

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
2009 Handshake Program Application**

Eligibility checklist to qualify per ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 12.

1. Is the seed money going to be spent at Corps facilities and resources that are being maintained by the Corps at 100% expense on the day the agreement is signed? **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: Feb 09)

If the answer to either question 1 or 2 is No, the proposal cannot be authorized under the Corps Challenge Partnership program. If the answered to question 3 is No, and the date provided in the answer to question 4 would come after the commencement of the proposed challenge partnership, the activity cannot be considered under this program. Reference application instructions for further clarification.

Highlight a box and press F1 if you need online help to complete any item.

Corps Lake/Project Name: **Barren River Lake**
Handshake Proposal Title: **Restoration of Warm Season Native Grasses on Barren River Lake: A joint effort with the Corps, KDFWR, and the Friends of Barren River Lake**
Corps POC Name: **Libby Watt**
Street Address: 11088 Finney Road
City, state and zip code: **Glasgow, KY 42141**
Telephone: **(270) 646 - 2055** ext.
Fax: **(240) 646 - 3271** E-Mail: **libby.watt@usace.army.mil**

Partner Organization 1: Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources
Partner Authorized Official: Wayne Tamminga
Phone: (270) 646 - 5167 ext.

Partner Organization 2: The Friends of Barren River Lake
Partner Authorized Official: James Secrest
Phone: (270) 622 - 7212 ext.

Partner Organization 3:
Partner Authorized Official:
Phone: () - ext.

Categorize Use: (may check more than one)

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Interpretation/Environmental Education | <input type="checkbox"/> Special Event |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Water Safety | <input type="checkbox"/> Recreation Facilities |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Trails | <input type="checkbox"/> Visitor Center |
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Natural Resources Management | <input type="checkbox"/> Accessibility Other/ Miscellaneous |

Handshake Funding Amount Requested (\$10,000 Limit): \$10000

Description of the Handshake partnership and the project to be accomplished:

Who & What & Where:

The proposed Handshake partnership is between the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources (KDFWR), the Friends of Barren River Lake (501 C(3)), and the USACE at Barren River Lake (BRL), within the Great Lakes and Ohio River Division Louisville District. The project is categorized as environmental stewardship through implementation of natural resource restoration. The objective is to restore manageable areas of the project to native warm season grasses for wildlife value, environmental education, and natural resource enhancement. This project has several stages in which sixty acres of native warm season grasses will be planted at the Quarry Road Recreational Area, the spillway area in three fields, behind the BRL office and on the face of the dam.

When & How

Grassland management is within the mandate of the Forest Cover Act.

In 2005, ERDC TN-EMRRP-SI-30 reported that the Louisville District has a total of 240 acres tall grass prairie, 20 acres of mixed prairie, 20 acres of short grass prairie, and 115 other grassland types (i.e. native warm season grasses) that are restorable. Barren County, the project location, is historically known in the pioneer days as “The Barren”. A precise definition is difficult to derive, but historically in this Kentucky Karst Plain, “Barren’s” simply described the absence of trees and a diversity of grasses and forbes. Succession has taken place over all of the Corps properties and in an effort to implement environmental stewardship the Corps has partnered with the Friends of Barren River Lake, and the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources to restore manageable areas of warm season native grasses to these “Barren’s”.

All restoration projects must be monitored and continually managed to maintain the native vegetation otherwise non-native plants may invade and the project area would return to the previous state of successional hardwoods and non-native agricultural grasses. Maintenance of this project includes exotic weed control, disking, reseeding, liming, soil testing, and prescribed fire for successful restoration. Eventually seed will be collected from these fields to restore other areas suitable for native warm season grasses on BRL. The KDFWR staff will implement the field work of the restoration effort which will continue in perpetuity at the project. A break down of expense can be seen in the attachments.

These maintenance measures require specialized equipment. What the KDFWR staff needs to implement the project is assistance in the purchase of a trailer to transport the Kubota, as well as, supplemental funding to continue the next two seasons (spring and winter 2009) for fertilizer, native plant seed, and soil testing. The trailer will be utilized for transporting equipment for prescribed fire, spraying exotics, hauling water tanks, prescribed burn gear, seeding and fertilizing the warm season grasses.

The Friends of Barren River Lake will be involved in the educational side of the project by providing funds to purchase interpretive signs at the site behind the office and on the face of the dam next to the Corps’ newest boat ramp, Port Oliver. Interpretive materials on the effort to sustain natural resources are an excellent tool to use for educating our visitors on the multifaceted mission of the Corps environmental awareness of the local regions.

The project start up time will take one year to spray and seed designated areas. It will take several years to reach the maintenance stage with continual spraying and reseeding until the

grasses have established. Once established the warm season grasses will be burned and surveyed for invasive species periodically throughout the life of the project. This will provide our visitors an exceptional learning opportunity in seeing the long term installation of a restoration project and the natural cycle for warm season grass vegetative community over time.

