



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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CECW-CO-N

**MEMORANDUM FOR CHIEFS, OPERATIONS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS
AND DISTRICT COMMANDS**

SUBJECT: 2021 Excellence in Partnerships Award Selection

1. I am pleased to announce that the Berks Area Mountain Biking Association (BAMBA) at Blue Marsh Lake in the Philadelphia District (NAD) has been selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) recipient of the 2021 National Excellence in Partnerships Award.
2. Since joining Blue Marsh Lake in 2019 as a teammate on trail restoration and maintenance initiatives, BAMBA has been an exemplary partner. They have provided both direct funding and volunteer services to support creating new trails, rehabilitating existing trails, providing inclusive mountain biking experiences, building a developmental area for new riders, and fostering an overall greater connection within the trails community of Berks County, PA. BAMBA's dedication to improving recreational development and sustainability has helped USACE and Blue Marsh Lake to meet the increasing demand on outdoor resources in response to a global pandemic.
3. All of the nominees for this year's award made significant contributions to their projects and demonstrated remarkable work being done across USACE. Four partners deserve special mention for their efforts: Scioto Area Corps Cooperating Association at Alum Creek Lake (LRH), Rend Lake Area Tourism Council at Rend Lake (MVS), Friends of Lake Lanier at Lake Lanier (SAM), and Phillips 66 Ponca City at Kaw Lake (SWT).
4. The Excellence in Partnerships Award is co-sponsored by the Corps Foundation in recognition of exceptional contributions to the natural resource management programs at USACE projects. The award will be presented to the Berks Area Mountain Biking Association later in the year.
5. My point of contact for this award is Heather Burke, National Partnership Program Manager, who can be reached via e-mail at heather.d.burke@usace.army.mil or phone at 503-808-4313.

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