



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

CECW-CO

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

SUBJECT: 2017 Excellence in Partnerships Award Selection

1. I am pleased to announce that the Mark Twain Lake Friends of Recreation and Environmental Stewardship Council (FOREST Council) of Clarence Cannon Dam and Mark Twain Lake in the St. Louis District (MVD) has been selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers recipient of the 2017 National Excellence in Partnerships Award.
2. The FOREST Council is a unique partnership initiative composed of multiple public land agencies, regional and national organizations, private industry, and local communities who have come together to support the environmental stewardship and recreation missions of Mark Twain Lake. In addition to the support of special events, their efforts have been the catalyst for the development of six major recreational developments at Mark Twain Lake.
3. The Mark Twain Lake FOREST Council has developed facilities that are a desired educational resource for regional schools, youth groups and wildlife management organizations further enhancing the partnerships at Mark Twain Lake. The Council has assisted in the development of the Northeast Missouri Environmental Stewardship Demonstration Area, the Joanna Trail restrooms, the Frank Russell Pond Pavilion, the Frank Russell Equestrian and Outdoor Adventure Campground, the Frank Russell Pond Barrier Free Access and Fishing Facilities, and the Mark Twain Archery Park.
4. This year's nominees for the Excellence in Partnerships Award made significant contributions to their partner projects and demonstrate amazing work being done across USACE. One other partner deserves an honorable mention for their efforts, the Opal Foundation at John Day Willow Creek Project (NWD) who helped ensure access and improved quality recreational opportunities at Philippi Park on the John Day River.
5. 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 FOREST Council in spring of 2018.

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6. My point of contact for this award is Mrs. Taylor Saia, Partnership Advisory Committee member, who can be reached at 209-772-1343.

Encl



THOMAS P. SMITH, P.E.
Chief, Operations and Regulatory Division
Directorate of Civil Works