

# U.S Army Corps of Engineers Partnerships with the Military



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US Army Corps of Engineers  
**BUILDING STRONG**®

# Partnerships with the Military

- The Corps of Engineers is dedicated to encouraging the use of Corps recreation resources by the military and their families.
- High priority: Increased public awareness of Corps recreation programs, including increased awareness by Department of Defense and Armed Forces Commands
- RECREATION STRATEGIC PLAN  
Goal 2.4 - Strengthen relationships with military installations to meet the needs of both military families and the recreating public to foster use of Corps facilities by active duty, retired, and reserve military veterans and families.



# Two Programs to Bring Wounded Warriors to Work at Your Project

## Goals:

1. Help wounded warriors recuperate by putting them to work
2. Help transition back to active duty or in the separation from the Army
3. Allow federal agencies to help in the process
  - Operation Warfighter (OWF)
    - **DoD program** that includes all branches of military
  - Warriors in Transition Program (WTC)
    - **ARMY** program



**Operation Warfighter: DoD internship program that places wounded, ill, and injured Service members in supportive work settings that:**

Positively impact the recuperation process through the return to work.

Help participants get ready to return to duty or separate from the military.

Help Federal government agencies to better understand the skill sets and challenges of transitioning wounded, ill and injured Service members.



# Internship Overview

Service members are matched with assignments that consider their interests and utilize their skills, thereby creating productive internships beneficial to the participant and the employer.

Employer pool is limited to Federal agencies. **Salaries are paid by DoD.**

DoD will provide necessary security clearances.

DoD will assist in facilitating transportation.

OWF Partners with the DoD Computer and Electronics Accommodations Program (CAP) to provide participants' CAC/ computer access



# Service Member Eligibility

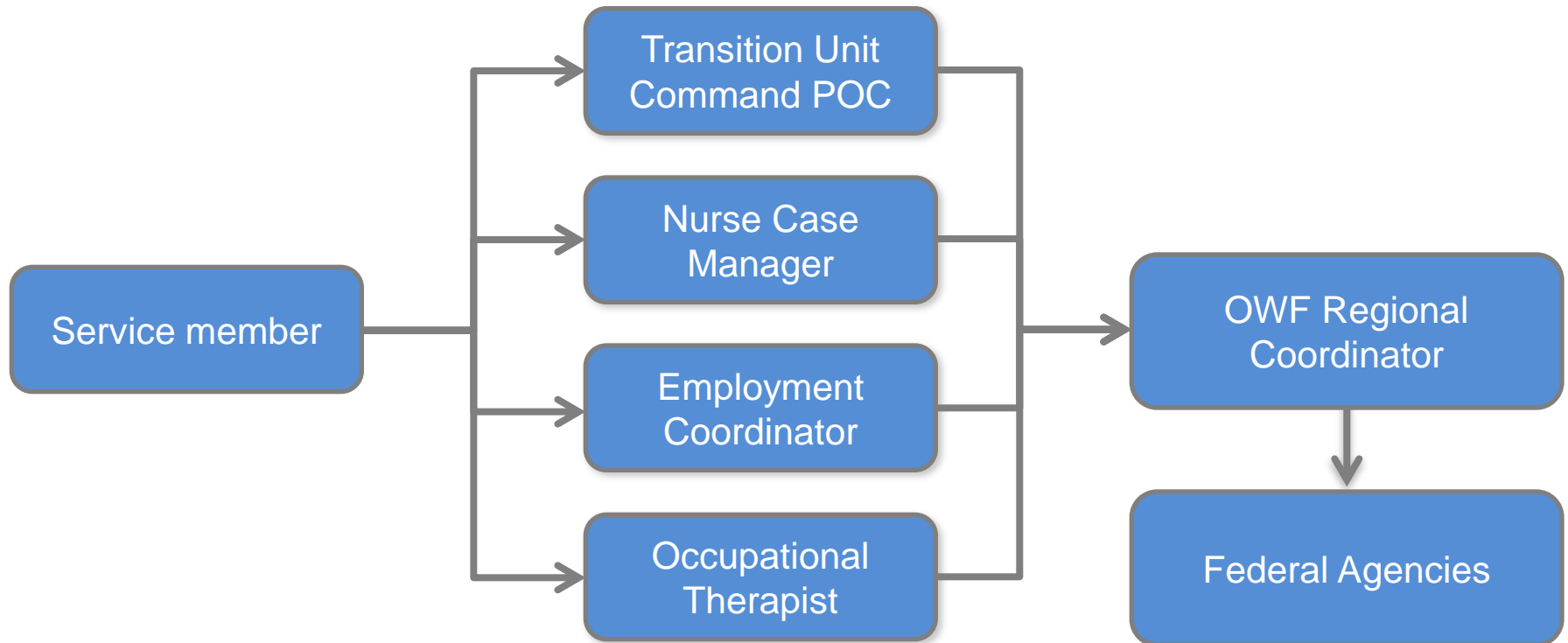
- **Wounded, Ill and Injured (WII)** — Open to all wounded, ill, or injured Service members assigned to a Military Treatment Facility, an Army Warrior Transition Unit, the USMC Wounded Warrior Regiment, the Air Force Wounded Warrior Program, or the Navy Safe Harbor Program.





