

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Fiscal Year 2013  
Handshake Program Application**

**Please review instructions before completing application!**

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Corps Lake/Project Name: **Caesar Creek Lake**

Handshake Proposal Title: **Adena Trace Fitness Trail**

Corps POC Name: **Joseph Bertolini Or Kim Baker (513)897-1050**

Telephone: **(513) 897 - 1050** ext.

E-Mail: **joseph.j.bertolini@usace.army.mil or kimberly.k.baker@usace.army.mil**

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**A. Eligibility checklist:**

1. Is the seed money going to be spent at Corps facilities and resources that are being maintained by the Corps at 100% expense? \* ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**
2. Is the agreement with a non-federal public or private entity(ies)? \* ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**
3. Is the proposed activity within current authorities and contained in the annual or 5-year work plan in the approved OMP? \*\* ☒ **Yes** ☐ **No**
4. If no, when will the OMP be updated and approved? (example: Sept 10)

*\*If "No" to either question 1 or 2 the proposal cannot be authorized under the Corps' challenge partnership authority.*

*\*\* If "No" to question 3 and the date provided in answer to question 4 would come after the commencement of your proposed challenge partnership your activity can not be authorized.*

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**B. Handshake Funding Program Request (maximum \$30,000): 20,000**

**C. Cooperating Association Bonus:** Challenge Partnerships that include a Cooperating Association with which your project/district has 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).

**D. Incentive Points Category:** Check the box if your Lake/Project qualifies to receive bonus points on the evaluation score for submitting partnership success stories/GETS. Also include an explanation of the GETS submittal and the date of submission below the check box.

☒ Partnership Success Stories/Good Enough to Share Submittals: Facilities that provided at least one partnership success story from previous activities may qualify for bonus points. Please check box if you have submitted a GETS or Partnership Success Story in Fiscal Year 2012

**E. 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.

**Description:**

The project consists of the addition of a community fitness/exercise trail with environmental stewardship learning pod play stations along the existing Adena Trace Trail. The Adena Trace Trail is a 3/4 mile loop trail located on site at the Caesar Creek Lake Visitor Center. The adjacent Visitor Center Interpretive Trail and connecting pathways will be included as a walking portion of the new fitness trail, making the total trail length just over 1 mile, an ideal distance and location for this addition.

**Sustainability**

The Interpretive Trail is marked by five wayside interpretive panels, educating visitors about natural resources, native prairies, water safety, succession, forestry and flood control. Visitors are also guided down the existing Adena Trace Trail by using an interpretive brochure which highlights these resource issues, as well as other natural resource topics (natural resource management, pond life, insects and volunteerism). These interpretive contacts provide additional opportunities for educating and informing the public about the Corps, its missions and the natural areas the Corps maintains. In addition to supporting community fitness and recreation by adding active exercise stations, we plan to also provide children play pods which are playground equipment with additional educational stewardship themes such as forestry or wildlife.

**Partnership Value**

Partnershiping with the Boy Scouts of America (BSA), Dan Beard Council, Hopewell District, Troop #51 will support a Life Scout /Eagle Scout candidate who will develop the plan and execute the placement of the interpretive signs at each of the nine stations as his Eagle Scout Leadership Service Project. Pending approval from the Dan Beard Council for this proposed Eagle Scout Project, he will plan, layout, coordinate and organize the labor for site preparation and placement of the signs, setting and securing the posts, installation of the signs, and restoration of the site to a usable condition utilizing the members of BSA Troop #51. Each sign will be secured with concrete. The BSA contribution to the accomplishment of this portion of the project is estimated at \$1,500.00

"Friends of Caesar Creek Cooperating Association", a non-profit independent organization dedicated to preserving the projects natural resources through educational, historical programs and activities, will partner with the Corps on this proposed facility improvement by contributing funds in the amount of \$35,000 towards the purchase of the fitness equipment and materials. This expanded facility will bring fitness enthusiasts of all ages to the recreation area, as well as to the Visitor Center, giving the Friends group the opportunity to provide additional educational exposure to the visitors in conjunction with the Association's mission to provide: "Education Through Preservation".

