



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

DEC 12 2016

CECW-CO-N

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

SUBJECT: Handshake Partnership Program – Fiscal Year 2017 Recipients

1. I am pleased to announce the recipients for the fiscal year 2017 (FY 2017) Handshake Partnership Program funding. These outstanding partnerships demonstrate the efforts and successes of our field projects in working with stakeholders to foster their involvement in improving and protecting our parks and natural resources. This initiative supports U.S. Army Corps of Engineers efforts in being a community partner and working on grassroots partnering projects.
2. The enclosed list of the FY 2017 Handshake recipients are diverse in both geographic area and in project ideas. Nine projects have been funded that span seven Corps districts within four divisions.
3. The funded projects involve 45 partners who have pledged more than \$308,000, (54%) of the \$570,000 to be invested in these projects. There are two first time recipients and five projects where the partner is funding more than half of the total project cost. Collectively, these projects will improve recreational opportunities and facilities for all visitors, providing access for land and water-based recreation, connecting communities to outdoor opportunities, protecting and conserving natural resources, enhancing our environmental stewardship mission, increasing public awareness of the value of water resources, and engaging federal, state, and local partners in a shared vision. We are very proud of our Corps team members and our valued partners!
4. My point of contact for this effort is Mr. Heath Kruger, Northwestern Division Partnership Advisory Committee representative. He will contact the recipients to provide additional details and coordinate funds disbursement. Please direct any questions to Mr. Kruger, heath.r.kruger@usace.army.mil, (816) 389-2183.

Encl

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Susan S. Whittington", is positioned above the printed name.

SUSAN S. WHITTINGTON
Acting Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division
Directorate of Civil Works

Handshake Partnership Program – Fiscal Year 2017 Recipients

Facility	Handshake Project	Partner(s)	Local Project Funding	Partner Funding	HQUSACE Funding
Big Hill Lake	<u>Equestrian Trail Facility Upgrades</u> – New group picnic shelter, 6 horse pens, kiosk/trail map, 2 manure bunkers at trailhead. Water and electricity for group camp area. Local community benefits from new tourism dollars brought by facility improvements.	Back Country Horsemen of America – Kansas, Big Hill Horse Riders Association, North American Trail Ride Conference, American Endurance Ride Conference, Boy Scouts Pack 16, Labette County Tourism, Western Way Cowboy Church	\$6,500	\$50,621	\$15,000
Caesar Creek Lake	<u>Prairie Habitat Improvements</u> for pollinators – Improves wildlife and recreational benefits on 45 acres of prairie. Partners benefit from testing management techniques, education opportunities, and seed harvest.	Ohio DNR, Friends of Caesar Creek, Ohio Natural Areas and Preserves Association, Cincinnati Chapter of the Native Plant Society, Boy Scouts of America	\$2,500	\$24,500	\$20,000
Coralville Lake	<u>Prairie Restoration</u> of land to tallgrass prairie and shrubs. 93.5 acres of land will be restored. Includes installation of interpretive kiosk and benches for public education. Helps meet the goals of the IDNR State Wildlife Action Plan.	Iowa DNR, Iowa Natural Heritage Foundation, Bur Oak Land Trust, Johnson County Conservation Board	\$45,000	\$28,626	\$20,000
Raystown Lake	<u>Striped Bass Nursery</u> – Create in-house striper nursery to maintain striped bass fishery for recreation and tourist benefits. Partners will work with local youth and Juniata College to educate and maintain future program. PBSA achieves goal to promote, protect, and preserve stripers in Pennsylvania.	Friends of Raystown Lake, Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau, Pennsylvania Striped Bass Association, Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission	\$8,844	\$28,593	\$9,000

Facility	Handshake Project	Partner(s)	Local Project Funding	Partner Funding	HQUSACE Funding
Rend Lake	<u>Pollinator Habitat Improvements</u> – Creation of three pollinator and prairie gardens, four fishing platforms on existing pond, interpretive exhibits, covered bench and accessible trail connecting gardens and pond. Provides hands-on learning opportunity for local schools and the public.	Garden Gate Club of Benton, University of Illinois Master Gardeners, Illinois Native Plant Society, Rend Lake College, Illinois DNR, Local Laborers Union 773, Local Operators Union 318, Local Cement Masons Union 143	\$23,000	\$28,800	\$20,000
Shelbyville Lake	<u>Pollinator Field Conversion</u> – Removal of invasive species in 100 acre field and planting of wildflowers for pollinators. Provides an outdoor classroom to Okay Valley schools.	Lake Volunteers Association, Pheasants Forever, Okaw Valley Jr High, Okaw Valley Sr High, Illinois DNR, Sloans Equipment, National Wild Turkey Federation	\$22,500	\$28,060	\$20,000
Surry Mountain Lake	<u>Pollinator Habitat Improvements</u> – Will convert a vacant 4 acre field to an educational pollinator flower garden with walking paths, benches, interpretive signs, and parking area. Students from local school will be involved in long-term maintenance.	Surry Village Charter School, Brooks Construction, Cersosimo Industries, Moosewood Ecological LLC, Cheshire Co. Conservation District	\$11,659	\$108,119	\$19,000
Table Rock Lake	<u>Pollinator Habitat Improvements</u> – Rejuvenate 5 acres of xeriscape gardens to pollinator gardens at the Dewey Short Visitor Center. Meets the goals of the Missouri Master Naturalist program to provide community-based natural resource education and volunteer service opportunities.	Missouri Master Naturalists	\$9,905	\$4,722	\$3,772

Facility	Handshake Project	Partner(s)	Local Project Funding	Partner Funding	HQUSACE Funding
Tioga Hammond / Cowenesque	<u>Fitness Trail</u> – Creation of 8 fitness stations along and existing 3.2 mile trail. Meets community demand to further develop to the Lamb's Creek Recreation Area. Provides community service opportunities for local high school students to meet requirements.	Friends of Tioga Hammond Cowenesque, Michael Rohl, Tiffany Cummings, Amy Delozier	\$1,663	\$6,006	\$5,000