



President's Letter to Members

To some, the April 2015 NAEP Annual Conference and Membership Meeting in Hawaii may seem like ages ago; to others it may seem like just yesterday. The reality is it has been just the perfect amount of time to really kick the NAEP Strategic Plan into gear and begin seeing some results. As we approach the holidays, I wanted to provide you with an update.

Since the roll out of the Strategic Plan, a lot of hard work, planning, and engagement has taken place. Volunteer leads were

identified for each of the four pillars of focus: **Chapter Development, Marketing and Communications, Publications, and Internal Leadership Development.** Those leaders identified additional volunteers to join their pillars. If you would like to join a Pillar, please contact Tim Bower at naep@naep.org.

Pillars have aligned with current NAEP Committees and Action Plans that were developed and budgets have been set to the Board for review and approval. Not only has each Pillar Lead met with their groups, but the Pillar Leads, staff, and I have regular monthly check-in calls to connect and keep each other informed of progress. Each Action Plan can be found at the links below but let me share some of the highlights with you now:

Chapter Development Pillar:

<https://naep.memberclicks.net/assets/StrategicPlan-2015/chapterdevelopmentactionplanrevised2015-09-28.pdf>

Internal Leadership Development Pillar:

<https://naep.memberclicks.net/assets/StrategicPlan-2015/internalleadershipdevelopmentactionplanrevised2015-08-11.pdf>

Marketing and Communications Pillar:

<https://naep.memberclicks.net/assets/StrategicPlan-2015/marketingandcommunicationsactionplanrevised2015-08-18.pdf>

Publications Pillar:

<https://naep.memberclicks.net/assets/StrategicPlan-2015/publicationsactionplanrevised2015-08-11.pdf>

Publications – Pillar Lead: Betty Dehoney

NAEP has a mission and a responsibility to provide both association and practice information for the membership through publications (among other venues). In addition, we want to disseminate the work done in the fields of practice of interest to NAEP for a wider audience. The Publications Pillar has done an incredible amount of work to pull together this all-encompassing questionnaire related to improving the information content and presentation of NAEP publications so that we reach the widest possible audience with the most relevant and readable content. Recently the Publications Pillar did a readership survey for all of the NAEP publications and they are now using that data and information to make informed decisions regarding those publications. Thank you to all of you that completed the survey.

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The NAEP National *E-News* is a publication of NAEP. NAEP can be contacted through the information below:

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Previously, he was the Regional NEPA Coordinator for the Southeast Region, NOAA National Marine Fisheries Service in St. Petersburg, Florida where he was on the front lines of NEPA implementation for twelve years. While there, he reviewed, edited, helped write and improve hundreds of NEPA documents including EISs, EAs, RODs, FONSI, and CE's in the areas of marine fisheries management and conservation planning, marine threatened and endangered species protection, marine habitat conservation, and offshore energy siting. Prior to working at NOAA, he was the environmental chief at the U.S. Army Military District of Washington, Fort McNair, D.C.

Spare the ROD and Spoil NEPA's Purpose

By David Keys, MA, CEP

The implementation of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) purposes has been in question for some time now, with advocates and opponents lining up on both sides of the issues. This confusion regarding how NEPA should be implemented has gone on in earnest since the U.S. Supreme Court's decision in *Robertson v. Methow Valley* in 1989 and in reality began sixteen years prior with the case of *United States v. Students Challenging Regulatory Agency Procedures* (SCRAP, 1973). Volumes have been written on how NEPA should be implemented, how it actually is implemented, and how the court system has reviewed implementation. The best way to align agency implementation with the Act's purposes while simultaneously allowing for more ecological rationality in the judicial review of cases lies with the record of decision (ROD). The ROD's requirements are set down at 40 CFR 1505.2:

Sec. 1505.2 Record of decision in cases requiring environmental impact statements.

At the time of its decision (Sec. 1506.10) or, if appropriate, its recommendation to Congress, each agency shall prepare a concise public record of decision. The record, which may be integrated into any other record prepared by the agency, including that required by OMB Circular A-95 (Revised), part I, sections 6(c) and (d), and Part II, section 5(b)(4), shall:

(a) State what the decision was.

(b) Identify all alternatives considered by the agency in reaching its decision, specifying the alternative or alternatives which were considered to be environmentally preferable. An agency may discuss preferences among alternatives based on relevant factors including economic and technical considerations and agency statutory missions. An agency shall identify and discuss all such factors including any essential considerations of national policy

which were balanced by the agency in making its decision and state how those considerations entered into its decision.

(c) State whether all practicable means to avoid or minimize environmental harm from the alternative selected have been adopted, and if not, why they were not. A monitoring and enforcement program shall be adopted and summarized where applicable for any mitigation.

One can readily see this section is relatively short, but theoretically very powerful. It tells us that the ROD *shall* be concise and that it is a public document. It also tells us what the ROD shall contain. The word *shall* is imperative and the CEQ regulations as a whole use it approximately 231 times, although agencies and the courts often ignore it. In addition to Section 1505.2 of the CEQ regulations, we must consult NEPA's 40 FAQs, questions 6 and 34, which are stated in part below.

Question 6, Environmentally Preferable Alternative, states, among other things, *The environmentally preferable alternative is the alternative that will promote the national environmental policy as expressed in NEPA's Section 101. Ordinarily, this means the alternative that causes the least damage to the biological and physical environment; it also means the alternative which best protects, preserves, and enhances historic, cultural, and natural resources.* NEPA's Section 101 (a) contains the United States' environmental policy. Section 101 (b) contains NEPA's six goals of which number 3 is to *attain the widest range of beneficial uses of the environment without degradation, risk to health or safety, or other undesirable and unintended consequences.*

Question 34, Record of Decision, states, among other things, *The Record of Decision should contain a concise summary identification of the mitigation measures which the agency has committed itself to adopt.* Furthermore it states, *The Record of Decision must also state whether all practicable mitigation measures*

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Spare the ROD

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have been adopted, and if not, why not. All of the foregoing must be viewed in the light of the Supreme Court's ruling in *Robertson v. Methow Valley* (1989), which states in part,

The National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) (42 USCS 4321 et seq.) does not contain a substantive requirement that, as part of an environmental impact statement (EIS), a complete plan to mitigate environmental harm must be actually formulated and adopted, because (1) there is a fundamental distinction between such a requirement and NEPA's requirement that the mitigation of environmental harm be discussed in sufficient detail to insure that environmental consequences have been fairly evaluated, and (2) it would be inconsistent with NEPA's reliance on procedural mechanisms — as opposed to substantive, result-based standards — to demand the presence of a fully developed plan that would mitigate environmental harm before an agency can act.