Program Criteria

Sustainability & Environmental Stewardship: This program will continue in perpetuity of the project. Once the project area fields are beyond the restoration stage and are managed in the maintenance stage the native grasses will be utilized as a seed source to restore other areas of the project that are suitable for native warm season grasses. Restoration of these manageable units enhances wildlife value, promotes natural erosion control, and reintroduces native plant species. Target wildlife species include but are not limited to bobwhite quail, turkey, migrant passerine birds, as well as a suite of small mammals.

Communication and Education Value & Recreational Benefit: In the August 2008 issue of “International Journal of Wilderness” the National Survey of Fishing, Hunting, and Wildlife-Associated Recreation (FHWAR) reported that from 1996- 2006 the number of people who watched or photographed wildlife increased by 8.2 million. Over the years, visitation classified as “sightseeing” at BRL has increased. Barren River Lake’s 2008 Activity Distribution Report estimates 31% of the lakes visitors from January to August were “sightseeing”. That is a two percent increase from last year.

The warm season grass project area is in a high profile location for sightseers and fisherman. It is adjacent to the physical dam, Barren River Lake Corps office, Quarry Road Beach and Watchable Wildlife Area, Port Oliver boat ramp, and the overlook. This is an ideal location and opportunity to provide our visitors with interpretive information. Signs explaining the project will be posted to educate the public on the Corps objective to restore native vegetative communities for protection of the resource and enhancement of native wildlife. The Quarry Road field is part of BRL’s Watchable Wildlife Area that offers visitors the opportunity to experience animals in their natural habitat. Future plans, incorporate the Quarry Road field as a focal point of an interpretive program emphasizing native plant communities and the importance of restoring and maintaining them.

Partnership value: The Friends of Barren River Lake organization was initially chartered as the Barren River Regional Water Safety Council in 1992, which had a long history of water safety related accomplishments in South Central Kentucky. It reorganized as Friends of Barren River Lake in 2007 as a 501 (c) (3) non-profit organization, with a broader emphasis on water safety and other safety issues affecting visitors, adjacent landowners, marina operators and others that use the lake. The Friends of BRL would like to diversify their involvement with BRL’s mission and become involved as an environmental steward. This is an excellent opportunity to apply that interest, and the Friends are eager to assist with the purchase of interpretive signs to educate our visitors on the local ecology.

The KDFWR manages many leased acres on corps property. Their expertise and involvement with the public on BRL lands enhances the public experience and provide other types of recreation (wildlife viewing and hunting). We would like to expand our partnership to lands that are outside of wildlife management areas (WMA) and onto other Corps lands to increase connectivity of enhanced and restored wildlife habitat. Working with the KDFWR on this

particular project will strengthen our partnership and expand on applying the restoration to other non WMA's when seed is viable to use from the existing restoration fields. The Corps of Engineers and partners combined can fund 59.4% of the project through matching dollars, materials, and in-kind services.

Literature Cited

Cordell, H. Ken; Betz, Carter, J.; Green, Gary T. 2008. Nature-based outdoor recreation trends and wilderness. *International Journal of Wilderness*, Volume 14, Number 2, Page 7-13.

USACE. (2008). Barren River Lake Activity Distribution Report. August 2008. Visitors Estimation Reporting System Ver. 2. Site: <https://vers.wes.army.mil/vers/>

The Corps will:

Assist in the provision of materials and supplies, administration, and monitoring of the restoration project.

The Partner(s) will:

Provide expertise in the field of restoration and its implementation, as well as, provide assistance with funding for interpretive materials

Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Barren River Lake

Work Project Title: Restoration Of Warm Season Native Grasses On Barren River Lake: A Joint Effort With The Corps, Kdfwr, And The Friends Of Barren River Lake

POC Name: Libby Watt

Address: 11088 Finney Road

City: Glasgow

State: KY Zip Code: 42141

Telephone: 2706462055

Location on Project: Barren River Lake

Partner Organization 1: Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources

POC Name: Wayne Tamminga

Address: 1457 South Lucas Road

City: Lucas

State: KY Zip Code: 42156

Telephone: 2706465167

Partner Organization 2: The Friends of Barren River Lake

POC Name:

Address: P.O. Box 213

City: Glasgow

State: KY Zip Code: 42142

Telephone:

Partner Organization 3:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone:

Proposed start date of work: Oct-08

Simple description of work to be accomplished through the partnership: Natural resource restoration of warm season grass for improved wildlife habitat, soil stabilization, environmental education, and visual aesthetics.

Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields:

	Local Corps Office	Handshake Funds	Partner 1	Partner 2	Partner 3	Total
Salaries	\$2,600	N/A	\$4,500	\$0	\$0	\$7,100
Travel	\$0	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials and Supplies	\$3,200	\$10,000	\$1,300	\$0	\$0	\$14,500
Equipment Use	\$0	\$0	\$2,000	\$0	\$0	\$2,000
Funds Contributed	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$1,000	\$0	\$1,000
Personal Property	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Volunteer Efforts	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
In-Kind Services	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$5,800	\$10,000	\$7,800	\$1,000	\$0	\$24,600
Share of Total Cost	23.6%	40.7%	31.7%	4.1%	0.0%	100%

Explanations: