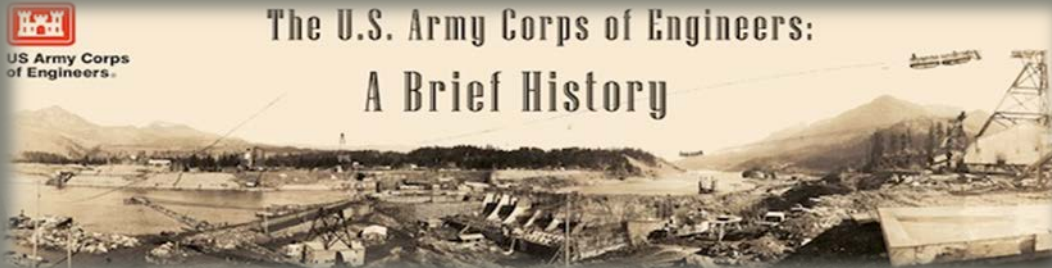


# HISTORY OF THE US ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS PARK RANGER

Tennille Hammonds and Heath Kruger  
National Ranger Conference  
19 April 2017



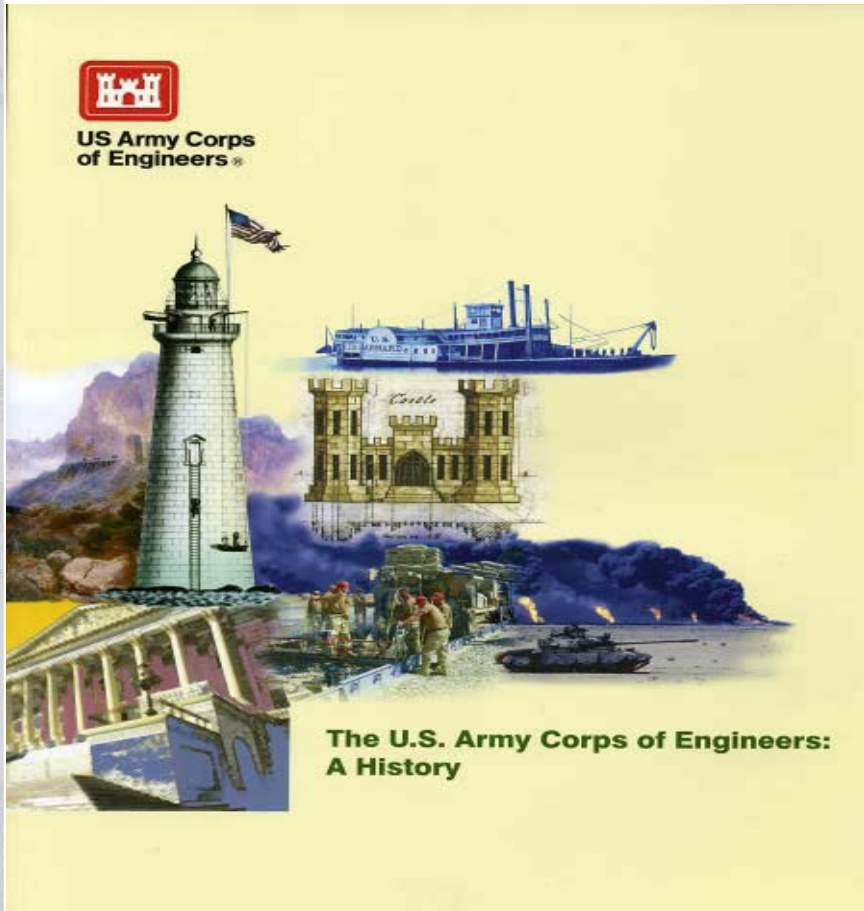
*"The views, opinions and findings contained in this report are those of the author(s) and should not be construed as an official Department of the Army position, policy or decision, unless so designated by other official documentation."*



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**



# DISCLAIMER:

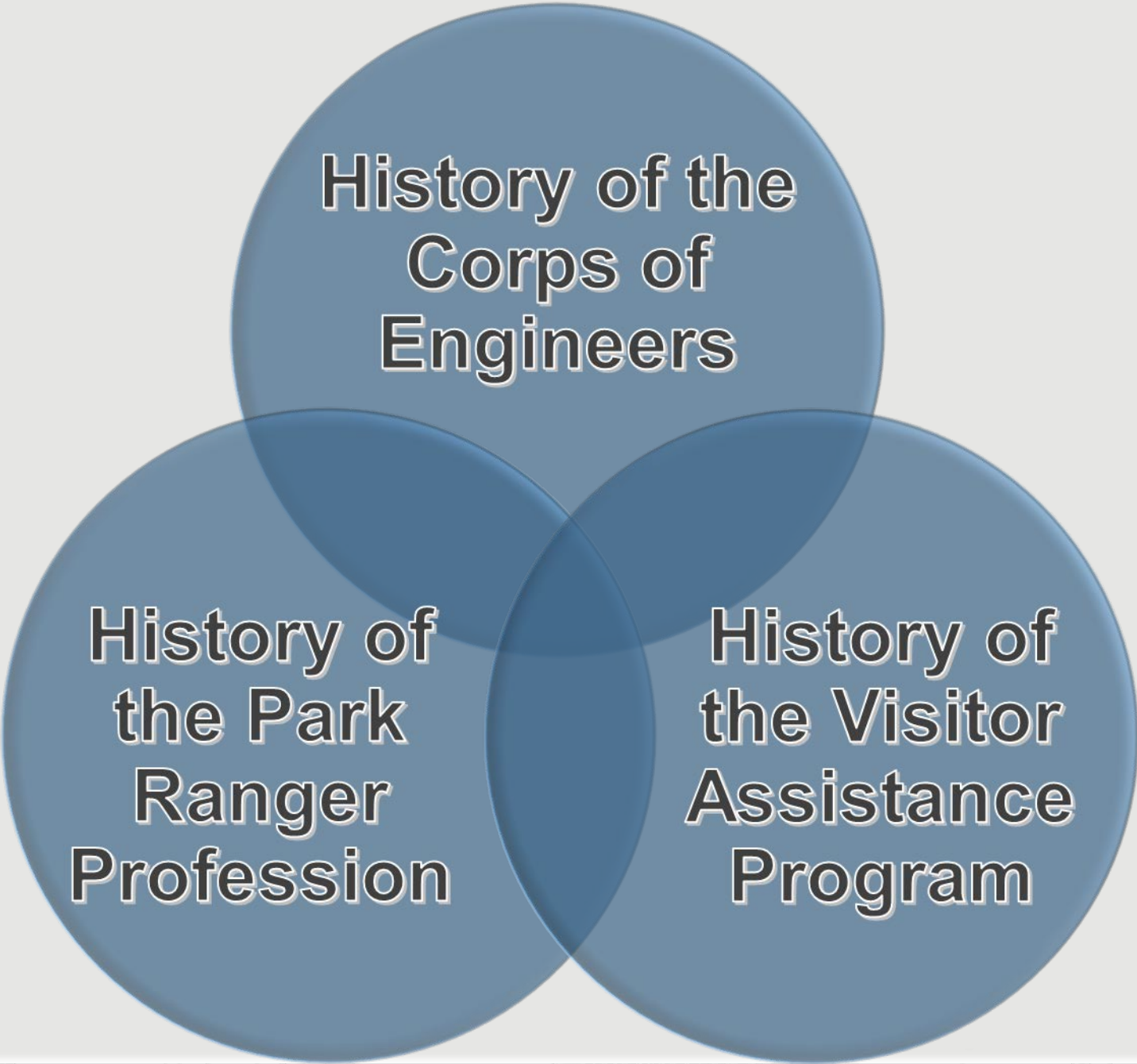


- EP 870-1-68, Jan '07
- EP 360-1-9, Dec '76
- Museum of the National Park Ranger

- References

<http://www.usace.army.mil/About/History/Brief-History-of-the-Corps/>





**History of the  
Corps of  
Engineers**

**History of  
the Park  
Ranger  
Profession**

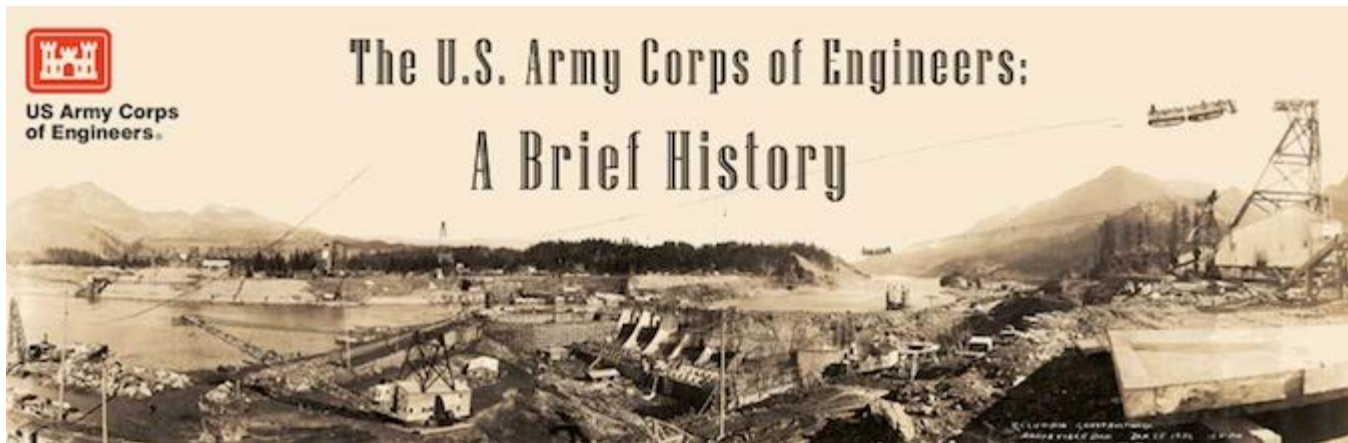
**History of  
the Visitor  
Assistance  
Program**

**History of the  
Corps of  
Engineers**

**History of  
the Park  
Ranger  
Profession**

**History of  
the Visitor  
Assistance  
Program**

# HISTORY OF THE CORPS OF ENGINEERS



# ORIGIN – REVOLUTIONARY WAR

George Washington  
appointed the first  
engineer officers of the  
Army on June 16, 1775



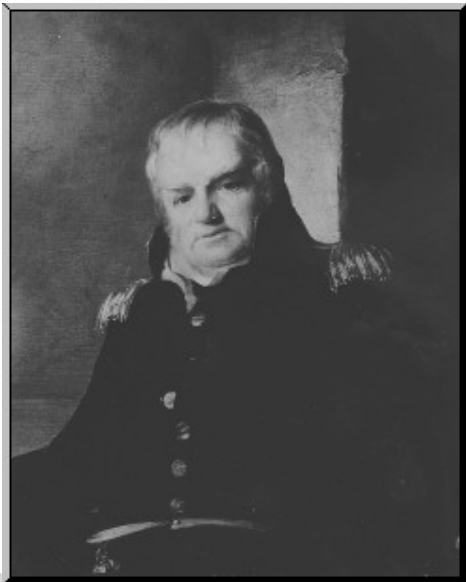
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6



# BUILDING AMERICA

1. Army created a separate branch March 16, 1802 responsibility for founding and operating the U.S. Military Academy at West Point.



2. Civil Works – 1838  
“...contribute to works of a civil nature.” Corps created coastal fortifications, mapped the American West, constructed lighthouses, developed jetties and piers for harbors, and mapped and the navigation channels.



