

CorpsReformNetwork

ANNUAL MEETING

new orleans **2007**



Proceedings

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Table of Contents

[Introduction and Media](#)
[PowerPoint Presentations and Session Summaries](#)
[Speaker Biographies](#)
[Participants List](#)
[Agenda](#)

Introduction and Media

From Dec. 2 - 4, 50 CRN members and local activists joined with community leaders, engineers, and corps staff to move the corps reform agenda forward at the CRN's 2007 Annual Meeting. The 3-day event in New Orleans featured clean water skills trainings, tours of both pristine bottomland habitat and Katrina-impacted neighborhoods, and presentations on water resources and global warming, protecting New Orleans and prioritizing the best projects for the Gulf Coast.

The meeting made headlines:

- WWLTV Channel 4 interviewed CRN Steering Committee Members, who explained why reforming the corps is necessary and what the recently won reforms mean for New Orleans and other communities.
[Click here to watch on YouTube](#)
- WWLTV Channel 4 interviewed Dr. Hassan Mashriqui (LSU Professor and Engineer) following his presentation that illustrated the safest and most effective way for the corps to close the Mississippi River Gulf Outlet.
[Click here to watch on YouTube](#)
- WWLTV Channel 4 covered a new report released by local CRN Members called: "*Failure to Hold Water*," which calls into question the corps economic justification for expanding the Industrial Lock and Canal.
[Click here to watch on YouTube](#)
- The Times-Picayune ran a story about Corps Director of Civil Works, Major General Don Riley's keynote presentation to the group [[click here to read](#)], and also wrote about the new report "*Failure to Hold Water*," highlighting community concerns [[click here to read](#)].
- ABC News Channel 26 also aired an evening news segment on "*Failure to Hold Water*." This segment featured Pam Dashiell with the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association and economist Dr. Robert Stearns.
[Click here to watch on RealPlayer](#) (save first, then open)

According to CRN Coordinator George Sorvalis, "Many of our members near New Orleans, like the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association, invited us to hold our Annual Meeting in their city. If we helped in their fight to steer the corps away from special-interest projects, like widening the Industrial Canal, towards projects that address the needs of community members, then the meeting was a success."



PowerPoint Presentations and Session Summaries

1. [Water Resources Development Act](#) (On the Ground Impacts)
2. [Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and Mitigation Skills Training](#)
3. [Clean Water Restoration Act](#) (Background and Advocacy Tips)
4. [Making the CRN Work For You](#)
5. [A View From the Hill w/ Kelly Reed, Office of Sen. Feingold \(D-WI\)](#)
6. [Global Warming and the Corps](#)
7. [How Protected is New Orleans Two Years After Hurricane Katrina](#)
8. [MRGO - Reform Lessons From A Devastating Corps Project](#)
9. [Don Davis Presents on Cajun Culture](#)
10. [Press Conference at Industrial Canal and Lock](#)
11. [Key Note Speaker Major General Don Riley](#), Army Corps of Engineers Director of Civil Works

- **1. Water Resources Development Act**

David Conrad (National Wildlife Federation), Steve Ellis (Taxpayers for Common Sense, and Dr. Robert Sterns (Independent Economic Consultant) spoke about on-the-ground impacts of the corps reforms included in the new Water Resources Development Act that became law on Nov. 13, 2007.



- ["Key Corps Reform Provisions WRDA 2007"](#), PowerPoint by David Conrad, Senior Water Resources Specialist, National Wildlife Federation.
- ["Prioritization and Budget"](#), PowerPoint by Steve Ellis, Vice President, Taxpayers for Common Sense.

- **2. Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and Mitigation Skills Training**

Matt Rota and Jeff Grimes (Gulf Restoration Network) presented on how to be most effective when commenting on Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits. Barry Sulkin (Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility) showed how to enforce mitigation requirements of permits.



- ["Beyond Written Comments"](#), PowerPoint by Jeff Grimes and Matt Rota, Gulf Restoration Network.
- ["No Net Loss?"](#) PowerPoint by Barry Sulkin, Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility.

