

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fiscal Year 2012
Handshake Program Application**

Please review instructions before completing application!

Corps Lake/Project Name: **Clinton Lake, Lawrence, KS**

Handshake Proposal Title: **Rockhaven Equestrian Park Natural Resource and Public Safety Fencing**

Corps POC Name: **Ue Gehrt, Operations Project Manager**

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A. Partnership Project Type:

- ☒ **Challenge Partnership Project**
☐ **SCA Intern/Work Crew Project**
☐ **Combined Challenge Partnership and SCA Project**
-

B. Handshake Funding Program Request (maximum \$25,000): \$7,400

C. Challenge Partnership Eligibility Checklist (skip if SCA project only):

1. Is the funding going to be spent at Corps facilities and resources that are being maintained at 100% federal expense? ☒ **Yes** (eligible) ☐ **No** (not eligible)*
2. Is the agreement with a non-federal public or private entity(ies)? ☒ **Yes** (eligible) ☐ **No** (not eligible)*
3. Is the proposed activity within current authorities and contained in the annual or 5-year work plan in the approved OMP? ☒ **Yes** (eligible) ☐ **No** (see # 4)
4. If No for #3, when will the OMP be updated and approved? (Example: Sept 11) **

**Proposal cannot be authorized under the Corps' challenge partnership authority.*

*** If date provided in answer to question 4 would come after the commencement of your proposed challenge partnership your activity can not be authorized.*

D. Cooperating Association Agreement Bonus: (skip if SCA project only)

Challenge Partnerships that include an organization (cooperating associations, friends groups) with which your project/district has recently (after January 1, 2009) entered into a Cooperative Agreement are eligible to compete for an additional \$5000. You must include a copy of the signed agreement with your proposal. (Reference Chapter 9 of ER and EP 1130-2-500 for information on cooperating associations).

Date of Cooperating Association Agreement: (must be after January 1, 2009 to be eligible).

E. Incentive Points Categories: Check the box for each category that applies to your partnership project and include an explanation in the project description (Section F.). Qualifying applications will receive bonus points on their evaluation score.

☐ Includes a veteran's and/or military family organization. Groups must be an intended signatory to the agreement in order to qualify for the bonus points.

☒ Americas Great Outdoors – <http://americasgreatoutdoors.gov/> - Contributes to USACE efforts to accomplish USACE action items identified in AGO report: List action item #: **1.3, 8.1, 10.**

☒ National Recreation Strategic Plan- <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/visitors/strategy.cfm> – Contributes to USACE efforts to accomplish goals and objectives: List objective #: **1 and 3.**

F. Describe your partnership and the proposed project:

Your project will be evaluated on the following categories: **Sustainability, Partnership Value, Recreation Benefit, Environmental Stewardship Benefit, Communication and Education Value, and Innovativeness.** Please address each in your description. Also address incentive point categories you have identified in Section E. If the project involves a SCA intern/crew please include the number of SCA volunteers that will be involved and describe what they will be doing.

Description:

Overview: This project will provide 2,000 feet of fencing to delineate the campground area from the native prairie and wooded area to improve natural resources management and safety at Rockhaven Park at Clinton Lake. Rockhaven Park is the only equestrian campground at Clinton Lake. The park provides access to over 50 miles of public equestrian trails. The campground is growing in popularity due to the many park improvements implemented over the past 2 years. Thanks to ARRA funding, we have added a small shower building, a shelterhouse, 8 corrals, and 12 electric sites to this 50 site campground. With the increased popularity comes increased damage to the natural resources in the park as well as additional safety concerns. Currently there is fencing that delineates the campground area around approximately one third of the park. Horses often encroach into the wooded areas and native prairie meadows surrounding the campground in the two thirds of the park that is not fenced. Also, there is a safety risk to riders and the animals should a rider lose control resulting in a horse bolting into the unfenced area.

National Recreation Strategic Plan Goals: This project meets the goals of the National Recreation Strategic Plan by providing a low cost, sustainable, safe, effective, and reliable fence that meets the needs of our visitors while lowering the operating cost of the project. Through careful research, collaboration with our partners, and cost/benefit analysis we have developed a plan for the fencing that meets all of the project and stakeholder needs

Americas Great Outdoors Goals: This project meets the objectives of several of the goals of this important program. It enhances the goal to improve the recruitment and management of volunteers. There are three different trail groups that use Clinton Lake equestrian trails. They periodically come together to improve the trail system, but they are a loosely organized group. This project will enhance the organization of these groups and help bring about a more cohesive effort to maintain and improve the Clinton Lake trail system. The project also meets the goal of improving the natural resource management at the project. The fence project will help conserve the forest and native prairie ecosystem in Rockhaven Park by limiting horse access to these areas of the park.

