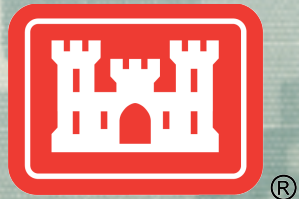


Introduction to the NRM Partnership Program

Heather Burke

National Partnership Program Manager
Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

August 26, 2016



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®



What is a Partnership?

- A relationship where people work together to achieve goals
- Voluntary collaboration working toward a common objective related to the agency/partner's mission
- Combines individual strengths to solve problems
- Builds consensus and broad-based community support



- Leverages funds and resources to meet challenges and improve opportunities
- Appropriate legal authority, consistent with agency policies



What is a Partnership?



- They may be formal or informal.
- Can be as simple as a contribution of materials, services, or funds (It is NOT a lease, license, or contract)
- Partnerships grow and change with time.





PARTNERSHIP

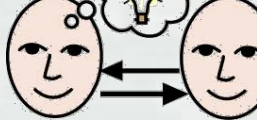

"You give me half the fish, and I tell my Mom to let you live."

Building the Partnership Paradigm

- Be proactive. Don't wait until you need something from someone.
- Attend local community events and make personal invitations to potential partners.
- Partnerships are not “free.” They take time and effort to cultivate, and require a foundation built on trust to be successful.
- Always think about the benefit to the partner. i.e. What's in it for them?
- Where there is a will, there is a way.
- Partnerships are about getting to yes and finding ways to get things done.



What's the Big Deal About Partnerships?

- Avoid unnecessary duplication of effort and promote coordinated efforts to resolve common challenges 
- Partnerships are not only important, they are a necessity!
- Agency culture needs to promote partnering as a part of the management model and encourage training for staff.
- FY 16 Rec/ES budget = ~\$360 million. Without sustainable cost-effective partnerships => Decrease in services and amenities and degradation of natural resources
- FY 15 partnerships reported in OMBIL: 1,439 partnerships (plus 252 co-partners) with a total value of \$65.2 million 
- 41,595 Corps volunteers contributed 1,517,613 hours of work with a value of \$35 million



FY 15 OMBIL Partnerships Fact Sheet

Total Value of Partnerships: \$65,240,954
 (Corps \$9.3 million investment/Partner leveraged value \$55.9 million)
Total partnerships: 1,439 (plus an additional 252 co-partners)



MVD: \$5,734,095
404 partnerships (MVS: 205, MVR: 88, MVP: 55, MVK: 52, MVN: 4)

NWD: \$49,382,954
272 (NWS: 88, NWP: 83, NWK: 43, NWW: 40, NWO: 18)

LRD: \$1,963,542
240 (LRH: 76, LRN: 64, LRL: 47, LRP: 35, LRB: 17, LRE: 1)

SWD: \$1,968,313
185 (SWL: 65, SWF: 65, SWT: 55)

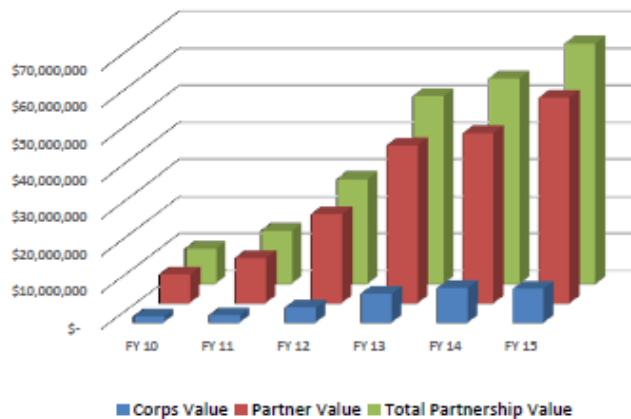
SAD: \$2,205,885
132 (SAW: 56, SAM: 46, SAS: 29, SAJ: 1)

HQ: \$1,081,371
18

SPD: \$1,340,581
113 (SPK: 88, SPN: 15, SPA: 10)

POD: \$14,926
5 (POA: 4, POH: 1)

NAD: \$1,549,287
70 (NAB: 42, NAE: 17, NAP: 11)



Partner Volunteers: 35,750
 (of 41,595 total Corps volunteers = 86%)

Partner Volunteer Hours: 317,491
Equivalent to 180 FTE
 (of 1,517,613 total hours = 21%)

Value of Partner Volunteer Service: \$7,324,531
 (of \$35,011,332 total volunteer value)



Top 20 Corps Partnering Projects by \$ Value

Project	Number of Partners	\$ Value of Partnerships
Albeni Falls	18	\$ 7,183,133
Dworshak Reservoir	6	\$ 6,632,417
McNary Lock and Dam	11	\$ 5,863,900
Lower Granite Lock and Dam	2	\$ 5,518,225
Little Goose Lock and Dam	2	\$ 4,135,866
Ice Harbor	7	\$ 3,576,067
Lower Monumental Lock and Dam	1	\$ 3,285,383
Libby Dam	33	\$ 2,596,001
Chief Joseph Dam	32	\$ 2,313,394
Red Rock Lake	12	\$ 1,918,259
The Dalles	11	\$ 1,346,045
Mud Mountain Dam	2	\$ 1,268,932
Raystown Lake	28	\$ 1,059,664
Bonneville Lock and Dam	11	\$ 934,484
Cougar Lake	2	\$ 665,958
Carlyle Lake	75	\$ 665,648
Missouri River b/w MO River & Minneapolis	31	\$ 617,543
Rend Lake	33	\$ 549,520
Success Lake	13	\$ 524,969
Harlan County Lake	2	\$ 521,396
Total	332	\$ 51,176,804



Located on
<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/ombil-annual.cfm>



Volunteer Program FY 15 Annual Update



Making a difference

Volunteers play an invaluable role in helping the Corps of Engineers meet our recreation and environmental stewardship program goals. Each year, they give their time, expertise and resources to serve the more than 370 million visits by the public to Corps managed lands and waters.

During the 2015 fiscal year 41,595 total volunteers donated 1,517,613 hours – the equivalent of 862 full time employees. The value of their labor was \$35,011,332. With more than 3,200 employees in the natural resources management community, volunteer work equals approximately 27 percent of our workforce. More than 60 cooperating associations and many more national and local partners also provide volunteers to help support the work of the Corps.

Where does someone find out about volunteer opportunities?

Corps personnel can recruit their own volunteers or get help from the Volunteer Clearinghouse, a national information center at www.corpslakes.us/volunteer/ and post their opportunities on www.volunteer.gov. There is also toll free number: 800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337) for people interested in volunteering at Corps sites.

Who Are Our Volunteers?

Our volunteers are people who want to give back to their communities and are interested in the work of the Corps natural resource management program. They are parents who want to bring their family out for a day of service together, retirees willing to share a wealth of knowledge and experience, outdoor enthusiasts wishing to create and maintain their favorite recreation opportunities, and concerned citizens of all ages interested in making meaningful contributions. Whether it is an environmental ethic, a love of parks, or enthusiasm for the outdoors, like-minded volunteers gather to share their passions while contributing to the good of their communities.



