



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers** ®
Walla Walla District

News Release

News Release 07-03

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Date: Jan. 05, 2007

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Idaho Guardsmen to conduct training on Corps levees

CLARKSTON, Wash. – If you are walking the trails along the Snake River in Lewiston and Clarkston between 8 a.m. and 5 p.m. on Saturday, Jan. 6, don't be surprised if you come across uniformed soldiers handling a first aid scene.

Soldiers of the Idaho Army National Guard's Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 145th Brigade Support Battalion, will conduct their First Aid Warrior Task along the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' trails on both sides of the Snake River between the Blue Bridge and Southway Bridge. This training exercise is designed to test soldiers on fitness, field awareness and first aid skills – all in the same event.

“The First Aid Warrior Task is part of the overall training that our National Guard soldiers go through to prepare for possible deployments,” said Sgt. 1st Class Ron Neal, readiness noncommissioned officer for the unit. “I do a lot of running along the levee trails, and it seemed to me that the Corps trails would be a great area for this type of training.”

The exercise will be conducted under a special use permit issued by the Corps' natural resource management office in Clarkston, Wash., which manages the trail system in the Lewiston-Clarkston Valley. “We are happy to work with the National Guard to provide the venue for this training,” says Craig Rockwell, assistant natural resource manager Clarkston office.

Neal added that they hope people who see them conducting this training will feel free to stop, ask questions and take the opportunity to meet some of their local Idaho Army National Guardsman. “We're happy to talk to the public about what we're doing,” he said.

The Corps' Walla Walla District manages about 20 miles of recreation trails running adjacent to the Snake and Clearwater rivers in Lewiston, Idaho, and Clarkston, Wash. – the Greenbelt Trail on the Clarkston side and the Lewiston Levee Parkway on the Idaho side. The trail system passes through several Corps-operated recreation areas and partner-agency parks. For more information about recreation opportunities in the Lewiston-Clarkston area, call the Corps at (509) 751-0240.

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