- **3. Clean Water Restoration Act (Background and Advocacy Tips)**

Melissa Samet (American Rivers) and Joan Mulhern (Earthjustice) presented on efforts to pass the Clean Water Restoration Act -- a bill currently before Congress that will restore federal protection to thousands of stream-miles and wetland-acres.

- ["Clean Water Restoration Act,"](#) PowerPoint by Melissa Samet, Senior Director, Water Resources, American Rivers.

- **4. Making the CRN Work For You**

Brad Webb from the Institute for Conservation Leadership led a break out session that highlighted the value of working in cooperative efforts -- underlying the importance of a vibrant and active Corps Reform Network. The group identified common needs among all CRN members; such as technical expertise on the new corps reforms in WRDA. The group also identified common tensions between groups to manage in order for the CRN to be successful.



- **5. A View From the Hill w/ Kelly Reed, Office of Sen. Feingold (D-WI)**

Kelly Reed (Environmental LA, Office of Senator Russ Feingold) described what the environment is like on Capitol Hill. She conveyed that Sen. Feingold's top priorities are to further reform the corps, and to pass the Clean Water Restoration Act. Participants were very happy to get a better understanding of how the U.S. Senate works, and were honored that Kelly made the time to spend with our group.

- **6. Global Warming and the Corps**

As the nation's largest water manager, the corps could play a huge role in mitigating the effects of global warming. Susan Kaderka (National Wildlife Federation) spoke about what scientists and policymakers are saying about global warming's impacts on rivers and watersheds, and offered some thoughts about what fellow water activists can do in response.



- ["Global Warming and America's Watersheds,"](#) PowerPoint by Susan Kaderka (kaderka@nwf.org), Gulf States Natural Resource Center Director, National Wildlife Federation.

- **7. How Protected is New Orleans Two Years After Hurricane Katrina?**

Ivor L. van Heerden (LSU Hurricane Center) is leading the State of Louisiana's official forensics data gathering team investigating the levee failures in New Orleans. His presentation showed what went wrong, and what is still wrong with the current hurricane protection system. Mark Davis, Director of the Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy spoke to our country's miopic approach to water resources, while Pamela Dashiell with the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association, talked about the challenges her community is facing in their endeavor to build a safer, better and stronger New Orleans.



- ["Katrina 2 1/2 years on - are we any safer? Do we have a clear pathway forward?"](#) PowerPoint by Ivor L. van Heerden, Ph.D., LSU Hurricane

- **8. MRGO - Reform Lessons From A Devastating Corps Project**

Dr. Hassan Mashriqui (Louisiana State University) showed how levee designs, canals and other engineering decisions caused major harm to New Orleans and the surrounding ecosystem, and offered better engineering approaches. Carlton Dufrechou (Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation) talked about how Katrina impacted New Orleans and outlined some necessary conditions of a successful recovery. Melissa Samet (American Rivers) drew out the root causes in corps planning and water resource planning that led to faulty engineering.



- ["Creating a Surge Path,"](#) PowerPoint by Dr. Hassan S. Mashriqui, P.E., Member, ASCE, Assistant Extension Professor - Coastal Engineering.
- ["Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation,"](#) PowerPoint by Carlton Dufrechou, Executive Director, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation.
- [WWLTV Channel 4 interview](#) with Dr. Hassan Mashriqui following his presentation.

- **9. Don Davis Presents on Cajun Culture**

Don Davis gave an animated and educational presentation on Cajun culture during an evening reception sponsored by The McKnight Foundation. Having grown up on the Bayou, Don gave a first hand account, as well as a historic account of how the Delta, New Orleans and surrounding areas came to be what they are today. The presentation was as much about 'how the people shaped the land' as it was about 'how the land shaped the people.'

- **10. Press Conference at Industrial Canal and Lock**

Ph. D. Economist Bob Stearns, Pam Dashiell from the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association, John Koeferl, President of Citizens Against Widening the Industrial Canal (CAWIC), and Steve Ellis, Vice President of Taxpayers for Common Sense, helped release a CRN Action Assistance Fund-supported report in front of several television news cameras about how widening the Industrial Lock and Canal is a misplaced priority and hazardous for the Lower 9th Ward community.



