

**CONSERVATION ENGINEERING DIVISION
STAFF RESPONSIBILITIES¹**

Vision: *Excellence in Conservation, by Design*

Mission: *Leading innovative engineering solutions to natural resources conservation*

Director – Noller P. Herbert, P.E.

- Leadership and Supervision
- Engineering policy and direction
- Engineering advice and guidance to Chief and top leadership
- USDA Dam Safety Officer
- NRCS Dam Safety Officer and USDA's representative on ICODS
- Engineering job approval authority process
- National Design, Construction, Soil Mechanics Center
- National Water & Climate Center
- National Soil Mechanics Laboratories
- National Water Management Center
- Geological Services Unit (GSU)

National Agricultural Engineer – Wayne Bogovich, P.E.

- Engineering leadership for Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG)
- National Conservation Practice Standards (165)
- National Conservation Planning Manual
- Erosion prediction technology
- Engineering Business Area Advisory Group (EBAAG)

National Civil Engineer – David Thackeray, P.E.

- Engineering policy and directive issues
- Professional practice and general engineering issues
- CED budget coordination

National Construction Engineer – Lyn Gillespie, P.E.

- ASTM and AWWA standards coordination
- Construction Management
- Contract Administration coordination
- International Erosion Control Association (IECA) Liaison
- Land Improvement Contractors Association (LICA) Liaison
- Association of General Contractors (AGC) Liaison
- Radiation safety coordination

National Design Engineer – Mark Locke, P.E.

- Dam safety and dams inventory
- Engineering Job Approval
- ASDSO liaison
- Design standard variance requests
- Review of Engineering reports

¹ This reference chart is not a complete list of duties. The listed items highlight cross-cutting or team leadership responsibilities.

- Represents Director on Inter-Agency Committee on Dam Safety (ICODS)
- Represents Director on National Dam Safety Review Board (NDSRB)
- Coordinates engineering research activities with Agricultural Research Service (ARS)
- Represents Director on DHS – National Infra-structure Protection Plan – Dam Sector – Governmental Coordinating Council (GCC)
- ACI Standards Coordination

National Environmental Engineer – Darren Hickman, P.E.

- Agricultural manure and waste management
- Manure Management Planning (CNMP)
- Animal Waste Management Design Software
- Agricultural Water quality
- Mortality management
- Pathogen management
- NFWF Chesapeake Bay CIG technical contact
- USDA-EPA CED liaison
- Farm Pilot Project coordination
- Energy coordination (methane conversion, wind, etc.)

National Geologist – Jerry Bernard, L.P.G.

- Sedimentation
- Ground water
- Geomorphology
- Streams and Channels
- Stream restoration technology and standards
- Represents USDA on National Dredging Team, with emphasis on coordination of watershed sediment management with beneficial uses of dredged materials from navigation projects
- Membership on the Advisory Committee for Water Information, Subcommittee on Sedimentation (SOS). Chair for 2010 9th Federal Interagency Sedimentation Conference.
- Project Manager for Geological Services Unit (GSU)

National Hydraulic Engineer – William Merkel, P.E. (Acting Effective 11/30/2009)

- Hydrology and Hydraulics
- ARS Hydrology Lab liaison
- Climate and meteorology
- Stormwater management
- Water supply and conservation
- Member of Advisory Committee on Water Information Subcommittee on Hydrology
- Represent Director on Department of Homeland Security, National Infrastructure Protection Plan (NIPP) Government Coordinating Council—Water Sector
- American Society of Civil Engineer (ASCE) Watershed Management Technical Committee

National Landscape Architect – Robert Snieckus, A.S.L.A., R.L.A.

- Community assistance
- Visual assessment and simulation
- Soil bioengineering and restoration
- Stream and wetland restoration
- ASLA, ASAE & International Association of Landscape Ecology liaison

- Technical development of landscape architecture staff

National Water Management Engineer – Douglas Toews, P.E.

- Irrigation Water Management
- Livestock Water Management
- Drainage Water Management
- Wetlands Restoration/Creation
- USDI-Bureau of Reclamation Liaison
- USDI-Bureau of Indian Affairs Irrigation Liaison
- USDA-ARS Irrigation liaison
- Irrigation Association liaison
- Subcommittee on Water Quality and Availability member
- Agricultural Drainage Management Systems Task Force member
- Bridging-the-Headgate Partnership Member
- 2008 Farm Bill Cost-share program coordination

National Air Quality Specialist – Ronald Heavner

- Agricultural air quality
- Assessment of Agricultural Air Emission and their contributions to National Air Quality
- Emissions estimating tools for agricultural air pollutant emissions
- Practice standards to reduce air pollutant emissions from agricultural operations
- USDA/NRCS Representative on inter- & intra-departmental air quality workshops
- Provide technical and logistical support to agricultural Air Quality Task Force activities
- CED Business Plan

National Engineering Software Coordinator – Dan Meyer, P.E., Located in Ft. Collins, CO

- Engineering Software Development
- Information Technology Center liaison – S&T deputy area wide
- Chief's Cost Savings and Streamlining initiatives
- Engineering tools integration (GPS, GIS, CAD, CADD)

National Program Manager, Snow Survey and Water Forecasting – Claudia Hoeft, P.E. (Acting Effective 8/17/2009)

- Snow Survey & Water Supply Forecasting National Program Manager
- Drought coordination
- Western Governors Association, Water Council Liaison

Administrative Assistant – Tyrone Cole

(Support provided through the Administrative Support Unit)

- Secretary to the Director
- Correspondence management
- Office management and scheduling
- Mail management
- Time and attendance
- Order forms, publications, and supplies