What Do Our Volunteers Do?

Volunteers perform a variety of tasks. Some work full-time; others give a few hours a week or month; and still others help during special events. We match our volunteers' talents and interests to work to be done, which varies from site to site, in order to achieve our natural resource goals. Volunteers serve as park and campground hosts, staff visitor centers, lead tours and educational activities, clean shorelines, restore fish and wildlife habitat, manage cultural resources, perform administrative duties, work with computers and other technical equipment, maintain Corps facilities, and much more.



Although volunteers' skills, knowledge, and time are priceless, the Corps uses the figure calculated annually by the Independent Sector, the leadership forum for charities, foundations and corporate giving programs, to put a monetary value on volunteer contributions. For FY 15, an hour of volunteer time was worth \$23.07. Volunteers complete tasks that would otherwise go undone.

Located on
<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/ombil-annual.cfm>

National Public Lands Day 2015

Each year, on the last Saturday in September, Corps volunteers come out in droves to participate in National Public Lands Day. This year, more than 11,300 volunteers helped remove 128,000 pounds of trash, cleaned 191 miles of roadway and 1,001 miles of shoreline, built/maintained 192 miles of trails, improved 869 acres of habitat, and planted 1,689 trees and shrubs.



Corps-wide Volunteer Contributions: FY 99 – 15



Fiscal Year	# of Volunteers	Hours Served	Hourly Value	Value of Service
1999	20,840	280,355	\$ 14.56	\$4,081,969
2000	48,291	568,875	\$ 15.09	\$8,584,324
2001	48,083	624,430	\$ 15.68	\$9,791,062
2002	51,649	893,263	\$ 16.27	\$14,533,389
2003	55,662	1,167,062	\$ 16.74	\$19,536,618
2004	55,522	1,156,360	\$ 17.19	\$19,877,828
2005	53,547	1,322,462	\$ 17.55	\$23,209,208
2006	52,505	1,324,042	\$ 18.04	\$23,885,718
2007	54,353	1,319,557	\$ 18.77	\$24,768,085
2008	59,815	1,434,140	\$ 19.51	\$27,980,071
2009	59,111	1,489,587	\$ 20.25	\$30,164,117
2010	54,939	1,348,328	\$ 20.85	\$28,112,639
2011	55,315	1,390,816	\$ 21.36	\$29,707,830
2012	53,039	1,580,039	\$ 21.79	\$34,429,050
2013	51,368	1,593,452	\$ 22.14	\$35,279,027
2014	48,200	1,494,051	\$ 22.55	\$33,690,850
2015	41,595	1,517,613	\$23.07	\$35,011,332

Volunteer Contributions by Division in FY 15

Division	# of Volunteers	Hours Served	Value of Service	Full-Time Equivalent
LRD	9,465	211,061	\$4,869,177	120
MVD	7,683	213,492	\$4,925,260	121
NAD	2,338	44,891	\$1,035,635	26
NWD	3,594	108,550	\$2,504,249	62
POD	136	2,531	\$58,390	1.4
SAD	8,552	482,173	\$11,123,731	274
SPD	3,342	70,477	\$1,625,904	40
SWD	6,485	384,438	\$8,868,985	218



America the Beautiful Volunteer Pass

As of January 1, 2016, Corps volunteers who have served 250 hours with the Corps of Engineers or other participating Federal land management agencies are eligible to receive an America the Beautiful Interagency Volunteer Pass. For information on the America the Beautiful passes, visit <http://store.usgs.gov/pass/annual.html>. Volunteers who perform exceptional service are also eligible to receive a Corps Foundation Volunteer Excellence coin.

Partnership Connection to the Recreation Strategic Plan

- Partnerships show up in all four Goals, with heavy focus in Goal 2 and are mentioned in 29 action items (approx. 1/3)
- Ensure access to water resources and quality outdoor recreation opportunities through new authorities and increased partnerships.

- Recreation Strategy action items in progress:

- ▶ Working with Office of Counsel on consistent policies
- ▶ Strengthening military partnerships – Military pass program, CAST Take a Warrior Fishing program, employment of Wounded Warriors
- ▶ Engaging the CNREF to develop an alliance of cooperating associations
- ▶ Building partnership competencies at all levels – NRMG pages, PROSPECT class, webinars: Please spread the word!



Partnering Authorities/Guidance

- **WRDA 1992: Sec 203 (33 USC 2325) and Sec 225 (33 USC 2328), PL 98-63 (33 USC 569c):** Authority to accept contributions, volunteers, and set up Challenge Partnership Agreements
- **31 USC 1535, 41 USC 501, 31 USC 6301, 7 USC 2814, WRDA 2000: Sec 213 (33 USC 2339), WRRDA 2014: Sec 1031(b), 10 USC 2358:** Authorities to enter into agreements for services with other federal agencies (Economy Act), cooperative agreements for noxious weed management, education/training, research & development with universities, and agreements with Indian tribes
- **ER/EP 1130-2-500,** Partners and Support, Chapter 9 (Cooperating Associations), Chapter 10 (Volunteers) –replaced by WRRDA 2014 Implementation Guidance 12 Aug 2016, Chapter 11 (Contributions), Chapter 12 (Challenge Partnerships, formerly called Challenge Cost Share)



Partnership Types:

Choosing the Right Tool for the Job

NOTE: Sometimes, more than one type of agreement will work for your partnership. The length, complexity and extent of the project or partnership should drive the choice of agreement/partnership type

- **Economy Act Agreements:** Agreements for services and/or supplies with other federal agencies which are only used when goods/services can't be provided as conveniently or cheaply by commercial contract
- **Cooperative Agreements:** Agreements that allow the Corps to transfer money to a partner for services and/or supplies. USACE authority for cooperative agreements is limited to specific types.
- **Cooperating Associations:** Tax-exempt non-profit organizations, set up through a cooperating association agreement



Partnership Types

- **Challenge Partnerships:** Agreement with non-Federal public and private entities on facilities and natural resources maintained at full Federal expense
- **Memorandums of Understanding/Agreement (MOU/MOA):** “Agreement to agree” but does not obligate funds. MOA establishes legal terms that will be included in a support agreement/reimbursable order to follow.
- **Volunteer Agreements:** Allow the Corps to accept services of volunteers for a variety of natural resources work with the exception of law enforcement and policy-making
- **Contributions Program:** Simplest form of partnership. Acceptance of money, materials, or services from groups and individuals for environmental stewardship, restoration, and recreation





US Army Corps
of Engineers ®

Natural Resources Management Gateway

to the future . . .

- Home
- Visitors
- Lake Discovery
- Recreation
- Env Compliance
- Env Stewardship
- Partners ?
- News/Events
- People
- Forums
- Learning
- GETS
- Tools
- New Postings
- Submit
- Index/Search ?

