



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG.

For Immediate Release:
August 23, 2017
Release No.

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Water Willow Planting at West Point Lake

MOBILE, Ala. – On July 29, 2017, Natural Resource Specialists from the West Point Lake Project Management Office, Fishery Biologists from the Georgia Department of Natural Resources and 40 volunteers from bass fishing clubs throughout West Georgia, planted 2000 water willows in designated shoreline areas of West Point Lake. This planting work day was part of an ongoing aquatic vegetation project that began three years ago.



The purpose of the aquatic vegetation project is to establish native vegetation around the lake's shoreline for fish cover and erosion control. Volunteers planted test sites with water willow in 2014 and 2015. Observations of these sites showed that the plants were able to survive the winter lake level draw down. The planted sites are well established and most are increasing in size.

This year funds were granted by Shimano Inc. and the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Improvement Program to continue the water willow plantings. Park Rangers identified 20 new planting locations near the confluence of Wehadkee, Stroud, and

Veasey Creeks. During the planting work day, each location was planted with 100 water willow plants.

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