The whole point of the ROD is to force federal agencies to pay more attention to alternatives analysis and in particular make them discuss environmentally preferable alternatives. However, nothing in 1505.2 says that an agency must choose the environmentally preferable alternative. However, an argument exists that agencies must choose the environmentally preferable alternative since one of the purposes of NEPA (Sec. 2) is “to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man.” Of course, this is far from today's reality. NEPA's purpose has always been about reversing, or not taking, actions that would irreversibly damage the life support systems of the biosphere. NEPA has been turned into how to make federal actions less damaging rather than avoiding adverse impacts. The cumulative impacts of such a transformation of purpose are staggering. The NEPA process and the ROD have been manipulated to provide conclusions that the federal lead agencies want to see regardless of the impacts and sustainability of the actions.

Remember, that Sec. 105 of NEPA states, “The policies and goals set forth in this Act are supplementary to those set forth in existing authorizations of Federal agencies.” In other words, NEPA took the big step of amending all other Federal statutes that might potentially cause impacts to the environment. With the passage of NEPA, agencies had not only their own substantive statutory missions, but also they had a duty to protect the environment while executing their specific missions.

Agencies sometimes—but not always—discuss the environmentally preferable alternatives in RODs. However, lead agencies often discuss their missions, economic, and technical considerations and use that as justification for not selecting the environmentally preferable alternative. The courts give agencies substantial deference in their decisions, unless they have acted in an arbitrary or capricious manner. In this way, courts affect agency decisions and the decision-making process. However, there is sometimes a discrepancy between how federal district, appellate, and the Supreme Court decide a given case concerning NEPA. These discrepancies between the appellate courts pose significant unresolved issues in American environmental jurisprudence.

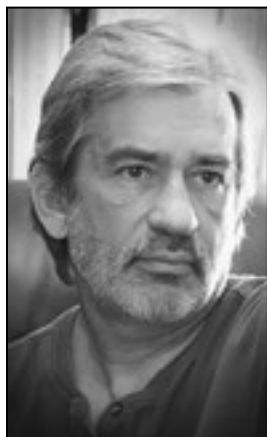
In the now famous—or infamous, depending on your perspective—case of *Robertson, Chief of the Forest Service, et al. v. Methow Valley Citizens Council et al.*, 490 U.S. 332, 1989, the Supreme Court of the United States ruled, “Other statutes may impose substantive environmental obligations on federal agencies, but NEPA merely prohibits uninformed—rather than unwise—agency action.” If that statement were correct, which I do not believe it is, then we really would not need NEPA. The Court also ruled that mitigation was only something to be discussed, but not taken seriously.

The Federal agencies must do more honest, accurate EIS's and RODs that help us change direction so we do not go over the cliff of environmental limits and social catastrophe. They, and the courts, need to start paying attention to the “shall” in NEPA, especially in the ROD. Otherwise, we are in a race to the bottom of the standard set in the *Robertson* Court, which is making informed, but unwise decisions at a time when we need informed and wise decisions in order “to promote efforts which will prevent or eliminate damage to the environment and biosphere and stimulate the health and welfare of man.”

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Photo: David Keys.
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Old Faithful geyser meets
tour bus August 2015.



Owen L. Schmidt is the NEPA instructor for the Northwest Environmental Training Center. He served 32 years as an attorney in several Federal agencies, most recently as Senior Counsel at the Department of Agriculture in Portland, Oregon, where he was also a Special Assistant U.S. Attorney. He is a frequent author and lecturer on the National Environmental Policy Act. He was the Editor of Oregon Birds, a quarterly journal of Oregon Field Ornithologists, and is a long-time member of the Oregon Bird Records Committee.

Saying what we mean

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

Twelfth in a series by Owen L. Schmidt

mini-EIS

To create a duty, we first create a condition. If the condition exists, then the duty exists. For example, if the light is red the duty is to stop.

In NEPA section 102(2)(C) Congress created a condition and a duty. Under the condition of a proposal for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment, the duty is to prepare a detailed statement — today's environmental impact statement — and to include that detailed statement in every recommendation or report on the proposal.

Administrative lawyers know perfectly well what to do in this circumstance — make a finding. The finding that is necessary is to determine whether the condition exists. Is this a proposal for legislation or other major Federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human environment?

The word major has almost universally dropped out because it is redundant of significantly. That was just bad drafting. If a minor action would have significant effects the duty exists for an EIS the same as for a major action with significant effects, because of the significant effects. That thing about legislation has been addressed in the concept of a legislative EIS detailed in the NEPA regulations at 40 CFR 1506.8.

This leaves proposal, Federal, significant, and the human environment. All four conditions must be present for the duty to prepare an EIS. Is this a proposal for Federal action that may significantly affect the quality of the human environment? Take away any one or more of these four conditions and the duty to prepare an EIS does not exist.

The finding that is necessary, then, is whether these four conditions are present. The NEPA case law has examples for each of these: is there a proposal for action; is the action Federal; will there be effects on the human environment, and might the effects be significant? It is surprising, then, that the 4-part finding we should expect to see has somehow been transformed into the 1-part finding of no significant impact — the FONSI.

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

Assuming there is a proposal for Federal action, we mean to find whether the proposal would significantly affect the quality of the human environment — which leads to a FON-SATQOTHE — a finding of not significantly affecting the quality of the human environment. This could be and surely would be shortened to something like a FONSA, a finding of not significantly affecting. This would preserve NEPA's original use of the word "affecting." What we see, instead, is a finding of no significant impact.

Whether it is a FONSI or the FONSA it should have been, it's all directed at the proposal for Federal action. This is what agencies did in the first few years of NEPA. Agencies made findings — under various titles such as negative declarations — as to whether the proposed action might cause significant effects. If not, that was the end of the NEPA process and no EIS was prepared.

Along the way agencies were sued, and lost, for not considering alternatives that might have fewer adverse effects in their negative declaration process as required by NEPA 102(2)(E) — which applies even when there is no EIS. The 1978 NEPA regulations incorporated this requirement into the EA and the mini-EIS was born.

