

News Release

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Army Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Team has New Partner

WASHINGTON - Lt. Gen. Robert Van Antwerp, Chief of Engineers, and Peter Lewis, President of the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation (CNREF) Board of Directors, signed a Memorandum of Understanding marking the beginning of this landmark partnership during the Environmental and Natural Resources Conference in San Antonio on Oct. 30.

CNREF breaks new ground as the only national non-profit advocacy organization dedicated to stewardship of environmental, cultural, educational, and outdoor recreational resources associated with the Corps national Natural Resources Management mission. The foundation will bring potential partners together with the Corps to support approved but unfunded natural resources projects.

Once the foundation receives information from Corps projects, it will determine whether there are activities that meet its supporting criteria of emphasizing long-term community engagement with the Corps, volunteerism, education and interpretive services, and environmental stewardship. Activities the foundation decides to support must have the necessary environmental clearances, planning documentation, and partners already engaged or identified.

CNREF will also support the Corps through individual and corporate memberships open to everyone, including current Corps employees and Corps alumni. Through CNREF, Corps officials envision benefits to project sites that include improvements to hiking trails, development of interpretive brochures, campground rehabilitations, development of teacher education materials, habitat restoration, and protection of cultural sites.

For more information about CNREF, visit their Web site at www.Corpsfoundation.org. For more information on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers lakes, please visit http://www.corpslakes.us.