

BIOGRAPHICAL SKETCH

Name: Valerie Hansen
Job Title: DST Planner

Home Office: Northwestern Division (NWD), Portland, OR

Education:

Master's (MS), Management 2003, Baker University
Bachelor's (BS), Fisheries and Wildlife Biology 1992, Iowa State University
-Double major: Environmental Science
Associate's (AAS), Animal Health Technology 1988, University of Minnesota



Years of Professional Experience:

19 years, all with the Corps:

3 years as a Park Ranger (Co-Op student)

16 years as an Environmental Resources Specialist in Planning, of those 16 years I have worked as a Planner/Project Manager for 10 years mainly managing Ecosystem Restoration or Watershed Projects. The other 6 years I worked in Planning doing NEPA/Environmental Compliance work. In Alaska led large watershed studies in addition to serving as the Planning Assistance to States Program Manager.

My 30-second commercial:

I work for the US Army Corps of Engineers in its Civil Works mission area. I work in the Northwestern Division (NWD) office located in Portland, OR. I am a Biologist/Ecologist by education, and a Planner by training. I joined the NWD team in June 2009 and I work in the Planning/Policy area as the District Support Team (DST) representative for Portland, Seattle, and Walla Walla Districts. I provide support to the Districts to resolve issues, provide guidance, perform reviews, and coordinate with HQUSACE. I also dedicate a portion of my time to working with the Corps' Planning Center of Expertise for Ecosystem Restoration. One of the projects I am working on for them is developing a Gateway for ER practitioners to be able to share information, network, and receive training related to ecosystem restoration. Prior to joining NWD I worked as a Senior Plan Formulator leading study teams that assess aquatic systems on a watershed scale and working with local communities to identify problems and opportunities related to the watershed. Our teams work with many partners including state resource agencies and not-for-profit environmental organizations as well as local communities and landowners. I really enjoy my job because I get to make a difference in the environment and work with highly dedicated people. I am a 2005 graduate of the Planning Associates Program and honored to have been selected to participate in that program.

Special abilities, interests, hobbies, etc:

I love to travel, go camping, rafting, and take road trips. I recently became a step-mom to 3 wonderful children, it has been fun watching them discover the outdoors and enjoy their natural surroundings, now that we live in a new area we have a lot to explore. My husband and I also enjoy checking out different wineries so we are eager to explore Oregon and Washington wineries.