- [ABC26.com WGNO TV New Orleans](#) - 2.5-minute realPlayer clip of evening news broadcast (must save file first, then open it).
- ["New study rejects canal lock plans - Project isn't worth it, group says."](#) Mark Schleifstein, The Times Picayune, Dec. 5, 2007.
- [WWLTV Channel 4 clip](#) of evening news broadcast covering the press conference and report release.

- **11. Key Note Speaker Major General Don Riley, Army Corps of Engineers Director of Civil Works**

Major General Don Riley addressed the group and took questions. Riley urged the CRN to continue focusing on: water policy reforms (although re-named as the 'Water Policy Reform Network'), levee and flood program reforms and advocating for states to expand their role in water resources management and restoration. General Riley heard about CRN members' concerns about corps projects back home. The group especially appreciated General Riley's participation and the opportunity to talk about these important issues.



Speaker Biographies

David Conrad is Senior Water Resources Specialist at the National Wildlife Federation. Conrad has been with the National Wildlife Federation for 18 years. Conrad's major areas of activity have included the water resources development programs of the Army Corps of Engineers and federal river protection and floodplain management programs. He has been involved in legislation and a range of policy-related activities regarding flood hazard mitigation and floodplain management—with a focus on helping communities seeking assistance to relocate high-risk residences and businesses out



of flood-prone areas, and expanding opportunities for nonstructural flood damage reduction. He has also been actively involved in Congress' Water Resources Development Acts, authorizing projects and programs for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Conrad has a Bachelor of Arts degree in Environmental Sciences from the University of Virginia.

Pam Dashiell is a long-time civic activist in the Holy Cross neighborhood of New Orleans' Lower Ninth Ward. Raised in Roxbury, Massachusetts, she has lived in Holy Cross/Lower Nine for 17 years. She is Board Chair of the Holy Cross Neighborhood Association, a founding member of Citizens Against Widening the Industrial Canal, board member of Smart Growth Louisiana and the Alliance for Affordable Energy, an advisor for the Gulf Coast Fund and a director of the Lower Ninth Ward Center for Sustainable Engagement and Development. Pam is employed by the Louisiana Bucket Brigade.

Don Davis is Administrator of Louisiana Applied and Educational Oil Spill Research and Development Program at Louisiana State University, as well as an authority on the cultures of Louisiana's wetlands. In his words, "I'm just Don. If you want to know anything about me, just ask my mama, she will tell you everything you need to know!"

Mark Davis is a Senior Research Fellow at Tulane University Law School and Director of the Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy at the Law School. He comes to the Institute after 14 years as the Executive Director of the Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana where he was extensively involved in shaping laws, policies and programs at the state and federal level dealing the restoration and stewardship of coastal ecosystems. Prior to that time he practiced law in Indianapolis, Washington DC, and Chicago. Mark has a JD, with honors, from Indiana University and an MLT from the Georgetown University Law Center. He presently serves as a member of the Louisiana Recovery Authority's Environmental Task Force, which provides advice and guidance in connection with the State of Louisiana's efforts to recover from the devastation of Hurricanes Katrina and Rita. Mark has lectured widely on the topic of water resource management and stewardship and has testified numerous times before Congress on the need for a focused and effective commitment to the viability of coastal Louisiana and other vital natural treasures.

Carlton Dufrechou is Executive Director for the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation. During Carlton's 14 year term, LPBF has become one of the leading environmental organizations in Louisiana dedicated to restoring and preserving the Lake Pontchartrain Basin. In June 1992, Carlton became Executive Director of the Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation. As director, Carlton coordinates the overall planning and implementation of efforts to restore and preserve the ecology of the 10,000 square mile Pontchartrain Basin surrounding metro New Orleans. The Foundation's projects have received numerous recognitions including The National Watershed Award, two EPA Environmental Excellence Awards, and a Presidential

Environmental Education Award. From December 1986 through early June 1992, Carlton was a planner and project manager with the New Orleans District of the Corps of Engineers. Carlton received both his BS degree in civil engineering and his MS degree in civil/environmental engineering from Tulane University. He is recipient of the Young Leadership Council of New Orleans Role Model Award, *Gambit* Best of New Orleans Award, and Coalition to Restore Coastal Louisiana Coastal Stewardship Award.