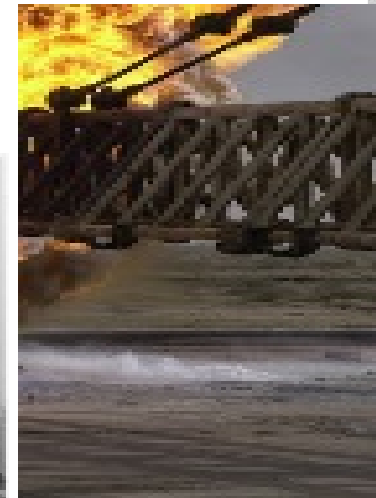
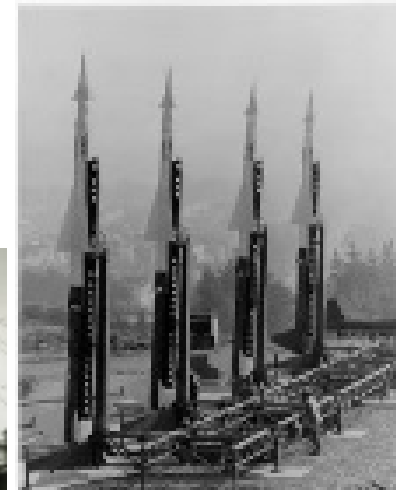
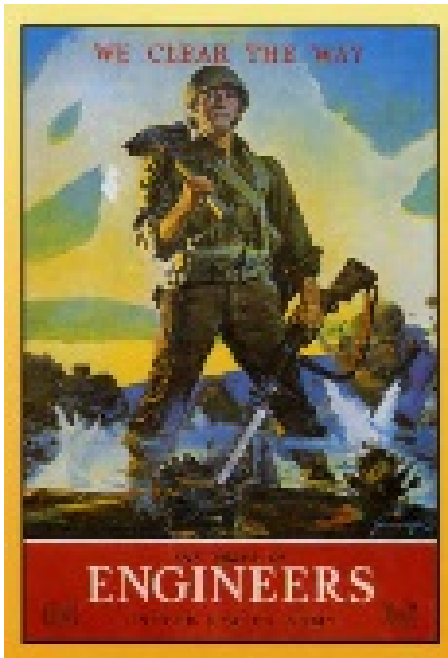
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7



# 1900'S - TODAY

1. WWII
2. Cold War
3. NASA
4. Environmental (1970's)
5. 9/11 and the Global War on Terrorism

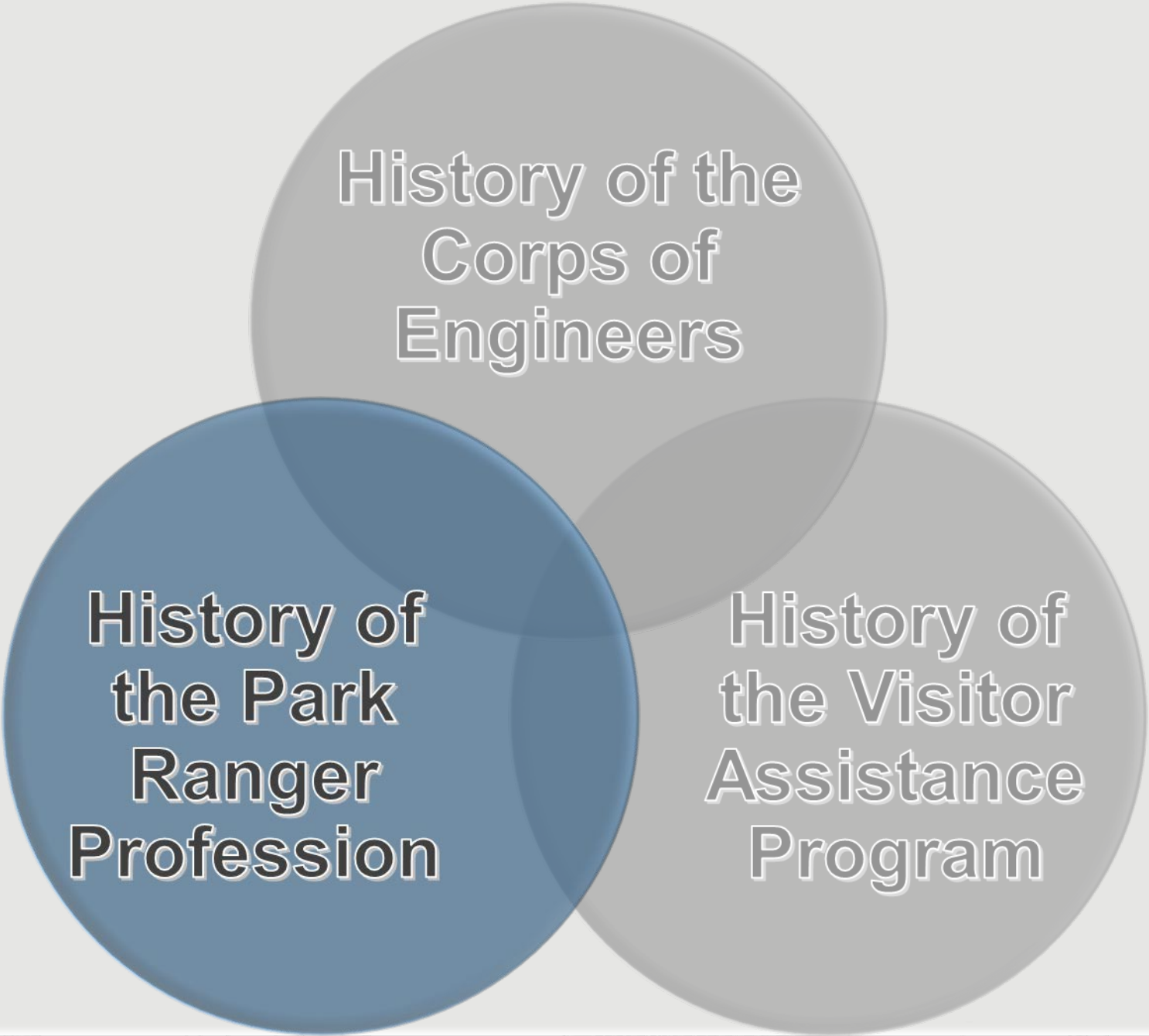




# WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW!

1. History of the Castle
2. History of our colors
3. History of Essayons





**History of the  
Corps of  
Engineers**

**History of  
the Park  
Ranger  
Profession**

**History of  
the Visitor  
Assistance  
Program**

# HISTORY OF THE PARK RANGER PROFESSION

a. Medieval Origins- Royally appointed to patrol hunting forests across Europe. Their duties were to range the countryside providing law and order against poaching.



b. The medieval forest was subject to Forest Law - a law protecting venison for the King, and the trees and vegetation of their habitat. Under forest law it was illegal to hunt, harvest trees, to graze, or take any resource within a royal forest without express written consent of the Crown.



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# WHERE DID WE COME FROM?

England, mid 13<sup>th</sup> century

Documents from 1455 state that England had “all manner and singular Offices of Foresters and **Rangers** of our said Forests”.

One of the first appearances of **ranger** in literature is in Edmund Spenser’s poem *The Sheperdes Calendar* from 1579: “Wolves walk not widely, as they were wont, for fear of **rangers** and the great hunt.”



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# RANGERS OF THE NEW WORLD

North America's first park rangers - Rangers were full-time soldiers employed by colonial governments to patrol between fixed frontier fortifications. They were scouts and guides, locating villages and other targets for task forces drawn from the militia or other colonial troops.

By 1634, when one Edward Beckler served as a *rainger* on a Virginian island in Chesapeake Bay, the word had come to mean ***one of a body of men who afforded a community protection by scouting for enemies and engaging them when found.*** In 1647, the Maryland Assembly weighed a plan to use ***“raingers or scouts”*** in the protection of the colony.



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# AMERICA'S PARK RANGERS: 1886-1916

1886-1918 America's first Park Ranger – U.S. Army Soldiers that were converted to Park Rangers. Their duty was to protect Yellowstone. First national Park was established 1872. The term ranger was first applied in 1898 when assigning funds for special agents of the government (military and Civilian) to protect “American natural reserve areas”



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Yellowstone National Park – late 1880's park in trouble – poaching, vandalism, incompetent management



Out of frustration, the US government gave control of the park to US Army Cavalry



Any similarity with the uniform we wear today?



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# AMERICA'S PARK RANGERS: 1886-1916

Overlapping periods of Military control and Civilian Scouts hired by the Army to be Rangers. Civilians would act in the place of the Army when soldiers were deployed elsewhere.





History of the  
Corps of  
Engineers

History of  
the Park  
Ranger  
Profession

History of  
the Visitor  
Assistance  
Program

# THE RULE OF THREE:

**NRM MILESTONES - POLICY**

**NRM MILESTONES - EVENTS**

**NRM MILESTONES - STUDY**



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# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT

1930's - Rampant flooding nationwide, as the water rises so does the death toll.



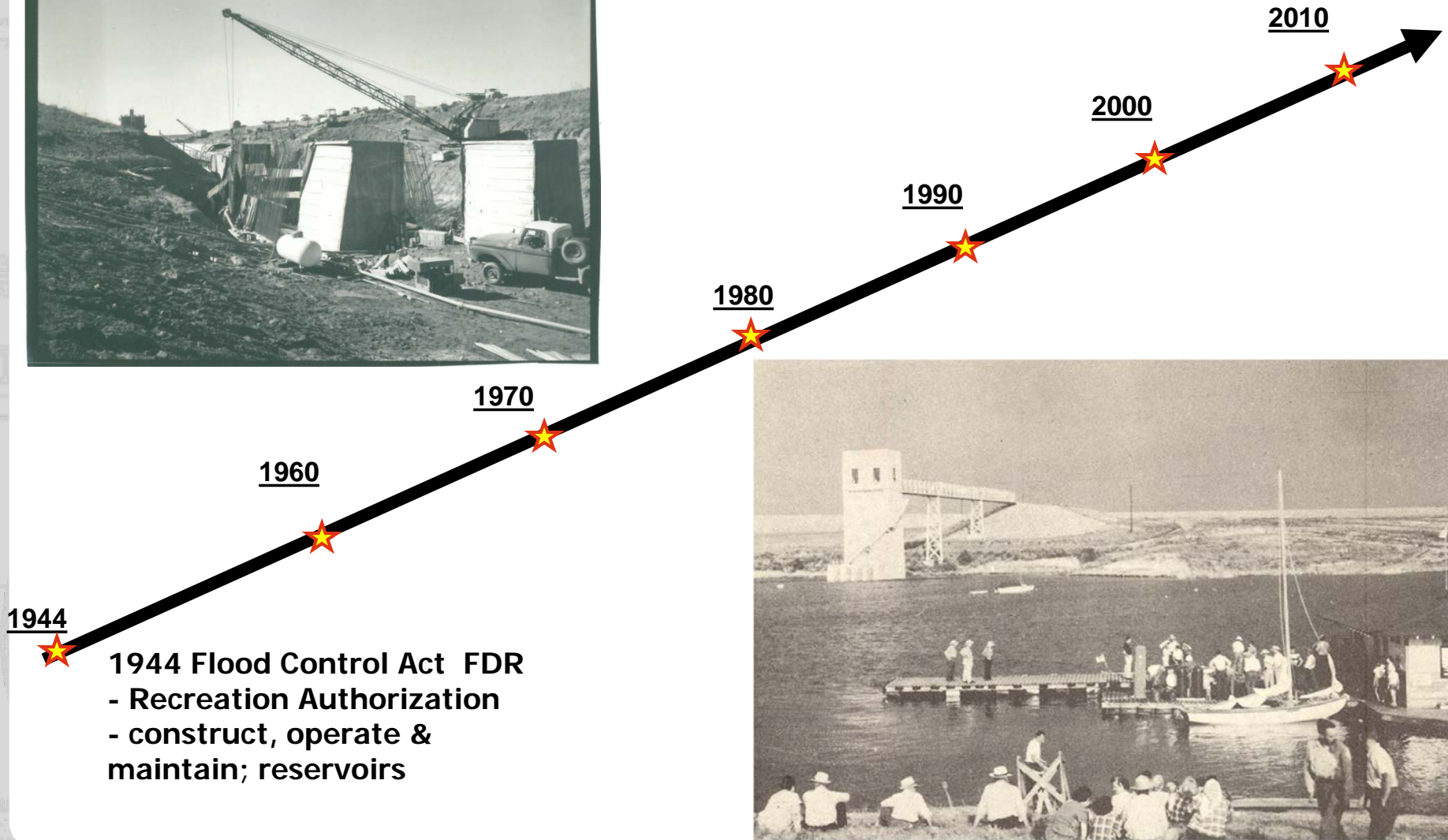
Vanport OR Flooding



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# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



# 1944 – FLOOD CONTROL ACT

Gave the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers authority to construct and operate recreation facilities at reservoir projects



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# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT

1940's - 50's: Post World War II the American population has a renewed sense of adventure, exploration, and recreation.