Partnerships
How To

How To Develop a Partnership

[Step 1](#)
[Assess Situational Needs](#)



[Step 2](#)
[What Kind of Partnership
is Right for You?](#)



[Step 3](#)
[Budget Development and
Financing](#)





Step 2 - What Kind of Partnership is Right for You?

[Back](#)

District Commanders are responsible for approval/execution of most partnering agreements. However, this authority can be delegated to the Chief of Operations or the Operations Project Manager through a delegation of [authority memo](#). The Corps of Engineers has a number of authorities and programs that allow it to provide work or funds or accept work or funds from Federal, State, Tribal, or non-Federal entities. The following list includes the partnership types within our authorities.

[Challenge Partnerships](#) – The Corps can enter into agreements to accept funds, materials, and services from non-Federal public and private entities to provide for operation and/or management and development of recreation facilities and natural resources at water resource development projects, where such facilities are being maintained at full federal expense. This program allows the Corps to accept services or funds in the above circumstances; it does not permit the Corps to reimburse for services. The contributed resources are combined with regular project resources to accomplish work within current authorities and contained in the annual or five-year plan in the approved operational management plan. (33 U.S.C. §2328; [EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 12](#); [ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 12](#)).

[Cooperating Associations](#) – The Corps may enter into cooperative agreements with tax-exempt, non-profit organizations that volunteer services to the Corps. Cooperating associations are used to accomplish such broad goals as natural resource management, interpretation and visitor service activities at Corps civil works projects, fee-owned lands, and other areas for which the Corps has administrative and management responsibilities. ([EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 9](#); [ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 9](#)).

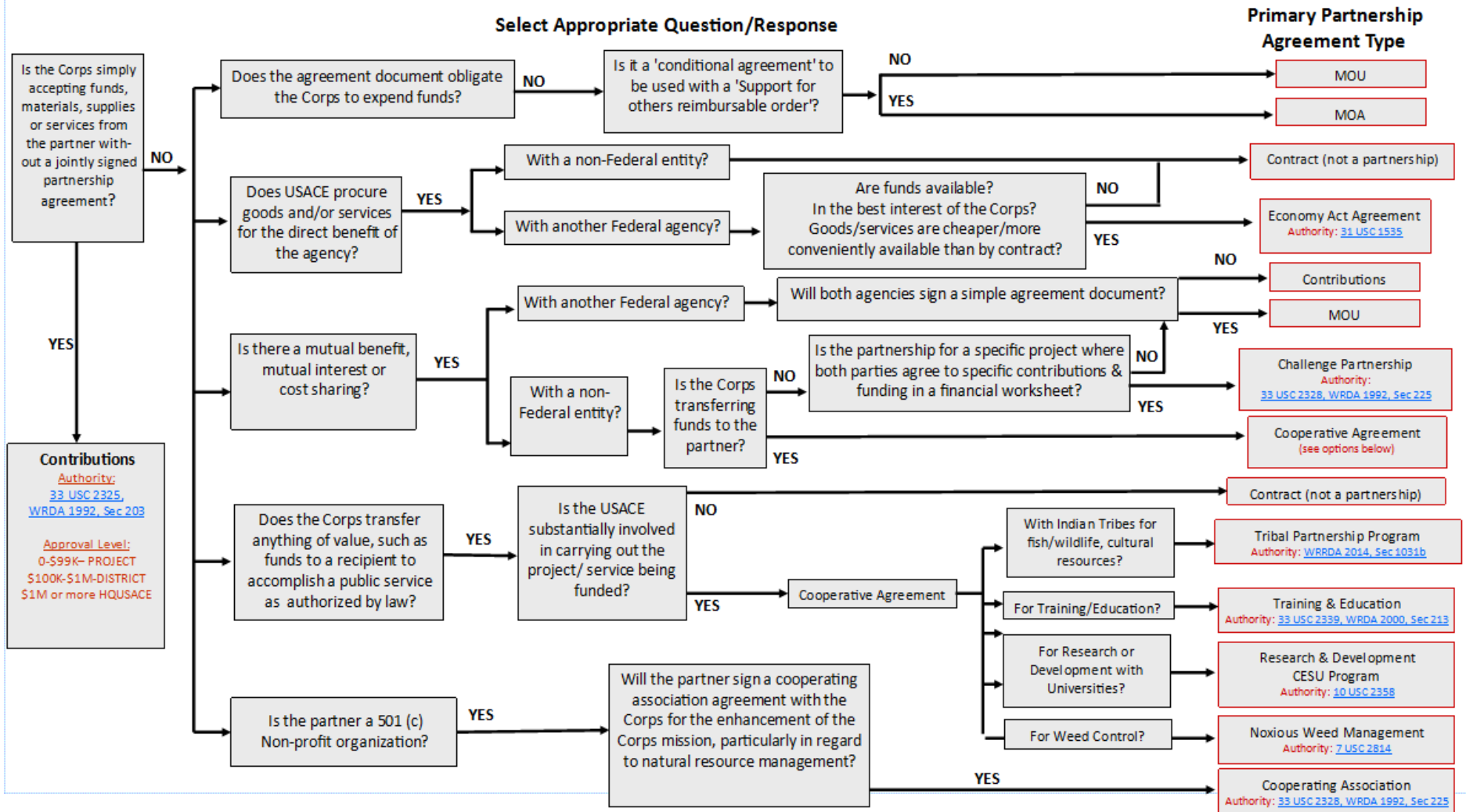
[Volunteers](#) – The Corps is authorized to accept the services of volunteers to carry out any Corps activity except policy-making or law enforcement. Volunteer agreements allow the Corps to accept the services of volunteers and to provide for their incidental expenses. (33 U.S.C. §569c; [ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 10](#); [EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 10](#); [EP 1130-2-429](#)).

[Contributions Program](#) – The Corps is authorized to accept contributions of cash, funds, materials, and services from persons, including governmental entities but excluding the project sponsor, in connection with carrying out a water resources project for environmental protection, restoration or recreation. Contributions must be used for work items within current authorities and contained in an approved annual five-year operational management plan. A contributions plan serves as the agreement for this program. Note: Real estate cannot be accepted under this program. (33 U.S.C. §2325; [EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 11](#); [ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 11](#)).

[Memoranda of Understanding \(MOU\)/Memoranda of Agreement \(MOA\)](#) – These are “agreements to agree” which coordinate the Corps’ authorized activities with another entity. MOUs often state common goals and nothing more. Thus, MOUs do not contemplate funds transfers and should usually include language that states something similar to: “This is not a funds obligating document; by signing this agreement the parties are not bound to take any action or fund any initiative.” They may be used to run a program a certain way so that it functions better with the program of a sister agency, for example.

