

TO: OPERATIONS/NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT MSC/DISTRICT OFFICES AND  
OPERATIONS PROJECT MANAGERS  
FROM: CECW-ON (STEVE AUSTIN)

I'm pleased to announce that we have received approval to implement Section 213 (a) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000. Section 213 authorizes the Corps to enter into cooperative agreements with non-Federal public and nonprofit entities for services relating to natural resources conservation or recreation management at Corps Civil Works projects (see the attached memo from Lawrence Lang, Acting Chief, Operations Division - a hard copy of this memo is being sent to all MSC/District Construction-Operations Offices).

The immediate benefit of this action is that we can now use the services of the Student Conservation Association (SCA) under an existing cooperative agreement with the Department of the Army.

We will be meeting with the SCA and the DA Contracting Officer on 30 January 2003 to discuss all implementation details. Following this meeting, detailed guidance on how to request SCA services will be provided to all Operations/NRM offices.

I know this is good news for all of you who have been waiting for the opportunity to work with the SCA. We are looking forward to a very successful first year!

Steve Austin  
Natural Resources Management Branch  
Operations Division  
HQUSACE