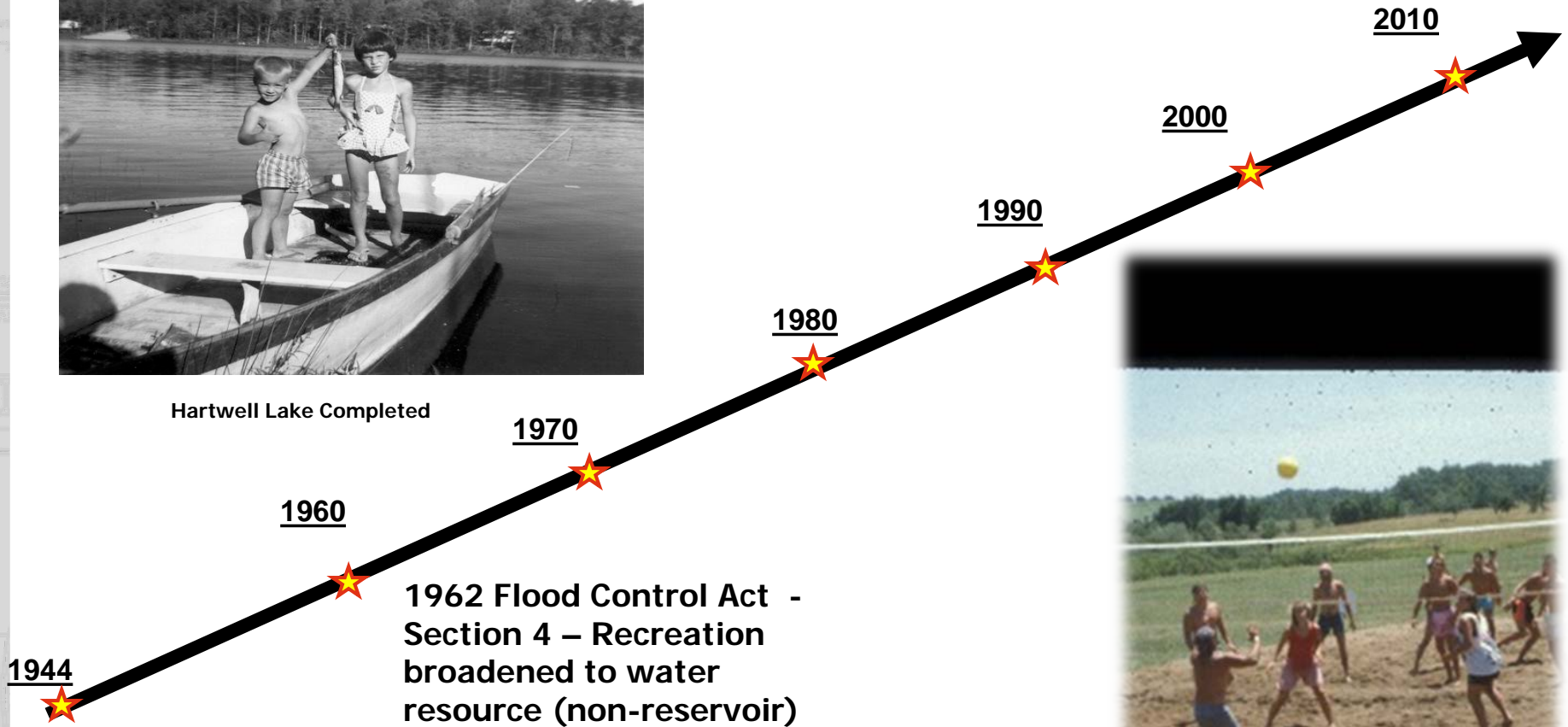
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# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



Hartwell Lake Completed



# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT

1960's: Demand for public outdoor activities created a recreation industry.

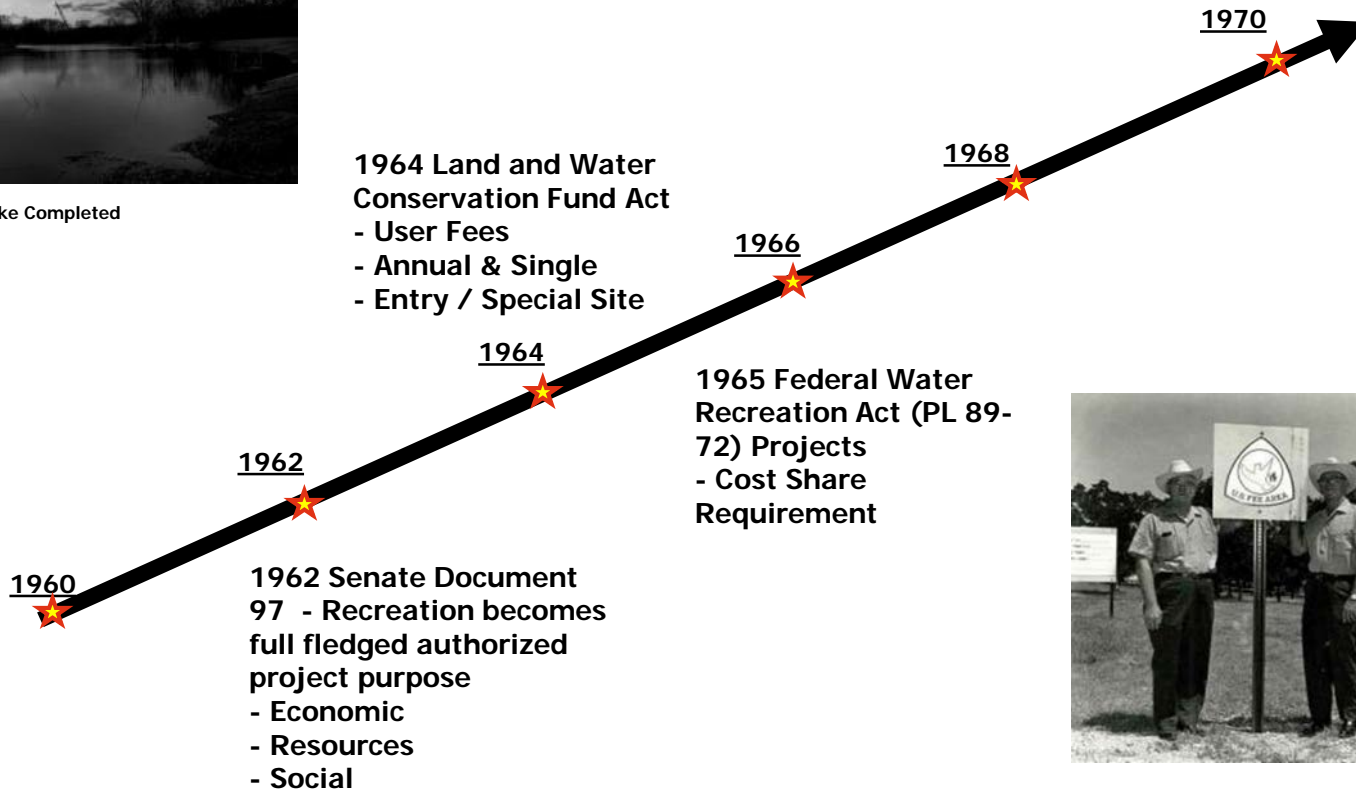




# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



Big Bend Lake Completed



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# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT

Late 1960's: Evidence of abuse and destruction of the land and resources was being seen across the country. Things came to a head at Cumberland KY, people dumping trash on public lands. At the time we had no enforcement options, just like any other property owner.



Lake Cumberland - KY

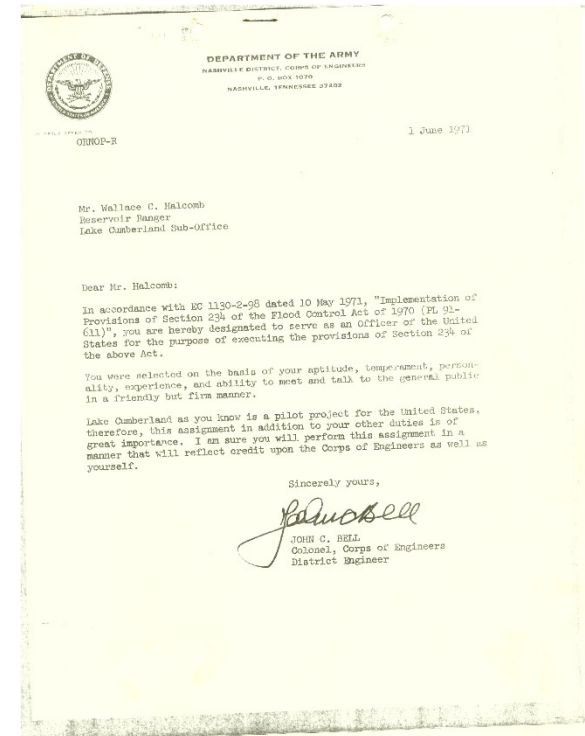


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# 1971 – LAW ENFORCEMENT POLICY (ER 190-2-3)

Established Interim Policy At Lake Cumberland, Kentucky  
Enforcement of rules and regulations at Corps of Engineers projects.



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Lake  
Cumberland



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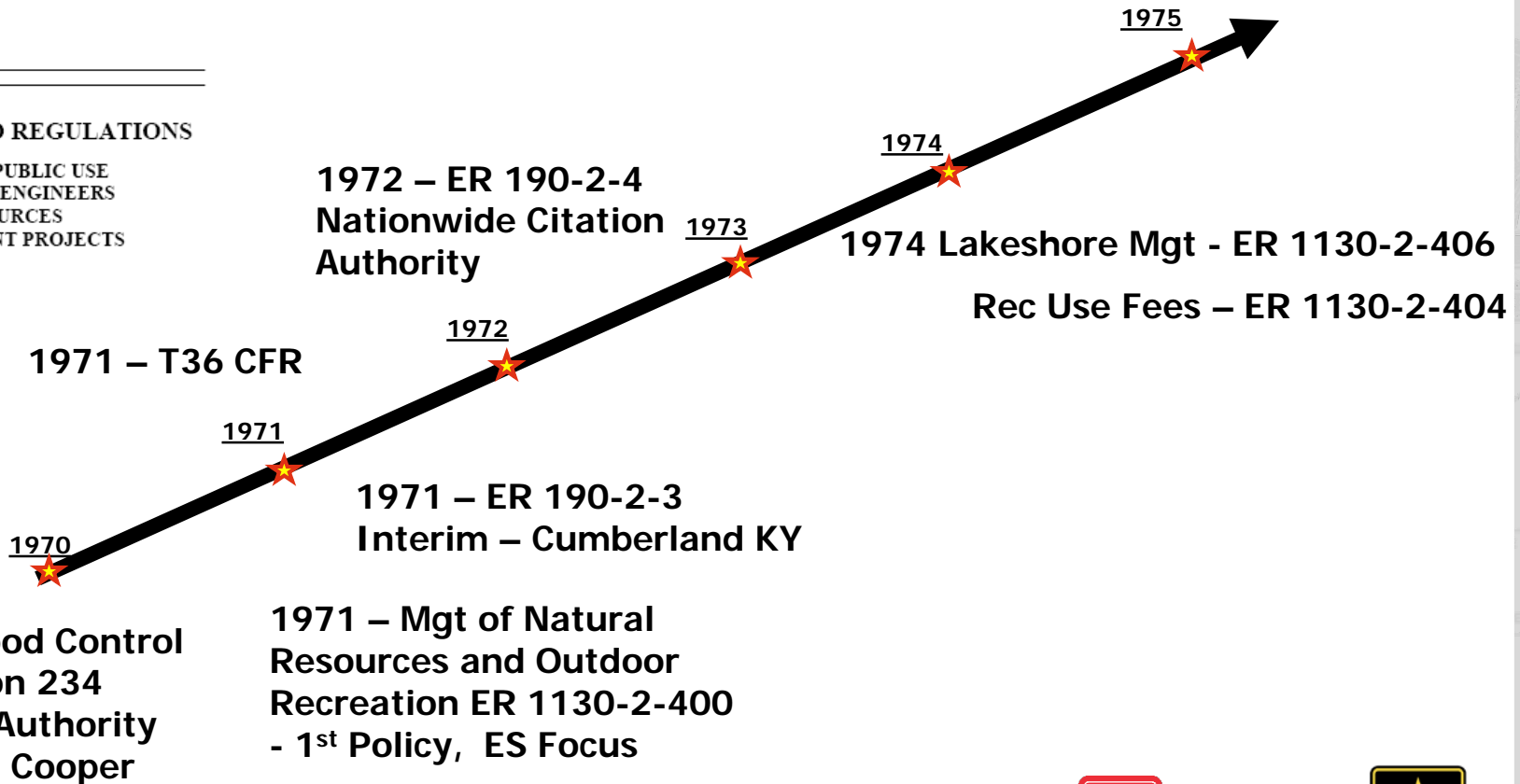
# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