# Medical Clearance Process

Each Service member must be determined to be medically ready to participate in OWF and under no circumstance will internship assignments interfere with a participant's medical profile or adversely affect recuperation.



# Benefits for Service Members

- Gives transitioning Service members a vision to the future.
- Builds their resumes
- Develops job skills, benefiting from both formal and on-the-job training opportunities
- Valuable federal government work experience
- Demonstrates to participants that skills obtained in the military are valued and transferable into civilian employment.
- For Service members who will return to duty, the program enables them to maintain their skill sets and provides the opportunity for additional training and experience that can subsequently benefit the military.



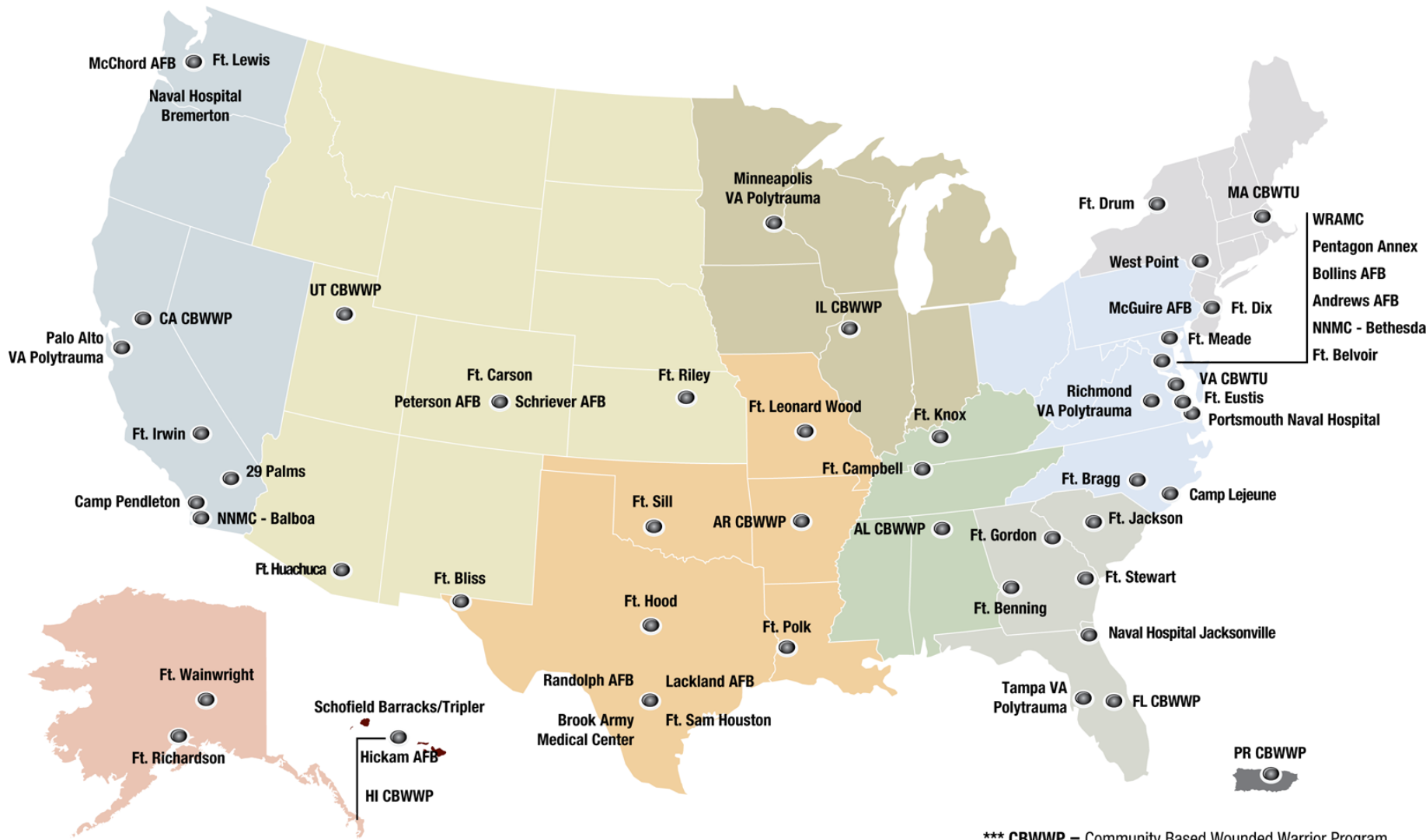


# Benefits for Employer

- Demonstrate support for the military service and sacrifices of wounded, ill, injured Service members.
- Access to the talent, dedication, and considerable military and non-military skills of participants.
- A vehicle for the permanent recruitment of transitioning Service members



# Location Map of OWF Candidates: Contact names are on the Gateway



\*\*\* CBWWP = Community Based Wounded Warrior Program

October 2010

00037-183



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As of August 2014

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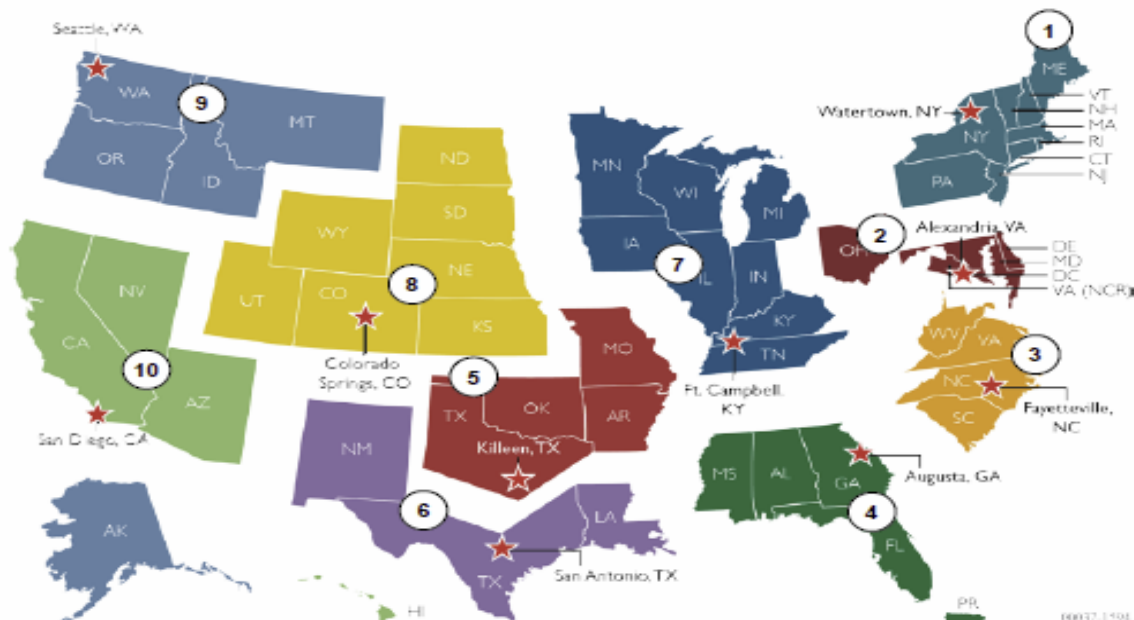
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# Successful Outcomes



