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IOWA DNR PERMT

The Iowa DNR PERMT on-line tool is intended to assist the permittee in completing and submitting a Joint Application for Development within the flood plain, including the USACE 4040 Water Quality Permit. The PERMT tool is also a clearing house for all projects within Iowa. So anyone questioning if a project has a permit can utilize PERMT to determine if the application was made.

The PERMT tool does not submit the Joint Application to county or City Officials.

Submission checklists are provided for the following submissions:

- Agricultural Levees
- Bridge and Roadway Embankment
- Buildings
- Channel Changes
- Culverts
- Earthen Dams
- Streambank Stabilization
- Water Supply Wells and other Facilities

On November 22, 2022 at 12 Noon, Mr. Chad Billings, PE, an Engineer with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (Flood Plain and Dam Safety Section) will be providing us guidance on how to make better use of this tool via TEAMS. There is an on-line user guide. However, November 23, 2022 is an opportunity to see how the tool works without devoting your best gray matter to reading a manual.

Mr. Billings is a 1998 graduate of Iowa State. And has worked for the Iowa Department of Natural Resources since 2014. Prior to that, Mr. Billings worked for many consulting firms.



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A link will be provided for all those who register.

President's Message

On this final note from me as president, I want to express my gratitude to the Section's leadership team – Sara Somsy, Blair McDonald, and Elizabeth Herbst. What excellent and diligent officers you have been for the Section. Special thanks to Chris Cooper for his steadfast work on programming and helping with the newsletter. We have had some great technical programs and some fun along the way. I welcome Vanessa Haberman to the leadership team as our new Vice President earned in a special run off after we received three write in candidates. It is great to see our members stepping up into the leadership positions. Our section activities don't happen without our volunteers. Don't worry Matt Dotson and Sanjeeta Ghimire, our other VP candidates, we have plenty of opportunities available for your volunteer energy! I look forward to continued great technical programming, some facility and construction tours, and some fun socials during this next year! Happy Holidays!



Respectfully

Jay Brady, P.E.

2021-22 President

Calendar and Upcoming Events

The Quad City Section leadership is working on a full slate of section meetings and tours to advance our members and the profession. The following Section calendar indicates activities currently in planning.

Date	Time	Topic	Speakers	Location
Nov. 23, 2022	12 Noon to 1:00 PM	Iowa DNR PERMT	Chad Billings	On-Line TEAMS Presentation
Dec. 7, 2022	5:30 PM to 7:00 PM	CP RR Merger	Drew Wilson	Presentation at Western Illinois University
Jan. 18, 2022	12 Noon to 1:00 PM	Roadway Fabrics		Materials to Improve the Outcome in Roadway Construction Projects
Feb. 15, 2022	12 Noon to 1:00 PM	Tensar		An Introduction to Tensar Grids

PROPOSED CANADIAN PACIFIC RAILROAD – KANSAS CITY SOUTHERN MERGER

The proposed merger of the Canadian Pacific Railroad (CP RR) and the Kansas City Southern Railroad (KCS) will join a 12,500 mile railroad (CP RR) with a 6,700 mile railroad (KCS) to create a 19,200 mile system that will operate in Canada, the United States, and Mexico.

In addition to the Burlington Northern Santa FE and the Union Pacific, the KCS is one of the largest Class I railroad companies operating within the United States. The proposed merger of the CP and the KCS will create a north-south connection between Canada and Mexico that will give CP clients access to ports in the Gulf. And vice versa, cargo from the Gulf and Mexico will have direct access to Canadian markets. The one rail line that makes this connection possible is along the Mississippi River and goes through Washington, Muscatine, Davenport, Bettendorf, Clinton, and Sabula, Iowa. Projections are that the increased movement of goods along this line will significantly increase the number of trains and the length of the trains that are utilized to move goods. This is causing concern with the municipalities and their residents that have to live and coordinate with this railroad line.



On December 7, 2023, 5:30 PM, Mr. Drew Wilson will present to our Chapter, live only, at Western Illinois University, on the implications of this proposed merger. Mr. Drew Wilson has 25 years of experience in rail transportation and logistics, including operations, sale, and business management. Mr. Wilson is the sole proprietor of ABDW Logistics, a Bettendorf Company that manages rail properties that are utilized for the purpose of transferring cargo from rails to trucks.

THE NASA TOURNAMENT LAB AND THE BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

The Bureau of Reclamation is the nation's largest wholesale water supplier. The Bureau of Reclamation, in partnership with the NASA Tournament Lab, is seeking ways to reduce water seepage from Reclamation's canals that is durable, low cost, and innovative.

Reclamation has 8116 miles of canals that delivers water across six regions of the Western United States. The Bureau serves over 30 million customers and supports 10 million acres of farmland. It goes without saying the the canal delivery system is being testing like it has never been tested before.

Water conservation has always been a critical initiative, but currently, it grows more important with each passing day that the current mega-drought continues in the West. One way to conserve water is to reduce water losses, and more specifically, seepage of the water into the soil substrate.

There are currently a variety of means for measuring and reducing seepage. But these measures are inefficient, variable in their effectiveness, and can be quite costly. On-site soil moisture monitoring, looking for evidence of extraordinary vegetation, canal ponding, the presence of a high ground water table, sensitive flow monitoring, and water budgets are some of the current tools.

The partnership with the NASA Lab tournament implies a possible a software (GIS) driven solution and also, possible satellite reconnaissance of the canals. But there is actually not a pre-determined outcome. If the finger-in-the-dike turns out to be the best solution, then verifying that saves resources that would definitely be employed in seeking a better solution. That said, the Bureau of Reclamation is definitely seeking a solution that has not yet been tried and tested because the number of tools and remote sensing abilities has grown exponentially in recent years. Surely a better mouse trap can be built?



In order to reduce expenses, the Quad City Section sends its newsletters in electronic format only. If you are aware of a fellow Quad City Section Member that does not receive the newsletter, it means that ASCE National does not have their email address. To receive the newsletter, members must keep their email information current by contacting ASCE at 800.548.2723 or by visiting the Members Only section of the ASCE website at <http://www.asce.org/membersonly>. The Quad City Section does not sell email information to anyone. ASCE's Privacy Statement is available on the ASCE website.