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## RULES AND REGULATIONS

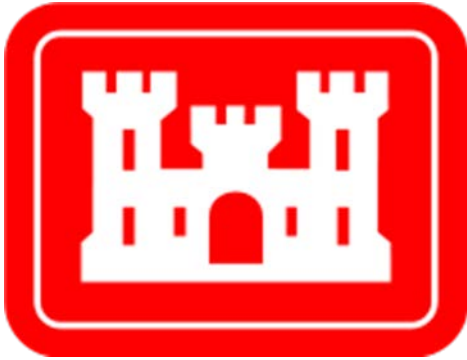
GOVERNING PUBLIC USE  
OF CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
WATER RESOURCES  
DEVELOPMENT PROJECTS



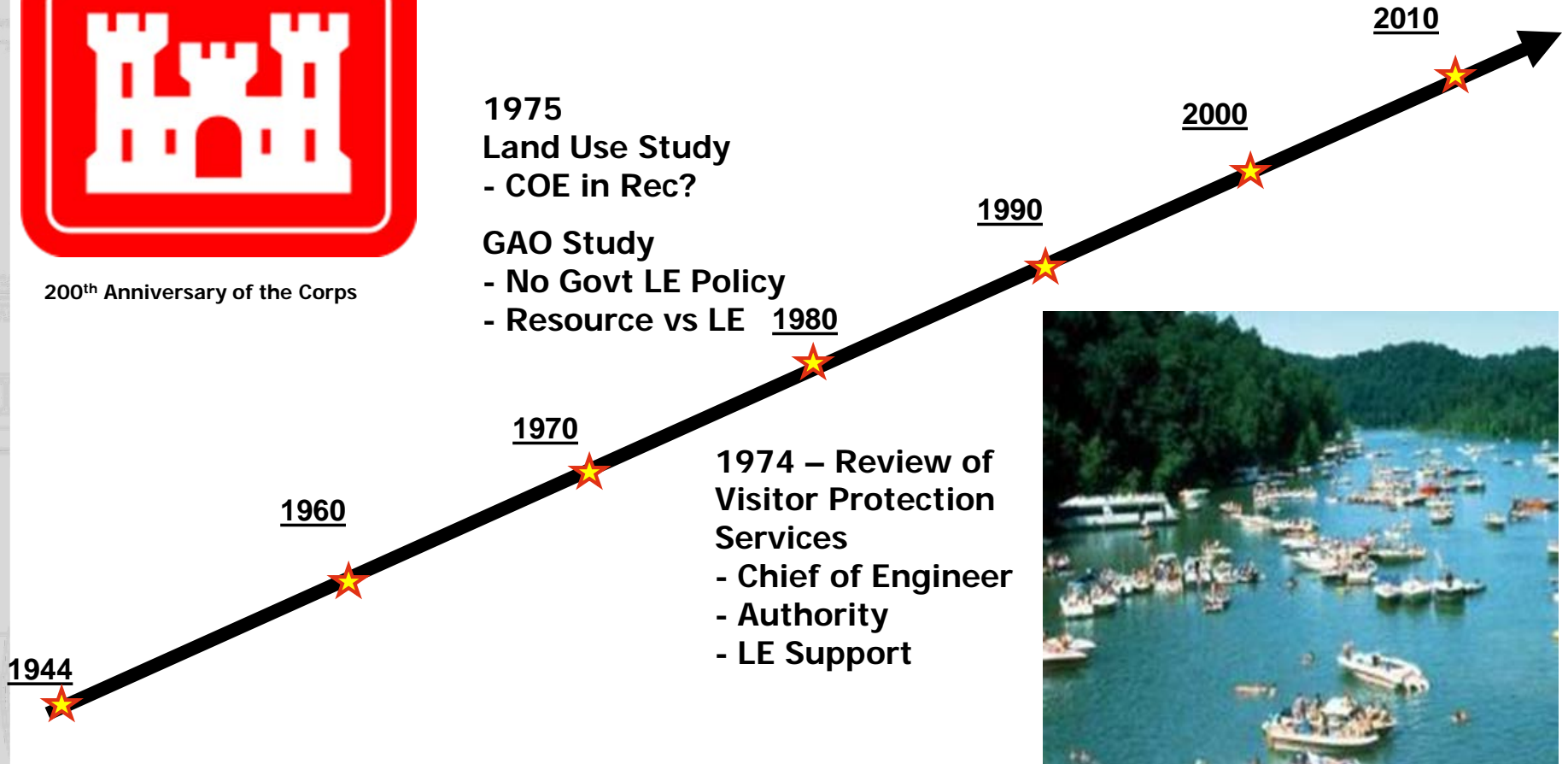
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of Engineers



# NRM MILESTONES - STUDY



200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Corps



**1975**  
Land Use Study  
- COE in Rec?

GAO Study  
- No Govt LE Policy  
- Resource vs LE



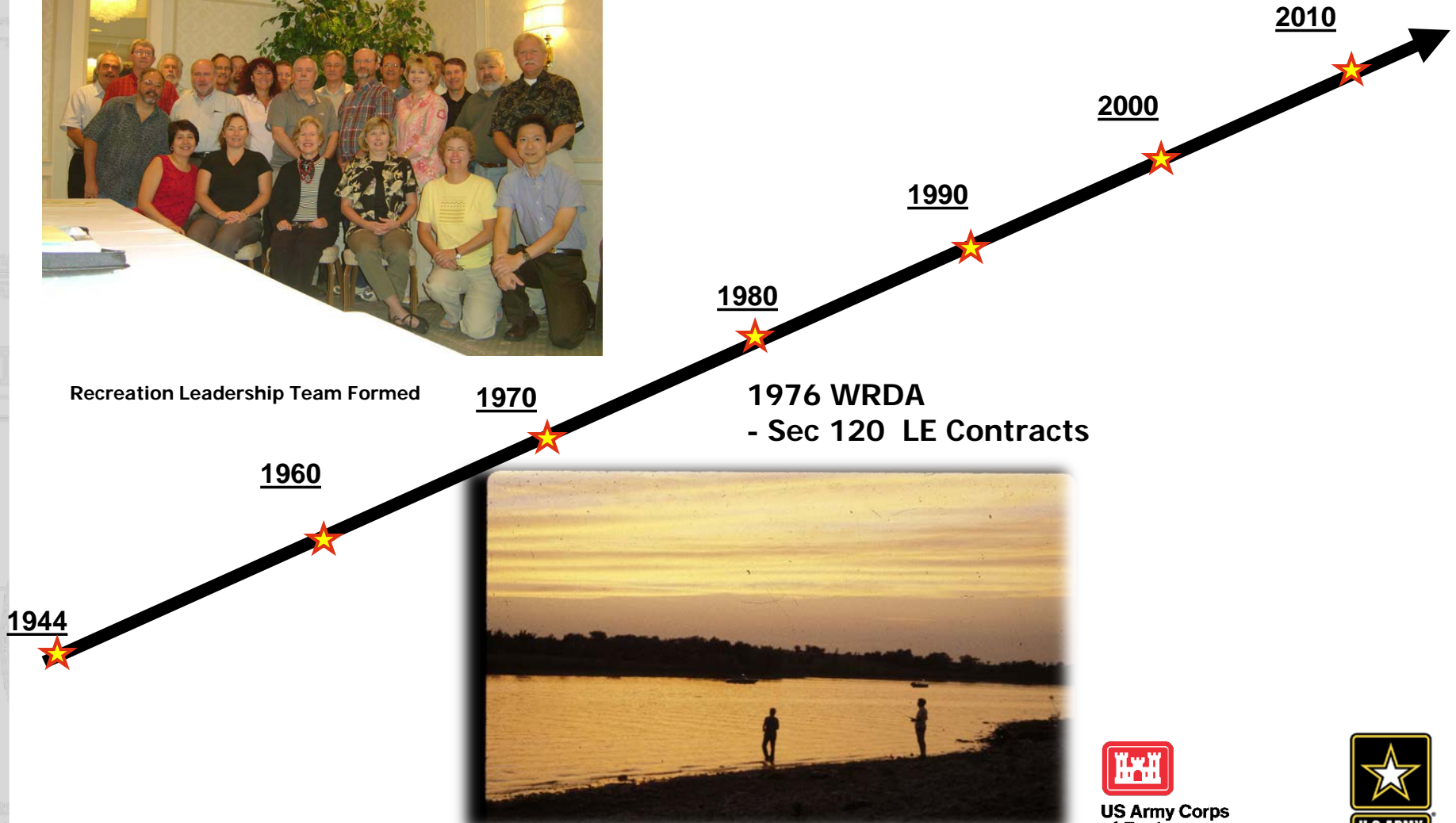
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# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



Recreation Leadership Team Formed



1960

1944

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

1976 WRDA  
- Sec 120 LE Contracts



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# 1976 – WATER RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT ACT - SECTION 120

Authorization to establish Law Enforcement Contracts.

“It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers to provide, to the extent of its authorities, a safe and healthful environment for public use of lands and waters at Civil Works water resource development projects. To insure this safe and healthful environment, and to augment the citation authorities granted to the Corps of Engineers”

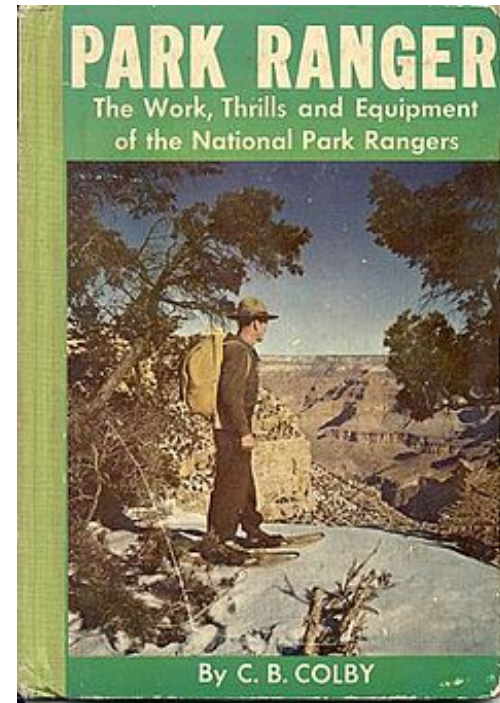


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# 1977 – THE TURNING POINT IN VISITOR ASSISTANCE FOR CORPS PARK RANGERS

Two separate incident involving Corps of Engineers Park Rangers.