The NEPA regulations define an EA to include four elements: the need for the proposed action; alternatives according to NEPA 102(2)(E), "the environmental impacts of the proposed action and alternatives;" and a listing of agencies and persons consulted. This content is not essentially different from

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Saying what we mean

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an EIS. It's practically all there in the EA. The need for the proposed action. The proposed action and alternative actions — all of which presumably would meet the need for action. The environmental consequences of the proposed action and alternative actions — presumably in comparative format. Thus an EA came to resemble an EIS in all meaningful aspects.

What we mean to say is that the proposed Federal action does not meet the conditions for the duty in law to prepare an EIS. What we say, instead, is that we have prepared a rough-cut low-budget EIS instead of an EIS — a mini-EIS. “An environmental assessment is a rough-cut, low-budget environmental impact statement designed to show whether a full-fledged environmental impact statement—which is very costly and time consuming to prepare and has been the kiss of death to many a federal project—is necessary.” *Cronin v. U.S. Department of Agriculture*, 919 F.2d 439, 443 (7th Cir. 1990); quoted in *Sabine River Authority v. U.S. Dept. of Interior*, 951 F.2d 669, 677 (5th Cir. 1992); *City of Dallas, Tex. v. Hall*, 562 F.3d 712, 720 (5th Cir. 2009).

We need not wonder why EAs are as big as EISs, cost as much as and take as long as EISs might be expected to take, even are formatted like EISs. They *are* EISs — mini-EISs. Just exactly how “mini” and how “rough-cut” and how “low budget” they are can be debated. It did not have to turn out this way and it does not have to stay this way. If we said what we meant, we would make a finding about those four conditions — the FONSA. If we meant what we said, we would “study develop and describe appropriate alternatives” under NEPA 102(2)(E) as the mitigation they could be rather than as the “alternatives



Great Egret in Portland, Oregon.
Photo/Owen L Schmidt. Printed with Permission

to the proposed action” they turned out to be, as we do for EISs under NEPA 102(2)(C)(ii). We did not have to prepare and we need not continue preparing mini-EISs to somehow demonstrate there is no duty to prepare an EIS.

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President's Letter

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Internal Leadership Development – Pillar Lead: Ron Deverman

In an effort to rally engagement, interest, and interaction between volunteer leaders, members, chapters, and even prospective members, the Internal Leadership Development Pillar will be hosting a series of free webinars highlighting NAEP's newest initiatives and why it's so important for members to become interested and involved. Be on the lookout for this offering – it will be enjoyable for our seasoned volunteers and beneficial for those looking to become more engaged.

Chapter Development – Pillar Lead: Bill Plumpton

The Chapter Development Pillar, simultaneously with the Chapter Committee, has been working hard to put the finishing touches on the 2016-2021 Chapter Affiliation Agreement. That agreement has been sent to all chapters and we have already received our first signed agreement. The Chapter Development Pillar is also working hard to start new chapters in areas where we do not have chapter coverage. For a complete list of NAEP affiliated chapters please visit <http://www.naep.org/chapters>. If you are interested in starting an NAEP Chapter please contact Tim Bower at naep@naep.org. There are a number of groups that are working on forming chapters and one might be in your area.

Marketing and Communications – Pillar Lead: David Mattern

The Marketing and Communications Pillar recognizes the importance of spreading the word of NAEP's great work and

raising NAEP's brand awareness. The purpose of this Pillar is to review the design and functionality of the current website, review current member benefits, and work with the Board to disseminate NAEP's core message. This Pillar will soon be doing an evaluation of the current website, the resources that are offered and how they are offered. This review and analysis will set the stage and provide the information on what is needed to improve the website. If you are interested in assisting with this important work please contact Tim Bower at naep@naep.org.

Upon rolling out the Strategic Plan earlier this year, I left you with the sentiment "Innovation demands passion and commitment." At the center of that message is the directive to move NAEP forward with new strategic planning initiatives and increase our volunteer base. Now is the time to continue your dedication and engagement by becoming more involved. You can personally make a change within NAEP!

I look forward to meeting new volunteer leaders in the near future, watching the growth of NAEP as a direct result of our focused strategic plan, and of course, fielding any questions you may have along the way.

Let's keep the momentum going!

I hope all of you have a fun and safe holiday full of family and friends.

Brock A. Hoegh, CEP, NAEP President

Advertising Opportunities in the NAEP Newsletter

The NAEP Newsletter is offering a limited amount of advertising space in the publication. 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.





National Association of Environmental Professionals

MONDAY, DECEMBER 21, 2015, WEBINAR ANNOUNCEMENT

NAEP: Model Protocols for Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change on the Built Environment under NEPA and State Environmental Laws

To register please go to www.naep.org

As a follow-up to the National Association of Environmental Professionals January 28, 2015 webinar on when and how agencies consider climate change in their NEPA reviews and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Revised Draft Guidance on Integrating Analysis of Greenhouse Gases and Climate Change into environmental documents prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), this webinar will discuss recommended protocols for assessing the impacts of climate change on the built environment under NEPA and State environmental impacts assessment laws. Two recent publications by the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law will be reviewed as part of the presentation:

1. “Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change on the Built Environment under NEPA and State EIA Laws: A Survey of Current Practices and Recommendations for Model Protocols, Jessica Wentz, Columbia Law School, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
2. “Model Protocols for Assessing the Impacts of Climate Change on the Built Environment under NEPA and State EIA Laws,” Columbia Law School, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law

Moderator:

- **Marie Campbell**, President, Sapphos Environmental, Inc., and NAEP Elected Board Member

Speakers:

- **Horst Greczmiel**, Council on Environmental Quality
- **Michael Gerrard**, Professor, Columbia Law School, and Director, Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
- **Jessica Wentz**, Associate Director and Postdoctoral Fellow at the Sabin Center for Climate Change Law
- **Pei-Fei Wang, Ph.D.**, U.S. Department of the Navy
- **Michael Hendrix**, Atkins, Project Director, Air/Climate Change

Date and Time: Monday, December 21, 2015, at 3:00 p.m. ET (2:00 p.m. CT, 1:00 p.m. MT, 12:00 p.m. PT)

Duration: Event will last 90 minutes, includes Q&A

Location: Wherever it is convenient for you

Questions: Please contact Tim Bower at 856-283-7816 or email him at naep@naep.org

Registration Fees:

NAEP Members: \$75.00

NAEP Affiliate Chapter Members (Non-NAEP Members): \$125.00 (Save \$50—please consider joining NAEP to receive the member rate for this and future events)

Non-Members (NAEP or Affiliated Chapters): \$140.00 (Save \$65—please consider joining NAEP to receive the member rate for this and future events)



5 Highlights of the NAEP - APU Partnership

As a National Association of Environmental Professionals member, you're inspired to translate your passion for safeguarding environmental resources through leadership, research, or policy management and American Public University stands ready to help you. Since partnering with NAEP in 2011, APU has been providing motivated members with quality environmental education from the only four-time recipient of the prestigious Online Learning Consortium's Effective Practice Award (2009, 2010, 2013 & 2014). If you haven't experienced APU's flexible and career-focused approach to quality, online education, here are five reasons you should.

