



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

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

SUBJECT: 2022 Excellence in Partnerships Award Selection

1. I am pleased to announce that the New River Alliance of Climbers (NRAC) at Summersville Lake in the Huntington District (LRH) has been selected as the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) recipient of the 2022 National Excellence in Partnerships Award.
2. The NRAC and USACE entered into a formal partnership in 2019 to create long-term access to the rock-climbing opportunities on the sandstone cliffs of Summersville Lake. NRAC has provided both direct funding and volunteer services to build new access points, stabilize stretches of eroding shoreline, improve public safety, and educate the public in sustainable use practices. Their efforts have grown into a larger partnership between local and national non-profits, federal and state entities, as well as the local community; all in the name of environmental stewardship through education and public outreach.
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 other partners deserve special mention for their efforts: Pennsylvania Striped Bass Association at Raystown Lake (NAB), Rend Lake Area Tourism Council at Rend Lake (MVS), Volunteers of Outdoors Colorado at John Martin Reservoir (SPA), and the Missouri Feral Hog Elimination Partnership at multiple projects (NWD/SWD/MVD).
4. The Excellence in Partnerships Award is co-sponsored by the Corps Foundation in recognition of exceptional contributions to the natural resources management programs at USACE projects. The award will be presented to the New River Alliance of Climbers later in the year.
5. The 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](mailto:heather.d.burke@usace.army.mil) or phone at (503) 808-4313.

*Essays*

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