

Handshake Partnership Program Final Project Close-Out Report

1. Fiscal Year Selected as Winning Project: 2019 _____
2. Name of Corps Project/Lake: Waco Lake
3. District / Division of Corps Project/Lake: SWF/SWD
4. Handshake Project Name: Small Craft Access Project
5. Amount of Handshake Funds remaining: \$0
6. What has been accomplished?

This project consisted of the construction of two small craft access points in two separate locations at Waco Lake. The purpose of the project was to improve boater access to Waco Lake and its tributaries for small craft and paddle craft.

Bosque Park Access: The first location was just downstream of the Waco Lake Dam in Bosque Park. This area was overgrown with poison ivy and greenbriar and no access was available to the Bosque River. Parking was limited and there were no recreational facilities. Waco Lake staff and volunteers cleared all of the overgrowth and built a gravel access road for loading/unloading paddlecraft and built a small pea gravel launching area to launch. A parking lot was also built to support the additional traffic and allow room for vehicles with trailers. Ten picnic tables were purchased by Keep Waco Beautiful and picnic sites were constructed during and National Public Lands Day Event. The new access connected to the Texas Paddling Trails in Waco and added another leg to the system. Solar lights were also purchased by USACE and will provide safety and security for the area.









Middle Bosque Access: The second location is on the south side of the lake at the Middle Bosque Wildlife Management Area. This location previously had limited parking and no safe way to launch boats. The City of Waco and USACE personnel cleared an area for the construction of the ramp and parking lot and hauled rock purchased by Texas Parks and Wildlife Fisheries Department. USACE staff and volunteers built the parking lot, boat ramp, and fencing for the new ramp. Texas Parks and Wildlife also purchased solar parking lot lights that will add safety and security of the area. This location offers a large benefit to paddlecrafft and saves from having to paddle several miles to get to the best fishing areas and calmer waters.





	Total
Handshake Program Funding Amount	\$20,000
Local Corps Office Funds (total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	\$113,027.13
Partner's Contributions (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	Total Value of Contributions
1 Texas Parks and Wildlife	\$39,408
2 City of Waco	\$14,833.61
3 Keep Waco Beautiful	\$9,436.36
4 Group W Bench Litter Patrol	\$ 9338.25
5 Waco Paddle Club	\$254.30
6 Central Crushed Concrete	\$630.30
7 Waco Flyfishing Club	\$254.30

6. 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.

The Handshake Program was critical for this project to take place. The Waco Lake Project typically spends most time and funds on repairing flood damaged facilities, we would have been unable to complete this project without the help from the Handshake Program funds/authority AND the partnerships that arose from this project. The funds from this program showed our partners we had a starting point and a path forward. Once we started making progress on the project the partners became ecstatic and excited which allowed them to request more funding from their groups and agencies. This allowed the project to add some critical improvements including the security/safety lighting. The project has allowed us to provide more critical and free access to Waco Lake and its tributaries and has gained a lot of community support. All of the trash cleanup is completed by community members who volunteer to maintain the areas.

7. Handshake Summary:

Please also include a separate 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.

https://wacotrib.com/news/local/new-kayak-launch-opens-on-middle-bosque-spot-known-for-white-bass/article_23db12e2-ac99-11ec-bf4b-4b8b2e3e8d3c.html

https://wacotrib.com/news/government/new-access-point-below-lake-waco-dam-expected-to-be-boon-for-paddlers/article_d4175f43-53cf-534c-b0b6-855fc2cba4f9.html