USACE NRM Partnership Agreement Decision Tree

(for Recreation and Environmental Stewardship Partnerships)



USACE NRM Partnership Agreements - Flow of Money/Contributions

(for Recreation and Environmental Stewardship Partnerships)

USACE ← \$\$\$ to us

Contributions

(anyone except the project sponsor)

Authority:

[33 USC 2325](#)
[WRDA 1992, Sec 203](#)

Challenge Partnerships

(non-federal entity)

Authority:

[33 USC 2328](#)
[WRDA 1992, Sec 225](#)

Cooperating Association

(non-profit entity)

Authority:

[33 USC 2328](#)
[WRDA 1992, Sec 225](#)

USACE → \$\$\$ to partner

Cooperative Agreement for Fire Protection

(any fire organization)

Authority:

[42 USC 1856a](#)

Cooperative Agreement for Research & Development

(non-federal entity)

Authority:

[33 USC 2313](#)

Cooperative Agreement with Indian Tribes for fish, wildlife, water quality, cultural resources

(Indian Tribes)

Authority:

[WRRDA 2014, Sec 1031b](#)

USACE → \$\$\$ to partner

Cooperative Agreement for Training/Education

(non-federal or non-profit)

Authority:

[33 USC 2339](#)
[WRDA 2000, Sec 213](#)
amended by [WRRDA 2014, Sec 1047\(e\)](#)

Cooperative Agreement for Weed Management

(any State Agency)

Authority:

[7 USC 2418](#)

USACE ↔ \$\$\$ both ways

Economy Act

(federal agency)

Authority:

[31 USC 1535](#)

DRAFT


NRM Partnership Agreement Approval Levels

This document is intended to provide a brief overview of available partnership authorities and approval requirements.
Corps personnel should coordinate all proposed agreements with their Office of Counsel.

Agreement Type	Authority	Special Considerations	\$ Value	Signature*
Contribution	33 USC 2325, Sec 203 of WRDA 1992	Acceptance level based on \$ value	< \$2,500: Any staff member \$2,500 to < \$100K: Manager \$100K to < \$1M: District NRM and OC \$1M or >: HQUSACE OC, NRM, DCW *Reference 2008 Contributions, Fundraising and Recognition Reference Guide, Sections 5.2 and 5.3	No agreement to sign. District Contributions Plan provides authorization.
Challenge Partnership	33 USC 2328, Sec 225 of WRDA 1992	Signature based on \$ value	\$25K or <: delegable to OPM > \$25K to \$200K: delegable to Ops Chief > \$200K: District Commander *Reference ER 1130-2-500, Ch 12-2.k	District Commander unless delegated to Operations Project Manager and/or Chief of Operations per ER 1130-2-500. Agreements involving projects in more than one district must be approved by MSC Commander or their delegee.
Cooperating Association	33 USC 2328, Sec 225 of WRDA 1992	A moratorium is currently in place for cooperative agreements and associated leases that allow CAs to collect and retain fees for use of Corps facilities. *Reference CECV Memo dated 12 September 2013.	NA	Agreements that do not involve fee collection/retention may be approved by District Commanders. Until further guidance is issued, all agreements involving fee collection/retention for use of Corps facilities must be approved at HQUSACE.
Economy Act	31 USC 1535	Agreements w/ DoD entities	NA	District Commander *Reference ER 1140-3-1 para 6.
		Agreement w/ non-DoD agencies where the Corps is the servicing agency	NA	MSC Commander unless delegated to District Commander. *Reference ER 1140-1-211 para 8.
		Agreements w/ non-DoD agencies where the Corps is the ordering agency	NA	SES or General Officer. *Reference DoD FMR Vol 11A, ch. 3, para. 030304.
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)	No explicit authority required. MOUs are non-binding agreements that do not commit either party to do anything. However, the Corps must have authority to perform the activities or carry out the intentions referenced in an MOU.	Level of signature depends on complexity of agreement and level of partner signature	NA	OPM, Operations Chief, District Commander or higher official - depends on which authority is cited (if any) and/or level of signature at partner organization. Agreements with regional or national implications should be coordinated with affected MSCs and HQUSACE.

Economy Act Agreements

Agreements for services and/or supplies with other federal agencies

- Rogue River and USFS: Forest Health Services 
- Lucky Peak and BLM: Electrical transmissions lines to power recreation area
- Omaha District and NPS: Environmental remediation, technical assistance



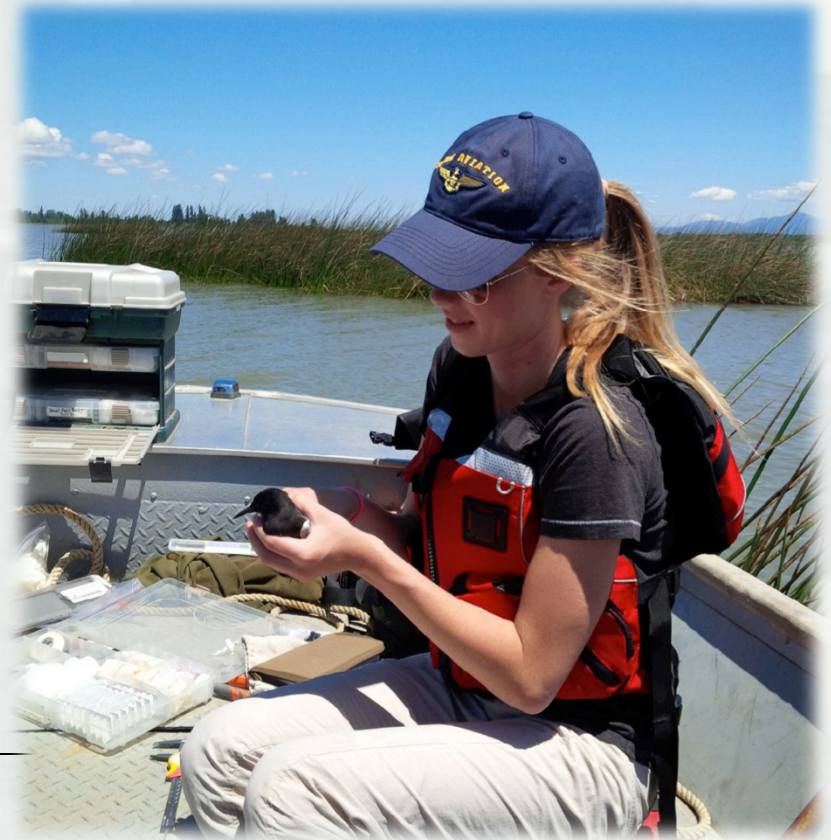
- Lake Ouachita and USFS: Prescribed burns, trail maintenance, construction
- Portland District and BLM: Prescribed burns
- Upper Mississippi River and USFWS: Habitat improvements



USACE Cooperative Agreements

Note: USACE authority for cooperative agreements related to the recreation and environmental stewardship is limited to specific types/ purposes:

- Agreements with Indian tribes for fish and wildlife, cultural resources protection
- Educational and training activities
- Research and development
- Noxious weed management





