

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fiscal Year 2010
Handshake Program Application**

Please review instructions before completing application!

Corps Lake/Project Name: **Hartwell Dam and Lake**
Handshake Proposal Title: **Paynes Creek Multi-Use Trail**
Corps POC Name: **Zach Harkness**
Street Address: 5625 Anderson Hwy
City, state and zip code: **Hartwell, GA 30643**
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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? **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 09)

If answer is No to either question 1 or 2 the proposal can not be authorized under the Corps' challenge partnership authority. If answer is 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.

Handshake Funding Program Request (maximum \$25,000): \$25,000

Cooperating Association Agreement Bonus:

Challenge Partnerships that include an organization (cooperating associations, friends groups) with which your project/district has recently entered into a Cooperating Association Agreement are eligible to compete for an additional \$5000. To be eligible to compete for this Bonus funding your project/district must have entered into a Cooperating Association Agreement with the partner organization after January 1, 2008; 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, 2008 to be eligible).

Incentive Points Categories:

Please check the box for each category that applies to your Challenge Partnership. Additional points will be awarded for each category. You must address checked items in your project description.

Utilizes an Existing National Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) The National Partners MOU list can be found on the NRM Gateway Partnership page at <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/list.html>. Local/regional chapters of National Partners are eligible.

Benefits/Involves Active Military, Veterans and/or Military Families

Describe your partnership and the proposed project:

Your project will be evaluated based on each of the following categories: Sustainability, Partnership Value, Recreation Benefit, Environmental Stewardship Value, and Innovativeness. Please address each of these that apply in your description. Also address each incentive category you have identified.

Description:

- Background

Payne's Creek is a Corps operated multi-use park located in Hart County, Georgia in the hilly Northeast portion of the state, approximately 60 miles from Greenville, SC and 100 miles from Atlanta, GA. The park is divided into two sections with approximately 210 acres in Class A Campground designation and 190 acres located in a low development day use area. Historically, there have been very few opportunities for off road bicycling in this area, and bikers have taken it upon themselves to use poorly suited trails or have been forced to travel great distances out of the community in order to find proper amenities. The staff at Hartwell Lake proposes a challenge handshake partnership with the International Mountain Bike Association (IMBA) and the Southern Off-Road Bicycle Association (SORBA) to create better opportunities and access to this recreational activity. It is our belief the project can better accomplish the mission of the Corps of Engineers and demonstrate value:

- Opportunity

In 2007, SORBA united with the International Mountain Biking Association (IMBA) to combine membership in Alabama, Florida, Georgia, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina and Tennessee. As a club chapter of IMBA, SORBA is the largest mountain biking advocate in the Southeastern United States.

In 2002, IMBA signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) and with the Corps of Engineers recognizing the following: That recreation on trail systems that connect waterways, parks, and neighborhoods benefits the community. That recreation promotes economic livelihood, providing jobs and economic stability for American communities. That recreation encourages physical and intellectual development of youth through outdoor recreation and educational activities. 80% of Corps recreation sites are within 50 miles of a large U.S. city. Therefore, The Corps and IMBA agreed to partner at appropriate local, regional, and national levels to create, manage, and develop trail opportunities for mountain bicycling at Corps facilities. This Challenge Partnership Handshake Agreement allows this MOU to expand on its partnering potential.

- Sustainability

This project will be built upon environmental, economic and social sustainability pillars. The trail itself would be considered a high value - low impact recreational opportunity that has no negative affect on the surrounding natural resources, and with proper maintenance would have an infinite lifespan. IMBA has received national acclaim for their efforts in eco-friendly, sustainable construction practices of facilities and trails. IMBA will continue these practices on this project. The activities that the trail promote; hiking, biking, bird watching, etc., bring an additional amount of visitation and, therefore, a boost to the surrounding community, increasing their overall economic sustainability. These unique recreational opportunities enhance the visitor's overall experience and thereby, increase the social sustainability of the area as a whole.

- Partnership Value

This agreement will plant the seed for a partnership that is set to take off and blossom. Through visitor satisfaction surveys it has long been established that this particular recreational opportunity is absent and in demand for Hartwell Lake. The partner has also identified this as an area in great need of public trail opportunities. With this common realization, SORBA and the Corps have met and discussed collaborating efforts to accomplish this. Discussions have lead to the possibility of future expansion of the trail with in the park and also expanding this movement to other areas of the lake. The handshake money would be a way of showing our intention and commitment to the future of this relationship.