The nine fitness stations include a welcome sign and the exercise stations placed at designated location along the trail. Each fitness station includes signage explaining proper exercise technique and usage, correct body position and the muscle groups targeted at the station. A printed user guide will also be available that provides information on adult fitness, how to create an effective exercise program, exercise variations available at the station and how to modify the workout to increase the physical levels of challenge for a more intense workout. The guide will also provide an area for tracking personal progress and accomplishment as a motivational tool for the user. This is located at the Regional Visitor Center making it a recreational focal point for the community.

### Recreation Benefit

Along with the exercise site will be a number of play stations that will contain a fun exercise play pocket. The play pocket will combine exercises and environmental activities in an interactive, thought provoking activity format allowing families to interact and engage together, enhancing the total experience. These pods are commercially available through playground suppliers and provide interpreted stewardship themes. Clearance for environmental and cultural resources will be obtained from the District Office Planning Division prior to site construction. Site preparation and installation will be performed using Caesar Creek Lake maintenance staff.

### Environmental Stewardship Benefit

The Friends of Caesar Creek is headquartered at the Visitor Center, one of two class A visitor centers located in the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division, and conducts educational and interpretive programs from this facility. It is hoped by creating a “fitness trail”, additional visitors will also increase visitation through the visitor center, allowing more of the public to not only take advantage of the opportunity to “Get Outdoors”, but also benefit from the exposure to the variety of programs offered by the Friends of Caesar Creek and the projects Park Ranger team. The programs offered through the facility have special emphasis on local, regional and national Corps missions, water safety, local and regional history and preservation and enhancement of the natural resources and the unique ecosystems in the area. The Visitor Center has numerous displays, educational and interpretive information that educates and enlightens the visitors regarding the missions, the unique geological, historical and ecological features of the area, along with the diverse plants and animals communities found in the region.

### Communication and Education Value

This trail will support an active lifestyle by providing an area for children and their families to get outdoors. The trail provides a place for families to participate in activities such as circuit training, hiking, stretching, and walking. To our knowledge, this trail would be the first of its kind, innovative in that it provides a new concept of community based recreation and fitness while providing environmental stewardship during the activity.

Caesar Creek Lake's proximity to the major cities of Cincinnati, Columbus and Dayton provides diverse groups of people the opportunity to explore the natural world and learn about conservation and the Corps. Providing the equipment and fitness opportunities would appeal to many visitors who frequent the park. It is hoped; this will bring a new and untapped segment of the public to the facility to take advantage of the education, play and enhanced exercise opportunity offered by this additional facility.

All of our recreation sites are utilized for a variety of compatible activities such as bike races, triathlons, marathons and trail runs. The addition of this fitness trail equipment would have direct appeal and application to those who already use the project facilities and give new opportunities for all to come out and enjoy physical fitness activities in a natural, outdoor setting.

### Inovativeness

This proposed project will provide a unique opportunity for this area - No other recreation facilities in the local area provides a fitness trail within a natural setting. Also the unique interpretive play pods will provide a family educational activity as children and adults will both have activities along the trail where together they can experience physical fitness and learn about stewardship at the play pods together. The proposal enhances the community based recreational value of the regional visitor center by providing a fitness/exercise trail in a natural setting alongside other interpretive trails, and in addition will have themed playground pods based on environmental stewardship interspersed to encourage families to participate jointly in fitness and environmental education.

D. Incentive points category. Partners in Action Success Story was Submitted by Caesar Creek Lake and was accepted August 31, 2012 . USACE and Warren County Telecommunications partnered to obtain a replacement radio system with integrated function allowing direct communications with the county system.

**The Corps will:**

Provide all labor necessary to install the equipment and necessary concrete pads and complete any heavy construction activities for placement.

**The Partner(s) will:**

Friends of Caesar Creek will provide funds to purchase a portion of the fitness trail equipment.

Life Scout and Eagle Scout candidate will provide the volunteer labor from the Boy Scouts of America, Dan Beard Council, Hopewell District, Troop #51 of Waynesville, OH to place interpretive signs for the exercise stations.

## Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Caesar Creek Lake

Work Project Title: Adena Fitness Trail

POC Name: Joseph Bertolini Or Kim Baker (513)897-1050

Address: 4020 N. Clarksville Rd City: Waynesville State: OH Zip Code: 45068

Telephone: 5138971050

Location on Project: Caesar Creek Lake

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Partner Organization 1: Friends of Caesar Creek

POC Name: Darlene Long

Address: 4020 N. Clarksville Road City: Waynesville State: OH Zip Code: 45068

Telephone: 5138971060

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Partner Organization 2: Boy Scouts of America, Troop #51

POC Name: Bill Gourley

Address: 1015 Rose Petal Ct City: Waynesville State: OH Zip Code: 45068

Telephone: 5138972762

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Partner Organization 3:

POC Name:

Address: City: State: Zip Code:

Telephone:

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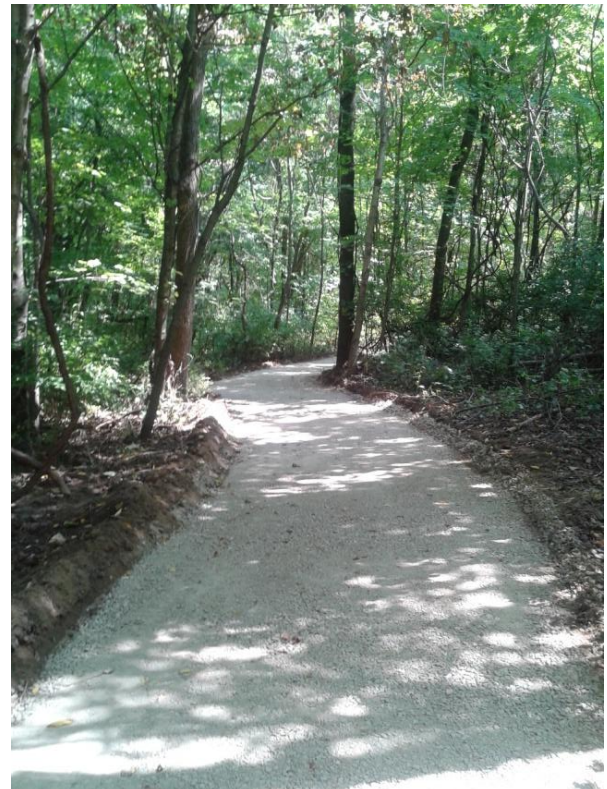
Proposed start date of work:

Simple description of work to be accomplished through the partnership: Completion of a 1 mile family friendly fitness trail

Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields:

	Local Corps Office	Handshake Funds	Partner 1	Partner 2	Partner 3	Total
Salaries	\$11,000	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$11,000
Travel	\$0	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials and Supplies	\$0	\$20,000	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$55,000
Equipment Use	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Funds Contributed	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personal Property	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Volunteer	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$1,500	\$0	\$1,500
In-Kind Services	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$13,000</b>	<b>\$20,000</b>	<b>\$35,000</b>	<b>\$1,500</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$69,500</b>
<b>Share of Total Cost</b>	18.7%	28.8%	50.4%	2.2%	0.0%	100%





**Where section C meets section B of the trail leading back to the picnic shelter – exercise stations and Stewardship play pods would be placed along the trail strategically for adults and children.**



**Where the Existing picnic shelter meets trail, the open space will allow for playground themed play pods or groups to use the exercise stations in an environmental setting.**





**Themed interpretive play pads give kids the opportunity to exercise their mind while exercising their bodies.**







Mushrooms



**Themed equipment would be grouped together to give a Cohesive feel to the trail and allow parent child interaction at the equipment site.**







**A wide variety of equipment options exists that provides integrated, interesting, physically and mentally stimulating activities for users of all ages and demographics. These units will be used to ensure a mixture of options exist for these users and provided an assortment of appropriate outdoor fitness options.**



## Caesar Creek Lake FITNESS TRAIL



**Proposed Layout of the One Mile Fitness Trail to be located at the Visitor Center  
Recreation Area at Caesar Creek Lake.**

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
U.S. Army Engineer District, Louisville  
Corps of Engineers  
Miami River Area Project  
4020 N. Clarksville Rd.  
Waynesville, Ohio 45068-9408

CEORL-OP-MR (1130)

