



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
441 G STREET NW
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20314-1000

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

S: 1 February 2005

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CECW-CO

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS AND
DISTRICT COMMANDS, CHIEFS, CONSTRUCTIONS-OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: Challenge Partnership Handshake Program - 2005

1. The Challenge Partnership Handshake Program is to provide an incentive to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers projects that have not utilized partnering initiatives to their fullest potential. This program is in its second year and offers an additional funding source (i.e., seed money) to Corps installations for worthwhile challenge partnership projects. In addition, this funding is intended to encourage local organizations to become a partner with the Corps. This program also demonstrates our recognition that partnerships flow in both directions (i.e., partnerships are a handshake, not a handout). The Corps is committed to creating a partnership culture within the organization, and has demonstrated its commitment by establishing this program.

2. Projects are invited to submit proposals to obtain funding assistance for partnering activities that demonstrate a need for Federal dollars to match non-Federal funds and/or in-kind services. Projects will be required to submit an application that must be received NLT 1 February 2005. The Handshake Program application form and instructions are enclosed. More information about this program and the downloadable application can be found on the Natural Resources Management Gateway at: <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/challenge/handshake.html>.

3. My POC for this effort is Mr. Jeff Boutwell, SWF-OD-BZ, at Waco Lake Office, 3801 Zoo Park Drive, Waco, Texas 76708. Telephone (254) 756-5359

FOR THE COMMANDER:

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael B. White", with a long horizontal line extending to the right.

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MICHAEL B. WHITE
Chief, Operations Division
Directorate of Civil Works