Handshake Partnership Program
Report - FY 2012 Recipients

1. Name of Corps Project/Lake: Hartwell Lake, Savannah District, USACE

2. Handshake Project Name: Paynes Creek Multi-purpose Trail

3. What has been accomplished? Please provide photographs; before, during, and after!:
A 2.3 mile addition to the previously constructed multi-purpose trail (through a prior handshake agreement) open to hikers, bikers and joggers located within the 190 acre Paynes Creek Recreation Area was designed, mapped and constructed through the combination of SORBA volunteer, Corps personnel and contractor labor. SORBA volunteers designed and mapped the trail. Corps personnel conducted pre-construction work that included corridor clearing, hazard limb and/or tree removal and flagging. Actual trail construction was conducted by a professional trail construction firm, Long Cane Trails. Once the trail was roughed-in by the contractor, volunteers and Corps personnel worked together over a period of several work days to conduct finishing work on the trail to make final preperations for users, which included root removal and slope work. After the trail was completed, remaining funds were used in a variety of ways to improve the area. These ways included painting of a crosswalk across the entrance road to the campground where the multi-purpose trail crosses, signage showing trail directionality, bollard posts to direct flow in a few confusing areas, and newly purchased bulleting board that has an updated map and safety information about the area. After these improvements were made, a trail expert from Trail Design Specialists was brought in to improve the turns, increase better flow of the trail, and work with SORBA on ways to fix areas that were becoming problematic.

	Total
Handshake Program Funding Amount	$25,000
Local Corps Office Funds (total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	$7,000
Partner's Contributions (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	**Total Value of Contributions**
1 SORBA - Athens Chapter	$2,800
2	$
3	$
4	$
5	$
6	$

4. Handshake Program Recipient Feedback
Please take this opportunity to provide feedback on all aspects of the Handshake Program and the Challenge Partnership Agreement authority. Your productive comments are important to the ongoing

improvement of the program. Make sure to let us know how the Handshake funds have benefited your efforts to initiate and/or strengthen your partnerships.

A. Comments About Handshake Program: _____

B. Comments About Challenge Partnership Agreement: Excellent way to plant seed projects throughout the community that help foster partnerships and growing relationships with outside agencies and organizations. By being able to tap in to other agencies expertise while improving the Corps resource for quality recreation is a great asset to both agencies. This partnership between SORBA and the Hartwell Project has grown tremendously and has spurred both parties to look for more opportunities to benefit the public.

C. Recommendations: _____

5. Handshake Summary:

Please also include a separate one-page newspaper type article describing the project and the benefit to the Corps of Engineers and to the public as a result of this partnership project. Examples can be found on the gateway under Handshake Success Stories.

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BUILDING STRONG®

For Immediate Release:
September 30, 2014
News Release No. 13-43

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Corps, SORBA partners complete $25K project at Paynes Creek Multipurpose Trail

SAVANNAH, Ga. – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District announces the completion of a $25,000 improvement to the existing Paynes Creek Multipurpose Trail at Hartwell Lake in Hart County, Ga.

The Corps' headquarters in Washington, D.C., awarded the funds as part of its Handshake Partnership Program, which provides a source of seed money to enhance recreation projects through community partnerships.

The Corps partnered with the Southern Off Road Bicycle Association, Athens Chapter, to construct a 2.3 mile addition to the existing 7.3 mile multipurpose trail. This addition connected the previously constructed multi-purpose trail (through a prior handshake agreement) open to hikers, bikers and joggers located within the 190 acre Paynes Creek Recreation Area. The design, mapping, and construction occurred through the combination of SORBA volunteer, Corps personnel and contractor labor. After the addition was completed, remaining funds were spent to enhance the area to include:

- Placement of a new trail head area with signage and bulletin board
- Safety cross walk addition where the trail crosses a Campground Road
- Purchase of supplies to build a bridge over a low area
- Placement of new directional signage on the trail

"This partnership between SORBA and the Corps continues to grow as a result of this project. To see this Handshake Partnership Program work in this way is rewarding. Through utilizing this program the Corps gets to gain the expertise of an established partner while creating the benefit of a great recreation opportunity on public land. The visitors of this area are the benefactors of this project" said Natural Resource Program Manager Scott Kelley.

For more information on this project or other recreation opportunities on Hartwell Lake, please contact the Hartwell Lake Resource Office at 1-888-893-0678. Other resources of information include the Hartwell Lake website:
http://www.sas.usace.army.mil/About/DivisionsandOffices/OperationsDivision/HartwellDamandLake.aspx

US Army Corps
of Engineers
Paynes Creek
Multipurpose Trail
SORBA
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