February 3, 2011

Memorandum Thru: *ML 4 Feb 2011* Dave Liagre, Chief, Technical Support Branch *DL 2-9-11 (OP-10)*  
Rick Morgan, Chief, Operations Division *RM*

For: COL, Keith A. Landry, Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville

1. Enclosed is the documentation to renew the Cooperative Agreement between the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and Friends of Caesar Creek Lake Cooperating Association.
2. The format and content of the Cooperative Agreement is in accordance with EP-1130-2-500.
3. The Association has retained its status as a non-profit organization with the Internal Revenue Service and continues to be a volunteer organization dedicated to educating the public about the natural resources of the Caesar Creek Lake Region. They have supported educational, scientific and historical activities by offering various public workshops and interpretive programs that support the Corps of Engineers missions and operate a regional interest book cart at the Visitor Center.
4. Attached are copies of the Cooperative Agreement signed in 1991 and in 2001. Also included is a copy of the Associations Annual Report for 2010.

Kim Baker



Park Ranger

Liaison to the Friends of Caesar Creek  
Caesar Creek Lake



**Cooperative Agreement  
United States Army, Corps of Engineers  
and the  
Friends of Caesar Creek Cooperating Association**

**This Cooperative Agreement is for the mutual benefits of both parties and is between the U. S. Army Corps of Engineers, Louisville District (hereinafter referred to as the "Corps"), and the Friends of Caesar Creek Association, a non-profit organization, (hereinafter referred to as the "Association"), acting through the Chairman of the Board of Directors or the Board's designee.**

**Witnesseth:**

**WHEREAS, the Corps operates the Caesar Creek Lake Visitor Center at Caesar Creek Lake, Ohio for public recreation and the understanding of the Corps missions at the Caesar Creek Project; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Corps achieves its operational goals for natural resource management through a wide range of activities, programs and events; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Corps operates its program for the benefit of the public. The public requires information and facilities for the safe and appropriate use of Corps projects. This information is conveyed through a variety of interpretive media such as programs, exhibits, and displays which rely heavily upon the use of audio material, photographs, models, interactive displays, lectures, artifacts and other materials which illustrate the Corps, its missions and activities in and around Caesar Creek as well as the archeological, natural and cultural history of the area; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Corps natural resource management program fosters the stewardship of our natural resources, cultural environment; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Corps and the Association mutually recognize there are significant national public benefits to a visitor center which use interpretive techniques and supports the Corps goals for education, perpetuation of national pride, preservation of national heritage, safety, and the enjoyment of the people of the United States; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Association has as its purpose the interpretation for the public's benefit and education of the archeological, natural, cultural, and historical environment, and the Association intends to assist the Corps in its interpretive activities at Caesar Creek Lake through the use of its programs, exhibits, displays and materials. As resources become available the interpretive purpose of the Association may include C. J. Brown, Brookville, and William Harsha Lake Visitor Centers in the future. Thus, the Association shall be known as the Miami River Cooperating Association supporting Friends of Caesar Creek, Friends of Brookville, Friends of C. J. Brown and Friends of Harsha Lake.**

**WHEREAS, the Association has the authority to assist the Corps in its presentations to the public of the natural, cultural, historical and project related features of the Caesar Creek Lake through program, exhibits and materials;**

**WHEREAS, the Corps has authority, pursuant to Federal Water Recreation Act, Public law 89-72; the National Historic Preservation Act, as amended, Public Law 89-665; the National Environmental Policy Act, Public Law 89-190; and Archaeological Resource Protection Act, as amended, Public Law 96-95, to provide Natural Resources Management programs, activities and interpretive functions; and,**

**WHEREAS, the Corps wishes to accept and the Association wishes to provide the hereinafter described interpretive and educational services to the visiting public at Caesar Creek Lake.**

**NOW THEREFORE, the parties agree as follows:**

**1. The Corps authorizes the Association to provide, and the Association agrees to provide, the hereinafter described interpretive and educational services; and/or research and scientific services and/or maintenance services to the visiting public.**

**2. CORPS RESPONSIBILITY.**

**A. Timely Review and Approval.**

**1. The Corps agrees to review and give necessary approvals or disapproval in a timely manner to the Association for any and all proposals, programs, special events, suggestions and other activities that the Association might wish to engage in.**

