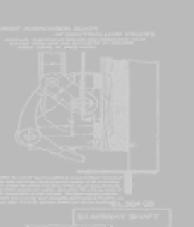
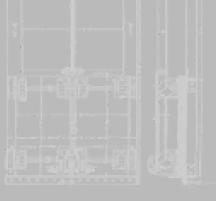
USACE AND CORPS FOUNDATION PARTNERSHIP FORUM

April 5, 2023









Heather Burke, HQUSACE National Partnership Program Manager

Nancy Rogers, Corps Foundation Board Member











Overview



- Introductions
- USACE natural resources management overview
- USACE partnership/volunteer program updates
- Corps Foundation updates
- Discussion/open forum







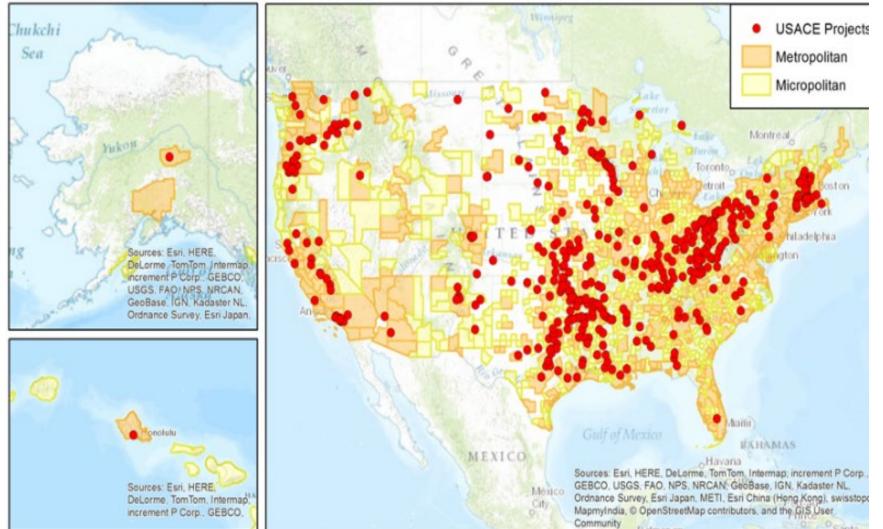




There's a Corps Lake Near You!



USACE Projects and Metropolitan/Micropolitan Statistical Areas

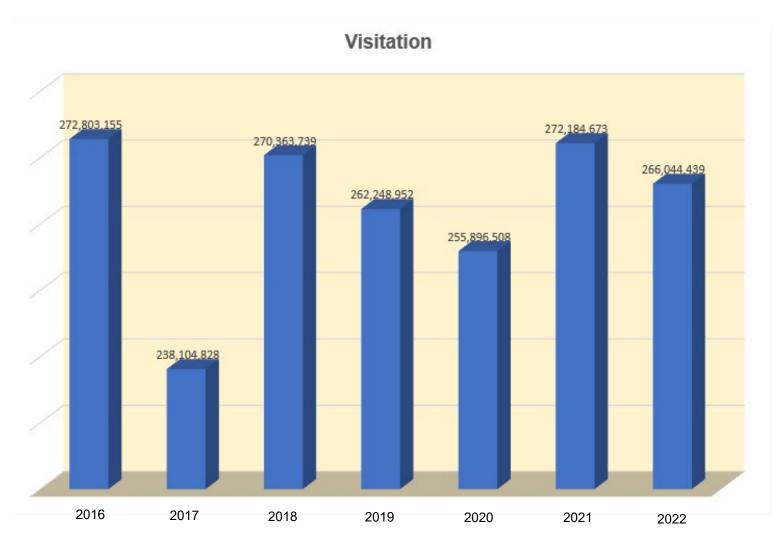


- More than 400 projects in 43 states with 90% within 1 hour of a metropolitan area
- 4,838 recreation areas
- 3,713 boat ramps
- 91,583 campsites
- 109,057 marina slips
- 31,801 picnic sites
- 7,773 trail miles
- 885 fishing docks and public piers



Visitation and Economic Benefits





Support Local Economies:

- USACE is one of the leading federal providers of outdoor recreation and supports 216,000 jobs on an annual basis through visitor spending on trips to USACE lakes.
- 266 million annual visitor's spending contributes approximately \$14.5 billion in local economies.
- More than 500 private concessionaires, with \$1 billion in assets, provide support services and facilities, such as marinas, bait shops and grocery stores at USACE lakes.