1. New 5% tuition grant for NAEP members

APU is pleased to announce a new tuition grant that will be available to all NAEP members, which in addition to the university's mission to keep tuition and material costs low, will help environmental professionals complete their studies affordably. You can choose from a variety of undergraduate or graduate certificates and degrees in disciplines ranging from environmental policy and management, to sustainability, fish and wildlife, technology, public lands management, and many more. The tuition grant launches August 1, 2015. Enrollment is underway.

2. Member transfer fee waived

APU's flexible transfer credit evaluation (TCE) services ensure you receive credit for certain prior learning or professional experience you may have already accumulated. Additionally, as an NAEP member, your transfer waive fee is waived. Together these opportunities may enable you to earn additional credits so you can achieve your education faster and for less cost.

3. Enhanced 2015 webcast series

In the fourth year of our successful collaboration, NAEP and APU are bringing hard-hitting industry topics to student listeners around the world hosted by industry experts you'll want hear. The 2015 three-part series includes topics with an emphasis on professional development trend for the emerging or established environmental professional. The series is free and at your fingertips, so you can pick up additional career skills when it's flexible to your schedule. Visit the [2015 NAEP & Webinar Series](#) today to listen to webinars on conflict resolution, leadership, management, and more for environmental professionals.

4. College credits awarded for members who earned their Certified Environmental Professional (CEP) Credential

APU awards six semester hours of credit toward a M.S. in Environmental Policy and Management for any of the five CEP



American Public University

certification areas. If you're not pursuing this degree, you may utilize the six semester hours as elective credits toward another graduate degree program if there are available electives. Environmental professionals certified by ABCEP must undertake 40 hours of continuing professional development credit each year to maintain their certification. APU credit hours may be applied to a CEP's continuing professional development credits for the annual CEP Maintenance Program.

5. Exclusive NAEP member library

Whether you're a night owl or early riser, you can access APU's award-winning online library 24/7 to conduct deep-dive research into your projects just as easy as you can access trending topics. With the exclusive [NAEP/APU Library Portal](#), you'll tap into industry-specific open websites, resources, and outstanding librarian services. APU librarians are quick to help you find the data you need to increase the depth and impact of your project. For additional help, check out the new [NAEP Resource Guide](#).

Need the password? Contact [Tim Bower](#).

If you've been thinking about studying at APU—your timing is perfect. In addition to these NAEP-member benefits, we've enhanced our alumni services, and launched our highly-anticipated mobile app so you can learn using your favorite mobile phone or tablet. For more information visit [StudyatAPU.com/NAEP](#).



Enviro-Limit



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WE WANT YOU — Publications Pillar

Knowledge of new issues and the ever changing regulatory setting is the key to your success. NAEP wants to support our membership in being informed of these issues. As such, during the strategic planning process, we identified a Publications Pillar with the goal to evaluate the needs of our members and adapt our publications to better meet the needs of our members. We just completed a survey to inform the Publication Pillar committee of what NAEP is doing well and what could be improved.

Results of the survey have indicated that our membership is extremely diverse from a technical (“ologists”) perspective. We are looking for volunteers to support the Publication’s Pillar in soliciting information (emerging issues, case studies, changing regulatory processes, etc.) that would be appropriate to inform our membership. If you have an interest in serving as the champion of any of the following “ologies” we ask that you volunteer to engage other professional to write an article for either the eNEWS or the Environmental Planner.

- Air
- Biology
- Cultural Resources
- Geology/Soil
- Hazardous Compliance
- NEPA/CWA/ESA/106/etc.
- Noise
- Socioeconomic
- Sustainability
- Transportation
- Water
- Waste
- Wetlands

Please contact Betty Dehoney (betty.dehoney@hdrinc.com) for additional information. If you would like to become part of the larger committee reviewing the publications and making improvements to our publication, contact Betty for more information.

Take your expertise to the next level.

With nearly 200 online programs to choose from, there's almost no end to what you can learn. Pursue a respected Environmental Science degree or certificate online – at a cost that's 20% less than the average published in-state rates at public universities.*

Areas of Study Include:
Environmental Policy & Management
Environmental Sustainability
Environmental Technology
Global Environmental Management
Fish and Wildlife Management
Environmental Risk Assessment

**Transfer Credit Fee Waiver
Provided to NAEP Members.**
NAEP members will be able to have their prior education and training evaluated at no cost for the potential award of academic credit towards an academic degree or certificate.

Visit StudyatAPU.com/NAEP

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*College Board: Trends in College Pricing, 2013.

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.apu.edu/divisions.

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2015



2015 Environmental Excellence Award Recipients

President's Award

Project Name:

Border Gateway to Nature

Presented to:

4Walls International, The San Diego Foundation, United States Environmental Protection Agency, Secretaría de Medio Ambiente y Recursos Naturales (SEMARNAT), BECC/COCEF, California State Parks, Tijuana River National Estuarine Research Reserve, Las Hormiguitas, Proyecto Fronterizo y Educación Ambiental.

Description of Project:

Trash is beautifying a park in San Diego. Simultaneously improving the surrounding natural environment, 4Walls International is increasing the visibility of Border Field State Park by renovating the entrance using trash and art – an intentional and strategic plan to attract and connect kids with nature – in southern California's last remaining intact wetlands.

Sediment, trash and other pollutants carried in storm water run-off threaten the Tijuana River Valley's valuable ecological, cultural, recreational, and economic resources. Last year, The San Diego Foundation partnered with 4Walls to increase public access to Border Field State Park. The project used repurposed trash pulled from the River Valley and tributary canyons as building materials for park amenities such as benches and signage. Over 400 volunteers were engaged in cleaning up the river and processing trash to create "bottle-bricks". The Environmental Protection Agency and SEMARNAT stepped in as bi-national partners creating a connecting park in Tijuana using the same building methods, creating over 100 jobs and planting over 1000 native plants. This bi-national park corridor repurposed over 4,000 plastic bottles, 1,000 pounds of miscellaneous plastics and foam from the river, and over 750 glass bottles. As a result of the reinvented entrance, CA State Parks saw an increase in visitors. The Border Gateway to Nature increased access to the beautiful open space at Border Field as well as created much needed green-park space in Tijuana. The project received lots of media and bi-national community participation.