Steve Ellis is Vice President of programs at Taxpayers for Common Sense (TCS), where he oversees programs and serves as a leading media and legislative spokesperson. A persistent critic of the mounting budget deficit and federal fiscal policy, Steve has testified before numerous Congressional Committees and has appeared on national network news programs. Steve formerly served as an officer in the Coast Guard for six years including tours of duty as a department head and deck watch officer aboard Coast Guard Cutter Sorrel, managing the Coast Guard's inland waterway fleet, and managing a small boat acquisition contract.



After leaving the Coast Guard, Steve worked at American Rivers and the Coast Alliance on Mississippi River and coastal subsidy issues, respectively. Steve received a B.S. in Government from the U.S. Coast Guard Academy. He has earned both the Coast Guard Commendation Medal and the Coast Guard Achievement Medal.

Jeff Grimes is the Assistant Director of the Water Resources Program for the Gulf Restoration Network. In this position, Jeff advocates for healthy waters and wetland protection with a primary geographic focus on the state of Mississippi. His work involves reviewing various government policies and permits, providing technical assistance to communities, and educating the public on water-related issues. Jeff holds a Master's Degree in Public Policy from Duke University and a B.S. in Environmental Science from Allegheny College.



Susan Raleigh Kaderka, is the Regional Executive Director of the National Wildlife Federation's Gulf States Office. Since 1999 she has overseen NWF's conservation and environmental education initiatives in Texas, Oklahoma, Louisiana and Missouri, with a particular focus on the conservation and restoration of water resources. In 2001, she launched the Texas Living Waters program, a multi-year collaborative effort (with Environmental Defense and the Sierra Club) that has successfully advanced more sustainable water management and use in Texas. Ms. Kaderka has also led NWF's



advocacy on behalf of the restoration of coastal Louisiana, where 25 square miles of coastal wetlands are disappearing annually. Since 2003 she has served on the Louisiana Governor's Advisory Commission on Coastal Restoration and Conservation, and has sought federal support for an ecosystem-scale restoration program for the area. Over the past year, Ms. Kaderka has spearheaded NWF's new initiative to help river and watershed groups, particularly in the western United States, to advocate for appropriate management of water resources in the face of climate change. She holds a Master's degree in Journalism and a Bachelor's degree in Psychology, both from the University of Texas at Austin.

Dr. Hassan S. Mashriqui is Assistant Extension Professor-Research of Coastal Engineering at Louisiana State University and the LSU Agricultural Center. He is also a Professional Engineer with the LSU Hurricane Center, focusing on research topics such as Coastal and Inland Flooding Modeling, Water Quality Modeling, and Wetland Restoration. Recent publications by Dr. Mashriqui have addressed issues such as flood and wind hazard mitigation planning and landscape and watershed modeling in the Mississippi River delta. His work at the LSU Center for the Study of Public Health Impacts of Hurricanes takes a field and model-based approach



to studying Hurricane Katrina effects in order to assess levee and infrastructure safety as well as developing concepts for using wetlands and ecosystem restoration for flood control solutions.

Joan Mulhern is Senior Legislative Counsel for Earthjustice and has been with the organization 1999. She represents Earthjustice on environmental quality issues including clean water, public health, and environmental justice. Her expertise on Clean Water Act issues includes the scope of waters protected by the Clean Water Act, the law's watershed clean up program, wetlands protection, mountaintop removal coal mining, water quality standards, and Clean Water Act enforcement. Ms. Mulhern has a B.A. from the University of Vermont and a J.D. *magna cum laude* from the Georgetown University Law Center.