Finally, this project provides the opportunity to demonstrate how effective of a conservation partner the Federal Government can be. By leveraging \$7,400 in partnership funds, we can mobilize our stakeholders to volunteer over \$10,000 of time and materials to complete this project. This is an outstanding example of how to complete a project to benefit all involved through this public-private partnership.

A. Sustainability: The materials were chosen for the project to ensure a long lasting, low maintenance fence. We looked at the cost, longevity, and safety of many products including wood posts, t-posts, various woven fence products, poly type cables, steel pipe posts and steel cables. After consulting with equestrian experts and weighing the cost and longevity we determined that a fence construction of steel pipe posts and 4 strands of stainless steel cables would be the most sustainable design. This design is of benefit to the Corps of Engineers as it will require very little on-going maintenance and will last at least 30 years.

B. Partnership Value: The 3 partners for this project will be completing 95% of the physical labor for the project and also providing almost half of the materials. The partners will provide the welders for the project which is a significant cost. The partners will be providing over half of the cost of building this project.

C. Environmental Stewardship Value: This project will greatly contribute to the physical improvement of the environment around Rockhaven Park. The current park design permits the encroachment of horses into the native forests areas of the park. Owners tie their horses to the hickory and oak trees around the perimeter of the campground, and the horses crib (or gnaw) on the tree bark, thus eventually killing the tree. Also, because horses are constantly grazing, they eat the small grasses, forbs, shrubs, and brush that make up the bottom layer of the forest. As a result, the perimeter of the campground is continually moving out, encroaching on our native forest. Also, the horseriders have been tying their horses out in the native grass field just to the west of the campground. Horse-grazing is not the intention of establishing these native grass fields. Instead, they were put in with our native flora and fauna in mind. The grazing should be left to the native whitetail deer, rabbits, and turkey, and the habitat should be enjoyed by the mice, reptiles, birds, and fox. Horses are not native to, nor are they beneficial to, our native grass plantings. By installing our proposed fence, we would better contain the horses to the intended areas within the campground boundaries, eliminating the encroachment upon our native forests, fields, and wildlife.

D. Recreational Benefit: Our fencing project will improve the recreational experience of multiple users. First and foremost, the fence would benefit our horseriders. Though the horses must be tied up or within the provided corrals when in our park, horses will occasionally break free or throw a rider. This fence would provide a sense of safety and ease to horseowners, knowing that in the unfortunate chance their horses get loose, the horse will still be contained within the boundaries of the park. Additionally, this fence, which will eliminate the encroachment of the horses into our native areas, will aid the hunters. While the areas immediately adjacent to the campground are not open to hunting, there are public archery hunting areas on both sides of the park area. With the protection of our native habitats, the wildlife will thus be protected, also. As a result, hunting opportunities will improve in the area. Ultimately, the installation of the fence and the containment of the horses which will result will benefit the adjacent private landowners which are horseowners, also. Horses are herd animals, so they are driven to be with other horses. We have had a few instances where loose animals from Rockhaven Park have migrated to private lands, thus interfering with horseowners on their own private property. Last, but not least, if the campground continues to grow outward, it could ultimately affect the trails which run close by the campground. By eliminating the encroachment of the campground area into the native areas where the trails are, we benefit those hikers and horseriders (day users and campers) who use the trails.

E. Communication and Education Value: The installation of this fence will increase the public understanding of the Corps' mission. The Corps is charged with providing recreation opportunities; however, they must also protect our natural resources. By installing this fence, the Park Rangers will get many questions and comments from the users which will open the door to the Rangers so that they can explain the need for the horses to remain in their designated area and the consequences to the environment and the park if that does not happen. Also, while working closely with the different volunteer groups, Ride Kansas and the Clinton Lake Trailbusters, Rangers can speak one-on-one with the lake's stakeholders and user groups about the Corps' mission. The publicity generated by this volunteer project will enhance the image of the Corps of Engineers and educate the public regarding the many recreational opportunities provided at Corps of Engineers Projects.