- Many agencies have **hired wounded warriors into permanent positions** as they “graduate” from OWF and transition out of the military.
- Many participants have indicated that OWF, as a wellness activity, restored a sense of normalcy and **eased the transition back to work.**
- Not just about employment – Placing wounded, ill and injured Service members in supportive work settings outside of the hospital environment **positively impacts the recuperation process.**





# USACE-OWF Intern Process

## 1. Request Form

- Official request from orgs participating in OWF
- Allows coordinator to match appropriate candidate

## 2. Selection

- Org will receive application(s)
- Make selection IAW best practices:  
<http://www.wtc.army.mil/employers/interviewing.html>

## 3. Placement Form

- Captures Critical information about internship
- Acknowledges agreement to terms & conditions

## 4. Intern Development Plan

- ID specific tasks and goals related to desired experience
- Bridges gap between requirements and skill set (Skill Gap)

## 5. Evaluation

- Collect feedback on intern performance
- Assess effectiveness of program

## 6. Record of Achievement

- Officially documents time and accomplishments
- Tool to use as they begin their career search



# BEFORE YOU SIGN UP!

## USACE Checklist:

### NEED

- Identify area of need
- Develop position description & activity hazard analysis

### WORKSPACE / LOGISTICS

- Locate/identify appropriate workspace
- Locate/identify appropriate equipment
  - Computer: (If none available, will have to order new)

### COORDINATION

- Identify proper chain of command
- Will be responsible for reporting procedure





# Put that unusual skill to use



- Wounded Warrior Travis Barnett participates in the unmanned aerial vehicle program in SAJ
- IDs prop scarring on manatees and digitizes into ARC GIS so planners can accurately quantify scarring
- Locates & IDs plant species
- Performs maintenance on UAVs
- Developed a comprehensive UAV training program for new pilots and ground station operators.



# Warrior in Transition Program - ARMY



## Warrior Transition Units

- More intensive multi-complex medical treatment
- Treatment takes place at major military treatment installations
- Focus on healing to transition back to the Army or to civilian status
- WTUs provide personal support to wounded Soldiers who require at least six months of rehabilitative care and complex medical management.



## Community Based Warrior Transition Units

- Typically Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers
- Do not need the day-to-day medical management provided by WTUs on Army installations
- Enables the Soldier to recover & transition closest to his/her personal support network or in his/her home











**Placing water quality buoys at Thurmond**

**SGT Jonathan Jones- assisting with debris pile burning after timber harvest, J Strom Thurmond Lake**







# Lake Project provides opportunity for

# WOUNDED WARRIOR

For a Soldier, coming home from a deployment is never easy, but coming home with an injury is even harder.

Officials at Fort Riley in Kansas are working with the Welcome Home to Heroes Foundation and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Kansas City District at Milford Lake to make that transition just a little easier.

By Scott Saunders and Diana McCoy

Fort Riley has taken the Army Wounded Warrior Program (AW2) and adapted it locally with their Project WIN (Warrior Intern Network). Project WIN is designed to help transitioning wounded Soldiers



# Wounded Warriors.org

**MISSION:** To honor and empower wounded warriors.

**VISION:** To foster the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in this nation's history.

**PURPOSE:**

- Raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members
- Help injured service members aid and assist each other.
- Provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members.