Cooperating Associations



- Legal entity, organized under state law
- Non-profit tax-exempt status under IRS 501 (c) codes
- Operate under the terms of a cooperating association agreement with the Corps
- Free-standing corporate entity with board of directors
- Can purchase equipment and materials for use at Corps projects
- Can operate bookstores on-site
- Can conduct and/or fund programs and volunteer recognition events
- Develop partnerships with communities and improves communication among constituencies

*The Corps currently has 60 cooperating associations. Listed on NRMG



Challenge Partnerships

- Provide opportunities for non-federal public and private groups and individuals to contribute and participate in the operation and/or management of Corps natural resources and recreation facilities.
- Allows USACE to accept funds or materials for an operating project
- Cannot accept real estate (land)
- Partnership on Corps operated lands and waters; cannot be used with lessees
- Work is generally accomplished during one fiscal year.
- **NOTE:** Challenge Partnerships (formerly known as Challenge Cost Sharing) are NOT the same as traditional cost sharing (PL 102-580 vs. PL 89-72)



MOU/MOA

- MOU “Agreement to agree” but does not obligate funds. Used for simple common-cause agreements which are not legally binding.
- MOAs, on the other hand, establish common legal terms that establish a “conditional agreement” where the transfer of funds for services are anticipated.
 - Savannah District and Outdoor Dream Foundation: Recreation opportunities for seriously ill children
 - DeGray Lake and Alcoa Metals: Wildlife Management
 - Pittsburgh District and 411th Engineer Brigade: Construction
 - Portland District and Naval Undersea Warfare Center MOA: Underwater inspections, surveys, and repairs



National MOUs/MOAs

All MOUs and MOAs listed are Natural Resources proponent unless otherwise noted.

- [Archive of MOUs/MOAs](#)

Agency	Start Date	Description	End Date
American Chestnut Foundation	12/2009	MOU between USACE and the American Chestnut Foundation Purpose: To restore the American Chestnut on USACE lands	In effect until terminated
Association of Partners for Public Lands	10/2003	MOU between USACE and APPL Purpose: Partner on training, communication products, and policy	In effect until terminated
BASS	6/1996	MOU between Bass Anglers Sportsman Society and USACE Purpose: Maintain and enhance sportfishery resources, public fishing opportunities, and increase public understanding	In effect until terminated
BoatU.S.	2006	MOU between BoatU.S. and USACE Purpose: Cooperate on boating and water safety education outreach, materials, and education	In effect until terminated
Boy Scouts of America	3/1987	Cooperative Agreement between USACE and BSA Purpose: Work together to protect, develop, and conserve water resources	In effect until terminated
Bureau of Reclamation	2/2005	Partnership Agreement between BLM and USACE Purpose: Collaborate in executing each agency's responsibilities for developing, managing and protecting the nation's water and related land resources.	In effect until terminated
Cooperative Conservation	1/2009	MOU between the USACE and Cooperative Conservation (Department of Agriculture, DOC, DOD, DOI, and CEQ) Purpose: Identify issues, develop solutions, and share best practices in collaborative natural resource and environmental management	In effect until terminated
Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation	10/2007	MOU between the USACE and the CNREF Purpose: Develop a non-profit foundation to support the Corps NRM program	In effect until terminated
Council for Environmental Education	3/2006	MOU between USACE and the Council for Environmental Education Purpose: To cooperate in activities to advance environmental education and training	In effect until terminated
Everglades Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (ECISMA)	12/2008	MOU between South Florida Water Management District, Florida Fish & Wildlife Conservation Commission, USACE, FWS, and NPS Purpose: Work together to control invasive plants and/or animals, and make recommendations for treatment	In effect until terminated
Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)	2003	MOA between the FAA, the U.S. Air Force, the U.S. Army, EPA, FWS, and the U.S. Department of Agriculture Purpose: To address aircraft-wildlife strikes	In effect until terminated
Federal Highway Administration	3/2004	MOA between USACE and FHWA Purpose: Collaborate to provide goods and services	In effect until terminated
Federal Prison Industries	11/1992	MOA between Federal Prison Industries, U.S. Bureau of Prisons and USACE Purpose: Production and shipment of signs	In effect until terminated
Girl Scouts	11/1990	Cooperative Agreement between Department of the Army and the Girl Scouts of the USA Purpose: Work together to protect, develop, and conserve water resources	In effect until terminated
GSA Customer Survey Services	8/2000	MOA between the USACE and GSA Purpose: Provide goods and services	In effect until terminated
International Mountain Bicycling Association	9/28/02	MOU between USACE and IMBA Purpose: To create, manage, and develop trail opportunities for mountain biking at Corps facilities	In effect until terminated

Volunteers

- Receive protection for personal liability under the Tort Claims Act
- Entitled to first aid and medical treatment for on-the-job injuries under the Federal Employees Compensation Act
- Operate government owned or leased vehicles
- Sell permits
- Collect fees

Cannot:

- Create policy
- Perform law enforcement duties



Benefits of Volunteers



- Create advocacy: Volunteers are some of our best cheerleaders and much more likely to donate financially, with 78% contributing \$25 or more versus 38% of non-volunteers.
- Create connection: Volunteers have an increased appreciation for the lands and waters where they serve
- Supports learning: Volunteers conduct many of our outreach programs
- Energizes donors: Philanthropists like to see projects supported by strong volunteer corps