Environmental Management Award

Project Name:

George W. Shannon Wetlands Water Recycling Project at Richland-Chambers Reservoir, Streetman, Texas

Presented To:

Tarrant Regional Water District, Alan Plummer Associates, Inc., CH2M Hill, Inc.

Description of Project:

The Tarrant Regional Water District's Richland-Chambers Wetland is currently the largest project in the country utilizing constructed wetlands to reclaim effluent return flows for the purpose of augmenting a surface water supply source. TRWD diverts return flows from the Trinity River contributed by wastewater treatment facilities operated by customers of their raw water supplies into a 2,022 acre constructed wetland located on the public Richland Creek Wildlife Management Area (RC-WMA). The constructed wetland provides treatment for removal of sediments and nutrients from the water before it is lifted via a second pump station over the Richland-Chambers Reservoir dam for discharge into the reservoir. The wetland improves the quality of the river water to a condition that is comparable to the natural tributary inflows to the reservoir. Water quality improvement is derived from natural treatment mechanisms that are powered by sunlight, wind, plants, and microbes. No chemicals are used in the treatment process, and the only electricity inputs are for pumping the water. In addition to the supplemental yield of up to 63,000 acre-feet per year, the constructed wetland provides multiple benefits of wetland habitat, public education and research opportunities, and enhances both passive and active recreational uses of the RCWMA.

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2015 Award Recipients

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NEPA Excellence Award

Project Name:

Valles Caldera National Preserve – Landscape Restoration and Stewardship Plan

Presented to:

Marie E. Rodriguez, Dr. Robert Parmenter, John Swigart, Dr. Ana Steffen, Berta Pantoja, Patti Steinholtz, Vince Archer, Eric Moser, Don Helmbrecht, Anton Jackson, Brooke DeVault, Janet Moser, Joshua Wilson, Anne Bradley, Bryan Bird, Eytan Krasilovsky, Kent Reid.

Description of Project:

The Valles Caldera National Preserve, Landscape Restoration and Stewardship Plan, as indicated by the title, defines the restoration and ongoing stewardship of the natural and cultural resources and habitats of the nearly 89,000 acre Valles Caldera in north-central New Mexico.

The land had been a privately owned working ranch for over a century before being acquired by the federal government in 2000 as “an experimental management regime”. The experimental management of resources enclosed within an intact caldera and watershed created a unique opportunity for inventory, assessment, planning, and decision-making and the application of adaptive management at a landscape scale.

The preserve’s extensive grasslands, streams, abundant wildlife as well as its volcanic formation and resulting unique ecology, make it a special place to many. The passion, knowledge, and dedication by a diverse public, non-governmental organizations, and the scientific community, along with a new experimental management regime also created a unique opportunity to collaborate on its long-term stewardship.

The divergence of these opportunities lead to another unique opportunity: To systematically incorporate collaboration and adaptive management into the NEPA process, ultimately improving both our decisions and outcomes.

Public Involvement Award

Project Name:

International Dark Sky Places

Presented to:

International Dark-Sky Association

Description of Project:

Light pollution is a steadily growing problem throughout the world that is unfortunately poorly addressed by most national environmental policies. International Dark Sky Places (IDSP) is an incentive-based designation program established in 2001 to help solve this environmental problem. It motivates communities and protected areas to mitigate light pollution and rewards them with a designation that recognizes their stewardship of an often-neglected natural resource: the night sky. The program provides three types of designations: Community, Park, and Reserve. Since its inception, more than 35 places have earned an IDSP designation. The program provides educational resources, model ordinances and other assistance to land managers and public officials, allowing them to implement measures that preserve and even restore natural night skies. These measures include public educational programs; night-sky quality surveys; and inventories and retrofits of existing outdoor lighting. They also involve public policies that manage outdoor lighting and improve public safety, reduce energy consumption, and protect human health and wildlife. The program encourages private/public partnerships, often born of individual efforts from local citizens. It enables grassroots efforts and encourages landowners and governments to implement good public policies that improve the quality of the nightscape environment.

Best Available Technology Award

Project Name:

Advanced Horizontal Remediation Well Design Rapidly Cleans Up International Airport

Presented to:

Directional Technologies, Inc. - Kathy Sequino- President, Mike Sequino- Senior Vice President

Description of Project:

DTI was challenged with designing a horizontal well-based solution to remediate an extensive subsurface gasoline release

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2015 Award Recipients

Continued from page 11

from a buried pipeline at an International Airport. The subsurface gasoline plume encompassed an area of over three acres, migrated into an adjoining bay, and extended beneath an active runway and taxiway where flights arrive and depart around once per minute. There was an extreme sense of urgency on the part of stakeholders to remediate the site as quickly as feasible. Complicating factors included severe site security restrictions which limited available work locations and the requirement to keep the active runway operational.

DTI designed and installed a state of the art network of seven Air Sparge/Soil Vapor Extraction wells, each approximately 900 feet long. DTI installed the wells from a safe location several hundred feet away from the active runway using the directional drill rig's remote tracking, installing several of the wells adjacent to the active runway without delaying a single flight. One SVE well cumulatively withdrew nearly 27,000 lbs of gasoline vapors during just a six month period. Over the course of the removal,

over 130,000 gallons of LNAPL was recovered, 80,000 lbs of vapor phase mass removed, groundwater concentrations reduced significantly and no measurable LNAPL after 1 year of operation. The site requires no further action.

Conservation Programs Award

Project Name:

International Boundary and Water Commission, United States and Mexico, Minute 319 Environmental Pulse Flow and Monitoring, Binational Collaboration and Conservation

Presented To:

Carlos Peña, Jr - International Boundary and Water Commission, U.S. Section, Luis Antonio Rascón Mendoza - International Boundary and Water Commission, Mexican Section, Mario López Perez - National Water Commission, Mexico, Jennifer

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2015 Award Recipients

Continued from page 12

McCloskey - Bureau of Reclamation, Jennifer Pitt - Environmental Defense Fund, Osvel Hinojosa - Pronatura Noreste

Description of Project:

After several years of discussions that included the participation of federal and state authorities, and nongovernmental organizations from both countries, officials with the International Boundary and Water Commission, representing the United States and Mexico, signed a binational agreement on November 20, 2012 known as Minute 319 to the 1944 Treaty between the two countries. The agreement, which will remain in effect for five years, provides for a series of joint cooperative actions between the two countries. One of the key elements of Minute 319 was the first-ever binational agreement to provide water for environmental flows for the normally dry Colorado River Delta, in order to gain important scientific information on the effectiveness of the flows. Stakeholders from both countries, such as the Environmental Defense Fund, Pronatura Noroeste, Sonoran

Institute, The Nature Conservancy, and federal agencies such as IBWC, Mexico's National Water Commission and the Bureau of Reclamation worked cooperatively to plan, implement and monitor this unique undertaking, which involved both a one-time "pulse flow" and longer duration base flows designed to enhance riparian habitat in the Delta. Together, these flows are expected to provide for the restoration of approximately 950 hectares of habitat, including native willow and cottonwood trees.

