

# Introduction to the Corps NRM Partnerships Program

**Heather Burke**

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

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US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG**®



# What is a Partnership?

- Voluntary collaboration between organizations/individuals working toward a common objective related to the agency/partner's mission
- Combines individual strengths to accomplish the mission
- Builds consensus and broad-based community support
- Leverages resources to meet challenges and improve opportunities
- Appropriate legal authority, consistent with agency policies/priorities
- Can be as simple as a contribution of materials, services, or funds
- A process, not a product. Partnerships = relationship building
- A handshake, not a hand out.



# Partnering Authorities and Guidance

- **WRDA 1992, 33 USC §2325 and 2328, 33 USC 569c** : Authority to accept contributions, volunteers, and set up Challenge Partnership Agreements
- **ER/EP 1130-2-500**, Partners and Support , Chapter 9 (Cooperating Associations), Chapter 10 (Volunteers) , Chapter 11 (Contributions), Chapter 12 (Challenge Partnerships, formerly called Challenge Cost Share)
- **Executive Order 13352**, 26 Aug 2004, Facilitation of Cooperative Conservation: Orders agencies to work together to meet conservation goals
- **Contributions, Fundraising, and Recognition** reference guide, October 2008



# USACE Authorized Partnership Types

- **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 for services and/or supplies with state, county, city, or other organizations. USACE authority for cooperative agreements is limited to specific types.
- **Cooperating Associations:** Tax-exempt non-profit, free-standing corporate entities with boards of directors
- **Challenge Partnerships:** Agreement with non-Federal public and private entities on facilities and natural resources maintained at full Federal expense



# USACE Authorized Partnership Types

- **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 for Others 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 geared toward environmental stewardship, restoration, and recreation



# 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



# Cooperative Agreements

USACE is authorized to use cooperative agreements for:

- Programs fulfilling educational or training purposes
- Fire protection 
- Law enforcement 
- Non-Federal O&M, recreation and NRM improvements on properties maintained at full Federal expense
  - Portland District and Discover Your Northwest – Creation of Cooperating Association for the bookstore at Bonneville
  - J Strom Thurmond and US Forest Service – Prescribed burn
  - Gavins Point and DOI – National Wild and Scenic River management
  - Bonneville Dam and Pennsylvania State University – Visitor Surveys at Bonneville Dam





# Cooperating Associations



- Legal entity, organized under state law
- Non-profit tax-exempt status under IRS 501 (c) codes
- Operate under the terms of a cooperative 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
- Can cooperatively manage Corps parks with real estate instrument
- Develops partnerships with communities and improves communication among long constituencies

\*The Corps currently has 50 cooperating associations. Listed on NRMG  
(updating list, should be posted soon)





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

Cooperating Assoc.

## Cooperating Associations Program

Cooperating associations are non-profit, tax-exempt organizations that financially support and volunteer services to the Corps through a cooperative agreement. They are free-standing corporate entities with boards of directors, purposes, and abilities consistent with their boards and objectives. Some associations work in single areas; others are involved in various areas achieving multiple tasks.

Cooperating associations are used to accomplish such broad goals as natural resource and recreation management, interpretation, and visitor service activities at civil works water resource projects, fee-owned lands, and other areas for which the Corps has administrative and management responsibilities. In addition, forming an association develops partnerships with communities and improves communication among local constituencies.

Associations can:

- Support special events, interpretive, educational or scientific activities, exhibits, and programs
- Support natural resources management and/or public programs at or near Corps projects through conservation and educational activities and special events
- Acquire materials, equipment, supplies, or other items, or services appropriate for management, operation, interpretive, educational and visitor service functions.
- Provide services to visitors through the sale, production, publication, and/or distribution of appropriate interpretive and educational items related to the goals and mission of the Corps
- Distribute medium for those educational and scientific publications which relate to the Corps projects missions
- Collect dues; operate bookstores on-site, purchase equipment and materials for use at Corps projects, conduct and/or fund programs, and fund Volunteer Recognition Events.
- Cooperatively manage Corps recreation areas through a cooperative agreement and lease