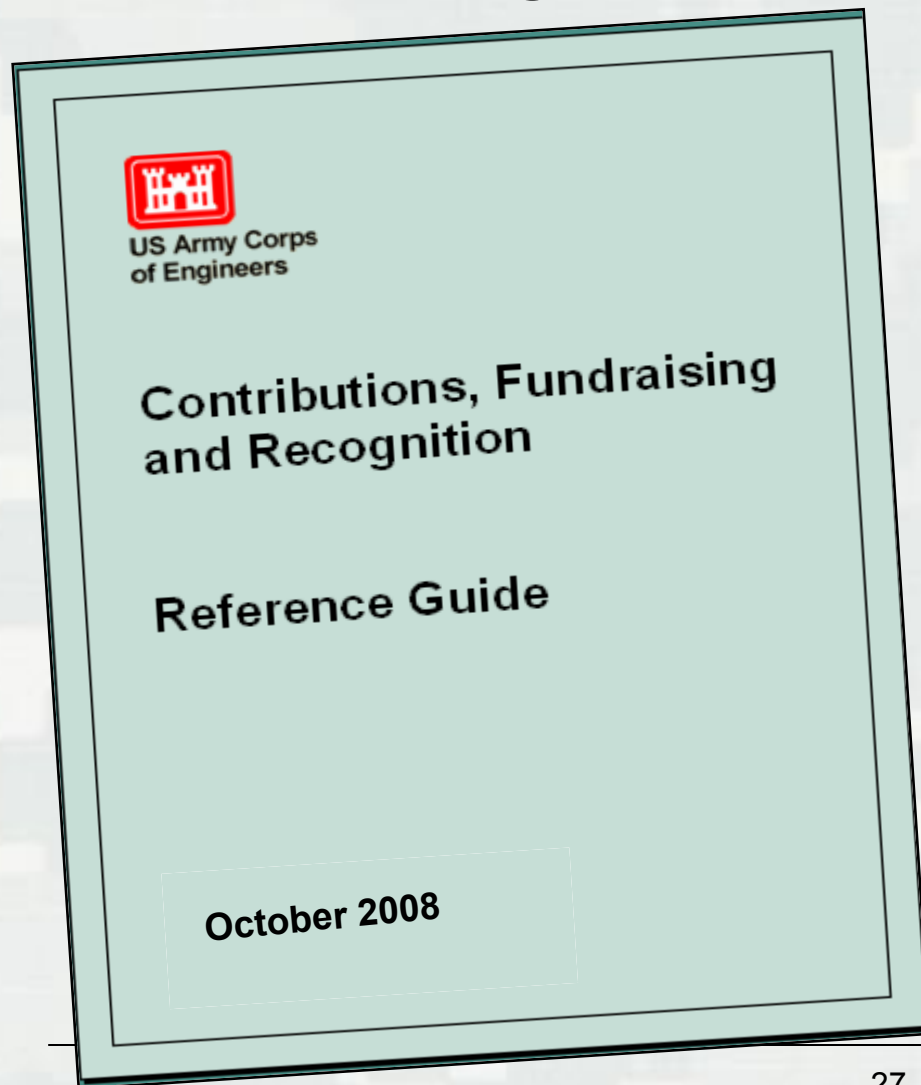


Volunteers

- National Volunteer Clearinghouse:
 - ▶ 800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337)
 - ▶ www.CorpsLakes.us/volunteers
 - ▶ POC: Bobby Jackson 615-736-7192
- www.volunteer.gov
- Volunteer application: Optional Form 301 (Can be downloaded at <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/volunteer/volunteer.cfm>)
- Volunteer Agreement: Optional Form 301A
- Volunteer Group form: OF 301B
- Applicants under 18 must have parental or legal guardian consent



Contributions, Fundraising and Recognition Reference Guide



The Guide sets forth:

- ▶ Roles and responsibilities of Corps employees
- ▶ Criteria for determining when contributions may be accepted
- ▶ Permissible activities associated with fundraising
- ▶ Appropriate forms of donor recognition.



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Contribution and Donor Recognition Plan

- Template document that can be used by districts or projects. Approved by HQ Counsel/RM.
- Describes general categories of work identified in MP/OMP eligible to accomplish under the authority of the Corps Contributions program
- Includes methods for receiving and accounting for monetary contributions
- Describes procedures for recognizing contributors and ensuring that recognition is commensurate with the level of donation
- Plan template released in December 2011. It serves as an approved example, but will not be a mandatory format.
- Still need plans from LRE, NAE, POA, POH, SWG



Contributions and Recognition Guide, and Example Plans

[Contributions, Fundraising and Recognitions Reference Guide](#) - October 2008

[Contribution and Donor Recognition Plan template](#) - Approved by HQUSACE Office of Counsel

[Certificate of Appreciation, ENG FORM 4883, SEP 2012](#) (pdf file)

[Corps Contribution Program for Environmental Protection, Restoration, and Recreation at Water Resources Projects - A Summary](#)

Supporting documentation/memos from Office of Counsel and CECW-CO

- o [8 Dec 2011 - Contributions & Donor Recognition Plans; Clarification of Construction Services as Contributions](#)
- o [21 Nov 2011 - Construction by Non-Federal Entities at USACE Civil Works Properties](#)
- o [12 Oct 2011 - Draft Contributions and Recognition Plan](#)

- [HQUSACE Contributions Plan](#), October 2012
- LRH, [John W. Flannagan Dam and North Fork of Pound Lake Contribution Plan](#), August 2002
- LRH, [Burnsville Lake Contributions Plan](#), May 2008
- LRH, [Contributions Plan for Sutton Lake](#), March 2008
- LRL, [Contributions Plan for Louisville District](#), March 2012
- LRL, [Contributions Plan for Rough River Lake](#), January 2012
- LRP, [Contributions Plan](#), April 2012
- MVP, [Contributions Plan](#), February 2013
- MVR, [Contributions Plan](#), April 2009
- MVS, [Contributions Plan](#), June 2013
- NWK, [Contributions Plan for Kansas City District](#), September 2012
- NWO, [Contribution Plan for Omaha District, December 2011](#)
- NWP, [Contribution Plan for Portland District](#), November 2010
- NWP, [Memo: Use of Park Contribution Box](#)
- NWS, [Delegation of Signature Authority for Contributions](#)
- NWW, [Policy for Acceptance and Disbursement of Natural Resources Recreation Funds Received Under the Contributions Program](#), November 2008
- NWW, [Contributions Plan for Walla Walla District](#), August 2013

- [Home](#)
- [Policy & Procedures](#)
- [News/Current Issues](#)
- [Contributions and Recognition Guide and Example Plans](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Success Stories](#)
- [Sample Templates](#)
- [Division & District POCs](#)

Grants

- Contribution Program provides the means and processes on how to administer funds the Corps might receive from a grant.
- Types: Federal/state/local governments, private (from a foundation, corporation or other NGO), public charity, and non-profit groups
- Grants are NOT augmentation of appropriated funds.
- Few Federal grants directly available to the Corps
- Some State grants directly available to Corps, but often require matching funds up front. (State boating and waterway grants)
- Many more grants available to friends groups/cooperating associations
- Corps Foundation provided state and national lists of potential grants and is available to help with seeking grants



Rules of Partnerships

- Must not cause significant increase in O&M costs
- Challenge Partnership Agreements: Approval <\$25K: OPM; <\$200K: Operations Chief; >\$200K District Commander
- Contributions: Must have a contributions plan in OMP that describes work to be done (funds, materials, supplies, in-kind goods/services)
- Contributions; Approval >\$2,500: Manager review for propriety; >\$100K: Coordinate with Counsel; >\$1M: OC, MSC, HQ NRM, DCW
- Must have a donor recognition plan approved by OPM and OC.
(Alternative to individual project plans is to develop a comprehensive district-wide plan. Can be included in contributions plan.)