Education Excellence Award

Project Name:

Falcon Autistic Solar Team

Presented to:

Kevin Crosby

Description of Project:

In 2010, I facilitated the creation of a solar club at our school where my students serve as peer tutors for other schools about

Continued on page 14

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2015 Award Recipients

Continued from page 13

how a solar panel takes radiant energy from the sun and converts it into electricity. The focus of our Falcon Autistic Solar Team (FAST) is to travel to other schools in Bakersfield, California and teach students about how solar energy works. Our solar demonstrations include solar cars, a solar house, and a solar-powered Ferris wheel. Falcon Autistic Solar Team members also demonstrate other solar energy conversions such as how radiant energy is used to cook food in a Solar Oven and how solar beads, that contain a pigment, change colors when exposed to ultraviolet light from the sun. Other goals of the Falcon Autistic Solar Team are to help my special-needs students gain a concrete understanding of science areas such as energy usage, forms of energy, photosynthesis, solar power, and electricity. Their presentations to other schools allow his students with Autism to work on their socialization skills and public speaking skills.

Environmental Stewardship Award

Project Name:

A-Team For Wildlife's Int'l A-Team & Jungle Deep Podcast

Presented To:

Ken Jones, Founder, Wildlife Advocate

Description of Project:

The International A-Team, a project of A-Team For Wildlife, is the first organization of young prodigies of conservation coming together from around the world to inspire and lead all youth in wildlife conservation education efforts. These 17 youth, ages 8 to 18, from 5 different countries, have been identified, vetted, and invited to join this unique group to share their amazing stories of success and motivate all children to get involved in saving endangered species. www.A-TeamForWildlife.org

The Jungle Deep Podcast is one of the first internet radio shows about conservation, connecting field scientists, authors, actors, and adventurers with the public in a fun, and sometimes offbeat way, in its bid to popularize environmental conservation. The president of Conservation International, Tiki Music experts,

a National Geographic Photographer, and TARZAN of AFRICA have been among the guests. www.JungleDeep.org

Planning Integration Award

Project Name:

Installation Sustainability Component Plan, Schofield Barracks, U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii

Presented to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Southwestern Division, Regional Planning and Environmental Center; U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Pacific Ocean Division; U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii; The Urban Collaborative, LLC

Description of Project:

This pilot project injected a sustainability component into master planning for Schofield Barracks at U.S. Army Garrison-Hawaii. This novel approach breaks with the traditional narrow focus on building envelopes by adding a 35,000-foot-level planning approach with a districtwide holistic view. We defined both the low-hanging sustainability fruit now, and what actions over a longer time need to be implemented to help installations meet challenging Net Zero mandates.

Key to our approach was to develop a new Net Zero Planner with our partners at the U.S. Army Engineer Research and Development Center, Construction Engineering Research Laboratory. Corps of Engineers personnel are trained to use this web-based modeling tool, which can run thousands of districtwide simulations. This helps develop master planning sustainability guidelines, which define actions that can be implemented over the next 5, 10 and 20 years that are necessary to meet Net Zero goals for energy, water, waste and storm water.

We showed how energy at Schofield Barracks could be cut by 59 percent, water use cut by 91 percent, waste cut by 72 percent and storm-water runoff cut by 47 percent using the "best case" effort scenario.



NAEP Annual NEPA Report – 2014

The National Association of Environmental Professionals' (NAEP's) National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Practice (formerly known as the NEPA Working Group) is pleased to present our seventh NEPA Annual Report. This report contains summaries of the latest developments in NEPA as well as the NEPA Practice's efforts for the past year. This annual report is prepared and published through the initiative and volunteer efforts of members of the NAEP's NEPA Practice. The 2014 NEPA Annual Report includes:

1. Introduction
2. Perspectives on NEPA from Congressman Sablan
3. The NEPA Practice 2014
4. Just the Stats on 2014 EISs filed with the U.S. EPA
5. Preparation Times for Environmental Impact Statements Made Available in 2014
6. NEPA Regulatory Update
7. Recent Congressional Legislation Regarding NEPA
8. Bill Cohen Summit Report
9. 2014 NEPA Cases in the U.S. Courts of Appeal and Cumulative Impacts Cases

In 2014, announcements of 384 Draft, Final, and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statements (EISs) were published in the Federal Register. U.S. Forest Service (USFS) published the most documents with 89 (23% of total), followed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (44/11%), Federal Highway Administration (43/11%) Bureau of Land Management (25/7%) and National Park Service (25/7%). (Based on information in the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) database of EISs). Substantially more information is provided in Section 4 of the Annual Report, "Just the Stats."

The NEPA Annual Report also found that 186 Final EISs were made available in 2014. The average time to prepare those 186 EISs (measured from Notice of Intent to Final EIS) was 4.7 years. Almost 36 percent of EISs were prepared in one to two years, with 63.1 percent of EISs were completed in five years or less. Substantially more information is provided in Section 5 of the Annual Report, "Preparation Times for Environmental Impact Statements Made Available in 2014."

In 2014, the U.S. Courts of Appeal issued 22 substantive decisions involving implementation of NEPA. The 22 cases involved 11 different departments and agencies, with the agencies prevailing in 89 percent of the cases. Detailed summaries of these cases are provided in Sections 9 and 10 of the Annual Report.

This year's Guest Editorial is from the Honorable Gregorio Kilili Camacho Sablan. Congressman Sablan represents the People of the Northern Mariana Islands in the U.S. House of Representatives. Congressman Sablan writes about the importance of NEPA's public involvement and disclosure provisions to local residents: "were it not for NEPA, the public would have had little or no opportunity to comment, criticize, or question the impact of the military's plans... It is true that NEPA review can be complex and slow. But most of the people I represent in the Northern Mariana Islands would say they appreciate the complexity and the thoroughness of the environmental impact statement that NEPA required..." Congressman Sablan's full editorial is included in the Annual Report.