Texas Parks and Wildlife Department and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District's Town Bluff Project Office – Alligator hunt



Partnership between USACE Jennings Randolph Lake, Storm Mountain, Inc., and the Wounded Warrior Project – raised \$32,000

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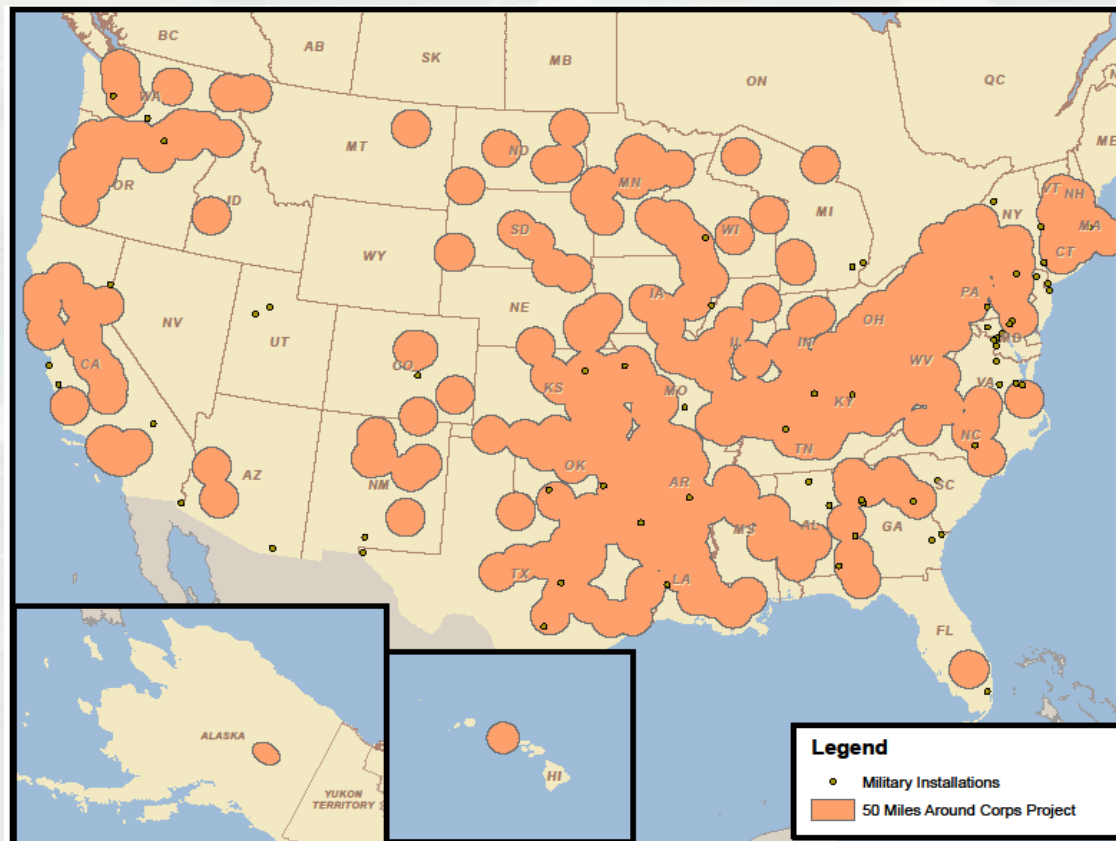
# WIT Managed Deer Hunt

- Perry Lake partnership with:
  - Quality Deer Management Association (provided guides and clothing)
  - Perry State Park (provided cabins free of charge for hunters/guides)
  - Cabela's (donated 10 blinds, heaters, 20 chairs)
  - Ozawkie American Legion, Perry Bar & Grill, Casey's, Golden Pizza, Subway, Perry Thriftway (provided food)
- Led to one of the soldiers coming to work for the lake



# MWR Programs on Military Bases

- USACE working at upper levels to connect MWR programs to USACE sites across country
- 51% of Army installations are within 60 miles of USACE lake



# Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)

## Who are We?



- 1.4 million Active Duty Service members
  - 66% are under the age of 30
  - 58% of Service members have families
  - 1.2 million active duty dependent children
    - 40% of the children are under the age of 5
  - Over 100,000 military families have members with special needs
- 1.3 million Reserve members (National Guard & Reserves)
  - 56% of Reserve members have families
- Over 2 million retirees
- 12 million MWR customers (Active Duty, Reserve, families, civilians, contractors)
- Nation's largest employer
- Reflect America's racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic diversity