There is often confusion between the definitions of a cooperating association, cooperative agreements, and friends groups. To clarify:

- **Cooperating Association:** refers to a legal entity, organized under state law, which enjoys a non-profit and tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Service codes and which operates under the terms of a Cooperative Agreement with the Corps of Engineers.
- **Cooperative Agreement:** refers to the agreement between a cooperating association and the Corps of Engineers defining the functions and responsibilities of each party to the agreement. Note: There are cooperative agreements that may not involve cooperating associations; such as law enforcement services, fire protection, research and development and others. These cooperative agreements are not the same type of cooperative agreements as covered under the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act, used by other federal agencies
- **Friends Group:** generally refers to local volunteer groups of citizens organized for a specific purpose or interest in a particular geographical area. Friends groups may or may not have 501(c)(3) status. A friends group does not become a cooperating association unless a cooperative agreement is signed.

- [Policy & Procedures](#)
- [How to Partner with a Cooperation Association](#)
- [Existing Corps Cooperating Associations](#)
- [Cooperative Management of Corps Parks](#)
- [Excellence in Partnerships Award](#)
- [Sample Templates](#)
- [News / Current Issues](#)
- [Lessons Learned](#)
- [FAQs](#)
- [Related Sites](#)
- [Success Stories](#)
- [Division & District POCs](#)

# Cooperative Management of Corps Parks

- 15 Mar 2011 Memo; 7 Apr 2011 OC Opinion; 3 Jun 2011 Memo to SAD
- Clarifies authorization for joint use and management of recreation facilities on Corps lands. Template documents are OK to use.
- Allows the Corps to pay for part of the O&M costs. Responsibilities of both the Corps and the Cooperating Association must be explicitly addressed in the lease or in a special condition added to the lease.
- Provides clauses for inclusion in lease to address fee collection. CA can collect fees and keep ALL of them, but must use them for purposes on site (including admin expenses) CAs can't charge fees that are prohibited by law
- Ozarks Rivers Heritage Foundation: Table Rock (SWL), Friends of Raystown Lake (NAB), Our Lands and Waters Foundation: Lewisville, Lavon, Benbrook, Sam Rayburn (SWF), Friends of Lake Ouachita (MVK) currently co-managing parks.



# Cooperative Management of Corps Parks with a Cooperating Association

Declining budgets and a growing demand for safe and updated recreation opportunities have provided Corps projects an opportunity to partner with cooperating associations to share management responsibilities. The Corps can benefit by sharing the management responsibility (costs) of parks and other public areas.

Corps facilities may be operated in collaboration with cooperating associations through a cooperative agreement and appropriate real estate lease. Agreements may be entered into with a cooperating association for the purposes of managing public recreation areas, and fees may be collected. The Corps may retain operation and maintenance responsibilities on an area outgranted to a cooperating association, as long as the responsibilities are explicitly defined in the real estate agreement.

## Key Factors in Cooperative Management:

- Corps facilities may be operated in collaboration with cooperating associations through a cooperative agreement AND an appropriate real estate lease.
- Template cooperative agreement and standard lease documents are approved for use.
- Cooperating Associations can collect fees and keep ALL of them, but they have to use them for purposes on site. This can include their administration expenses.
- The Corps cannot have "constructive control" of the fees collected.
- Cooperative Associations cannot charge fees that are prohibited by law. They CAN charge use fees, but not entrance fees.
- If there is joint Cooperating Association/Corps O&M, the responsibilities shall be clearly spelled out in the lease.