If you are a current NAEP member and have not looked at the report a copy is available on the Members Only Section of the NAEP website. If you need assistance logging onto the NAEP website please email Tim Bower at naep@naep.org.

If you are not a member and want a full copy of the 2014 report click here to join NAEP – [NAEP Membership Application](#) or call Tim Bower AT 856-283-7816.



National Association of Environmental Professionals

2016 Annual Conference

Palmer House Hilton • Chicago, Illinois

April 11 – 14, 2016



NAEP 2016 Annual Meeting Advance Program now available

Website: www.naep.org/2016-conference

The 2016 NAEP Annual Conference will be held from April 11-14, 2016. The days will be filled with a variety of sessions to choose from and the nights will be filled with dinners and networking. Use this link to glance over the 2016 Conference. Use this link to glance over the [conference schedule](#).

Program

The [Advance Program](#) is now available! It contains information on keynotes, tracks, the Schedule at a Glance, training information, as well as sites to see and getting around and to Chicago.

Registration

It's the middle of December and we often think about where the year has gone. Some of us may even be relieved a new year is starting soon and are rejuvenated by thoughts of newness and change. Have you thought about a New Year's resolution for 2016? How about investing in yourself and your professional development? NAEP's Annual Conference is a great opportunity to attend sessions of varied environmental topics. There will be opportunities to network with environmental professionals who want to share their project experience and environmental knowledge and expertise. Use this [link to register](#) for an investment in yourself and your career.

Keynotes

This year our keynote speakers include Susan Hedman and Karen Weigert. USEPA Region 5 Regional Administrator Hedman directs EPA's operations in the six-state Great Lakes region that includes Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Michigan, Wisconsin, Minnesota and the reservations of 35 federally-recognized tribes. She leads a team of over one thousand scientists, engineers, lawyers, environmental specialists and administrative staff in the Region 5 Office. Susan will kick off our conference with information on EPA Programs and Regulatory Updates. Karen Weigert will offer a Midwest welcome to everyone. She is the Chief Sustainability Officer of the City of Chicago. Karen will discuss the latest sustainability initiatives that Chicago has implemented and the success it has brought this city of six million people.

General conference questions contact [Donna Carter](#), 863-949-0262.



NAEP/APU Three-Part Webinar Series 2015



American Public University

APU and NAEP are collaborating on this 3-part series focused on professional development for environmental professionals; helping you to develop the critical skills you need to be successful in your career.

Below is a list of the topics of the 2015 webinars:

- **Part 1: Environmental Conflict Resolution — Wednesday, February 18, 2015**

ON DEMAND RECORDING AVAILABLE AT <http://www.apu.apus.edu/lp2/webcast/NAEP-2015/part-1.htm>

- **Part 2: Leadership and Self-Management Skills — Wednesday, July 15, 2015**

ON DEMAND RECORDING AVAILABLE AT <http://www.apu.apus.edu/lp2/webcast/NAEP-2015/part-2.htm>

- **Part 3: Managing Effective Meetings — Wednesday, November 11, 2015**

ON DEMAND RECORDING AVAILABLE AT <http://www.apu.apus.edu/lp2/webcast/NAEP-2015/part-3.htm>

Part 1: Environmental Conflict Resolution

Wednesday, February 18, 2015

ON DEMAND RECORDING AVAILABLE AT <http://www.apu.apus.edu/lp2/webcast/NAEP-2015/part-1.htm>

This webinar will focus on describing the importance of developing environmental conflict resolution skills for new and advancing environmental professionals. Our panel of industry experts will share the top environmental conflict resolutions strategies and best practices that environmental professionals can consider and apply in order to help you improve this critical skill in your job and overall career, as follows:

Topics include:

- Overview of environmental conflict resolution as a critical skill to position you for career advancements in the industry.
- Defining the principles underlying environmental conflicts and the importance of a systemic approach to working towards a resolution.
- Top 5 tips for environmental professionals to consider when negotiating and making decisions involving conflict situations.
- Share best practices for mediation.



NAEP/APU Three-Part Webinar Series 2015 *Continued from page 17*

- Learn techniques to help you arrive at cooperative solutions to unresolved environmental conflicts.
- Opportunities for advancement and additional resources whether you desire to learn a little more about developing this skillset or seek specialization in this area.

Speakers:

- Peter B. Williams, Ph.D. - Director, US Institute for Environmental Conflict Resolution, Morris K. Udall and Stewart L. Udall Foundation
- Anthony F. Maciorowski, Ph.D. - Associate Director for Science, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Washington, D.C.

Leadership and Self-Management Skills

Wednesday, July 15, 2015

ON DEMAND RECORDING AVAILABLE AT <http://www.apu.apus.edu/lp2/webcast/NAEP-2015/part-2.htm>

Leadership and self-management skills are incredibly critical for the success of environmental professionals today. For this webinar, our top experts will give you best practices and tips for how to improve your leadership and self-management skills for overall success in your workplace and long-term career opportunities, as follows:

- Industry experts share their best practices for leadership in the workplace.
- Cover how to manage yourself properly and what are the expectations from the employer and client perspectives.
- How to foster opportunities for collaboration and make significant contributions as part of a team or as a leader of a team.
- Tips on how to lead confidently and successfully as well as gather appropriate support.
- Become the expert and a great leader by always offering a positive solution.
- Being a good listener, exercising great communication skills, and keeping your promises among other factors are critical.
- Take the extra step for your employer and clients to earn trust and leverage your projects.
- Gain critical information and resources to improve on these skills from a professional development perspective.

