



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Galveston District

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Southwestern Division Commander visits Galveston District

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Southwestern Division commander Colonel Kendall P. Cox made his first orientation visit to the Galveston Division Nov. 26-28. On the agenda were tours of the northern half of the District, briefings on programs and projects, and meetings with Corps employees as well as officials with other agencies who team with the Corps.

“The initial purpose of my orientation visit was to hear the Commander’s Brief from the Galveston District so that I have visibility of their overall tasks, purposes and programs.

Secondly, the trip gave me the opportunity to get out and meet

some of our team mates—those we often refer to as ‘customers’ or ‘stakeholders’—and get a clear understanding of what the Corps of Engineers family can do to support them. These meetings also gave me the chance to put a face to a name and meet those we work with on a regular basis. Third, but by no means last, my purpose was to get out and see the Corps employees so that I could really thank them for all the hard work they do for our Nation every single day.”

The visit included meetings with the directors of the Ports of Galveston, Houston, Texas City, and Freeport. Additionally, Cox met with the Lower Neches Valley Authority, which is the local sponsor for three Corps projects, including the Neches River Saltwater Barrier, and the Harris County Flood Control District. He toured several areas that the Corps and the Harris County Flood Control District team together on, including Addicks and Barker Reservoirs and the Sims Bayou Federal Flood Damage Reduction Project.

“I’ve had a chance to meet a significant number of customers and team mates,” Cox said, “and I feel pretty good about it. All comments have been very positive, and that’s great to hear.”



Col. Cox meets Park Ranger Ken McDonald during a visit to the Addicks and Barker Reservoirs. (USACE photo by Kristine Brown)

Accompanying Cox on his orientation was Colonel David C. Weston, Galveston District commander.

“I know that I speak for the entire Galveston District when I say that it was a real honor to host Col. Cox. We are proud of what we do, and appreciate the opportunity to highlight our programs. He has seen part of our District, and we are looking forward to showcasing another part on his next visit,” Weston said.

On subsequent visits, Cox will tour the remainder of the District and looks forward to meeting more Corps employees.

“What never ceases to amaze me is the passion of each of the Corps employees I have talked to, a passion for what they do and a real appreciation for the opportunity to provide a service to the American people. It’s not about a job. It’s more about what can they do to make life better for someone else. That is the definition of selfless service, and it is very evident in the Galveston District.”