

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Fiscal Year 2016  
Handshake Program Application**

**Please review instructions before completing application!**

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Corps Lake/River Project Name: **Milford Lake**  
District / Division: **NWK**  
Handshake Proposal Title: **School Creek ORV Improvements**  
Corps POC Name: **Caleb Snider**  
Telephone: **(785) 238 - 5714 ext. 3796**  
E-Mail: **caleb.l.snider@usace.army.mil**

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**A. 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
  4. Have all of the NEPA requirements been considered for this project?  Yes  No
  5. Did you participate in a Handshake Webinar in 2015 or review a 2015 Handshake Webinar on the Gateway?  Yes  No
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**B. Handshake Funding Request (maximum \$30,000): \$19,400**

**C. Cooperating Association Agreement Bonus:** Challenge Partnerships that include a Cooperating Association with which your project/district has entered into a Cooperating Association Agreement are eligible to compete for an additional \$5000. Do NOT include a copy of that agreement with this application. A copy may be requested if not already provided to the Partnership Team. (Reference Chapter 9 of ER and EP 1130-2-500 for information on cooperating associations).

This application qualifies for the Cooperating Association Bonus funding.

**D. Incentive Points Category:** Check the appropriate box if your application qualifies to receive bonus points on the evaluation score. The first category is for the partner contribution meeting or exceeding 70% of total project costs. A summary of the partners' contribution to the Handshake Project should be included in the financial worksheet below. The second category is for Lake or River Projects that have never been chosen as Handshake recipients.

Partner contribution total is 70% or greater (100 points).

This Lake/River Project has never received Handshake funding (100 points).

**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.

**Summary Statement of Handshake Project:**

This seed money will provide much needed resources for restoration, maintenance and new construction, along with education and outreach initiatives to help the Corps better manage sustainable outdoor recreation at the School Creek Off Road Vehicle Area (ORV). Handshake funding would support much needed improvements to the ORV Area through the construction of a steel picnic shelter with concrete tables and a new concrete loading/unloading ramp. We would also improve access for kids to the kid's riding area and the main riding area for emergency vehicles. New fencing around portions of the riding area will also be installed in places where the fence has deteriorated. Additional signage would be put in the area to recognize the partners in this project and promote rider safety in the area.

Milford Lake has a history of partnering with the School Creek Off Road Vehicle Association (SCORVA) in the maintenance of the 287 acre riding area, and they will again be an active partner in this project. These improvements will provide better infrastructure for SCORVA to meet for their workdays and help boost interest and membership in the group. This in turn will lead to more improvements for the park. These amenities will be available to the roughly 20,000 people this riding area attracts on a yearly basis. The School Creek Off Road Vehicle Area is also host to the Forward Motion Hare Scrambles which brings roughly 150 riders plus spectators to each one of their races. The new shelter and ramp would be heavily utilized by their participants.

**Longevity / Sustainability description:**

The loading/unloading ramp, picnic tables and pad for the shelter would be constructed from concrete. The current ramp is constructed of wood timbers which are rotting and falling apart. Concrete will have a much longer lifespan and should provide a functional ramp for years to come. Concrete picnic tables will also have a much longer lifespan and help prevent the possibility of theft and vandalism as compared to wood or aluminum tables. The shelter frame and roof will be all steel and should provide a low maintenance, long lived facility for visitors to enjoy. SCORVA has agreed to perform any cleaning and maintenance duties needed on the shelter and tables, thus keeping the custodial contract in the area to a minimum. Smoothing out the rutted trails in the kids riding area and improving drainage at the entrance point to the main riding area should improve access to these areas and prevent further erosion.

**Partnership Value:**

Projects such as this could not be completed without the involvement and contributions from numerous partners. Ramp design, facility placement and construction efforts are all coordinated in conjunction with our partners.

Pioneer Farm and Ranch Supply has agreed to provide the fencing materials needed for this project at their cost. Doing so will save hundreds of dollars on the overall project and the new fence will provide a clear boundary for the area.

SCORVA has agreed to supply the manpower and labor to install the fence and conduct brush removal along where the new fence will be installed. They were also involved in the planning, design and projected placement of the new amenities. Much of the overall trail maintenance of the School Creek ORV area, as well as facility upkeep in the off-season is already conducted by SCORVA.

Forward Motion Hare Scrambles Championships will work alongside SCORVA in the installation of the fence and brush removal in that area. They have also agreed to donate \$300 worth of fencing supplies to help complete that portion of the project. The environmental, social and recreational benefits that these volunteers help provide is priceless.

**Recreational Benefit:**

This project will provide a safer and more user friendly place for visitors to recreate in. The current unloading ramp is located in the middle of the parking area and in such a location that it provides an unsafe “launching” ramp as riders are transitioning from one part of the riding area to the next. When riders launch themselves off of the ramp it creates a dangerous environment for bystanders and people trying to park. The new loading/unloading ramp will be relocated to a safer portion of the parking area and will allow for two vehicles to use it at the same time. This will create a safer more convenient facility. Currently there are no shelters, benches or tables of any kind in the area. This is a nuisance for visitors who do not know to bring shade tents or chairs with them. The shelter area would provide a shaded place for bystanders, riders and families to eat and rest during the heat of the day.

A new fence around a portion of the boundary would help to increase the recreational opportunities of both the riders and hunters who utilize the neighboring public hunting grounds. The riders will have a clear boundary and they won't be disrupting the hunting activities of those on nearby lands. Making some dirt work improvements to the kids riding area will increase that area's utilization and provide new riders with a safe place to learn how to ride. Dirt work done to the main riding area's emergency access point will also increase user safety by allowing faster response time by emergency personnel when necessary.

