental Provisions	NEPA and Native American World Views	Tools and Approaches to Integrated Health Issues	The Renewable Energy Landscape	NEPA and Local Agencies: Potential Roles in the NEPA Process	CEQA Practicum: Subsequent CEQA Reviews	The Solar Programmatic EIS: A New Paradigm for Renewable Energy Development on Public Lands
8:00 am - 1:30 pm	<i>Mobile Workshop - Ecological Restoration in the Urban Environment (\$60 additional fee)</i>						
Session Block 5 9:45 am - 11:15 am	Getting Trip Generation Right	Cultural Resources in Large-Scale Linear Projects	The Idiots' Guide to Climate Action Planning	Scenic Resource Protection and Sustainable Development	Improving NEPA Effectiveness	CEQA Practicum: Determining Significance	Resolving Conflicts Over Renewable Energy Projects
11:30 am - 1:30 pm	Luncheon, <b>Keynote Speaker: Brett Rohring, Director, Corporate Citizenship, Environmental Policy, The Walt Disney Company</b>						
11:30 am - 6:00 pm	<i>Mobile Workshop - Renewable Energy at Three Scales: Residential, Commercial, and Utility (\$60 additional fee, box lunch will be provided)</i>						
Session Block 6 1:45 pm - 3:15 pm	What CEQA Guidelines Should Include for Transportation Impact Analysis	Using Technology to Sustainably Manage Water Quality	New Tools to Use in Analyzing Air Quality, GHG Emissions, and Health Risk	Mitigation and Habitat Restoration	Better NEPA Practice	CEQA Practicum: Developing Alternatives	Collaborative Sustainability Efforts in Southern California
1:45 pm - 5:00 pm	<i>Mobile Workshop - Walking Tour of Rehabilitated and Adaptively Reused Historic Buildings (\$60 additional fee)</i>						
3:15 pm - 3:30 pm	Break						
Session Block 7 3:30 pm - 5:00 pm	NEPA in Action	Status of Proposed CEQA Modernization Legislation	Whisky's for Drinking and Water's for Fighting Over	The Del Mar Fairgrounds Case Study	Implementing NEPA Projects	CEQA Exemptions: Not All They're Cracked Up to Be?	Reaching New Audiences with New Tools
5:00 pm - 6:30 pm	Wine and Cheese Reception, <i>Ballroom Foyer</i>						

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MCLE credit pending on sessions

## THURSDAY, APRIL 4, 2013

NAEP Committee Meetings 7:00 am - 7:45 am	Chapters Committee	2014 Conference Committee	Conference Committee	Environmental Policy Committee (Energy, NEPA, Transportation, Sustainable Systems, Health)
7:30 am - 10:30 am	Conference Registration			
7:30 am - 12:00 pm	Exhibits Open			
8:00 am - 8:45 am	NAEP General Membership Meeting			
8:00 am - 8:45 am	AEP General Membership Meeting			
9:00 am - 10:30 am	<p><b>Annual NEPA Update</b></p> <p>Although the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and CEQ's the NEPA regulations have remained stable for many years, NEPA's implementation by federal agencies is constantly changing. The federal courts regularly hand down new decisions that influence day-to-day NEPA practice. Additionally, CEQ and the USEPA occasionally develop guidance designed to improve NEPA compliance. Although rare, Congress sometimes amends NEPA as it did recently for transportation projects. This session will provide participants with a comprehensive update of the latest developments in NEPA case law, including decisions focusing on alternatives, cumulative impacts, and climate change. The session will also provide an update on the latest NEPA-related legislation, as well as initiatives from CEQ (which will be presented by Horst Greczmiel, CEQ Associate Director for NEPA Oversight), USEPA, and other federal agencies.</p>			
10:30 am - 10:45 am	Break			
10:45 am - 12:15 pm	<p><b>Annual CEQA Update</b></p> <p>The California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) is constantly evolving. With new judicial interpretations handed down each year, California's Legislature adopting new statutes each year, and new amendments to the State CEQA Guidelines, it's important for every CEQA practitioner to keep up with the latest changes. This session gives you the opportunity to hear a panel of CEQA experts discuss what's new with California's most important environmental law. Topics will include: 2012 CEQA legislation, the key court cases of the past year, the revisions to the State CEQA Guidelines encouraging infill development, and practical advice on how to comply with CEQA in light of these developments.</p>			
12:00 pm - 1:45 pm	Exhibitor Tear-Down			
12:30 pm - 5:30 pm	NAEP Board Meeting			
12:30 pm - 5:30 pm	AEP Board Meeting			

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