Environmental Stewardship Program

- 12 million acres of public lands and waters managed
- 3.6 million acres of water
- 3.4 million acres of forest/shrublands
- 708k acres of grassland
- 4.1 million acres flowage easement
- 55,390 miles of shoreline
- 388 federal listed species
- 14% of all U.S. freshwater fishing
- 55,000 cultural resource sites
- 5,882 sites listed on or eligible for listing on the National Register









NRM Annual Report





https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/nrm.cfm

page 2



NRM Strategic Plan 2021 - 2031



- Published in July 2021.
- 10-year plan that focuses on national efforts and activities that support the field in the recreation and environmental stewardship programs

4 goal areas:

- **Workforce** Build and cultivate a world-class team equipped to deliver high quality solutions.
- **Communication** Effectively communicate the NRM mission to enhance understanding, support, and appreciation of the program by internal and external audiences.
- **Resourcing** Apply consistently informed decision-making practices, adaptive approaches, and efficient use of available resources to deliver a quality NRM program.
- **Program Delivery** Support and deliver innovations that sustain the NRM program to meet current demands and future challenges.

Update: Sub-team working groups are currently addressing action items





NATURAL RESOURCES MANAGEMENT PROGRAM

STRATEGIC PLAN

2021-2031

https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/nrmstrategicpla n/pdfs/NRM%20Strategic%20Plan%2006-14-2021.pdf



Recreation Task Force



- Directed by Congress in House Report 116-449, FY 21 Appropriations Bill to create a Recreation Task Force to develop a plan to maintain and enhance recreational opportunities at Corps projects.
- Year 1 report included a historical review of recreation use, funding, and overall condition of Corps recreation assets including deferred maintenance and repair backlogs. Sent to ASA(CW) in December 2021. Released to public in January 2023.
- Year 2 final report included recreation total backlog numbers (\$3B) and categories, proposals to address the needs identified by the Task Force and from outdoor recreation stakeholders and the public.
- Quarterly partner/stakeholder meetings were conducted in 2022
 - Q1: March 4
 - Q2: June 22
 - Q3: August 23
 - Q4: October 14



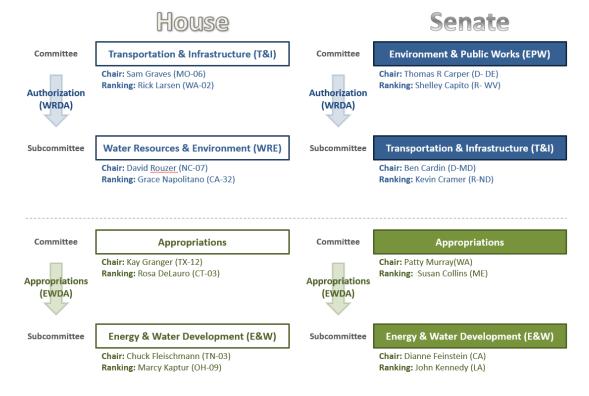


Authority/Legislative Limitations and Challenges



USACE is represented by different committees and examiners than other FLMAs:

- House Authorization (WRDA)
 - Committee: Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I)
 - Subcommittee: Water Resources and Environment (WRE)
- House Appropriations (EWDA)
 - Committee: Appropriations
 - Subcommittee: Energy and Water Development (E&W)
- Senate Authorization (WRDA)
 - Committee: Environment and Public Works (EPW)
 - Subcommittee: Transportation and Infrastructure (T&I)
- Senate Appropriations (EWDA)
 - Committee: Appropriations
 - Subcommittee: Energy and Water Development (E&W)



Updated April 2023

This means we are often not included in key recreation and natural resource legislation:

 Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act (FLREA); Great American Outdoors Act (GAOA); Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (FLTP agency dedicated \$); Parks Jobs and Equity Act; Recreation Not Red Tape Act; Civilian Climate Corps for Jobs and Justice Act/Civilian Climate Corps Act; Parks, Jobs, and Equity Act; 21st Century Conservation Corps Act





U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Partnering Philosophy

"Committed to working together with partners to accomplish the mission and build enduring relationships through trust, transparency, and shared values."

