MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, Major Subordinate Commands and District Commands; Chiefs, Operations, Major Subordinate Commands and District Commands

SUBJECT: 2015 National Volunteer Award Selection

1. I am pleased to announce Mr. Hugh Clark of Shenango River Lake in the Pittsburgh District (LRD), has been selected as the recipient of the 2015 National Volunteer Award.

2. Mr. Clark was selected for his tireless efforts in creating and maintaining the Shenango River Water Trail, an innovative partnership that significantly increased the value of the recreation and environmental stewardship efforts at Shenango Lake. The Shenango River Water Trail was developed over an eight-year period, requiring coordination by Mr. Clark with 35 agencies and groups, 80 adjacent landowners, countless public meetings, and over $200,000 in private and matching state and local government grants. Mr. Clark led these efforts, resulting in the trail earning designation as part of the Pennsylvania Water Trails system and winning the 2013 Western Pennsylvania Environmental Award.

3. The National Volunteer Award is co-sponsored by the Corps Foundation in recognition of the extraordinary service provided by volunteers. This award distinguishes individuals, couples/family units who give their skills, talents, and time beyond the normal call of duty and whose creditable service to the Corps has resulted in the significant enhancement to one or more of the Corps business lines. The award will be presented to Mr. Clark in the spring of 2016.

4. All of the nominees for this year's awards provided significant service and contributions to their Corps sites and are deserving of special mention. They are: Mr. Harris Channell at the Black Warrior & Tombigbee/Demopolis Office (SAD); Ms. Karen Eastwood at Lake Sidney Lanier (SAD); Mr. Keith Dosser at Canyon Lake (SWD); Mr. Dwight Slape at Canton Lake (SWD); Mr. Jim Tichnell at Jennings Randolph Lake (NAD); Mr. Steve Purcell at the Lower Granite Project – Natural Resources Office (NWD); and Ms. Macy Conrad, Sally Herman, Alexis Mitchell, Sarah Solomon at Deer Creek Lake (LRD). I sincerely appreciate your efforts to nominate top quality volunteers for these significant awards.

5. Please pass along my congratulations to Mr. Clark as the 2015 overall winner and to all of the nominees for their outstanding service! My point of contact for this award is Ms. Miriam Fleming, who can be reached at 706-334-2640.

EDWARD E. BELK, JR., P.E.
Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division
Directorate of Civil Works
MEMORANDUM FOR Commanders, Major Subordinate Commands and District Commands; Chiefs, Operations, Major Subordinate Commands and District Commands

SUBJECT: 2015 Excellence in Partnerships Award Selection

1. I am pleased to announce that the Marklesburg Fire Department in the Baltimore District (NAD) has been selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recipient of the 2015 National Excellence in Partnerships Award.

2. Marklesburg Fire Department was chosen due to their efforts to creatively overcome operational obstacles by partnering with the Corps and other community groups to achieve common goals for the benefit of the public at Raystown Lake. The Marklesburg Fire Department resolved rescue challenges, provided training to improve service and response time, promoted safety both on land and in the water, and improved visitors’ experiences at Raystown Lake.

The partnership has resulted in the installation of mountain bike trail location markers for first responders, purchase of a litter basket for improved trail rescue operations, community fundraising efforts to purchase a remote operated underwater camera vehicle and boat for rescue and recovery, construction of an emergency response ramp and dock for rescue and isolated transfer of patients, dive team training, and promotion by the partner for the Corps’ water safety mission. The Marklesburg Fire Department has increased their partnership with the Corps to present a wide range of annual special events that help educate the public about safety and environmental issues, these events also raise money for the fire department to continue to provide training and equipment to improve rescue efforts.

3. The Excellence in Partnerships award is co-sponsored by the Corps Foundation in recognition of exceptional contributions to the recreation and environmental stewardship programs at Corps projects. The award will be presented to the Marklesburg Fire Department in the spring of 2016.

4. All of the nominees for this year's award made significant contributions to their partner projects and are deserving of special mention. They are: the Idaho Department of Fish and Game (NWD), Keeping DeGray Lake Beautiful (MVD), and The Arc of Livingston-Wyoming (LRD).

5. Point of contact for this award is Ms. Miriam Fleming, who can be reached at 706-334-6040.

EDWARD E. BELK, JR., P.E.
Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division
Directorate of Civil Works