F. Innovativeness: This project is innovative in its partnership because it will bring not only the Corps together with its stakeholders, but also it will bring different riding groups, private landowners, and horse stables together. This fence-building project will bring many different groups together toward a common cause and will foster future relationships amongst these groups. As these relationships become stronger, more partnerships are sure to ensue and these groups will again combine for the common cause of improving Rockhaven Park and its corresponding trail system.

The Corps will:

Provide funding through the handshake partnership program to purchase the fencing cable and connectors. The Clinton Lake staff will procure the material, provide project management oversight of the project, and assist the partners in publicizing the project in order to help recruit more volunteers and celebrate the partnership program and volunteerism in the region.

The Partner(s) will:

Clinton Ridge Stables will donate the steel fence posts, and Ride Kansas will provide volunteers to weld the connectors to the fence posts. Additionally, Ride Kansas, Clinton Trailbusters, Let's Ride, and the Douglas County Trail Riders will provide volunteer labor to assist with installation of the posts and fencing. None of the funding will be coming from grants. All four riding groups will help with publicity and recruitment of volunteers to assist in the installation.

Handshake Application Financial Work Sheet

Partner Organization 1: Ride Kansas Trail Club

POC Name: Diana Skinner

Address: 1007 E. 700 Rd. City: Lawrence State: KS Zip Code: 66047

Telephone: 7857480850

Partner Organization 2: Clinton Ridge Stables

POC Name: Keith and Sandy Gilliland

Address: 721 N. 1032 Rd. City: Lawrence State: KS Zip Code: 66047

Telephone: 7857489862

Partner Organization 3: Clinton Trailbusters

POC Name: Sandy Gilliland

Address: 721 N. 1032 Rd. City: Lawrence State: KS Zip Code: 66047

Telephone: 7853317674

Partner Organization 4: Let's Ride

POC Name: Ken And Susan Johnson

Address: 20643 S. Paulen Rd. City: Overbrook State: KS Zip Code: 66524

Telephone: 7852200590

Partner Organization 5: Douglas County Trail Riders

POC Name: Bruce Leclair, President

Address: 816 N. 1750 Rd. City: Lawrence State: KS Zip Code: 66049

Telephone: 7858408196

Partner Organization 6:

POC Name:

Address: City: State: Zip Code:

Telephone:

Partner Organization 7:

POC Name:

Address: City: State: Zip Code:

Telephone:

Partner Organization 8:

POC Name:

Address: City: State: Zip Code:

Telephone:

Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields:

| | Local Corps Office | Handshake Funds | SCA | Partner 1 | Partner 2 | Partner 3 | Partner 4 | Partner 5 | Partner 6 | Partner 7 | Partner 8 | Total |
|----------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|------------|------------|------------|-----------------|
| In-Kind Services | \$1,500 | N/A | \$0 | \$4,000 | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$500 | \$500 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$7,500 |
| Travel | \$0 | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Materials and Supplies | \$0 | \$7,400 | N/A | \$450 | \$3,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$10,850 |
| Equipment Use | \$350 | \$0 | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$350 |
| Funds Contributed | N/A | N/A | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Personal Property | N/A | N/A | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Volunteer | N/A | N/A | \$0 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$500 | \$500 | \$500 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$2,500 |
| SCA Intern/Crew | \$0 | \$0 | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Other (explain below) | \$0 | \$0 | N/A | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 |
| Total | \$1,850 | \$7,400 | \$0 | \$5,450 | \$3,000 | \$1,500 | \$1,000 | \$1,000 | \$0 | \$0 | \$0 | \$21,200 |
| Share of Total Cost | 9% | 35% | 0% | 26% | 14% | 7% | 5% | 5% | 0% | 0% # | 0% | 100.0% |
| | | | | | | | | | | | | |

Explanations: The Handshake funds will be used to buy the 4 strands of cable, cable connectors, and cable installation tools. The Clinton Lake staff will complete the purchasing for the project, serve as project managers, and lead publicity for the project. The Corps will also provide equipment for drilling holes for the post and unloading materials. The partners will supply material for the posts, provide the labor for the installation, and help with recruiting volunteers. The labor to be donated includes skilled welders, carpenters, and construction laborers. The partners will also assist in publicity for the project. None of the partner costs are dependent on grants or contributed funds. The materials are on hand and will be voluntarily donated for the project.