Lt. Gen Scott Spellmon

Sound partnerships require proactive engagement at all echelons of the organization and the embracement of a partnering mindset which embodies a set of behaviors rooted in three interdependent and mutually supportive elements: Commitment, Communication, and Collaboration.

3C's of Successful Partnering

- ✓ Builds and Sustains Strong, Cohesive, and Diverse Teams
- Works Together to Proactively Solve Problems in a Manner That Achieves Mutually Beneficial Outcomes
- ✓ Routinely Manages Risk, Relationships, and Performance
- ✓ Collectively Sets and Documents Shared Goals and Expectations

✓ Promotes Clear, Open, Consistent, and Timely Communication

- Fosters Shared Understanding
- ✓ Solicits Input to Continuously Learn, Adapt, and Improve
- ✓ Resolves Conflicts Constructively and Expeditiously

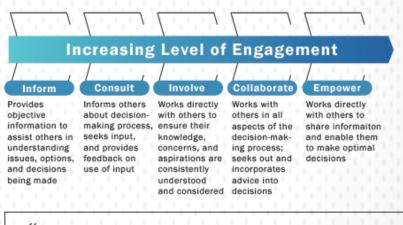
✓ Always Puts the Mission First

- ✓ Ensures Leaders Are Invested and Actively Engaged
- ✓ Seeks Out and Establishes Relationships Founded on Trust,
- Transparency, Accountability, and Mutual Respect ✓ Embraces Innovation and Accepts Measured Risk



Relationship Spectrum

Each partnering relationship is unique and exists along a spectrum with transactional relationships at one end and strategic relationships on the other. Where these relationships fall along that spectrum and the extent of collaboration are influenced by the type of partnership, maturity of the relationship, and commitment towards partnering.



"We must always strive to maximize partnering outcomes to enable the safe delivery of quality projects that are on time and within budget."



Collaboration

Communication

Commitment



Partnership Program



11

Growth of Partnerships Number of Partners 4563 5000 4000 3422 16911672¹⁸⁸⁹²¹⁶⁸^{2377²⁵²⁸} 3000 617 ⁸⁵² ¹⁰⁷⁶ 1089 ¹²³² 2000 1000 0 FY 10 FY 11 FY 12 FY 13 FY 14 FY 15 FY 16 FY 17 FY 18 FY 19 FY 20 FY 21 FY 22

FY 22 total partners: 4,563 (33% increase from FY 21)

Corps projects with partnerships: 311 of 403 (77%)

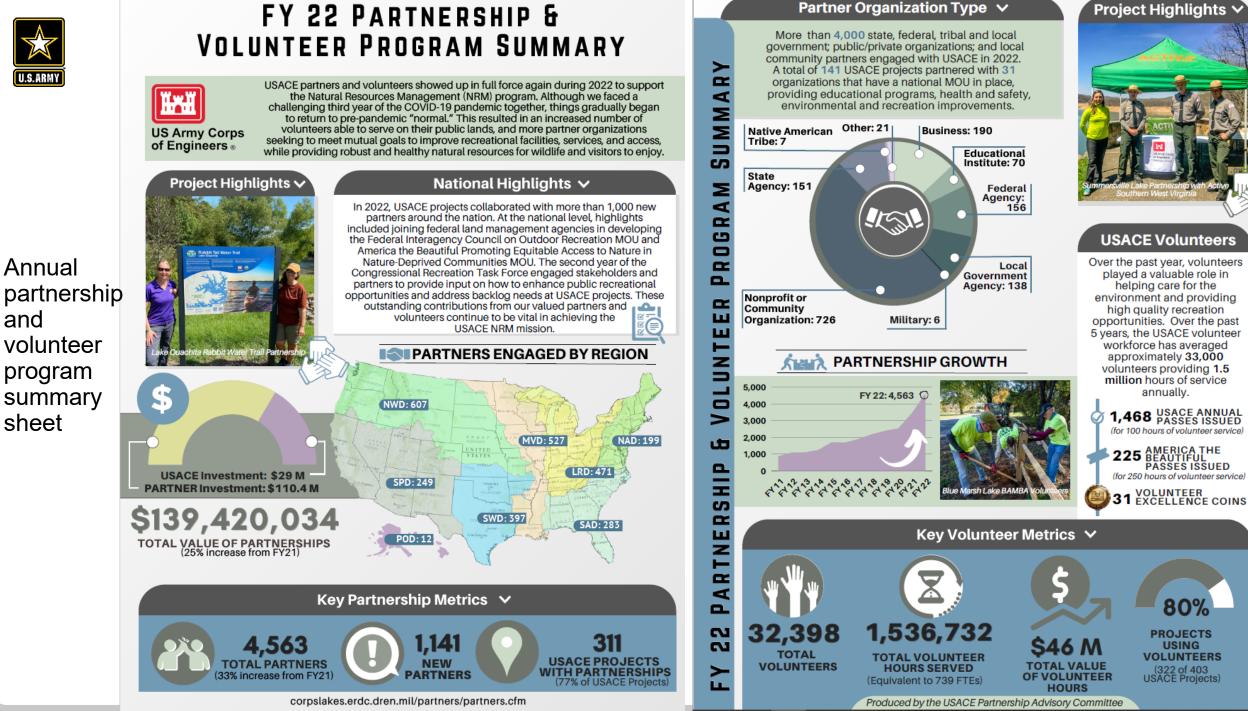
Total value of partnerships: \$139,420, 034

FY 22 volunteers: 32,398 serving 1.54 million hours valued at \$46 million



and

sheet





Partnership/Volunteer Updates



- 2022 Excellence in Partnerships winner: New River Alliance for Climbers at Summersville Lake in the Huntington District
- 2022 Volunteer of the Year winners: Red and Joy Lyons of Carters Lake in the Mobile District
- Partnership/Volunteer policy: Working on updating Engineering Regulations related to volunteers, contributions, challenge partnership agreements, cooperating associations, cooperative management agreements
- Noxious weed cooperative agreements: Working with ASA(CW) office to delegate approval to Districts for invasive species management
- R1S Donations program: Added option for users to donate to USACE recreation areas. Resulted in \$14k since June 2022









Partnership/Volunteer Updates



- New MOUs with America the Beautiful, FICOR, Trout Unlimited. Working on MOUs with Shooting Sports Roundtable, Backcountry Hunters and Anglers
- Actively participating on a variety of interagency teams to meet the Administration's goals:
 - FICOR (Federal Interagency Council on Outdoor Recreation)
 - America the Beautiful 30x30 Conservation Metrics and Parks and Nature committees
 - National Travel and Tourism Strategy- Ensuring Diverse and Accessible Tourism
 - Recreate Responsibly
 - Together Outdoors
 - COMPACT Act interagency task force on veteran's outdoor recreation
- Partnering with Together Outdoors to provide training for USACE staff through Inclusive Spaces Learning Network and IDEA100 (Inclusivity, Diversity, Equity, and Access)
- Working with NPS and other agencies to upgrade public Volunteer.gov page and internal agency management pages
- Working with IWR to develop Qlik page for partnerships data
- FY 24 Partnership PROSPECT training:
 June 24 27, 2024: Mark Twain Lake, IL

 - September 16 19, 2024: Falls Lake, NC





Volunteer Week Spotlights



Celebrate Service

opportunity to recognize the impact of volunteer service and the power of volunteers to tackle society's greatest challenges, to build stronger communities and be a force that transforms the world. This week, we **shine a light** on the people and causes that inspire us to serve, recognizing and thanking volunteers who lend their time, talent, and voice to make a difference in their communities.

National Volunteer Week is an





https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/employees/volunteer/volunteer.cfm



April 16 -22, 2023

Will be highlighting volunteers from each Division again this year

https://corpslakes.erdc.dren.mil/ employees/volunteer/week.cfm

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Plan Your Trip!

Trip Planning

- Corps Lakes Photo Album
- Recreation.gov (877) 444-6777
- USACE Recreation Brochures
- Day Use and Discount Passes New Senior Pass Information
- **DoD Opportunities**
- Gold Medal Award
- Great Travel Deals
- Lodging Travelers
- Military Homefront
- Military/Civilians on OCO Leave
- Every Kid Outdoors
- National Public Lands Day Sept 28
- Get Outdoors
- Take Me Fishing
- Discover Boating
- Lets Move

Become a Volunteer

Volunteer.Gov

Become a Partner

- Natural Resources Management Partnerships
- Corps Foundation

Educational Resources

- National Water Safety Program
- Office of Boating Safety

Social Media

- Join us on Facebook
- Instagram
- Pinterest
- YouTube

Communities of Practice

Natural Resources Management

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

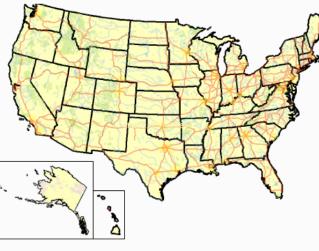
- Headquarters
- Value to the Nation
- Employment

