



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
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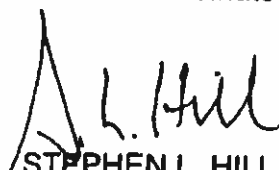
29 September 2026

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

SUBJECT: Handshake Partnership Program – Fiscal Year 2027 Recipients

1. I am pleased to announce the recipients for the fiscal year (FY) 2027 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. New application requirements were added for FY 2027 to align with the goals of the "Sustaining Access to Recreation Facilities" program and the "Building Infrastructure, Not Paperwork" initiative.
2. Enclosed is the list of FY 2027 Handshake recipients, representing diverse geographic regions and project concepts. Funding will be awarded to four projects spanning four Corps districts across four divisions.
3. The projects involve 14 partners who have pledged \$398,123 (56%) of the \$708,452 to be invested in these projects. There are two projects where the partners are funding more than half of the total project cost.
4. Collectively, these projects will improve recreational opportunities for visitors, promote interpretive outreach, protect and conserve natural resources, enhance our environmental stewardship mission, and engage federal, state and local partners in a shared vision. We take great pride in everyone involved, including our Corps team members and valued partners.
5. The point of contact for this effort is Heather Burke, National Partnership Program Manager. Please contact her with questions at (678) 972-3824. She will be in touch with the recipients shortly to provide additional details and coordinate funds disbursement.

Encl


STEPHEN L. HILL, PMP, SES
Director, Operations and Regulatory
Programs

Enclosure 1
Handshake Partnership Program – 2027 Recipients

Location	Handshake Project	Partner(s)	Local Project Funding	Partner Funding	HQUSACE Handshake Funding
Burnsville Lake (Huntington District)	Bear Proof Trash Receptacles	Friends of Burnsville Lake, Student Conservation Association	\$49,380	\$17,712	\$50,000
Saylorville Lake (Rock Island District)	Sandpiper Fish Rearing Pond and Boat Ramp Revitalization	Iowa Department of Natural Resources, Mid Iowa Anglers, Student Conservation Association	\$39,749	\$7,521	\$50,000
Harry S. Truman Lake (Kansas City District)	Historic Cottage Area Interpretation and Trail Restoration	City of Warsaw, Missouri, Boy Scouts of America, Osage Lake Greenway Corporation, Benton County Commission, Benton County Economic Development, Benton County Tourism and Recreation, Benton County Museum and Historical Society, and the Warsaw Area Chamber of Commerce	\$10,000	\$300,500	\$50,000
Lake Sidney Lanier (Mobile District)	Fisheries Habitat Improvement	Georgia Department of Natural Resources, Hall County	\$11,200	\$72,390	\$50,000