Partnership Program Update

- Handshake Program: 161 partnerships funded since 2004 with a total value of \$12.4 million and 61% partner share (\$7.5M).
 - ▶ Bonus of \$5k for the best pollinator project
 - ▶ Incentive points for invasive species projects and projects that have never received Handshake funding
 - ▶ Request for nominations sent out June 28. Due Sep 30
 - ▶ \$100k available for award in FY17. \$20k maximum request

- Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership grant: \$140k available, with awards \$10k - \$40k. Proposals due Sep 15

- Cooperative agreement process PDT: Working with HQ Contracting Policy to publish a National SOP and templates/samples for administering cooperative agreements. Will be part of the USACE Acquisition Instruction and Desk Guide manuals



Partnership Program Update

- Excellence in Partnerships and Volunteer of the Year awards: Nominations due in December
- Every Kid in a Park – Second year for Presidential Initiative
 - Interagency Annual 4th grade pass free to students by completing an activity online. Valid from Sep 1, 2016 – Aug 31, 2017
 - Encourage co-branding with events that you already do (NPLD, KTP, etc)
 - Transportation grants available through various sources
- National cooperative agreement for training and education
 - Agreement signed with Student Conservation Association Jan 30, 2016
 - 6 pilot projects currently being tested
 - SWF developing procedures for task orders and MIPRS
 - Webinars to go through new process once opened up nationwide

NOTE: Districts can still set up their own agreements for this type of work if they do not want to wait for the national agreement, or want to work with another entity



Partnership Program Update

Corps Foundation:

- Coast Guard grant: Received \$175k for boat safety video/audio PSAs, focus groups. Received \$175k more in funding this year.
- Funded EIP and National Volunteer awards
- Funded volunteer service coins
- New partnership with Bass pro for Enduring Service volunteer lifetime achievement
- Released this week! Tool Kit for Developing a Cooperating Association with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Provided Certified Interpretive Guide training at Melvin Price Locks
- Fundraising campaigns: Amazon Smile and Omaha Steaks



PAC Team News

- Continually improve and provide PROSPECT classes
- Suite of webinars – 101 (Jan); Volunteers (Mar); Military (May); Handshake (May/Jul/Aug); OMBIL (Aug/ Sep)
- Partner speakers series: Yonder, National Park Trust, CAST, NEEF, American Recreation Coalition, American Hiking Society, RFHP, Kids in Parks, Federal Highways, Wounded Warrior, Workamper
- Last meeting April 4 - 8 at Raystown Lake with EIP award ceremony and site visits with partners. (Next: Nov 14 – 18, Libby Dam)
- Worked closely with CF to develop cooperating association toolkit
- Played key role in developing implementation guidance for new WRRDA authorities
- Updating ER/EP chapters pertaining to partnerships/volunteers
- Developing Partnership Program newsletter



Upcoming Events

- PROSPECT Partnerships in Natural Resources Management class
 - October 31 – November 3: Little Rock, AR **(STILL HAVE 5 SPACES!)**
 - June 12 -15: Caesar Creek Lake, OH
 - Targeted outreach to OC, RM, RE, and CT to attend classes
 - Shortening class to 32 hours next year. 3 days of class instruction and 1 day field trip

- National Public Lands Day: September 24

- 2017 National NRM Conference
 - Scheduled for April 18-20, 2017
 - Location: Norman, OK Postal Service Training Facility
 - Received HQUSACE approval this morning!
 - Co-Chairs: Lynn Neher (MVD) and Heather Burke (HQUSACE)
 - Will be looking for working group members to assist in planning and working at the conference



Resources: NRM Gateway

<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/partners.cfm>

Partnerships

[Headquarters POC](#)

[Partnerships Pages Quick-finder Index](#)

In today's financial environment PARTNERING is an essential tool that allows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to effectively manage recreation and environmental resources. In order to successfully meet our recreation and stewardship missions, and to foster shared values, vision, and a sense of ownership it is imperative that we work together with state governments, Native American tribes, private/public organizations, local communities, and other partners to maintain or advance programs from wildlife protection and habitat improvement to recreational facility enhancements.

Partnering helps to pool scarce resources, to promote coordinated, focused, and consistent mutual efforts to resolve common problems and missions, and to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. The NRM Program has embraced this reality and is committed to fully exploring the potential development of new public-private partnerships to leverage limited appropriated funds and human resources.

This page will help you determine the [right tools for your partnerships](#), [find the right training to expand your knowledge](#), and [learn from the successful efforts of your peers](#). You will find answers to longstanding questions and discover how to effectively utilize important partners such as the [Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation](#). The bottom line: **partnering is smart business**.

Partnership Types: [Which is right for you?](#)

- [Challenge Partnerships Program](#)
- [Handshake Partnerships Program](#)
- [Contributions Program](#)
- [Cooperating Associations Program](#)
- [Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement \(MOU/MOA\)](#)
- [Volunteer Program](#)
- [Economy Act Agreements](#)
- [Cooperative Agreements](#)

How To:

- [Policy & Procedures](#)
- [Training](#)
- [Grants/Alternative Funding Sources](#)
- [Partnership Advisory Committee](#)
- [Division & District POCs](#) 
- [Partnerships in OMBIL](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [News / Current Issues](#)
- [Good Enough to Share](#)
- [Partnership Outreach Sheet](#)

Sharing the Challenge

Partnership Opportunities with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



US Army Corps of Engineers®

BUILDING STRONG®

Why Partner with the Corps?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages some of the most cherished lakes, rivers and lands near your communities and towns. Communities are proud of their special place in our parks. Many of our partners and visitors comment that they grew up near a Corps lake, or they spend as much time as they can in a particular Corps park. Great family memories are created during a boating, fishing, camping trip, or after a quiet day of hiking or biking on one of our many trail systems. These experiences are important in strengthening families and communities. Our parks also have significant economical impact, with visitors spending upwards of \$18 billion on trip expenses and durable goods annually. With the help of our partners, we can provide more service to the public than without you by our side.

The Corps Story

- As the leading federal provider of recreation, one out every ten Americans visits a Corps lake.
- Park visitation exceeds all other federal agencies.
- Manage 12 million acres of land and water
- Visitors spend nearly \$18 billion on trip expenses and durable goods annually, resulting in 500,000 jobs
- 422 lakes in 43 states hosting 38% of all fresh water lake fishing
- 4,000 recreation sites of which 80% are within 50 miles of a metropolitan area
- 101,000 campsites, 3,800 boat ramps, 5,000 miles of trails

By partnering with us, you will have a hand in helping manage our lakes and rivers for your customer's benefit. The American public loves our Corps lakes. How much is an opportunity or special moment worth? How much would someone be willing to pay to see an elk run across the valley ahead of them, watch their granddaughter catch her first fish, or share family stories around the campfire? People are willing to spend money to see or experience something they cannot see or experience anywhere else. Sharing these values as part of your marketing strategy makes sense. Partnering with the Corps will bring large exposure to your organization, with 370 million people visiting a Corps lake each year.

What our partners say: "Partnering with the Corps allows our organization to accomplish so much more than we could ever do alone. The expertise, vision and leadership that the Corps brings to the table provides a strong foundation for any project we're working on together." Dan River Basin Association

Partnering Benefits

- Increases public relations and a general feeling of goodwill toward your organization
- Strengthening the environmental, social and economic health of communities
- Helping conserve America's natural places for future generations
- Potential market branding to reach out to new customers
- Increases employee or staff well-being as they recreate in our parks
- Enjoyment of being in a park environment while helping serve others
- Our recreational and land management programs are diverse and the partnership opportunities are varied



Partner Spotlights



Raystown Lake had the potential to be a mountain bike destination, but it took a partnership between the Corps, the Friends of Raystown Lake and the International Mountain Biking Association to turn this vision into a reality. The Friends of Raystown Lake raised funds and leveraged volunteers to build the trail and other infrastructure around the lake. Together with the community, other partners and with IMBA's technical assistance, the agency and the local group built 30 miles of trails. From the \$800,000 initially invested, the project generated \$2 million of local economic stimulus in the first year alone.