**Environmental Stewardship Benefit:**

The fencing portion of this project will provide a well defined boundary between the riding area and surrounding lands that are utilized for public hunting and agriculture production. Keeping riders in the designated area will prevent damage to crop fields and erosion that is caused by riders in undesignated areas. The fence will also keep riders from disturbing wildlife in neighboring areas and allow both riders and hunters enjoyable places to recreate in. Correcting drainage issues at the emergency access point of the main riding area that have caused a large rut/washout to form will help to prevent further erosion in this area.

**Communication & Education Value:**

The School Creek ORV improvements will promote responsible outdoor recreation with the support of partnering enthusiasts in the stewardship of their favorite area. This Project's message communicates responsible behavior expected by the Corps and partners; it also communicates the importance of treading lightly and respecting others and the environment to help keep access open. The campaign speaks directly to motorized recreation enthusiasts. With new signage we plan to promote the value of partnerships and showcase the work that has been accomplished. Existing bulletin boards will also continue to be utilized to display area regulations and riding safety information. With improvements to the kids riding area there is also a direct educational value to young riders. By providing a safe place for kids to learn to ride it gets the whole family outdoors and provides riding opportunities for riders of all skill levels.

**Innovativeness:**

This project embraces the true sense of partnerships by working with and promoting a long standing partner in SCORVA. They have been the “eyes and ears” of the School Creek ORV Area bringing forth any safety concerns and conducting all of the trail maintenance in the area. They were consulted when determining the ramp placement and design, and suggested a new design that would be smaller and still allow for multiple vehicles to use it at once. The end result is a smaller yet completely functional and less expensive ramp. As mentioned in the communication section we plan to place signage/plaques near the new facilities that will acknowledge the partners involved and their roll in these improvements and overall park operations. We feel this will promote SCORVA and the work they do for the Corps. This in turn will bolster interest from everyday riders in their group and allow them to continue and enhance their efforts in the area.

**Concluding statement:**

The School Creek ORV project is aimed at protecting and enhancing access and opportunities by fostering a stronger sense of individual stewardship throughout the off road vehicle recreation community. This project will help us improve one of this region's most unique and largest riding areas, and keep it as a riding destination for people in a multi-state area. The new, low maintenance facilities will be heavily utilized by our everyday riders, as well as our partners and create a safer riding environment for all. We look forward to the benefits of this project and its potential to enhance current and create future partnerships.

## Challenge Partnership Financial Work Sheet

Corps Project Name: Milford Lake Project

Work Project Title: School Creek ORV Improvements

POC Name: Caleb Snider

Address: 5203 N. Hwy. K57

City: Junction City

State: KS

Zip Code: 66441

Telephone: 785 - 238 - 5714 x3796

Location of Project: Junction City, KS – School Creek ORV Area

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Partner Organization 1: Pioneer Farm & Ranch

POC Name: Nick Rohleder

Address: 427 NE 14<sup>th</sup> St.

City: Abilene

State: KS

Zip Code: 67410

Telephone: 785 - 263 - 7163 x

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Partner Organization 2: School Creek Off Road Vehicle Association (SCORVA)

POC Name: Kim Jackson

Address: 3143 Union Rd

City: Junction City

State: KS

Zip Code: 66441

Telephone: 785 - 564 - 7201 x

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Partner Organization 3: Forward Motion Hare Scrambles Championships

POC Name: Dan Johnson

Address: 1028 S 1116 RD

City: Lawrence

State: KS

Zip Code: 66047

Telephone: 785 - 766 - 5629 x

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Partner Organization 4:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 5:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 6:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 7:

POC Name:

Address:

City:

State:

Zip Code:

Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 8:

POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 9:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 10:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 11:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 12:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 13:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 14:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Partner Organization 15:  
POC Name:  
Address: City: State: Zip Code:  
Telephone: - - x

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Double click on spreadsheet to access data entry fields and to enter Partner names:

	<b>Local Corps Office</b>	<b>Handshake Funds</b>	<b>Partner 1</b>	<b>Partner 2</b>	<b>Partner 3</b>	<b>Partner 4</b>
Salaries	\$3,000	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	N/A	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials and Supplies	\$3,300	\$19,400	\$257	\$0	\$300	\$0
Equipment Use	\$650	\$0	\$0	\$1,800	\$900	\$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	\$0	\$1,200	\$560	\$0
In-Kind Services	N/A	N/A	\$0	\$300	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$6,950</b>	<b>\$19,400</b>	<b>\$257</b>	<b>\$3,300</b>	<b>\$1,760</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Share of Total Cost</b>	21.9%	61.3%	0.8%	10.4%	5.6%	0.0%

	<b>Partner 5</b>	<b>Partner 6</b>	<b>Partner 7</b>	<b>Partner 8</b>	<b>Partner 9</b>	<b>Partner 10</b>
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials and Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Equipment Use	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Funds Contributed	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personal Property	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Volunteer	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
In-Kind Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>
<b>Share of Total Cost</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0

	<b>Partner 11</b>	<b>Partner 12</b>	<b>Partner 13</b>	<b>Partner 14</b>	<b>Partner 15</b>	<b>Total</b>
Salaries	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000
Travel	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Materials and Supplies	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$23,257
Equipment Use	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,350
Funds Contributed	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Personal Property	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
Volunteer	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,760
In-Kind Services	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$300
Other (explain below)	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$0</b>	<b>\$31,667</b>
<b>Share of Total Cost</b>	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	0.0%	100%

Explanations: Handshake fund of \$19K will be used in conjunction with our partner's contributions to make improvements to the School Creek ORV Area.

Please see attached map.

# School Creek Off Road Vehicle Area