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Recreation Services Status

Mask Requirements at all Recreation Projects: * 17 February 2021 News Release * Frequently Asked Questions

Select a State to view current status of USACE lake or river project Select State OR View on Map

As America confronts the challenges of Coronavirus disease (COVID-19), protecting the health and safety of the recreating public, volunteers and our government personnel is our highest priority. USACE is maintaining access to our projects by keeping day use facilities and lake access areas open such as boat launches, picnic areas, fishing piers, and viewing areas. These areas are, however, subject to evolving conditions related to COVID-19 and decisions may have to be made locally to close specific areas. For more information on the current status of USACE recreation area closures, we ask that you Select a State above to see current status of the USACE lake or river project before your visit. We appreciate your patience and understanding during this unprecedented time.



The Army Corps of Engineers is the steward of the lands and waters at Corps water resources projects. It's Natural Resources Management mission is to manage and conserve those natural resources, consistent with the ecosystem management principles, while providing quality public outdoor recreation experiences to serve the needs of present and future generations. This site is your gateway to recreation opportunities at Corps lands and waters. Welcome to the Corps Lakes Gateway and please be sure to see our National Recreation Strategy!

On The Go

Corps Lakes Corps Lakes on Your Phone! Get all Corps Lakes information while on the go



Learm more about Every Kid Outdoors! * EVERY * KID OUTDOORS Did you have #FunAtCorpsLakes Share Your Experience at Corps Lakes via Hash Tags

USACE Recreation Brochure - Enjoy Your National Lakes and Rivers



Recreational opportunities with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers! View Brochure by State



Corps Lakes Photo album Click on the photo album to view the Corps Album

Corps Lakes & Google Earth! WWW Click here to view Corps Lakes

Resource: **Corps Lakes** Gateway



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Natural Resources Management Gateway to the future . . .

Lake Discovery Recreation Env Compliance Env Stewardship Partners R Visitors Home Forums Learning GETS Tools New Postings Submit News/Events People Index/Search

Partnerships

Headquarters POC

Partnerships Pages Quick-finder Index

In today's financial environment PARTNERING is an essential tool that allows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to effectively manage recreation and environmental resources. In order to successfully meet our recreation and stewardship missions, and to foster shared values, vision, and a sense of ownership it is imperative that we work together with state governments, Native American tribes, private/public organizations, local communities, and other partners to maintain or advance programs from wildlife protection and habitat improvement to recreational facility enhancements.

Partnering helps to pool scarce resources, to promote coordinated, focused, and consistent mutual efforts to resolve common problems and missions, and to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. The NRM Program has embraced this reality and is committed to fully exploring the potential development of new public-private partnerships to leverage limited appropriated funds and human resources.

This page will help you determine the right tools for your partnerships, find the right training to expand your knowledge, and learn from the successful efforts of your peers. You will find answers to longstanding questions and discover how to effectively utilize important partners such as the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation. The bottom line: Partners partnering is smart business.

Start here: Partnership Agreement Decision Tool

Partnership Types: Which is right for you?

- Challenge Cost Sharing Cooperative Management Program
- Challenge Partnerships Program
- Contributions Program
- Cooperating Associations Program
- Volunteer Program

How To:

- Corps Photo Album for Partnerships
- News / Current Issues
- Partnership Advisory Committee
- Partnerships in NRM Assessment/OMBIL
- Policy & Procedures
- Training
- USACE NRM Partnership Agreements Flow of Money/Contributions

- Economy Act Agreements
- Handshake Partnerships Program
- Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement (MOU/MOA)
- Cooperative Agreements

- Division & District POCs 1
- FAQs
- Good Enough to Share
- Grants/Alternative Funding Sources
- NRM Partnership Agreement Signature/Approval Levels

Resource: **NRM Gateway Partnerships**



Your Current PAC Team



- Scott Sunderland NAD (NAP - Blue Marsh Lake)
- Keith Hyde– NWD (NWW- Lucky Peak Lake)
- Phil Manhart MVD (MVS - Lake Shelbyville)
- Mike McCoy- LRD (Huntington District Office)
- Francis Ferrell SAD, PAC Chair (SAW - Falls Lake)
- Taylor Baughn SPD (SPN – Lake Mendocino)
- Heather Burke HQUSACE
- Jennifer Linde SWD (Fort Worth District Office)





Open Forum Discussion Questions



- What do you want to know about?
- How can we improve the NRM program? What are your organization's needs?
- What can USACE do to better foster partnerships with your organizations?
- Have you experienced any challenges partnering with USACE and if so, what was your challenge and how did you successfully address it?

