

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fiscal Year 2014
Handshake Program Application**

Please review instructions before completing application!

Corps Lake/Project Name: **Allatoona Lake**
Handshake Proposal Title: **Osprey Nesting Platform Project**
Corps POC Name: **T. Stephen Cain**
Telephone: **(678) 721 - 6722** ext.
E-Mail: **troy.s.cain@usace.army.mil**

A. Eligibility checklist:

1. Will the Handshake funds be spent on Corps facilities and resources that are being fully maintained by the Corps? * **Yes** **No**

2. Will the Challenge Partnership agreement be 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 lake project OMP? ** **Yes** **No**

**If "No" to any of the above questions the proposal cannot be authorized under the Corps' challenge partnership authority.*

B. Handshake Funding Program Request (maximum \$30,000): \$10,000

C. Cooperative Agreement 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 application qualifies to receive bonus points on the evaluation score for partnering with three or more partners. A summary of the partners' contribution to the Handshake Project should be included in the financial worksheet below.

- Application includes 3 partners (25 bonus points)
- Application includes 4 partners (40 bonus points)
- Application includes 5 partners (50 bonus points)
- Application includes _____ partners (50 bonus points for the first 5 partners plus 10 points for each additional partner)

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:

Bird of prey populations have been steadily rebounding since record lows during the 1970s & 80s. Discontinuing use of DDT has slowly filtered this toxin out of the food chain and improved hatching rates and offspring viability. One of the hardest hit species was the Osprey, an important predator in the ecosystem responsible for promoting healthy fisheries by culling old, weak, and unfit fish of several species. We seek to continue the recovery of this species by providing suitable nesting locations using recycled materials and commercial partners expertise. FY13 saw the placement of four platforms through this partnership. We hope to add eight more in FY14.

-Sustainability - Osprey platforms were first erected in partnership with Georgia Power in 1998. At the time Allatoona contained some of the first Osprey nests known in North Georgia. The platforms endure for years with little or no maintenance. The metal portions of the eight platforms will be powder coated by our partner to maximize durability and usable life.

-Partnership Value - Georgia Power holds numerous easements across Corps property. This partnership demonstrates the possibilities open to commercial enterprise through cooperation with the Federal Government. Corporate charitable interests will often coincide with our stewardship efforts. This may also be true for smaller local businesses such as our partner Steel Materials. Partnerships with commercial entities will become increasingly important as budgets continue to shrink and fiscal instability becomes more commonplace.

-Recreation Benefit - Bird watching or birding is one of the fastest growing outdoor pursuits in the United States. The enjoyment of observing animals in their natural habitat has an intrinsic value that contributes to the enjoyment of other outdoor activities. A hiking or boating excursion becomes more memorable when the visitor experiences an Osprey making a dramatic dive into the lake and flying off with its catch. Currently, there are four easily accessible viewing areas located in Old Highway 41 #3 Campground, Sweetwater Campground, Victoria Campground and Victoria Day Use Area. Planned nesting platforms with easy accessibility by vehicle or foot traffic include: Tanyard Boat Ramp; Old Highway 41 #1 Day Use Area; Acworth Subdam; Blockhouse Ramp; below Allatoona Dam at Cooper's Furnace Day Use Area; McKaskey Campground; Upper Stamp Creek Ramp; Galt's Ferry Day Use Area; Payne Boat Ramp; Macedonia Campground; and Cherokee Mills Boat Ramp.

-Environmental Stewardship Benefit - Our success in creating nesting sites has paid off in 100% occupancy of the existing platforms. The lake can support a larger population of Osprey. In addition, the materials for the platforms come from old telephone poles that would otherwise be discarded or burnt. The metal comes from reworked beds that were once housed in Allatoona Dam. During the Cold War, Allatoona Dam served as a fall out shelter. Civil Defense materials housed here included old metal beds for workers in the event they could not leave the powerhouse. These beds became unusable and unnecessary and were destined for the scrap pile. Repurposing the beds as nesting platforms demonstrates our commitment to the concept of reduce, reuse, recycle.

-Communication and Education Value - Handshake funds will make it possible to erect interpretive panels near the platforms and in the Allatoona Visitor Center to educate the public on the value of wildlife restoration and the stewardship efforts made possible through the partnership. Accessibility to the nesting platforms will also provide local schools the opportunity to educate students on conservation and environmental activities in a real world laboratory.

-Innovativeness - Seeing the potential in a rusty old bed as a possible benefit to wildlife requires some creative thinking. Pulling together local small business and a large multi-state corporation to make this idea a reality also requires innovation. Handshake funds would support creative solutions and foster a mutually beneficial relationship between businesses large and small and the Federal Government.

The Corps will:

Provide professional consultation regarding suitable locations and access to those areas identified; recycled metal nesting platforms; interpretive panels

The Partner(s) will:

Provide expert labor for setting poles; poles for nesting platforms; professional powder coating services; use of equipment for erecting the nesting platforms

Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Allatoona Lake

Work Project Title: Osprey Nesting Platform Project

POC Name: T. Stephen Cain

Address: 1138 GA Highway Spur 20

City: Cartersville

State: GA Zip Code: 30121

Telephone: 678 - 721 - 6722 x

Location on Project:

Partner Organization 1: Georgia Power Company

POC Name: Candler J. Ginn

Address: 241 Ralph McGill Boulevard NE

City: Atlanta

State: GA Zip Code: 30308

Telephone: 404 - 506 - 4425 x

Partner Organization 2: Steel Materials, Inc.

POC Name: Steve Cowart

Address: 1120 West Avenue

City: Cartersville

State: GA Zip Code: 30120

Telephone: 770 - 382 - 0264 x

Partner Organization 3:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone: - - x

Proposed start date of work:

Simple description of work to be accomplished through the partnership: Erection of 12 Osprey Nesting Platforms;
Purchase and Installation of Interpretive Panels

Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields:

	Local Corps Office	Handshake Funds	Partner 1	Partner 2	Partner 3	Total
Salaries	\$7,000	N/A	\$5,200	\$1,300	\$0	\$13,500
Travel	\$0	N/A	\$1,500	\$0	\$0	\$1,500
Materials and Supplies	\$0	\$3,000	\$2,000	\$350	\$0	\$5,350
Equipment Use	\$2,000	\$1,000	\$2,300	\$450	\$0	\$5,750
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	\$0	\$0	\$0
In-Kind Services	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$6,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$6,000
Total	\$9,000	\$10,000	\$11,000	\$2,100	\$0	\$32,100
Share of Total Cost	28.0%	31.2%	34.3%	6.5%	0.0%	100%

Explanations: \$6000 listed under "Other" would cover cost of interpretive displays at Osprey Platform Sites and at Allatoona Lake Operations Project Management Office and Visitor Center.



Old Bed frame converted to nesting platform and powder coated



Ga Power and COE staff consult on site



Raising the nesting platform



Raising the next generation