

**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 07)

If you have answered No to either question 1 or 2 and/or have not answer Yes to either question 3 or 4, go to the instructions page or <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/challenge/handshake.html..>

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

Corps Lake/Project Name: **Walter F. George Lake**
Handshake Proposal Title: **Highland Interpretive Nature and Equestrian Trail**
Corps POC Name: **Sara Jernigan**
Street Address: **427 Eufaula Rd**
City, state and zip code: **Ft. Gaines, GA. 39851**
Telephone: **(229) 768 - 2516** ext.
Fax: **(229) 768 - 2809**
E-Mail: **sara.g.jernigan@sam.usace.army.mil**

Partner Organization 1: **Boy Scouts of America Pack 5 Abbeville Alabama**
Partner Authorized Official: **James Summers**
Phone: () - ext.

Partner Organization 2: **Henry County Saddle Horse Riding Club**
Partner Authorized Official: **Lee Watford**
Phone: **(334) 585 - 5850** ext.

Partner Organization 3: **Hunt Haven Ranch**
Partner Authorized Official:
Phone: **(334) 585 - 0587** ext.

Categorize Use: (may check more than one)

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

Handshake Funding Amount Requested (\$10,000 Limit):	\$10,000
Local Corps Office Amount (if any):	\$15472
Partner 1 Amount:	\$10058
Partner 2 Amount:	\$10692
Partner 3 Amount	\$10192
Total Partner(s) Amount:	\$30942
Total Cost of Project: \$57292	

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

The Highland Interpretive Nature and Equestrian Trail project is designed to enhance and protect an area of upland pine, lowland hardwood and wiregrass habitat for public use. In addition to the habitat enhancement, this project will serve as a multi-use area and provide a protected area of several types of habitat within a relatively close proximity which will be open to the public for education and enjoyment of the native wildlife and plants. The Highland Interpretive Nature and Equestrian Trail will be self guided with way-stations along the 2.5 mile trail which will have gently sloping terrain over most of the trail. Some areas will be slightly more difficult, but loops will provide for shorter hikes omitting the areas with more difficult access. The interpretive focus will be on the natural habitat of the plant and wildlife native to the area. It will provide a place for families to visit for education on wildlife, natural resources and simply for the atheistic aspect of peace of mind.

Trail relies on volunteers to maintain and improve the area. The trail will also be used as an Equestrian Trail, for riders to enjoy. In recent years, Walter F. George Lake has experienced increase in growth and development of homes. With the building of these new homes and subdivisions, natural areas like this are becoming more scarce and ever more popular with the public. The trail may entered from North or South and will be handicap accessible. The trail will have parking areas for public use of the trail and made accessible for persons with special needs. The walking trail will help increase viewing and learning opportunities about the native environment and wildlife. The trail will loosely follow approximately 2.5 miles of shoreline and wooded area. Benches and handrails will be placed along several points on the trail, and small way-points or viewing platforms. Also, along the trail there will be interpretive plaques explaining the project to the viewers and educating them on the local species of wildlife and plants native to the area. This trail will be a tremendous tool for educating the public in the multi-county and two state area, and will offer opportunities to see wildlife and to enjoy nature in general. During the week the trail will be used as an Equestrian Trail. It will also be used for special events promoting education environmental awareness.

To maximize the educational benefit of the trail, there also will be various nest boxes placed along the route. These will hopefully attract different species of birds, bats, etc. Rangers will host nature hikes with local school groups and explain the project and the importance of environmental stewardship. The Corps of Engineers mission is conservation and stewardship of natural resources. This project will be an excellent way for Walter F. George Lake Project to enhance and continue to carry out our mission.

The Corps will:

Design, Layout trail and fund materials. Assist when needed in building of waypoint stations and areas for special access for the disabled. The Corps will provide Scouts and Leaders camping while working on proposed trail. Camping will be for 4 campsites at \$20.00 per day during the length of the project. Walter F. George Lake Management Office will approve, publish and distribute any flyers, brochures etc. By providing these assists, the public may see and use this protected area to see nature at its best. The construction of this trail will allow for great interpretive opportunities.

The Partner(s) will:

On the hiking part of the trail The Boy Scouts of America will provide their own tools. They will provide all labor and design Trail Flyers, etc. The Scouts will build 6 Park Benches and 2 Foot Bridges. Partner will work 2 days a week for approx 4 months of a rate of \$19.51 per hour.

Henry County Saddle Horse Riding Club and Hunt Haven Ranch will perform labor and maintain everyday cleanup on trail to insure safety for public, riders and horses. Both Riding clubs must secure permits for special events for the trail. The riding clubs must designate a way to dispose of manure and wastes outside of the trail area.

Since this is a multi-use trail, both riding clubs must inform users that they may encounter hikers while riding. While riding they will experience a variety of environments and landscapes in plant life and area must be protected.

All Partner(s) will keep logs on number of visitors using the trails.

All fees collected from public will be governed by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers..

Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Walter F. George Lake

Work Project Title: Highland Interpretive Nature Trail

POC Name: Sara Jernigan

Address: 4 City: Ft. Gaines State: GA Zip Code: 39851

Telephone: (229) 768-2516

Location on Project: Highland Park Area, Walter F. George Lake

Partner Organization 1: Boy Scouts of America Pack 5

POC Name: James Summers

Address: City: Abbeville State: AL Zip Code:

Telephone:

Partner Organization 2: Henry County Saddle Horse Riding Club

POC Name: Lee Watford

Address: City: Abbeville State: AL Zip Code:

Telephone: (334) 585-5850

Partner Organization 3: Hunt Haven Ranch

POC Name:

Address: City: Abbeville State: AL Zip Code:

Telephone: (334) 585-0587

Proposed start date of work: 30 Oct 2008

Simple description of work to be accomplished through the partnership: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Walter F. George Lake Project and The Boy Scouts of America, Pack 5, Abbeville, Alabama, Henry County Saddle Horse Riding Club, Abbeville, Alabama, Hunt Haven Ranch, Abbeville, Alabama to work cooperatively to provide the Highland Interpretive Nature/Equestrian Trail. The public area located South of Highland Park will be used as a nature/Equestrian interpretive trail. The trail will have several switchbacks and two foot bridges along the shoreline of Walter F. George Lake. All bridges will be handicap accessible with rails. All parties agree that having the nature/Equestrian trail will insure visitors a place to explore and be with nature in a natural setting.

	Corps	Handshake Funds	Partner 1	Partner 2	Partner 3	Total
Salaries	\$8,064	N/A				\$8,064
Travel	269	N/A	778	100	\$100	\$1,247
Materials and Supplies (explain)	\$1,635		200 (Raised Funds to be used for trail).	\$500	\$600	\$1,125
Equipment Use	\$4,004		\$448	\$2,500	\$1,800	\$8,752
Funds Contributed	N/A	N/A				\$0
Personal Property	N/A	N/A				\$0
Volunteer Services	N/A	N/A	\$9,610	\$7,592	\$7,592	\$24,794
Other (explain on next line)	\$1,500	\$10,000				\$11,500
Printing Cost		Seed Money				
Total	\$15,472	\$10,000	\$11,036	\$10,692	\$10,092	\$57,292
Share of Total Cost	27.0%	17.5%	19.3%	18.7%	17.6%	100%