CORPS OF ENGINEERS NATURAL RESOURCES EDUCATION FOUNDATION



www.CorpsFoundation.org

Support, Advocate for the US Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Recreation and Natural Resources Management Program

Non-profit, 501(c)(3), fully managed and operated by an all-volunteer Board of Directors, including USACE retirees with decades of experience working in the recreation and natural resources management program. We do business as the Corps Foundation.

PARTNERSHIPS – ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS - ADVOCACY

• Partnerships:

• Engage the public, organizations, and local communities to support recreation and stewardship at our nation's lakes, lands, and waterways administered by USACE

Activities/Products:

- Volunteer Recognition and Enduring Service Award Program
- Cooperating Association Toolkit
- Water Safety Campaign Over \$1.4 million in grants
- Fundraising Over \$1.1 million upgrades at Chittenden Locks salmon viewing room
- USACE Park Ranger Stories
- NRM Innovations Team Support
- \$5,000 Bonus Award- USACE Handshake Program

• Advocacy (Outreach and Education):

- Educate about recreation and stewardship programs and advance stakeholder support
- Provide fundraising and grant support
- Serve as connection/hub for partner groups
- Advocate for beneficial legislative authorities

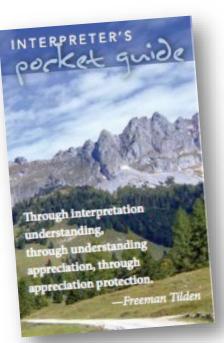


PARTNERSHIPS

- Engage in strategic partnerships with nonprofits, cooperating associations, the public and diverse like-minded groups, interests and organizations such as Public Lands Alliance, Outdoor Recreation Roundtable, and National Marine Manufacturers Association, and the Southeast Tourism Society
 - Raise awareness about USACE NRM program at lakes, rivers and waterways
 - Communicate our partnership role to enhance the visitor experience and help stretch limited federal dollars
 - Educate public and partners about threats to access and use at USACE lakes, rivers and waterways
 - Educate elected leaders about a piece of legislation and it's positive or negative impact
 - Influence and reflect a view of a specific legislation through direct communication



ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS







ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS – WATER SAFETY CAMPAIGN



Water Safety Campaign (U.S. Coast Guard Grants) Six grants since 2014 (Over \$1.4 Million to date)

- ✓ Video & Audio PSAs , Educational videos
- ✓ "Inflatable Life Jackets: Everything You Need to Know"
- ✓ Tailgate wraps, vinyl banners, pavement logo stencils
- ✓ Two mobile games
- Campaign promotional giveaways
- Digital media marketing (Please Wear It)
- ✓ 23,000 Facebook followers!





Campaign materials at **PleaseWearlt.com**

ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS –NRM INNOVATIONS TEAM SUPPORT

- NRM Innovations Team Support
- ✓ Partnered with Tulsa District Innovations Team and SW
 Oklahoma State University on Jr Ranger App
- ✓ Hosting Innovations Store on Corps Foundation website





ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS - FUNDRAISING

Hiram M. Chittenden Ballard ocks

DEDICATED JULY 4, 1917

Nation's Largest Partnership Monetary Donation Seattle's Hiram M. Chittenden (Ballard) Locks:





US Army Corps of Engineers Seattle District











- Top 5 tourist icon in serious need of repairs and improved educational exhibits
- Custom website and social media developed to engage public for support
- Over \$1 million raised for construction and improved exhibits
- On-going fundraising using Salmon Legacy Wall

ACTIVITIES/PRODUCTS – PARK RANGER BOOK

Park Ranger Stories Book "2021 NAI Media Award Winner!"