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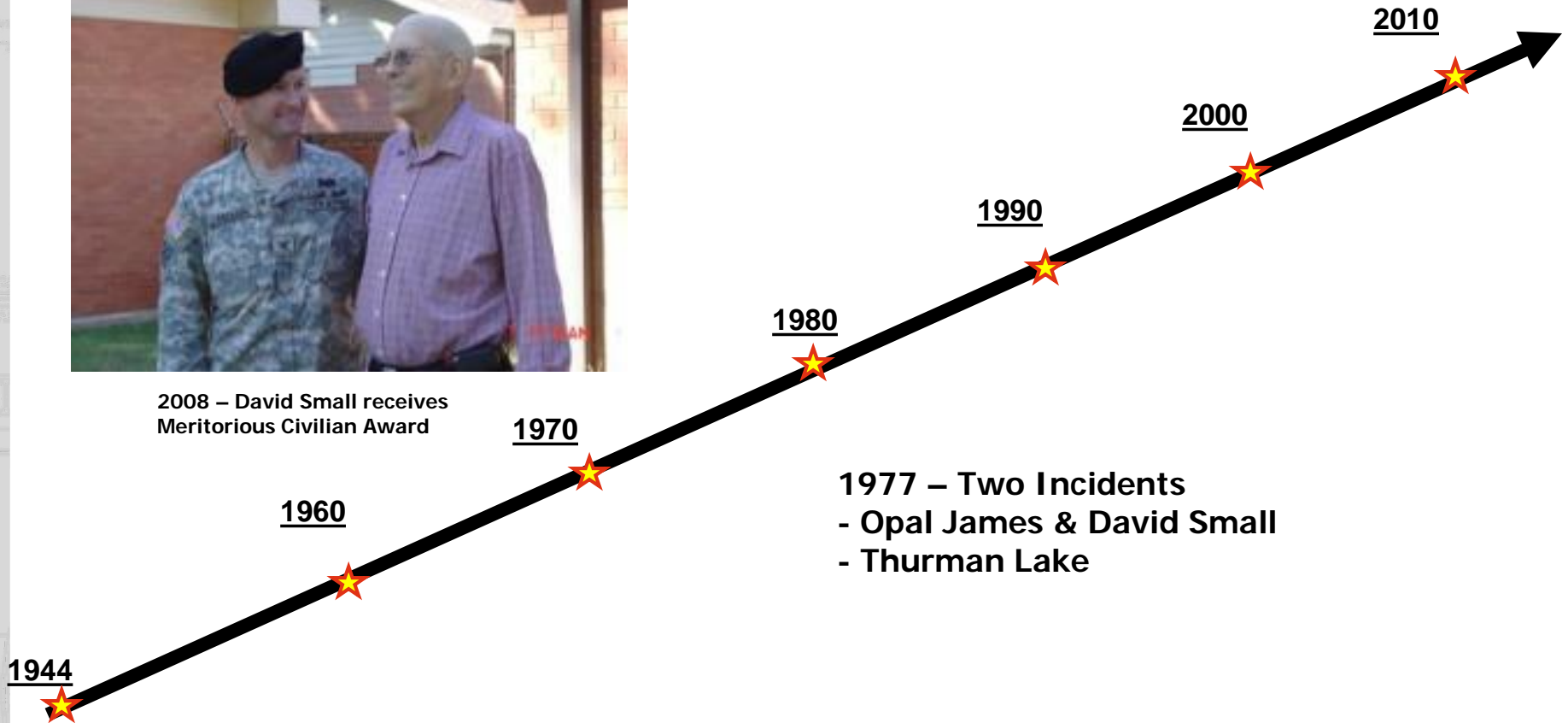




# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT



2008 – David Small receives Meritorious Civilian Award



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# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY

This image shows a sample of a National States Election Form (NRM). It is a complex document with multiple sections and fields, including checkboxes and text boxes, used for reporting election results and administrative data.

T 36 Updated

1960

1944

1970

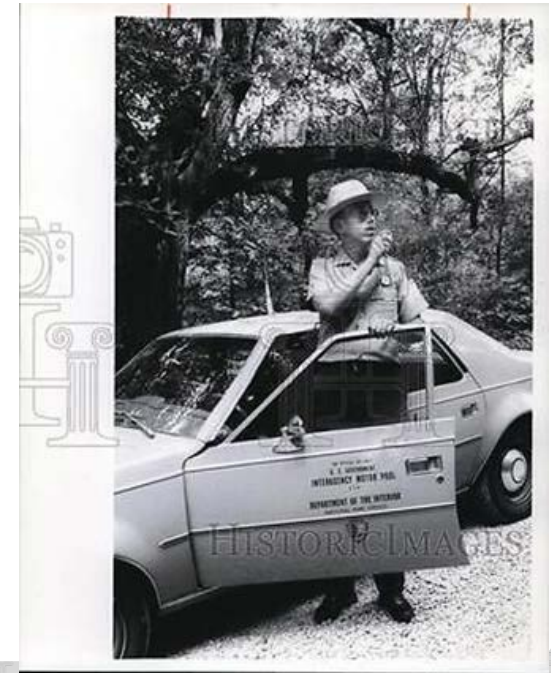
1980

1977 – LE Contracts  
ER 1130-2-418

1990

2000

2010



# NRM MILESTONES - STUDY



Archeological Resources  
Protection Act of 1979

1960

1944

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

1979 VA Task Force / Policy  
ER 1130-2-420  
- Multiple Recommendations  
- Corps Sponsored VA Trng



LTG John W. Morris "Park  
Rangers are the Corps Face  
to the Nation"



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# 1979 – ER 1130-2-420

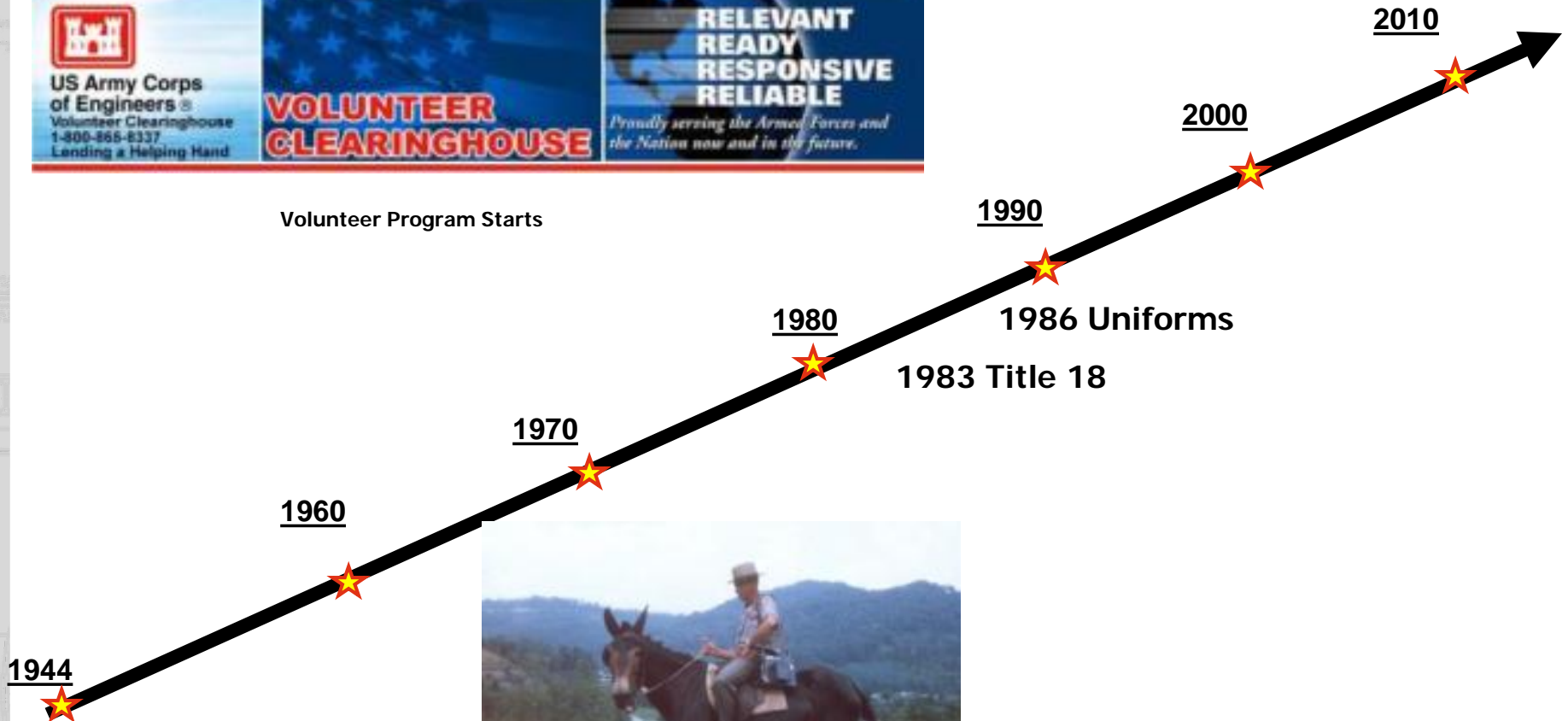
Program Policy and guidance established and Corps –  
Sponsored VA training initiated.



# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



Volunteer Program Starts



1944

1960

1970

1980

1983 Title 18

1986 Uniforms

1990

2000

2010



Park Ranger John Bowling and "Jake",  
Buckhorn Lake, KY, Mule Patrol – circa  
1980



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# 1983 - TITLE 18 -PARK MANAGERS AND PARK RANGERS INCLUDED AMONG FEDERAL OFFICERS PROTECTED AGAINST ASSAULT.

In General. - Whoever - (1) forcibly assaults, resists, opposes, impedes, intimidates, or interferes with any person designated in section 1114 of this title while engaged in or on account of the performance of official duties; or (2) forcibly assaults or intimidates any person who formerly served as a person designated in section 1114 on account of the performance of official duties during such person's term of service, shall, where the acts in violation of this section constitute only simple assault, be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than one year, or both, and where such acts involve physical contact with the victim of that assault or the intent to commit another felony, be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 8 years, or both.

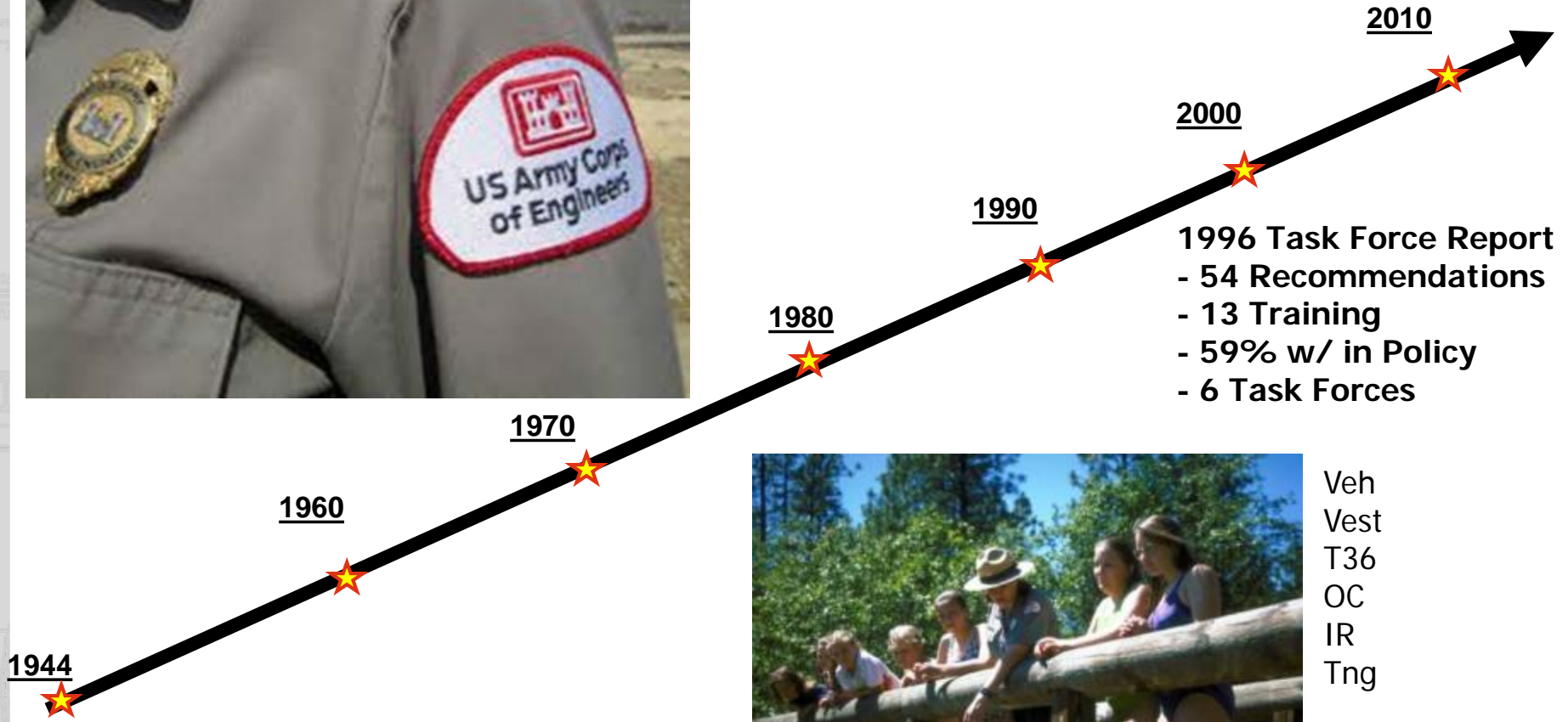
(b) Enhanced Penalty. - Whoever, in the commission of any acts described in subsection (a), uses a deadly or dangerous weapon (including a weapon intended to cause death or danger but that fails to do so by reason of a defective component) or inflicts bodily injury, shall be fined under this title or imprisoned not more than 20 years, or both.



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# NRM MILESTONES - STUDY



**1996 Task Force Report**  
- 54 Recommendations  
- 13 Training  
- 59% w/ in Policy  
- 6 Task Forces



Veh  
Vest  
T36  
OC  
IR  
Tng



# 1990 – 2000 – STUDIES TO DETERMINE VISITOR/RANGER SAFETY

Started to define “Visitor Assistance.”

Broadened Training Requirements to require;

- Verbal Judo
- Safe Self
- Self Defense



## Verbal Judo's 5 Universal Truths of Human Interaction

All People Want to Be:

1. Treated with dignity and respect
2. Asked rather than told to do something
3. Told why they are being asked
4. Offered options rather than threats
5. Given a second chance

~Dr. George Thompson



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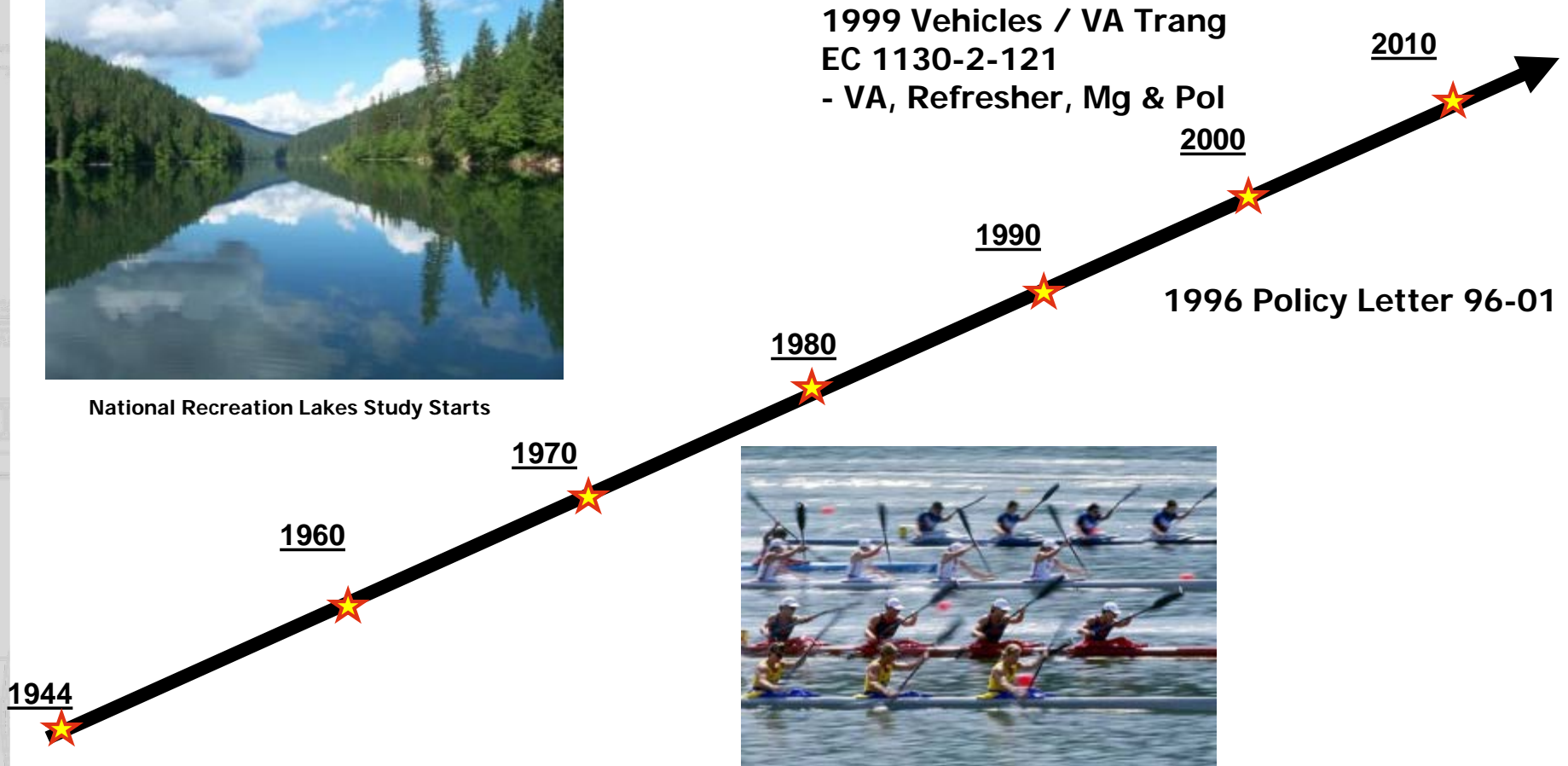




# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



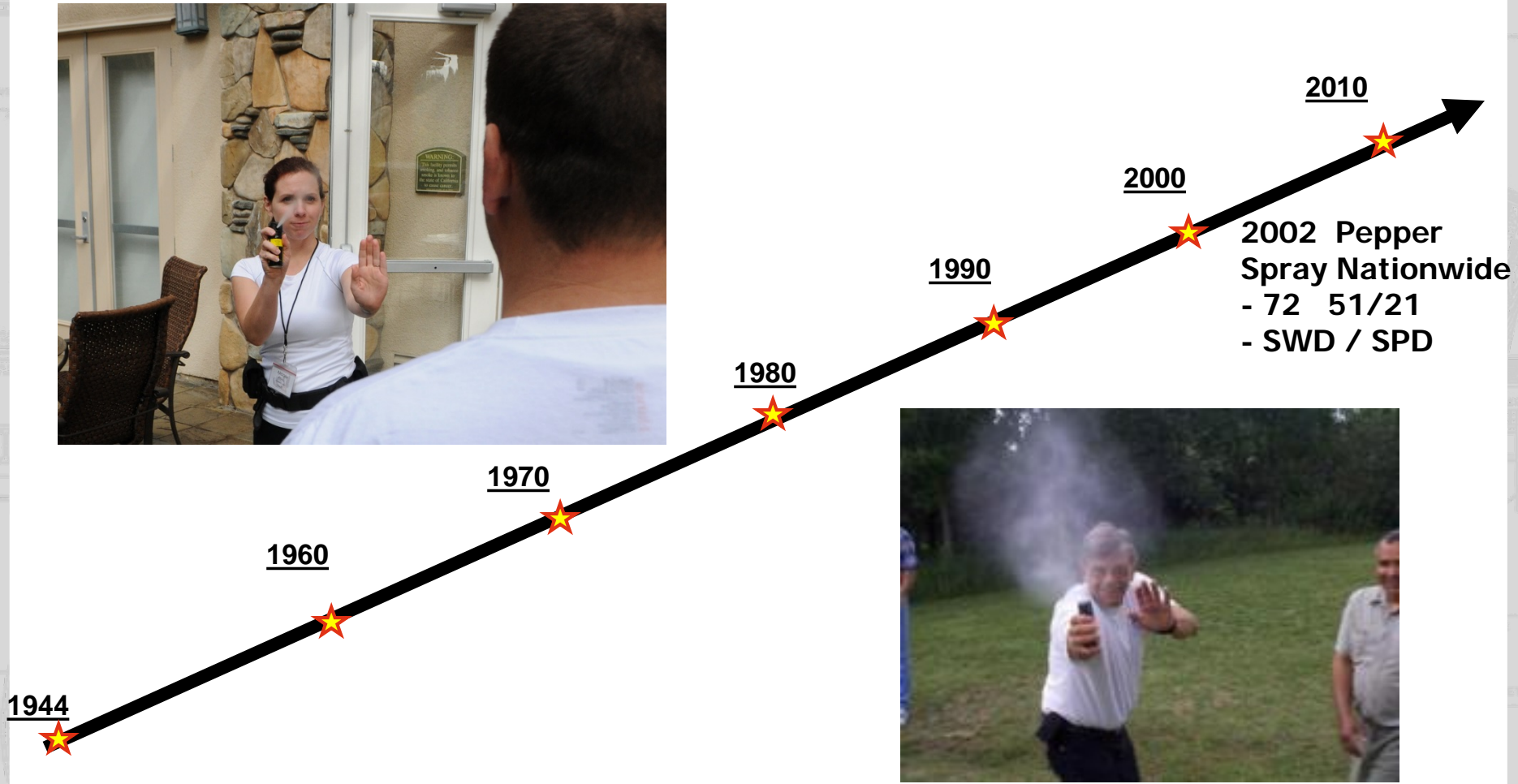
National Recreation Lakes Study Starts



Olympic Rowing at Lake Sidney Lanier



# NRM MILESTONES - STUDY



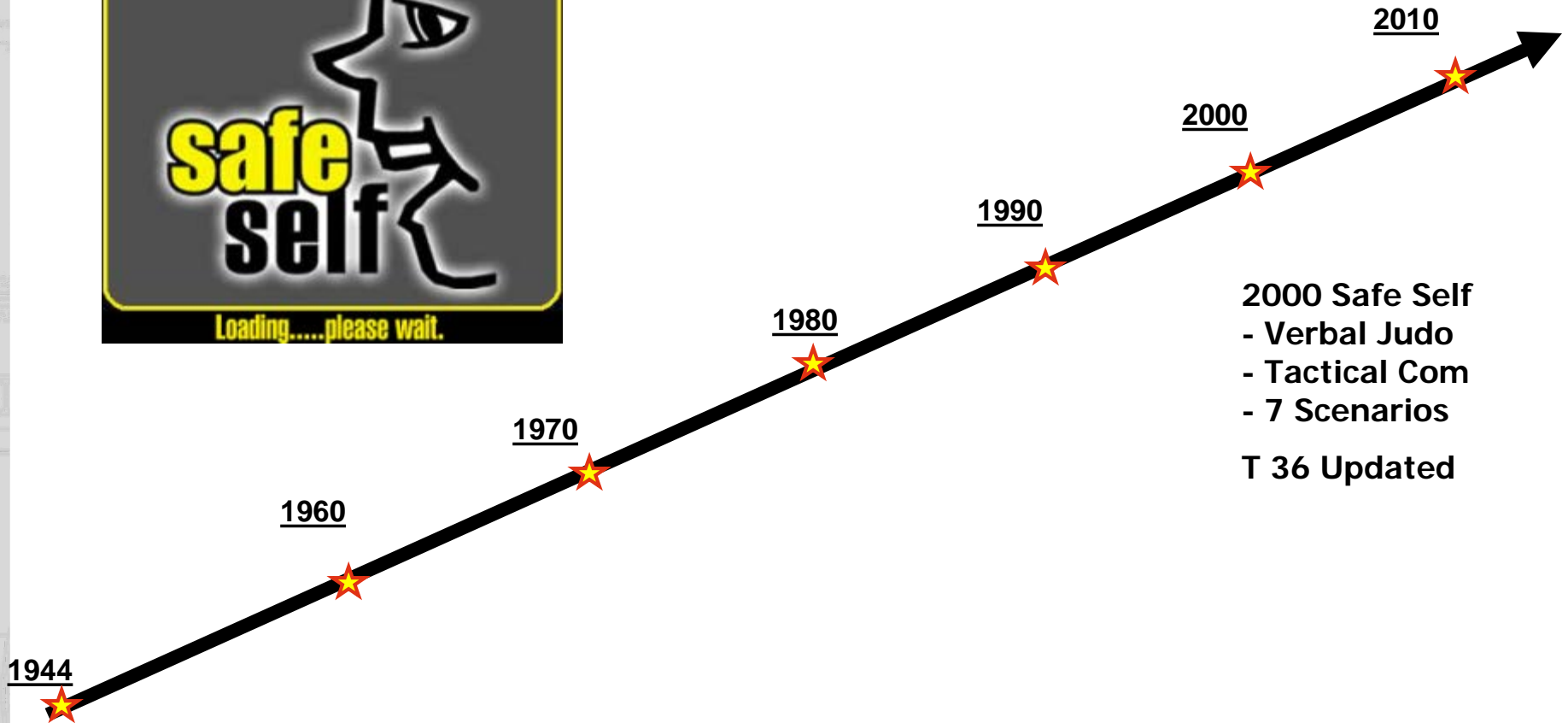
Fog Pepper Spray



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# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



- 2000 Safe Self
  - Verbal Judo
  - Tactical Com
  - 7 Scenarios
- T 36 Updated



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# 2002 – EC 1130-2-214 OLEORESIN CAPSICUM (PEPPER SPRAY)

The pepper spray program is authorized to be implemented.



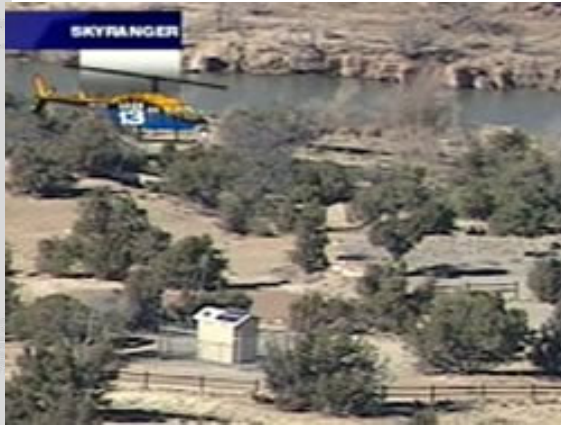
2004 – Pepper spray training was incorporated into the Visitor Assistance Basic training course.



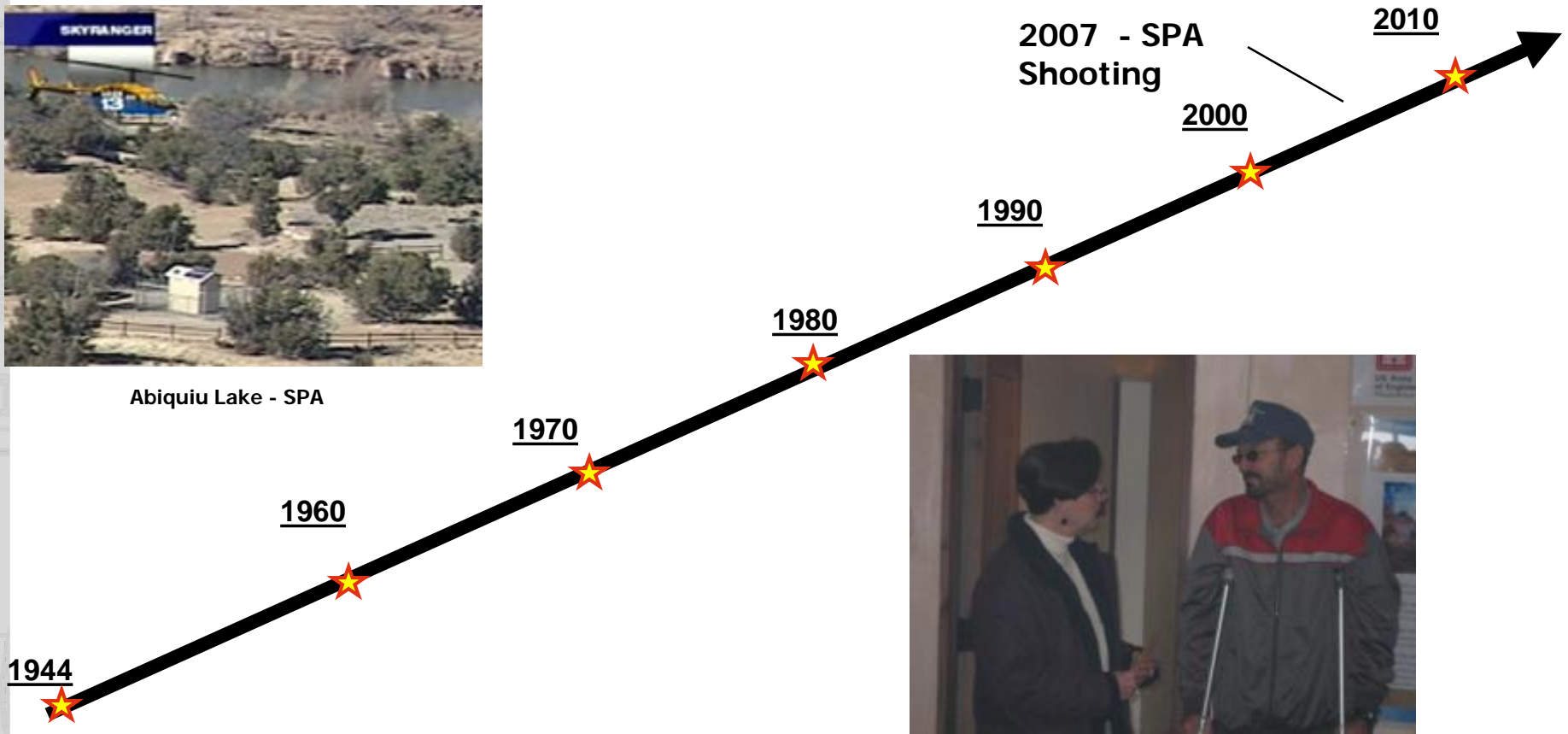
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# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT



Abiquiu Lake - SPA



1944

1960

1970

1980

1990

2000

2010

2007 - SPA Shooting



Mary Coulombe and Alfred Chavez



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# 2008 – DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR POLICY ON C & C

DOI (NPS, BLM, USFWS, ETC) changes regulation on conceal and carry.

- Constitutional Carry - the legal carrying of handgun, both openly and/or concealed, without the requirement of a government permit.
- Ten States allow Constitutional Carry – Alaska, Arizona, Arkansas, Idaho, Kansas, Maine, Mississippi, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming
- Morris Vs. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- David James and GeorgiaCarry.org V. USACE



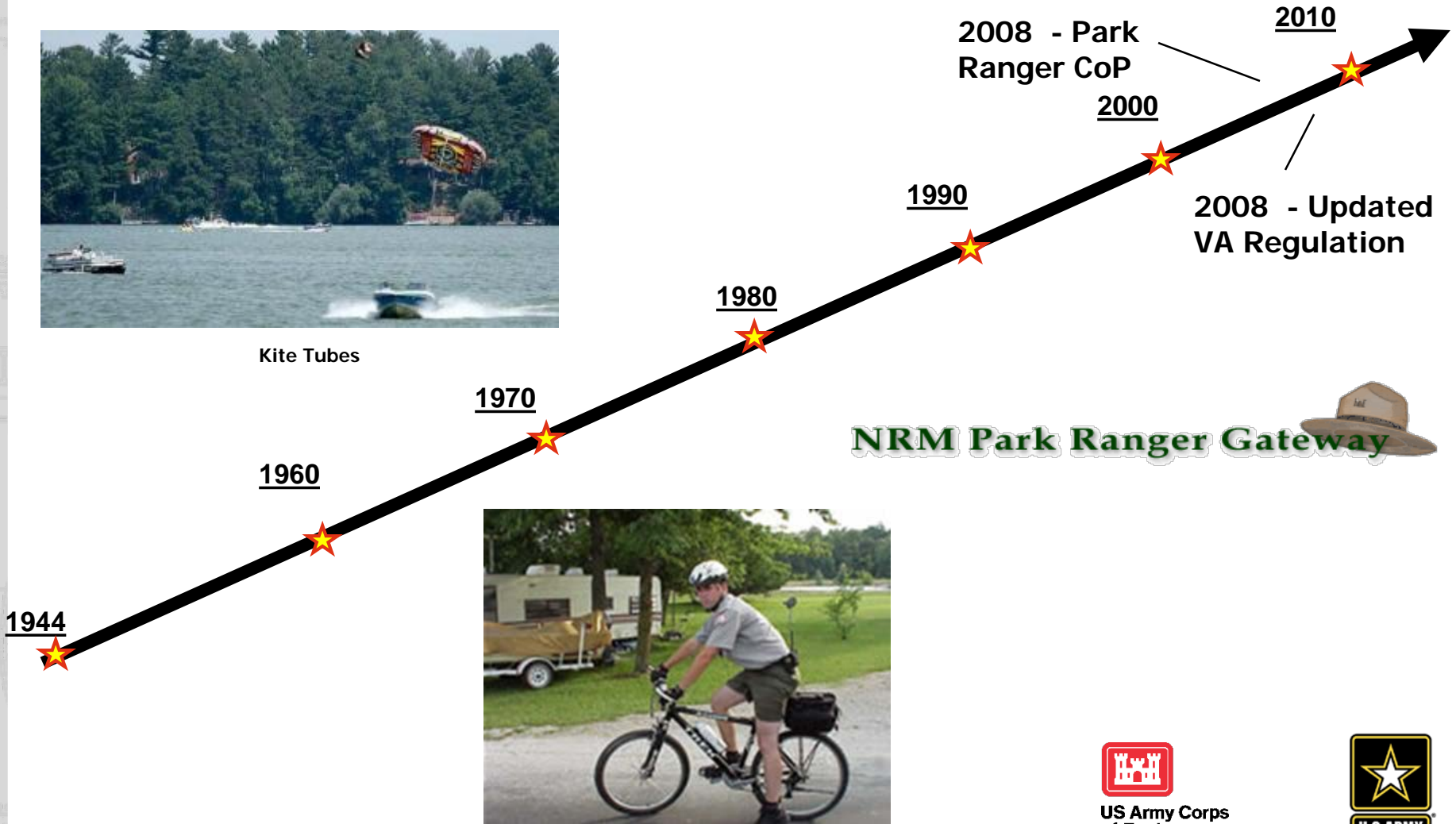
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# NRM MILESTONES - POLICY



Kite Tubes



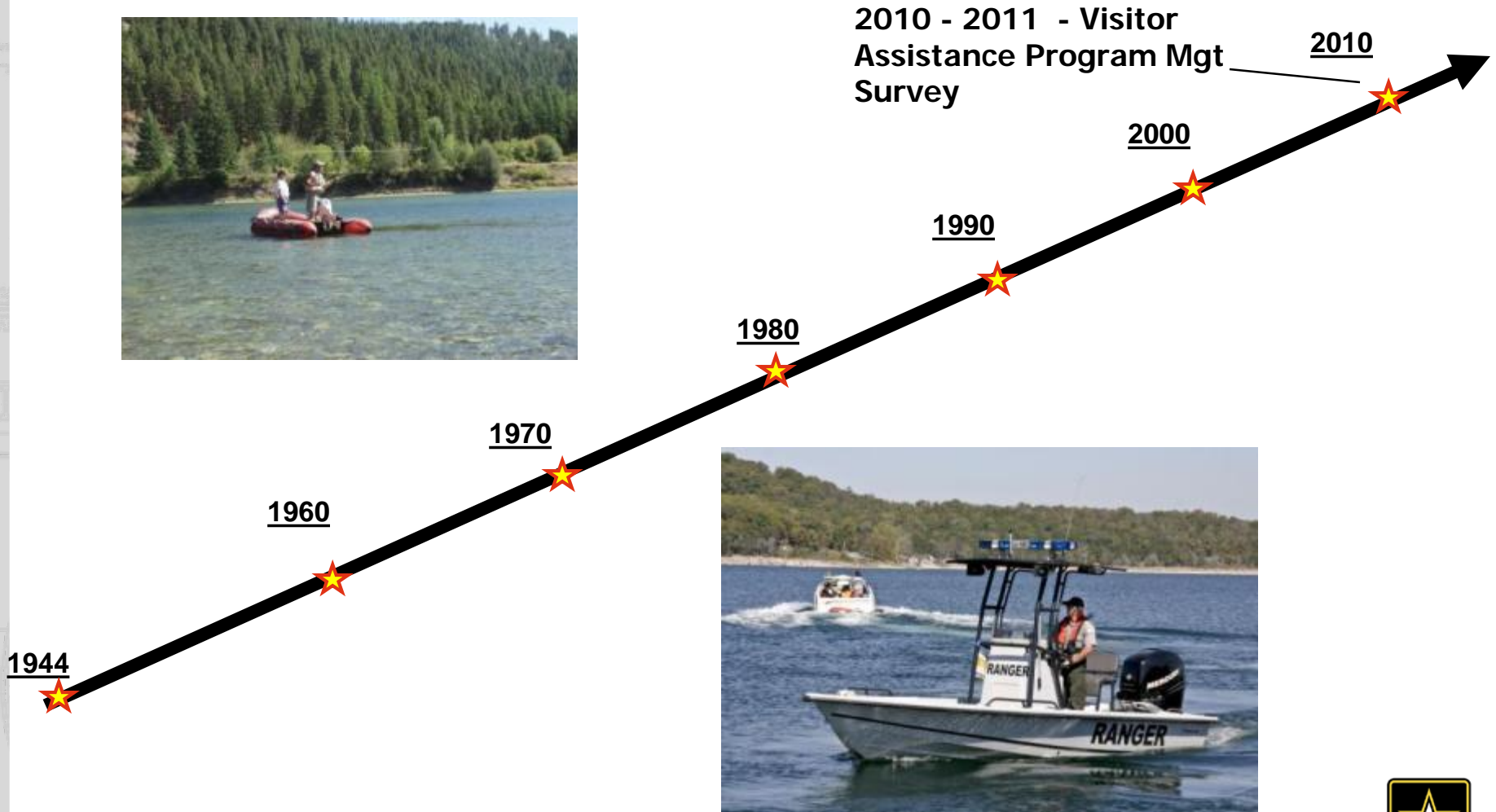
NRM Park Ranger Gateway



US Army Corps of Engineers



# NRM MILESTONES - STUDY



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# 2010 – VA SURVEY (MSU)

## Surveyed Park Rangers Nationwide

- The role of the Corps Park Ranger will remain intact with no changes
- Tightened up VA Training
- Law Enforcement Agreements
- Communication Equipment
- Patrol Procedure

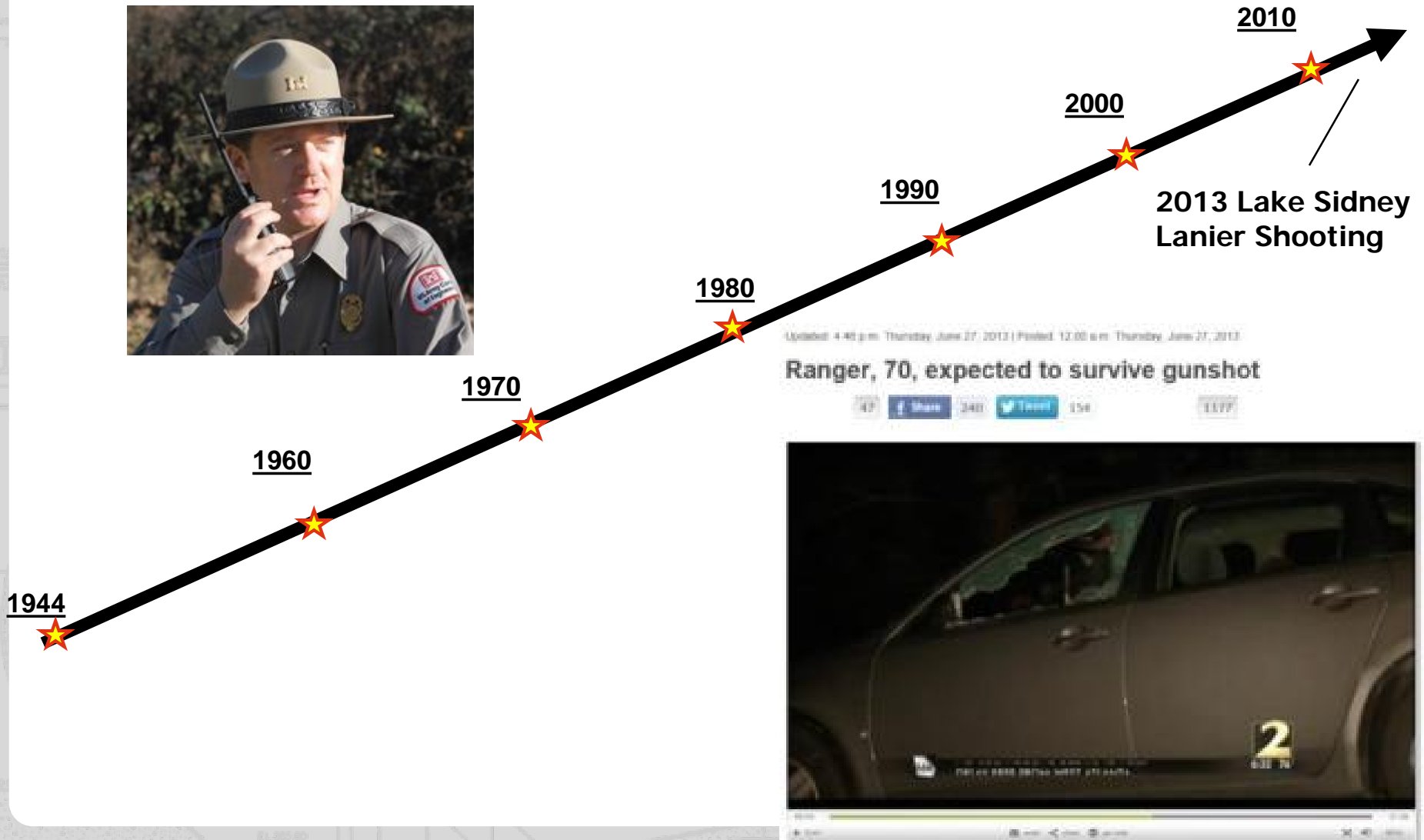
“Park Rangers will remain as regulation enforcers and perform duties as specified under ER/EP 1130-2-550, Chapter 6, Visitor Assistance Program which states, in part, that USACE park rangers are not law enforcement officers, nor do they carry weapons, perform searches, or detain individuals. The protection of facilities or the enforcement of rules shall always be secondary to the safety of Corps personnel, contract employees, and visitors. I encourage everyone to educate our stakeholders, partners and visiting public about the role of the USACE park ranger”



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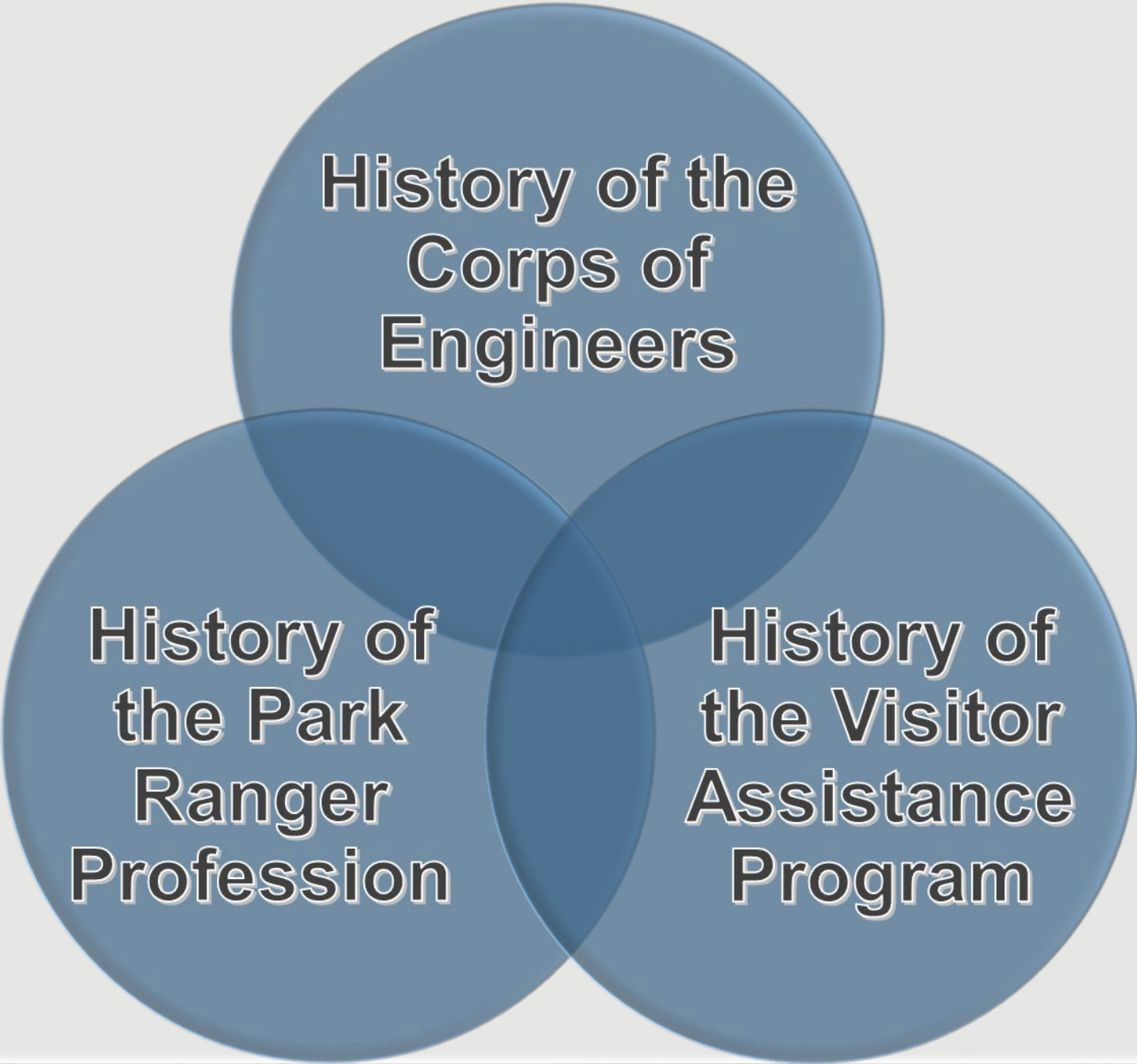


# NRM MILESTONES - EVENT



Updated: 4:40 pm Thursday, June 27, 2013 | Posted: 12:00 am Thursday, June 27, 2013  
**Ranger, 70, expected to survive gunshot**  
47 | [Share](#) 340 | [Tweet](#) 156 | [1177](#)





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# HISTORY OF THE USACE PARK RANGER

Tennille Hammonds and Heath Kruger



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