Patients undergoing extended medical treatment in the Little Rock area now have an affordable and peaceful place to stay in a beautiful setting along with their families thanks to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. UAMS provided \$90,000 to build six dedicated campsites specifically for medical care patients in the park. "UAMS is very pleased to partner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to make these campsites available for patients," said UAMS Chancellor I. Dodd Wilson, M.D. "We are very appreciative of the support and compassion the Corps has shown in helping make this possible."



Paralyzed Veterans of America has been partnering for years with the Chena River Lakes project in Alaska to hold special moose hunts for veterans. Companies such as Ruger, Leopold Optics and Savage Arms also participate by sponsoring hunters' travel expenses. Over time, the need for special housing became evident and resulted in the design and construction of an accessible hunting cabin. The 'Wheeling Hunter' cabin provides hunters and volunteers the ability to assemble, mobilize, eat and rest during the annual veteran moose hunt. It is primarily used by members of our military who have serious mobility impairments and are confined to wheelchairs. The cabin offers a great interpretive opportunity and chance to promote the Corps, our partners and our volunteers. It showcases our commitment to the military community and goal to make public lands accessible to everyone.

Corps Recreation Values and Roles

- Providing places for people and water to meet.
- Providing safe and accessible recreation opportunities and educating the public on how to play in and around water.
- Protecting resources for present and future generations to use and enjoy.
- Supporting healthy communities through access to outdoor activities for the community, military and general public.
- Continuing to maintain a geographic distribution of recreation opportunities throughout the country.



US Army Corps of Engineers®

How to Partner: For additional information on partnership opportunities visit <http://corpalakes.usace.army.mil>. You may also contact your local USACE Office or the USACE National Partnership Coordinator: Heather.D.Burke@usace.army.mil



US Army Corps
of Engineers
www.CorpsLakes.us

Corps Lakes Gateway

Your gateway to fun at Corps Lakes!



Select a State

Select a Corps of Engineers Lake

Select an Activity

Search

370 million visits a year at 422 lakes in 43 s

Partnerships in Natural Resources Management



Our Nation's lakes, rivers, and parks need you! Imagine yourself creating new recreation opportunities, improving and creating trails, preserving history, protecting wildlife, caring for the environment, ensuring healthy watersheds, expanding learning opportunities, or improving accessibility.

Each year, the Army Corps of Engineers partners with thousands of individuals and organizations on recreation and environmental projects to enhance our nation's natural resources. We are proud of our broad range of existing partners and eagerly seek to expand mutually beneficial relationships with others.

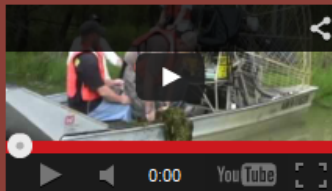
Examples of Successful Partnerships

National Partners with the Corps of Engineers

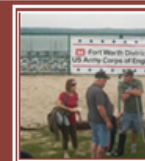
Partnership opportunities are available at hundreds of Corps-managed sites nationwide. The Corps is the Nation's largest provider of outdoor recreation, operating 422 lakes and river projects in 43 states, and managing almost 12 million acres of land and water. [Click here to read more.](#)

To find out more about partnering with the Corps contact our Natural Resource Management National Partnership Program Manager or your [Regional Partnership Representatives.](#)

Have fun. Make new friends. Make a difference! We look forward to working with you!



[Check out more videos](#)



Resources: Volunteer Clearinghouse

<http://www.corpslakes.us/volunteer/>



HEADQUARTERS

US Army Corps of Engineers

Search HQ USACE

HOME > MISSIONS > CIVIL WORKS > RECREATION > VOLUNTEER CLEARINGHOUSE

Volunteer Resources

- Volunteer Clearinghouse
- Volunteer Opportunities
- Volunteers in Action
- Contact Us
- Submit a Listing

Useful Links

- Water Safety
- Corps Lakes Gateway
- USACE Natural Resources Education Foundation

Volunteer Clearinghouse

Welcome to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Volunteer Clearinghouse. The Corps of Engineers, which is the steward of almost 12 million acres of land and water, offers many volunteer opportunities to care for recreation facilities and natural resources.

The Volunteer Clearinghouse serves the Corps of Engineers nationwide to link potential volunteers with Park Rangers at lakes and waterways that need them. The clearinghouse provides information about the volunteer program and directs people to the point of contact, usually a Park Ranger, at the lake or location of interest.

Callers should be ready to provide information about their interests, talents, dates available and locations they may want to volunteer.

Corps Park Rangers, serving as volunteer coordinators, can also use the Volunteer Clearinghouse to help find volunteers. Volunteer coordinators that need volunteers can send their volunteer vacancies to the Clearinghouse to be listed on the website.

Volunteer opportunities include:

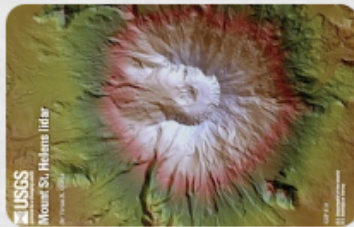
- Camparound Host

Resources:
www.Volunteer.gov



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers- Youghioghney River Lake, PA
 Volunteers assist park rangers with wood duck box surveys

Featured Opportunities



USGS *The National Map Corp - Volunteer Map Editor*
 The US Geological Survey (USGS) is recruiting volunteers to collect and update USGS geographic data. Similar to how other online crowdsourcing cartographic applications allow anyone to collect, edit, and use geographic data through an online map editor, the USGS has developed an online editor customized to our data needs that allows volunteers[view more](#)

[View Next](#)

Find a Volunteer Opportunity

Keywords

City State

Agency

Interests

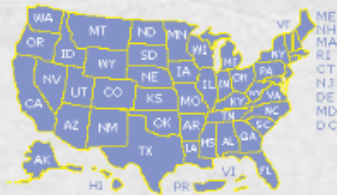
Housing/Amenities

Recent Postings

Events Calendar

March 2015						
S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
8	9	10	11	12	13	14
15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30	31				

Find Opportunities by State



Links

Record your Volunteer Time



Our Partners



BUILDING STRONG®

PAC 2016

- Allison Walker - LRD
(LRN District Office)
- Miriam Fleming – SAD
(Carters Lake)
- Stacy Sigman- MVD
(Lake Ouachita)
- Heath Kruger– NWD
(Kansas City District)
- Titus Hardiman – SWD
(SWL District Office)
- Heather Burke – HQ
- Allen Gwinn – Chair - NAD
(Raystown)
- Taylor Johnson- SPD
(New Hogan Lake)



** SWD and NAD representative's terms will be ending December 31. Seeking new members for 2017-2021. Will also be selecting new chair for 2017/2018.