- Collecting stories from past and present rangers and other NRM
- ✓ Informal history
- ✓ Passing on wisdom and traditions
- Available in digital and paper/ hardback format through Amazon

Park Ranger Stories

"Park Ranger Storles from the U.S. Army Carps of Englineers" is a diverse ambology of storles, interviews, and memories from Corps park ranges, and other hadrool resource management professionals. The collection includes rundleds of stores from more than 65 current and former employees. Here you will read interviews, Brogophies, humy denies stories about status, official on rangers, and the evolution of the ranger profession during its first 60 years. The storles range from program leaders in Washington, DC to reasonal employees and many propial in between, Many of the stores are from people who helped shape what it means to wark as ranger and in raduced reading management. This is an effort to capture stories that would have been lost to firme.



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An anthology compiled by

Joseph Patrick "Pat" Barry for the The U.I. Army Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation Doing builness as The Corps Foundation



https://www.amazon.com/Park-Ranger-Stories-Corps-Engineers/dp/1712590251

ADVOCACY - 2021



Our advocacy activities are conducted by volunteers and consisted of approximately 1,036 outreach contacts to legislators and stakeholder organizations and meeting with or calling legislators.

1,036 Total contacts made via Email, Facebook & Website:

 Mar Moving Forward Act, Federal Lands Transportation Program FLTP, Appropriations Bill, Federal Lands Recreation Enhancement Act FLREA

92

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77

- Apr Water Resources Development Act WRDA
- Aug NMMA FLTP Letter of Support
- Sep Hunt Fish 30x30 Coalition, Reconciliation Bill Federal Lands Transportation Program FLTP, Appropriations Bill

278 Outreach Contacts:

Non-Profits & Industry

- Cooperating Associations
- NMMA Coalition Non-Profits & Industry 43
- Agency Contacts

(National Marine Manufacturers Association (NMMA)

ADVOCACY - Building Congressional Support & Success Stories!



Corps Foundation Advocacy For USACE Recreation: 2021 and 2022

- 2021- Congressionally mandated Recreation Task Force- 2 year assessment of recreation facilities and condition; <u>Year 1 Report made public in Dec. 22</u>
- January 2022, Testimony, Committee on Environment and Public Works ASA Connor questioned by Senator Inhofe- USACE needs to pay more attention to recreation
- April 2022- Senator Heinrich questions ASA Connor during testimony in the Senate Appropriations Committee regarding significant FY23 budget reduction for Recreation
- May 2022- Corps Foundation visits Senators Cramer, Heinrich, Feinstein and Boozman to advocate for Fee Retention and Coop. Joint Management Authority changes.
- June 2022- Sen. Feinstein questions ASA Connor during Senate Energy & Water Appropriations in support for Recreation
- *March 2023* Proposed Bi-Partisan Legislation for Fee Retention and changes to Cooperative Joint Mgmt. Authority to include non-profit organizations w/fee collection and retention.

The Foundation wishes to thank the National Marine Manufacturers Assoc., Southeast Tourism Society, Public Lands Alliance and many individual supporters who love America's lands and waters managed by USACE!

ADVOCACY - 2023 Priorities during 118th Congress

FY 2024 Appropriations Bill

Received \$275 million - that's a \$45 million increase over FY 2023 budget!

Release of Year 2- Congressionally mandated Recreation Task Force Report. Year 1 released in Dec. 22. Report quantifies USACE recreation facilities and infrastructure with inventory and condition survey.



Legislative Advocacy- 2023 & 2024

Water Resources Development Act (WRDA) 2024:

Acquire New Authorities: Use appropriated funds on volunteer recognition, cost-sharing with federal or non-federal public entities for mutually beneficial work- fire fighting, invasive species mgmt., consolidated contract services

Establish a Public Lands Restoration Fund: Address recreation facilities maintenance backlog. Direct funds retained for extraction of resources on public lands like funding provisions in the Great American Outdoors Act.

Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP): Dedicate \$16 million for each of fiscal years 2022 – 2026 for road, bridge, tunnel and parking lot projects.

Current Authorized Fiscal Year FLTP Funding: \$7.4M 2022 to \$9.0M 2026



How to Help the Corps Foundation

JOIN US!

Consider an Annual Membership

- Individual (\$25-250/year)
- Business (\$500/year)

Show your love and support for America's lakes and waters with a Corps Foundation t-shirt! Available to memberships of \$50 or greater- while supplies last.



or..hurry to get your dry bag! Only a few left!

The Corps Foundation is 100% volunteer operated



www.CorpsFoundation.org Like us on Facebook: Corps Foundation