Speakers:

- Ron Deverman - Principal Environmental Planning Manager, HNTB; Former NAEP President
- Kris Thoemke, Ph.D., CEP - APU Faculty Member and Senior Scientist at Coastal Engineering Consultants, Inc. (CEC)
- Marie Campbell - President, Sapphos Environmental Inc. and second term as At-Large Board Member for the National Association of Environmental Professionals (NAEP)
- Bruce Hasbrouck, CEP - Vice President at Faller Davis & Associates and Environmental Services Director and NAEP Board Member



NAEP/APU Three-Part Webinar Series 2015 *Continued from page 18*

Part 3: Managing Effective Meetings

Wednesday, November 11, 2015

ON DEMAND RECORDING AVAILABLE AT <http://www.apu.apus.edu/lp2/webcast/NAEP-2015/part-3.htm>

Our panel of industry experts will cover the top tips for environmental professionals to help you manage meetings more effectively including ways to be more strategic, confident, persuasive, and therefore, more successful as you interact in professional meetings, as follows:

- Cover the critical qualities and skills for managing effective meetings.
- Address best practices on how to put your goals and thoughts into a compelling and engaging meeting.
- Know what you want to get out of it, make an effort to learn details about your topic and stakeholders, then address them appropriately considering their level of knowledge and effective use of everyone's time.
- Set expectations in advance and if needed send appropriate materials in advance so stakeholders can come ready to the table.
- Think as a project manager and make sure to cover all the meeting details ahead of time.
- Anticipate all questions and be ready to address them.
- Be prepared and rehearse to convey your important messages.
- Attend to complex meetings with enthusiasm to generate proper collaboration from attendees.
- Thank everyone for their contributions and make sure to send detailed meeting notes of what has been agreed upon, next steps and proper follow-up.

Speakers:

- Bill Plumptre, CEP - NAEP Board of Director and Environmental Planner at Gannett Fleming Inc
- Kris W. Thoenke, Ph.D., CEP - APU Faculty Member and Chairman of Academy of Board Certified Environmental Professionals' (ABCEP) Credentials Review Board (CRB) and an Ex-Officio member of the ABCEP
- Robert P. Morris, JR., PE, PMP - Program & Project Management Division, Fort Worth Engineer District



NAEP is pleased to announce that we are instituting a new membership recruitment program!!

This new recruitment program is called the “Member Get A Member” program. NAEP appreciates all the support you have provided to the organization over the years and also realizes that you are uniquely qualified to help NAEP grow so we can continue to expand the services we offer our members. To put it simply more NAEP members means greater resources and that will help NAEP remain a resource for you.

The program is very simple and will also provide you a way to save money on NAEP membership and educational programs. This includes both the Annual Conference and Webinar registration fees. For every new General, Associate or Senior member that you recruit you will receive \$25 NAEP “Bucks” that you can use to trade in to help reduce your membership or education costs for any NAEP programs. There is not a limit to the number amount of “bucks” that you can accumulate so there is a possibility that you could fund your membership and conference registration through this program.

The Grand Prize

The person who recruits the most new members in 2015 (minimum of 5 new members required to be eligible for the grand prize) will win either a free conference registration for 2016 (travel expenses would be your responsibility) or registration to 6 webinars in 2016. This prize is in addition to the “bucks” that you would accumulate.

How the program works

As you talk with professional colleagues that would benefit from NAEP membership and the benefits and resources that

we offer just tell them about NAEP, why you are a member and what you get from your affiliation with NAEP. If the person is interested in joining simply give them a printed membership application or tell them to go on-line to join. When the new member joins NAEP they just need to put your name in the “Recommended by” field. If using the printed application they

need to add your name to the field on page 4 of the application. This is important since them providing your name will make sure you get the NAEP “Bucks”.

Detailed instructions on how people can join online are below:

- Go to www.naep.org.
- Click the “Join Us” button in the top menu bar.
- The new member needs to enter their email address and the new member application will come up.
- The new member needs to complete the form and make sure they put your name in the “Recommended by:” field that is on the first page of the membership application.
- The new member can pay on-line by credit card or they can send in a check later.
- The person is now a member of NAEP and you will receive \$25 in NAEP “Bucks” to spend on NAEP membership or educational programs.

If you want to print out the membership application for any colleagues please use the link below. Please remember to have them place your name on page 4 of the application after they sign the Code of Ethics. Or if you want to print out a few copies of the application and distribute them you could pre-fill your name in that field. The membership application is on the website (www.naep.org) and click the “Membership” selection on the side menu bar.

At the end of each quarter you will receive an email which includes the names of the new members you have recruited and the amount of NAEP “Bucks” you have remaining to be used. Any questions about the program please call Tim Bower at 856-283-7816 or by email at naep@naep.org.

** A new member will be defined as a member that has not been an active NAEP member for the last 2 years.



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.

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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*Donate to the James Roberts
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Jim Roberts travelled far and wide to espouse the worth of living an ethical life, including the way you performed your job. He lived the Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice for Environmental Professionals.

NAEP has developed the James Roberts Scholarship Fund to assist promising individuals while they are still in school. This is your opportunity to preserve and extend the legacy of Jim Roberts.

All donations are tax-deductible. Go to <http://www.naep.org/jim-roberts-scholarship-fund>. You can also donate when you renew your NAEP membership.

Thank you,
Gary F. Kelman, Chair



Become a Certified Environmental Professional (CEP)

OBTAIN THE RECOGNITION YOUR CAREER DESERVES:

- *Do you have an environmental certification? Good*
- *Does this environmental certification measure your experience and depth of knowledge, not just facts? Yes*
- *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:

- Assessment
- Documentation
- Operations
- Planning
- 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)

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; 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.



Membership Benefits

Who We Are:

- We are a multidisciplinary, professional environmental association.
- We are dedicated to the promotion of ethical practices, technical competency and professional standards in the environmental fields.

What We Stand For:

- We stand for Integrity in the environmental professions.
- Our foundation is our Code of Ethics and Standards of Practice.
- As environmental professionals, we serve the public, our employers, and our clients with integrity, fairness and technical objectivity.

What We Do:

- We work for a diversity of employers, including government, industry, consulting, academia, and the private sector.
- We work in varied disciplines: air, water, noise, waste remediation, ecological resources, transportation, NEPA, sustainability, and education.

How You Benefit:

- Annual Conference brings together nation's top environmental professionals
- Timely research through our peer-reviewed journal, Environmental Practice
- Access to Best Practices through our national committees
- Professional networking opportunities and activities through state and regional chapters
- On-line career center tailored to the environmental professions
- Bi-monthly eNews featuring research findings, perspectives and chapter activities
- Bi-weekly National Desk newsletter featuring reporting from the publisher of GreenWire and ClimateWire
- Educational webinars on diverse topics such as new regulations and guidance, review of recent case law, and other emerging issues
- Member enjoy discounts on conference, regional and local programs, and members-only page on our website www.naep.org

How We Are Unique:

- Interdisciplinary environmental practitioners
- Strong professional conduct through our Code of Ethics
- Achievement recognition through our Environmental Excellence Awards

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| • Georgia | • North Carolina | |

JOIN NAEP NOW!! To join NAEP and one of our affiliated chapter, go to www.naep.org