## Guidance Memos

- 06/03/11 [SAD Memo: Approval for Deviation to Model Cooperating Association Lease](#)
- [Combined guidance on Cooperating Associations, Leases, and Cooperative Agreements](#)
- 04/07/11 [Leases and Cooperative Agreements with Cooperating Associations Follow-Up](#)
- 03/15/11 [Guidance Pertaining to Real Estate Instruments and Cooperative Agreements and Cooperating Associations](#) – Follow up to June 25, 2010 legal opinion
- 06/25/10 [Leases and Cooperative Agreements with Cooperating Associations](#) – legal opinion

## Approved Cooperative Agreements/Leases for Joint Management

- Baltimore District, Raystown Lake and Friends of Raystown Lake
  - [Cooperative Agreement, July 2011](#)
  - [Lease, August 2011](#)
- Fort Worth District and Our Lands and Waters Foundation
  - [Cooperative Agreement, September 2011](#)
  - [Lease- Lewisville Lake, September 2011](#)
  - [Lease- Lake Lavon, September 2011](#)
  - [Lease- Benbrook Lake, September 2011](#)
  - [Lease, Piney Woods/Sam Rayburn, September 2011](#)
- Little Rock District, Table Rock Lake and Ozark Rivers Heritage Foundation
  - [Cooperative Agreement, May 2011](#)
  - [Cooperating Association Lease, June 2011](#)



Our Lands  
& Waters  
Foundation

A Public Partnership with the  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers



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# 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)



# Handshake Partnership Program

- Initiate new, or enhance existing recreation and natural resource partnerships by providing a financial incentive (up to \$25,000)
- Demonstrate the “handshake” not a handout concept
- Can be used for a Challenge Partnership project with a non-federal partner on Corps maintained facilities or for SCA volunteers
- NEW for 2013: Recipients no longer required to sit out a year before applying again
- Bonus points this year for submitting success stories to the NRMG
- 107 partnerships funded since 2004 with a total value of \$8.3 million and 65% partner share (\$5.4M)
- Handshake Partnerships since 2004: SAD (27), MVD (22), NWD (17), NAD (12), LRD (12), SWD (9), SPD (8)



## Handshake Program

The Handshake Program offers a source of seed money to Corps installations for worthwhile partnership projects. The intent of this program is to initiate new, or enhance existing recreation and natural resources management opportunities. The objective is to provide an incentive to Corps projects to utilize partnering initiatives to their fullest potential. In addition, this funding is intended to encourage local organizations to partner with the Corps to construct, operate, and/or maintain local partnering projects. The Handshake Program is a way for the Corps to demonstrate our recognition that partnerships flow in both directions (i.e. partnerships are a "handshake," not a handout). Corps leadership has demonstrated their commitment to a partnership culture by establishing this program.

PLEASE NOTE: At this time, USACE has no authority or mechanism to give a non-federal partner funds. Contact your district partnering POC or division Partnership PDT member if you have questions concerning this issue.

Questions about this program should be directed to [Allen Gwinn](#), Handshake Program POC at 814-658-6810.

- [Handshake Program Fact Sheet](#)

- [Applications and Agreements](#)
- [Program Presentations](#)
- [News/Current Issues](#)
- [Success Stories](#)

### Handshake Program Recipients

- [Summary of 2004 – 2012 Recipients](#)
- [2012 Recipients](#)
- [2011 Recipients](#)
- [2010 Recipients](#)
- [2009 Recipients](#)
- [2008 Recipients](#)
- [2007 Recipients](#)
- [2006 Recipients](#)
- [2005 Recipients](#)
- [2004 Recipients](#)

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

# Volunteers

**In 2011: 55,315 Corps volunteers contributed 1,390,816 hours of work with an estimated value of more than \$29.7 million**

