

# **Environment-Stewardship Business Program**

**CECW-O** 

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## Stewardship Definition

**Directorate of Civil Works** 

#### Environmental Stewardship

—An ethic and practice of maintaining the viability of the Earth and its natural processes.



# **Stewardship** *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) - Mandate*

**Directorate of Civil Works** 

- NEPA Section 101(b): the Federal government will use all practicable means to...
  - -Fulfill its duties as trustee of the environment
  - -Assure safe, healthful and productive surroundings
  - —Attain greatest beneficial uses of environment without degradation or undesired consequences
  - Preserve important historic, cultural, and natural aspects of our national heritage; maintain environment that supports diversity
  - —Achieve balance between population and resource use
  - -Enhance the quality of renewable resources...

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#### ENVIRONMENT BUSINESS PROGRAM

Strategic Goal

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Manage, protect and restore the nation's water and related resources within ecosystem management frameworks and principles.



## Stewardship Outcome Goal/ Output Goals

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#### **Outcome Goal:**

Healthy project lands and waters

#### **Output Goals:**

- All lands managed consistent with ecosystem management principles within watersheds
- Stewardship activities comply with applicable environmental laws and regulations
- Project lands are retained for the life of project

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## Stewardship Our Responsibility

Directorate of Civil Works

- 456 lakes
- Located in 43 States
- 11.5 million acres of land and water
- 56,000 shoreline miles
- Annual budget ~ \$72M





#### Stewardship

Capital - National Perspective

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- Corps acreage is 8% of total Federal acreage east of Rocky Mountains
- · Corps lands viewed as "Islands of Green"











#### Stewardship Capability

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- Capability
  - **—2 HQ Operations staff**
  - **—1600** permanent professionals nationwide
  - **—Static Budget ~ \$72 million**

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### **Stewardship** *Implementation*

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- Natural Resources Management Plans
- Leveraged resources
  - -Cooperate with States & FWS
  - —Challenge Partnerships
  - \_Volunteers
  - Ecosystem restoration programs (e.g. Section 1135)
- MOUs and MOAs





#### Stewardship Benefits

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- National Natural Assets:
  - **Recovery improved for 78 Federally listed species**
  - -8% (1.7 M acres) of "Joint Venture Area (JVA)" land designated in the North American Waterfowl Management Plan is Corps property
    - JVA's are key waterfowl habitat areas for conservation partnership efforts
    - Corps acreage is significant component of total public land in  $\mathbf{JVA}\text{'s}$
  - Providing 31% of total recreational fishing taking place on U. S. lakes > 10 acres

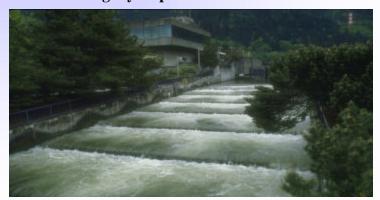
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### **Stewardship Current Conditions**

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• Conflicts with other operations activities e.g. hydropower vs. fisheries





### **Stewardship Current Conditions**

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• Significant demand for both consumptive and non-consumptive fish and wildlife related recreation





### **Stewardship Current Conditions**

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- Wildlife related recreationists - U.S.
  - **—35** million anglers
  - **—14 million hunters**
  - —63 million wildlife watchers
- Economic impact
  - **—\$100+ billion spent on trips and equipment**







### **Stewardship Current Conditions**

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- Prime project lands are out-granted
- Continuing pressure to excess valuable natural resources lands
- Significant opportunities exist to improve aquatic, wetland and terrestrial resources on Corps lands



### **Stewardship Current Conditions**

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- Inadequate natural and cultural resources inventories
  - —Status of threatened/ endangered species on projects is poorly known
- Hiring practices for technical personnel needs improvement (generalist vs. specialist)
- Lack of public awareness

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### **Stewardship Shaping Our Strategy**

**Directorate of Civil Works** 

#### **USACE Environmental Operating Principles**

- Announced March 02 by Chief
- Emphasize Corp's environmental awareness
- To achieve greater synergy between environmental sustainability and execution of all USACE Civil and Military activities
- Integral to Stewardship Business Program



## **Stewardship Shaping our Strategy**

**Directorate of Civil Works** 

#### **Environment-Stewardship Support Program**

- · Purpose: broad business program support
- Stewardship Advisory Team
- Facilitates business program direction and buy-in
- Launch: July 2002, Portland, OR

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#### Stewardship Shaping our Strategy

**Directorate of Civil Works** 

#### **Natural Resources Stakeholders Listening Session**

- Representatives of stewardship stakeholders nationwide
- To identify national natural resources stewardship needs
- To assist in developing national priorities and appropriate actions
- September 02, Nashville, TN

