

Handshake Partnership Program Report - FY 2012 Recipients

1. Name of Corps Project/Lake: Gull Lake Recreation Area

2. Handshake Project Name: Invasive Species Wash Station & Information

3. What has been accomplished? Please provide photographs; before, during, and after!:
Through this project the Federal Government, SCA and a non-profit organization came together as partners with a shared vision to achieve public awareness and compliance and a means to help protect and control the spread of aquatic invasive species. The purchase of the power wash station supported the America Great Outdoors efforts by providing jobs for conservation students who are recreation and water stewardship based. It also engaged federal and local partnerships, each taking their part in ensuring the health of our important water resource for the local economic vitality and the many recreational opportunities for future generations.

	Total
Handshake Program Funding Amount	\$22,000
Local Corps Office Funds (total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	\$4,000
Partner's Contributions (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	Total Value of Contributions
1 2013 SCA Intern	\$13,656.00
2 2012 SCA Intern	\$10,608.00
3 Gull Chain of Lake Association (GCOLA)	\$8,036.00
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: Through this great partnership program the Federal Government, SCA and local lake association were able to combine resources, education, experience and funds to protect and preserve our water resource.

B. Comments About Challenge Partnership Agreement: Originally our handshake agreement was going to include the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources as one of

our partners, providing labor to operate the powerwash station. The indemnification clause prevented them from being able to sign the agreement and therefore were unable to work with us on this project.

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.

Corps of Engineers partner with SCA and Gull Chain of Lake Association to help stop the spread of aquatic invasive species.



The Corps of Engineers used the Handshake Funds to purchase:

- Decontamination / Power wash system with Trailer - \$16,730
- Fuel for operation.
- Personal protective equipment needed to operate the power wash station.
- Signage and Brochures to inform the public about aquatic invasive species.
- Operational manual.

The partners in the Handshake Agreement, Gull Chain of Lakes Association (GCOLA) and Student Conservation Association (SCA) provided the trained operators which assisted in performing inspections on boats and trailers entering and leaving the Gull Lake Reservoir. These trained operators would then decontaminate the units using the power washer. It generates 160 degree water, removing any invasive species attaching itself to the boats and trailers. All water and debris the process are collected in a HazMat pad shown below and disposed of accordingly.

The one on one contact with the public and the literature that is disseminated increases the public's awareness of the importance of complying with the state regulations and recommendations in the fight against the spread of invasive species.



Our lakes are a very valuable resource and are critical to Minnesota's 11 billion dollar tourism industry. Our Partners share in the interest of conserving and preserving our beautiful water resource. Gull Lake Recreation Area receives approx. 500,000 visits per year, each pursuing the wide variety of recreational opportunities our resources have to offer. There are at least 15 different invasive species that are a threat to our lakes. It is important to work proactively to keep these from spreading among our lakes. This engages federal and local partnerships, each taking part ensuring the health of our water resource for local economic vitality and recreational opportunities for future generations.