- 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



# Volunteers

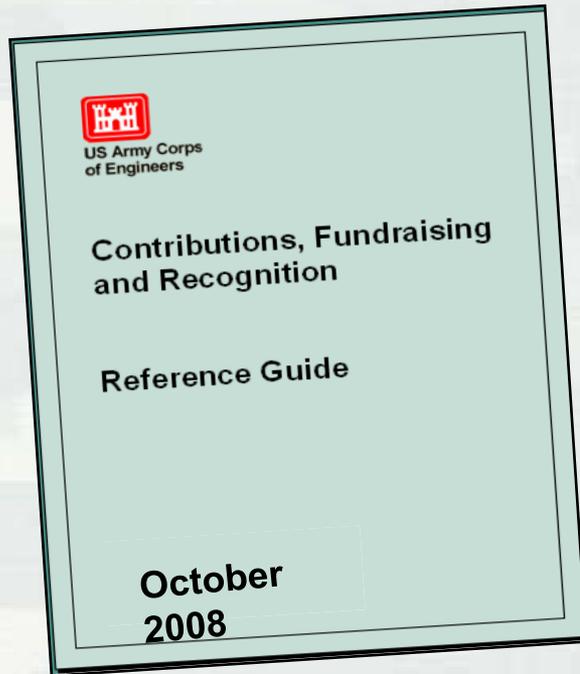
- National Volunteer Clearinghouse:
  - ▶ 800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337)
  - ▶ [www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/volunteer)
  - ▶ POC: Carolyn Bauer (615) 736-5116



- [www.volunteer.gov](http://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
- Applicants under 18 must have parental or legal guardian consent
- Volunteer policy memo updated in November 2011 rescinded 2009 memo and clarified policy on clothing, meals, and recognition



# 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.

(Statement to include in Project OMP)

“It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers that contributions to provide for operation and management of recreation facilities and protection and restoration of natural resources at civil works water resource projects shall be accepted and used, as provided by PL 102-580, Water Resources Development Act, 1992 (106 Stat. 4838, 33 United States Code (USC) 2328, Section 203). Contributions which are within current authorities, consistent with the Corps mission, and are for work items contained in an approved annual or five-year Operational Management Plan may be accepted.”



# Contribution and Donor Recognition Plan

- Template document that can be used by districts or projects to receive funds, materials, or services for tasks that are described in the Master Plan or OMP. 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.
- NWP, NWO, NWW, and SAW have district plans.



## 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](#)

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

- [8 Dec 2011 - Contributions & Donor Recognition Plans; Clarification of Construction Services as Contributions](#)
- [21 Nov 2011 - Construction by Non-Federal Entities at USACE Civil Works Properties](#)
- [12 Oct 2011 - Draft Contributions and Recognition Plan](#)
- [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, C.J.Brown Reservoir Contributions Program Plan](#)
- [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, Lucky Peak Lake Contributions Plan, June 2009](#)
- [NWW, Policy for Acceptance and Disbursement of Natural Resources Recreation Funds Received Under the Contributions Program, November 2008](#)
- [SAW, Wilmington District Contributions and Recognition Plan, August 2011](#)

Recognition is encouraged as a way to express appreciation to contributors and acknowledge the public support that has been received. The Corps will acknowledge its appreciation in a manner consistent with the mission and goals of the Corps and the standards of ethical conduct. This may include letters or certificates of appreciation (ENG Form 4883-R as in Appendix S or locally designed certificate), news releases, photo opportunities, ribbon cutting ceremonies, articles in the project news briefs, or other appropriate means.

- [Sample Certificate EP 1130-2-500, Appendix S](#)



# 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
- CNREF is available to help with seeking grants



# Grants Available Directly to Corps

## **Federal Transit Administration: Paul S. Sarbanes Transit in Parks Program**

- Federal Grant to address traffic congestion issues in public recreation areas or parks
- Entails funding capital and planning expenses for alternative transportation for shuttle buses and bicycle trails
- The Dalles project proposal selected 2009

[http://fta.dot.gov/grants/13094\\_6106.html](http://fta.dot.gov/grants/13094_6106.html)

## **Forest Service Pest Suppression Program**

- 100% free to USACE if experiencing problems with gypsy moths, oak wilt, southern pine beetles, etc.
- Focus on eradication or suppression between \$1,000 to \$50,000.



# Grants Available a Third Party

- [Boat US Foundation Grassroots Grants](#): NWSC generally awards up to \$2,000 per friends project
- [National Forest Foundation Community Assistance Program](#): Start-up funds of \$5,000-\$15,000 to newly-forming community groups nationwide. This is a great way for your new Cooperating Association to obtain much needed funds to begin their program.
- [NEEF Every Day \\$5,000 Grants](#): Twenty (20) Every Day Grants of up to \$5,000 each will be awarded to groups who build their capacity to better serve the lands they love.
- [North Face Explore Fund grants](#): Explore Fund supports organizations that encourage youth outdoor participation with \$2,500
- [Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership](#): To promote and facilitate conservation of habitat for fish and other aquatic species.