- Recreational Benefit

Hartwell provides a wide variety of opportunities and facilities for camping, picnicking and recreational boaters. However, very few facilities exist that cater to non-motorized / low impact trail use. These new facilities will not only provide increased opportunities for hikers, and bikers, but will also provide benefits for other users, such as fishermen/women, bird and wildlife watchers, and health and fitness enthusiasts. Since there is a notable absence of these opportunities in the region, the Corps at Hartwell Lake anticipates that nearby Payne's Creek Campground (USACE) will become a camping destination by providing suitable facilities to meet the needs of those who wish to participate in these types of unique outdoor recreation activities.

- Environmental Stewardship Value

In an effort to achieve balance and synergy between human development and natural systems, the development of organized recreation facilities in this area will help in the management and conservation of natural resources that have been put at risk from improper usage of the area and to mitigate the degradation that has occurred here due to unauthorized and unorganized activities.

- Innovativeness

There are no agencies in the area and very few agencies nationwide that provide such unique opportunities on federal property. There are even fewer Corps of Engineers projects in the area with such fully functional, multipurpose trails. This handshake agreement provides opportunity for the Corps of Engineers to once again, lead the way in the provision of unique and quality public recreation activities at the federal level.

- Product

The Payne's Creek Multipurpose Trail project is designed to enhance the mountain biking recreational activities on the upper portion of Hartwell Lake and also increase opportunities for low impact usage such as bank fishing, hiking and bird watching and will encourage the local user groups to partner with the Corps of Engineers to accomplish this. The handshake monies would be used to foster the partnership between the two organizations and complete 3 of the total 6 miles of the North Loop trail.

The Corps will:

- Work in cooperation with SORBA/IMBA on creating a multi-use trail within the Paynes Creek Park Area.
- Match handshake funds received for development of the Paynes Creek Trail.
- Update and maintain the Paynes Creek Trail once it has been established.
- Be responsible for installing and maintaining all trail signage.
- Provide campsites within the Paynes Creek Campground to trail work volunteers free of charge for more than one days' worth of work (dependant on availability, season, etc.).

The Partner(s) will:

- Work in cooperation with the US Army Corps of Engineers, Hartwell Project Office to create a multi-use trail within the Paynes Creek Park Area.
- Consult with Corps employees through planning meetings.
- Provide trail design and layout.
- Provide volunteer work to flag and clear trail.
- Provide trail contractor work for construction of trail.
- Provide volunteers to update and maintain the Paynes Creek Trail once it has been established

Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Hartwell Dam And Lake

Work Project Title: Payne's Creek Multipurpose Trail

POC Name: Zach Harkness

Address: 5625 Anderson Hwy

City: Hartwell

State: GA Zip Code: 30643

Telephone: 7068560310

Location on Project:Payne's Creek Day Use Area

Partner Organization 1: International Mountain Bike Association/Southern Off Road Bicycle Association

POC Name: Keith W Mcfadden

Address:

City: Gainesville

State: GA Zip Code:

Telephone: 7707784881

Partner Organization 2:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone:

Partner Organization 3:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone:

Proposed start date of work: Mar-10

Simple description of work to be accomplished through the partnership:The Hartwell Lake Office will work in cooperation with IMBA/SORBA to plan, develop and maintain a multi use trail within the Paynes Creek Campground area. The partner will provide funds to pay for materials, labor and in kind services, the Corps will assist in the provision of materials and supplies, the Handshake funds will pay for the partner's trail contractor.

Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields:

	Local Corps Office	Handshake Funds	Partner 1	Partner 2	Partner 3	Total
Salaries	\$4,000	N/A	\$9,000	\$0	\$0	\$13,000
Travel	\$0	N/A	\$1,000	\$0	\$0	\$1,000
Materials and Supplies	\$15,000	\$25,000	\$15,000	\$0	\$0	\$55,000
Equipment Use	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
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	\$10,000	\$0	\$0	\$10,000
In-Kind Services	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Total	\$19,000	\$25,000	\$35,000	\$0	\$0	\$79,000
Share of Total Cost	24.1%	31.6%	44.3%	0.0%	0.0%	100%

Explanations: The \$25,000 requested handshake funds will go to pay the SORBA trail contractor. The Corps intends to contribute at least another \$20,000 to assist the partner and continue working on the trail after the handshake funds have been expended. The Corps will help in the provision of supplies, services and materials such as signs, posts, crusher run gravel, carsonite markers and timbers.