Major General Don Riley became the Director of Civil Works, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Washington, DC, on July 1, 2004. As such, he manages the Army's \$5 billion annual Civil Works Program, the Nation's primary planner, designer, builder, and operator of flood control, navigation, environmental restoration, and multiple-purpose water resource projects. As Director, General Riley is also the President of the U.S. Section of the International Navigation Association (PIANC), President of the Corps' Coastal Engineering Research Board, and Executive Director of the Inland Waterways User Board. General Riley came to Corps of Engineers Headquarters following command of the Corps' Mississippi Valley Division (MVD) in Vicksburg, Miss. where he received a Presidential appointment as President



of the Mississippi River Commission. There he oversaw the work of six Engineer Districts that maintained the Mississippi River - the Nation's busiest inland waterway and port complex - and its tributaries for navigation, flood control and other purposes from the headwaters in Minnesota to the Gulf of Mexico. Prior to commanding MVD, General Riley was the Deputy Chief of Staff (Engineer) of U.S. Army Europe, headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany. A native of Hayward, California, General Riley is a graduate of the United States Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Corps of Engineers in 1973. He earned a master's degree in civil engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and is a Registered Professional Engineer in California. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College and the United States Army War College and holds a Masters of Military Arts and Sciences from the School of Advanced Military Studies.

Matt Rota is the Director of the Water Resources Program at the Gulf Restoration Network. In this position, Matt leads GRN efforts to educate and assist residents of Mississippi and Louisiana in obtaining state and federal agency action to reduce polluted runoff and to protect wetland resources. Matt has a Master's Degree in Earth and environmental Resources Management from the University of South Carolina and a B.S in Ecology, Evolution, and Organismal Biology from Tulane University.

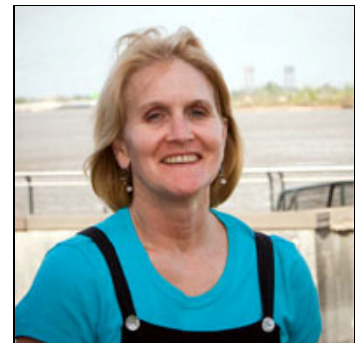


Melissa Samet is Senior Director of Water Resources at American Rivers where she directs American River's Corps of Engineers Reform Campaign and Natural Flood Protection initiative. Melissa is also the Co-Chair of the Corps Reform Network. Prior to joining American Rivers in 2001, Melissa worked for six years at Earthjustice where she had dual roles as a litigating attorney and Director of Earthjustice's Marine Biodiversity Program. Prior to joining Earthjustice, Melissa was a litigating attorney in private practice. Melissa is the author of an essay on the Corps of Engineers in the book *Rivertown: Rethinking Urban Rivers* (2007);



and has co-authored and directed several reports including: *Unnatural Disasters, Natural Solutions: Lessons from the Flooding of New Orleans*; *Costly Corps: How the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Uses Your Tax Dollars To Destroy the Environment*; and *Saving the Oceans: A Litigation Strategy*. She is currently working on *A Citizen's Guide to the Corps of Engineers*. Melissa received her J.D. from the New York University School of Law, and holds a B.S. in Wildlife Biology from the University of Vermont.

Cynthia (Cyn) Sarthou is Executive Director of the Gulf Restoration Network. She has been with the GRN since 1995. Cyn is responsible for the day to day operations of the GRN. She also works to elevate regional issues in Gulf of Mexico States to a national level. Cyn serves on the Steering Committee of the Corps Reform Network, National Clean Water Network and Endangered Species Coalition. Cyn received her B.A. from the University of Guelph, Ontario, Canada, her law degree from the University of Mississippi in 1983, and her Masters of Law in Law and Marine Affairs from the University of Washington in 1992.



Dr. Robert Stearns is an independent consultant with extensive background in transportation economics. He has, notably, served as Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Civil Works). His twenty years of federal employment also included service with the Department of Transportation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. His post government research includes transportation studies of the Red River (Louisiana), the Delaware River, and the Inland Waterway System as a whole. He also worked as a senior research fellow for the National Academy of Public Administration for its recent study of the Army Corps of Engineers Civil Works budget development process. Dr. Stearns taught economics for ten years at Connecticut College, Ohio State University, and most recently at the University of Maryland's School of Public Policy. He holds a B.A. in mathematics from Swarthmore College, and an M.A. and PhD in economics from Yale University.

Barry Sulkin is an independent Environmental Consultant from Nashville, TN. He has a BA in Environmental Science from the Univ. of Virginia, and an MS in Environmental Engineering from Vanderbilt. For about 14 years he worked for Tenn. Water Pollution Control in wastewater and drinking water programs in field offices and as chief of Enforcement and Compliance. Since 1990 he has been an independent consultant in numerous states, primarily working on water-related issues for environmental groups, as well as individuals, government, business, and industry. He is also the director of the Tennessee office of PEER (Public Employees for Environmental Responsibility), and on the Board of Directors of the Tennessee Environmental Council. Projects include citizen suits, water sampling, river studies, permit review, TMDLs, and training in numerous states, for clients including Southern Environmental Law Center, Earthjustice Legal Defense Fund, Western Environmental Law Center, Sierra Club, various Riverkeepers, Natural Resources Defense Council, Clean Water Network, Georgia Legal Watch, Georgia Center for Law in the Public Interest, Alaska Clean Water Alliance, Neuse River Foundation, Attorney General Office of NY and TN, City of Nashville, Sysco Foods, the Univ. of Tennessee, Turner Environmental Law Clinic at Emory University, WSMV News (Nashville NBC affiliate), River Network, Amigos Bravos (New Mexico), and many others.



Dr. Ivor van Heerden has been deputy director of the Louisiana State University Hurricane Center since 1999 and director of the Center for the Study of Public Health Impacts of Hurricanes, a Louisiana Board of Regents Health Excellence Fund Center, since 2001. He is a faculty member of the Department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. A native of South Africa, he received his undergraduate degree in geology from the University of Natal in South Africa, and a masters and doctorate in Marine Sciences from Louisiana State University (LSU). He is a former Assistant Secretary of the Louisiana Department of Natural Resources where he ran a very successful



coastal wetlands restoration program. Ivor has been involved in natural disaster research projects in various parts of the world and played a key part in the dissemination of information on the impacts of Katrina during the emergency. Presently he is leading the State of Louisiana's official forensic data gathering team as concerns the failure of the levees in New Orleans and the consequences for those who lost their homes. He has undertaken thousands of interviews and appeared in Spike Lee's HBO Katrina documentary as well as in documentaries done by amongst others; NOVA-PBS, History Channel, Discovery Channel, National Geographic and BBC. He is the author of "*The Storm - What Went Wrong and Why during Hurricane Katrina - the Inside Story from One Louisiana Scientist*" (with Mike Bryan) published by Penguin/Viking.

Brad Webb has served the Institute for Conservation Leadership as Program Associate in the Western office located in Bozeman, Montana since September 2001. He currently manages the Great Lakes Executive Director Program in addition to smaller programs in the Pacific Northwest. Prior to joining the Institute, Brad's professional work revolved around developing alternative educational experiences for a wide range of participants. Some of those experiences included developing educational travel programs for Elderhostel, directing Professional Development Programs for the Colorado Outward Bound School, and a few forays into consulting in the corporate world. He has also been a member of boards and committees for conservation and community groups. Brad's personal interests revolve around his family and the outdoors. He enjoys climbing, camping, skiing, hiking, and fishing; often with his three children in tow.

Ann Yoachim earned a BA in Environmental Studies from Dickinson College and moved to New Orleans to work as an environmental educator at the Audubon Louisiana Nature Center. For the past eight years, she has worked as a fundraiser, educator, and program manager for a number of non-profit organizations working on health, environment, and community development issues. In 2004, Ann earned a Master's in Public Health from Tulane University's School of Public Health and Tropical Medicine. Her research built on her work in New Orleans on the interconnections between people, health, and their environment. Post-Katrina, Ann served as the Assistant Director of the Center for Environmental Communications at Loyola University and in this role she assisted the Holy Cross Neighborhood in their planning and recovery efforts. Currently, Ann is working on a project focused on green building/energy efficiency and sustainable neighborhood development in the Lower 9.

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Agenda

Sunday, December 2

Introduction, Skills Training on Corps Legislation, Protecting Wetlands and Making the Network Work For You

Noon – 12:30 Welcome and Overview

- *Cyn Sarthou*, Gulf Restoration Network, CRN Steering Committee Member
- *Melissa Samet*, American Rivers, CRN Co-Chair

12:30 – 1:45 Concurrent Workshops (Choose One to Attend)

Water Resources Development Act

- **On the Ground Impacts of Corps Reforms Passed in WRDA**
David Conrad, National Wildlife Federation
- **Current Pitfalls of Independent Project Review**
Robert Stearns, Independent Economic Consultant
- **The WRDA Process, Appropriations and Prioritization**
Steve Ellis, Taxpayers for Common Sense

Clean Water Act Section 404 Permits and Mitigation Skills Training

- **Enhancing Your Comments on 404 Permit Applications**
Matt Rota and Jeff Grimes, Gulf Restoration Network
- **Citizen Enforcement of 404 Mitigation**
Barry Sulkin, Environmental Consultant

1:45 – 2:00 Break

2:00 – 3:15 Concurrent Workshops (Choose One to Attend)

Clean Water Restoration Act (CWRA)

- **How to Determine if Your Waters Lost Federal Protection and Winning Strategies to Pass CWRA**
Joan Mulhern, Earthjustice and Melissa Samet, American Rivers

Making the Corps Reform Network Work for You

- **What it Means to be Part of a Network**
Brad Webb, Institute for Conservation Leadership

3:15 – 3:30 Break

3:30 – 4:30 A View From the Hill

- Kelly Reed, Office of Senator Russ Feingold (D-WI)

4:30 – 5:30 Global Warming and the Corps

- Susan Kaderka, National Wildlife Federation

Monday, December 3

Protecting Communities by Reforming the Corps and MRGO Presentations, Swamp Boat-Tour and Reception

9:00 – 9:15 Welcome and Overview

- Cyn Sarthou, Gulf Restoration Network

9:15 – 10:30 Panel Discussion: How Protected is New Orleans Two Years After Hurricane Katrina?

- Ivor van Heerden, Deputy Director, LSU Hurricane Center, Director, Center for the Study of Public Health Impacts of Hurricanes.
- Mark Davis, Director, Tulane Institute on Water Resources Law and Policy
- Pamela Dashiell, Chairman of the Board, Holy Cross Neighborhood Association

10:30 – 10:45 Break

10:45 – 12:00 Panel Discussion: MRGO - Reform Lessons From A Devastating Corps Project

- Carlton Dufrechou, Executive Director, Lake Pontchartrain Basin Foundation
- Dr. Hassan Mashriqui, Assistant Extension Professor - Coastal Engineering, LSU Agricultural Center
- Melissa Samet, American Rivers, Co-Chair, Corps Reform Network

12:30 – 5:00 Swamp Tour (Lunch on the Bus)

- **Field Trip to Honey Island** - one of the wildest swamps in America with a professional wetlands ecologist to narrate through Cyprus and rare Tuplo Gum trees.

6:00 – 7:30 Reception at Hotel Sponsored by The McKnight Foundation

- Don Davis, Louisiana State University – Presentation on History of New Orleans, Wetlands and the Delta

Tuesday, December 4

Bus Tour of Hurricane Katrina's Impacts, Press Conference Against Widening the Industrial Canal, Key Note Speaker Major General Don Riley, Chief of Civil Works and New Directions for the CRN

8:30 – 10:30 Bus Tour of Hurricane Katrina Impacts New Orleans, Lower 9th and Bayou Restoration

11:00 - 12:00 Press Conference at Industrial Canal and Lock

- Citizens Against Widening the Industrial Canal in Solidarity with the Corps Reform Network to Release: “*Failure to Hold Water – Economics of the New Lock Project for the Industrial Canal*”

12:30 – 1:30 Lunch at Hotel

1:30 – 2:30 Key Note Speaker and Q&A

- **Major General Don Riley**, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Director of Civil Works – Will be taking questions from CRN Members

2:30 – 3:00 New Directions for the Corps Reform Network Discussion

- An open discussion of future paths for the CRN, to direct the Network’s upcoming strategic planning efforts

3:00 Adjourn