# Partnerships Rules

- Partnerships are not “free.” They take time and effort to cultivate, and require a foundation built on trust to be successful.
- Must not cause significant increase in O&M costs
- Challenge Partnership Agreements: Approval <\$25K: OPM; <\$200K: Operations Chief; >\$200K District Commander
- Contributions >\$2,500: Manager review for propriety; >\$100K: Coordinate with Counsel; >\$1M: OC, MSC, HQ NRM, DCW review
- Contributions: Must have a contributions and donor recognition plan in OMP that describes work to be done (funds, materials, supplies, in-kind goods/services) Alternative to individual project plans is to develop a district-wide plan.



# Partnership Program Update

- FY 11 Partnership data in OMBIL: 850+ partnerships @ \$14.6 million
- MVD (222), NWD (146), SWD (134), LRD (133), SAD (85), SPD (68), NAD (54), POD (3)
- Contributions (342) and MOU/MOAs (349) make up the majority
- Primary Purpose: Recreation (332) and Env. Stewardship (279)
- Major Partners:
  - American Chestnut Foundation \$173,589
  - Boy Scouts of America \$231,419
  - Corps Cooperating Associations: \$4,057,628
  - National Audubon Society \$122,913
  - National Park Service \$170,037
  - Student Conservation Association \$148,591
  - US Coast Guard Auxiliary \$204,573
  - USDA Forest Service \$268,711



# Partnership Program Update

- Volunteer ER/EP update: Will incorporate Nov 2011 policy memo, vehicle liability, background checks, VOLAC procedures. Awaiting input from HQUSACE Safety, Security, and ACE-IT. Will seek volunteer coordinators' input after HQ draft is developed.
- Volunteer pass concept: Working to develop a similar program to ATB (not “incentive/reward”, but a “fee waiver) Survey sent to field on Feb 28 with Mar 31 deadline.
- CAST: Take a Warrior Fishing program- Looking to partner on events at Corps lakes. MOU with CAST and other agencies being drafted.
- 21<sup>st</sup> Century Conservation Service Corps (CSC) in development
- Real Estate Management and Outgrant regulation, ER 405-1-80 being updated to include small scale traditional Cooperating Association activities vs. large scale CA activities



# Partnership Program Update

- RLAT/SAT meeting- PAC letter to team about long-term impacts and reductions in budgets due to cooperative management and other creative partnership scenarios. Proposed 5-year retention of funds saved to reinvest back into project. Possible pilot projects in FY 14.
- CNREF: Audit completed to get on CFC. Completed grant training in NWW. Developing grant team of experts. Assisting projects to develop friends groups (currently helping NWK at Pomona/Melvern)
- Volunteer.gov update: New look, online video tutorial, implementation of online time tracking tool for all agencies, social media outlets, ability for volunteers to upload stories, videos, pictures
- SWD working with Bass Pro for potential regional/national MOU
- Seeking partnership success stories for the NRM Gateway



# Partnership Program Update

- Upcoming Events:
  - ▶ Volunteer Pass survey closes March 31
  - ▶ Legends/Beacon nominations due April 27
  - ▶ Kids to Parks Day: May 19
  - ▶ FLW events at 5 Corps lakes Mar-Aug (Hartwell, Table Rock, Beaver, Barkley, Lanier) and 2 other locations with Corps participation (Champlain and Potomac)
  - ▶ National Trails Day: June 2
  - ▶ Get Outdoors Day and National Marina Day: June 9
  
- PAC news:
  - ▶ Provided 1 ½ day Corps focused workshop at APPL conference to approximately 50 Corps attendees and cooperating associations
  - ▶ Developing PROSPECT course for FY13 Purple Book, Course #328
  - ▶ Quarterly 101 webinars (March 23, May 9, September, November)  
Handshake webinars this summer (July/September)



