

CREATE A WORLD OF DIFFERENCE...

WITH A CAREER IN LAW

Janet Smith believes that her four years as a Corps assistant district counsel have provided her with a magnitude of legal experiences.

"It was more than I would have expected in a lifetime in the private sector. Here I am challenged in many different areas, from contracts to environmental law, to review of National Environmental Policy Act documents to permitting issues. But more than that, I feel like I am really making a difference in people's lives," says Janet, "I'm helping solve problems."

Assigned to the Walla Walla district, Janet has received many awards for "making a difference", including the 1994 EEO/Special Emphasis Employee of the Year and a Special Service Award "for extraordinary assistance concerning endangered species." Here Janet was cited for coordinating her district's efforts in highly controversial salmon litigation. Her responsibilities included advising the district on how to comply with the National Environmental Policy Act and Endangered Species Act on operations of the Snake River dams and reservoirs. In addition, she initiated the development of a district Fish Litigation Center and an internal partnering program.

Most recently, Janet was selected to

be a member of a year-long Leadership Development Program, whereby 10 to 12 employees in the district are chosen for special training in leadership skills. "The great thing is you don't have to be a division chief or supervisor to be a leader in the Corps," believes Janet. "There are leaders everywhere. How else can we maintain the quality of work that the Corps is famous for?"

Asked to describe what working at the Corps is like, Janet instantly says, "a family affair." And well she should as her husband is a 15-year Corps veteran.



US Army Corps
of Engineers



"The Corps has a way of tapping into the skills that are inherent in you and enhancing them. You are always given opportunities to be creative; to explore new ideas and new ways of doing things. The Corps understands that by bettering employees, it betters itself."

Janet Smith
General Attorney