**B. Use of Government Facilities**

**1. Should the Association, as part of its cooperative activities, require the use of Corps facilities at Miami River Projects, the Corps agrees, that in recognition of the services the Association is contributing to the public, provide at no cost to the Association such facilities, utilities, janitorial services, and routine and general maintenance when incidental to the normal operation of the facility by the Corps.**

**2. Should the Association require facilities, utilize and services over and above what the government would normally require for the operation of the facility, or area used by the Association, the Association will reimburse the Corps at an agreed upon, but nominal cost in recognition of the services that the Association is contributing to the public.**

### **3. ASSOCIATION RESPONSIBILITIES**

#### **A. Corporate Requirements**

- 1. The Association's Article of Incorporation and By-laws comply with the requirements of the state in which the Association is incorporated. Non-profit 501(c)(3) status must be maintained in accordance with state and federal laws. The Association will make available for inspection, at the request of the Corps, documents demonstrating non-profit status.**
- 2. This agreement will automatically terminate if non-profit 501(c)(3) status is not maintained.**
- 3. The Association shall have liability insurance which indemnifies, saves, holds harmless, and defends the United States against all fines, claims, damages, losses, judgements and expenses arising out of, or from any omission, or activities of the Association in connection with activities under the agreement.**
- 4. The Association will exercise reasonable care to prevent damage to any Government property used, or occupied during its operation and shall, insofar as possible, protect all such property.**

#### **B. Interpretive Activities**

- 1. The Association may offer educational and interpretive services that support the missions of the Corps and/or the projects. This includes assisting, planning, designing, implementing and conducting interpretive and educational programs, activities and exhibits.**
- 2. The Association may offer scientific research, maintenance and/or other services, which support the missions of the Corps and their natural resource management program. This includes assisting, planning, designing, implementing and conducting scientific research, maintenance programs, activities and exhibits.**
- 3. The Association will cooperate with the Corps in the following activities:**
  - a. Produce and make available to visitors by sale or free distribution, suitable interpretive and educational literature and aids to increase the visitors understanding and appreciation of the natural history, cultural, historical and man-made features of the project(s) area and the Corps of Engineers.**
  - b. Assist in the development and improvement of interpretive devices, and educational materials including signs, exhibits, material, and audio-visual aids.**



- c. Assist in the sponsorship and coordination of professional workshops, training opportunities and special events.
- d. Assist in all practical ways with the interpretive, educational and community programs of the Corps and the project (s) for the benefit of the American public.
- e. The Association may set up a contribution box at field offices, visitor centers and other appropriate locations. The box should fit into the decor of the facility and be approved by the Operations Manager. The contribution box will be locked and have a sign stating that the funds received will go to the Association and their use.

### **C. Sale Option**

1. As part of this Agreement, the Association may operate a sales area on a continuous or intermittent basis.
2. The Association is hereby authorized to sell and/or distribute interpretive and educational items such as publications, maps, audiovisual aids, crafts, and other objects directly related to the interpretation and educational themes of the project (s), visitor center region and Corps. The Corps may request the Association to sell specific items of interpretive value.
3. The Association shall order, inventory, stock, and otherwise manage all items offered for sale and/or distribution.
4. The Association will sell only items that are appropriate and of high quality. The Association will not sell any item that has not been approved by the Operations Manager or an authorized representative. The Association will sell items at their fair market value and prices of the said items will be submitted and approved in writing, in advance by the Operations Manager.
5. The Association will not sell any original artifacts, sacred items, or antiquities to which the Archaeological Resource Protection Act, as amended, would apply, whether or not such items were discovered on lands owned or controlled by the United States.
6. The Association may provide beverage vending machines in the Corps recreational areas to support and enhance the visitor services. The Operations Manager must approve the location of the machine (s).
7. The Association will display the sale items in good taste and in keeping with the general design and decor of the facility which houses the sale area.
8. Association sales are restricted to a location approved by the Corps, which will be kept clean and presentable at all times.

