

Handshake Partnership Program Report - FY 2015 Recipients

1. Name of Corps Project/Lake: Wappapello Lake
2. District / Division of Corps Project/Lake: St. Louis District
3. Handshake Project Name: Accessible, Mobile, Multi-use blinds
4. Amount of Handshake Funds remaining: \$0
5. What has been accomplished?















	Total
Handshake Program Funding Amount	\$30,000
Local Corps Office Funds (total expended on labor, materials, contracts, etc.)?	\$3,890
Partner's Contributions (total value of funds, goods, services, volunteer hours, etc.)	
Partners Name	Total Value of Contributions
1 National Wild Turkey Federation	\$2,893
2 Missouri Department of Conservation	\$902
3 Quality Deer Management Association	\$450
4 Wayne County Sportsman Association	\$1,353
5 Cape Girardeau Career and Technology School	\$7,216
6	\$
7	\$
8	\$

9	\$
10	\$

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.

This is a great mechanism to leverage resources to complete tasks that may not be able to be completed otherwise. These types of agreements strengthen partnerships and ultimately provide quality experiences for our users.

Receiving funding in a timely manner (especially if contracts are involved) could improve this program. Additionally, the reporting requirements and documents required to close this agreement should be addressed along with the application or directly after the agreement has come to completion. Our project ended in FY 16 and additional reporting was required in FY 18/19 and finally this document in FY 21 is needed.

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.

Wappapello Lake partnered with the National Wild Turkey Federation, Missouri Department of Conservation, Quality Deer Management Association, Wayne County Sportsman Association and the Cape Girardeau Career and Technology School to construct assessable, mobile, multi-use blinds for visitors of Wappapello Lake. Members from each of these groups had worked together over the years to provide quality outdoor experiences to visitors. One important topic for each member was providing opportunities for those with mobility impaired issues. So the group began brainstorming about how to create hunting blinds that could both be used for both mobility issues and for other visitors to use for hunting blinds or viewing blinds.

When a handshake agreement became available the group jumped at the opportunity to provide assistance in construction, development and placement of these blinds. The Cape Girardeau Career and Technology School used the blind frame construction as a teaching opportunity for students in their welding program. Once the frames were welded up the frames went to the paint shop at the school where those students engaged in painting the frames. Once the frames were provided flooring and a composite/aluminum camo skin was acquired through handshake funds. The rest of the group began closing in blinds, attaching window and door hinges. Hunting/viewing locations were then scouted and blinds placed for use.

With the multi-use blinds being waterproof they are currently left out year around for use anytime. One blind will soon be moved to a watchable wildlife area where visitors will be able to view all forms of wildlife over a wetland setting that is managed as an absolute refuge. Additionally, our mobility impaired deer hunt success has increased due to the concealment the blinds offer as well as the fact that the blinds are large enough for the movement required to

accurately aim at the target while in a wheelchair. We have also heard story after story of fathers who have used the blinds for youth hunting and how many sons and daughters have harvested their first deer from the blinds. Overall, the blinds have been a huge success for many outdoor enthusiasts.

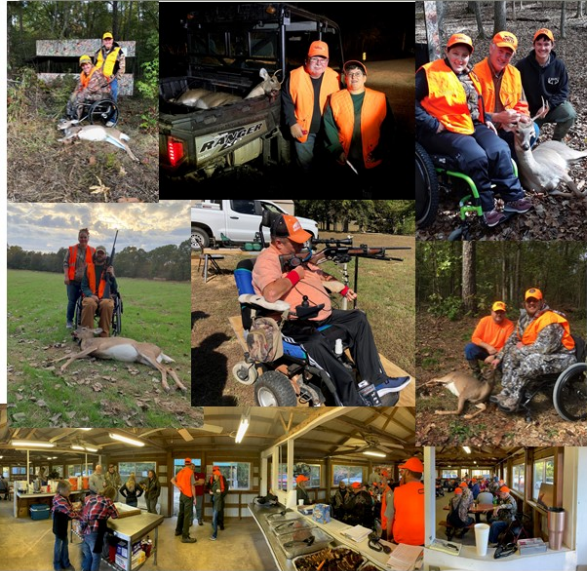
MVS MOBILITY IMPAIRED DEER HUNT

SUMMARY: Wappapello Lake held their Annual Mobility Impaired Deer Hunt October 19-20, 2019.

KEY TAKEAWAYS:

- This event was conducted in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Missouri Department of Conservation, National Wild Turkey Federation, National Guard WET Site and the Wake Foundation.
- There are various other sponsors and volunteers that make this event a success. These sponsors provide all meals, lodging and purchase permits for all participants.
- All participants were required to qualify at the shooting range and wear all PPE's during hunt.
- 24 hunters harvested 19 deer with zero incidents.
- One Marine Sniper Veteran said; If it wasn't for this hunt and the one at Mark Twain that his life would have ended in 2005.
- Another hunter said; I am going to quit calling this the Wappapello Lake Deer Hunt and start calling it her family reunion.

St. Louis District



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