# Resources: Partnership Advisory Committee (PAC)

**SPD:** Joel Miller, [joel.d.miller@usace.army.mil](mailto:joel.d.miller@usace.army.mil)

**MVD:** Jamie Gyolai, [jamie.l.gyolai@usace.army.mil](mailto:jamie.l.gyolai@usace.army.mil)

**NAD:** Allen Gwinn, [allen.gwinn@usace.army.mil](mailto:allen.gwinn@usace.army.mil)

**NWD:** Alana Mesenbrink, [alana.f.mesenbrink@usace.army.mil](mailto:alana.f.mesenbrink@usace.army.mil)

**SWD:** Titus Hardiman, [titus.v.hardiman@usace.army.mil](mailto:titus.v.hardiman@usace.army.mil)

**SAD:** Chad Eller, [chad.eller@usace.army.mil](mailto:chad.eller@usace.army.mil)

**LRD:** Chris Rapenchuk, [christopher.t.rapenchuk@usace.army.mil](mailto:christopher.t.rapenchuk@usace.army.mil)

**HQ:** Heather Burke, [heather.d.burke@usace.army.mil](mailto:heather.d.burke@usace.army.mil)



# Resources: NRM Gateway

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



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

#### Headquarters POC

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
- Partnerships in OMBIL
- FAQs
- News / Current Issues
- Good Enough to Share
- Corps Photo Album for Partnerships
- Cooperative Management of Corps Parks
- Training
- Grants/Alternative Funding Sources
- Partnership Advisory Committee
- Division & District POCs 

#### Partner Information:

# Resources: Volunteer Clearinghouse

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



The banner features the US Army Corps of Engineers logo on the left, the text 'US Army Corps of Engineers® Volunteer Clearinghouse 1-800-865-8337 Lending a Helping Hand' below it, a central graphic of an American flag with the text 'VOLUNTEER CLEARINGHOUSE' in large red letters, and a globe on the right with the text 'RELEVANT READY RESPONSIVE RELIABLE' and the tagline 'Proudly serving the Armed Forces and the Nation now and in the future.'

[Volunteer Home](#)

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- [Volunteer Job Listings](#)
- [Photo Gallery](#)
- [Success Stories About Volunteers](#)
- [Sign Up For Volunteer Work \*\*Online!\*\*](#)
- [Submit Your Volunteer Project \*\*Online!\*\*](#)

**Introduction**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Volunteer Clearinghouse is a nationwide, toll free hotline number for individuals who are interested in volunteering their time with the Corps. By calling the hotline a potential volunteer can express interest in any Corps project nationwide. The Clearinghouse in turn, gives the individual a point of contact for the area they have requested, as well as written information about volunteer opportunities there.

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

The Clearinghouse also works from the opposite direction. Corps employees (Ex. Rangers) needing volunteers can call or send their volunteer vacancies to the Clearinghouse so the information will be available to anyone interested.





# Welcome!

Come search and apply for volunteer opportunities that suit your interests and availability.

## find opportunities



### Find Opportunities by State



Keyword:   
 State and/or City:   
 Agency:   
 Opportunity Type:   
 Newest Opportunities:  (posted in the last 30 days)

**Find Opportunities Now**

## find events



### Find a Volunteer Events

April 2011						
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

## streaming videos



### Volunteers in action



## featured opportunities

1 2 3



**GRAND PORTAGE NATIONAL MONUMENT** Join the interpretive staff at Grand Portage National Monument and recreate history. Share the stories of intertwining lives and cultures between Europeans and Native Americans during the 18th century utilizing third party living history interpretation. The park maintains and protects a reconstructed North West Company fur depot, Ojibwe village, and the historic Grand Portage Trail. ...more



## national events

- Global Youth Service Day  
April 15 - 17, 2011

## associations, foundations, & friends

- Passport in Time
- Friends of the Blue Ridge Parkway
- ...more



## participating agencies



# Resources: Volunteer.gov



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