#### **D. Fiscal Management.**

- 1. The Association will conduct its fiscal operations in accordance with accepted business practice. This includes the appropriate use of a funds accountability system, purchase orders, receipts, invoices, and inventory records.**
- 2. The Association shall annually (within 135 days following the end of each fiscal year) submit a complete financial report to the Corps that includes a written summary of the Association activities of the year.**
- 3. The Corps may review the fiscal records of the Association at any time during the term of this Agreement.**

#### **4. JOINT RESPONSIBILITIES.**

##### **A. Donation of Interpretive Services or Material.**

- 1. The Association may, at the discretion of its Governing Board, loan material and/or services to the Corps. The Corps reserves the right to accept or decline without obligation, any service or loan by the Association.**
- 2. The Corps will take reasonable precautions to protect items loaned by the Association, but assume no other responsibility for these items. The Corps will return loaned property or items as requested by the Association.**

##### **B. Personnel.**

- 1. The Association and the Corps shall designate, in writing, an Association member and a Corps person and alternate who will act as points of contact for the purpose of implementing this Agreement.**
- 2. The Association will provide such personnel as are reasonably necessary to conduct, operate and manage its cooperative activities. This does not preclude Corps personnel, during the course of their normal duties, from assisting the Association with nominal duties, including sales.**
- 3. Corps personnel may not serve in a voting capacity on the governing board, or as Treasurer for the Association. Corps personnel may serve in an advisory capacity on the Association's governing board or committees. Corps personnel may not act as the official representative of the Association in any matter relating to the Corps, or the terms of this Agreement. However, if the Association has a membership program, Corps personnel may join and participate in membership activities.**

4. The Corps will orient all Association personnel, staff and/or volunteers with regards to Corps rules, regulations, and requirements, particularly with regard to the project and facilities, safety, and appropriate emergency procedures. Association staff and volunteer involved in visitor center contact will receive additional orientation in regard to interpretive services. All orientation will be conducted prior to assumption of duties.

5. Association employees or volunteers may not wear the Corps uniform, or items of clothing that resemble the uniform. Employees and volunteers of the Association, when working at duties that bring them into contact with the public, will wear visible identification that identifies them as an association employee or volunteer.

#### 5. ASSIGNMENT.

No transfer of this Agreement or any part thereof or interest therein, directly or indirectly, voluntary or involuntary, shall be made by the Agreement unless approved in writing by the Corps.

#### 6. MODIFICATIONS AND AMENDMENTS.

Modifications and amendment to this agreement in the form of Supplemental Agreements may be made from time to time upon mutual consent of the District Commander for the Corps and the Board of Director of the Association.

#### 7. DURATION.

This Agreement shall be effective for five years commencing on the day following the ratification of this agreement by the Corps. This agreement will automatically renew for another five years period on October 1 of the last year, unless notice of cancellation is given by either party before the date of renewal. The Corps reserves the right to terminate the agreement, or any part thereof, at any time upon written notice. Prior to giving notice, the Corps will meet with the Association to set forth the reasons for such termination.

#### 8. MISCELLANEOUS.

A. The rights and benefits conferred by this agreement shall be subject to the laws of the United States governing the Corps of Engineers and to the rules and regulations promulgated thereunder whether now in force or hereafter enacted or provided; and mention of specific restrictions, conditions, and stipulations herein shall not be construed as in any way impairing the general powers of supervision, regulation and control by the Corps.

B. This Agreement in no way obviates the responsibilities of the Corps, or the Association as may be required by a Lease Agreement. In situations where the Association leases facilities or areas for the Corps, this Agreement would automatically become null and void upon the termination or cancellation of the Lease Agreement.



C. The Association agrees that all its activities shall be conducted in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations, both state and Federal.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Association has caused this agreement to be executed this

Feb. 2 day of Feb., 2011.

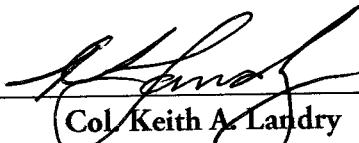
FRIENDS OF CAESAR CREEK COOPERATING ASSOCIATION

By   
President, Darlene Long

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, the Corps has caused this agreement to be ratified this

14<sup>TH</sup> day of FEB, 2011.

UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

By   
Col. Keith A. Landry  
District Commander