# Department of Defense Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)

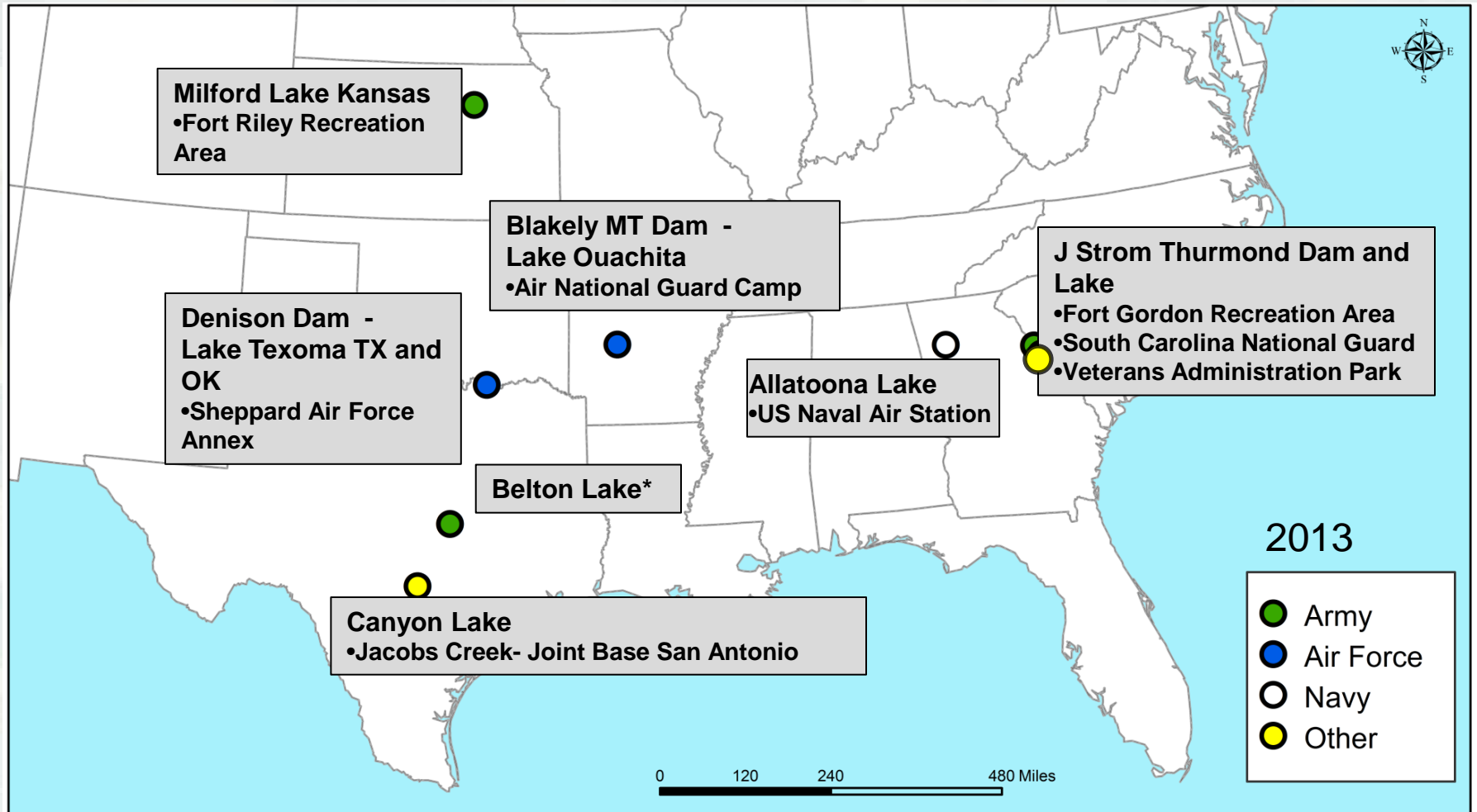


- 534 Fitness Operations
- 189 Libraries
- 291 Multi-resource Learning Centers
- 244 Community Centers
- 180 Single Service Member Centers
- 733 Outdoor Recreation Operations
- 293 Information, Ticket, & Tours
- 182 Arts and Crafts Centers
- 227 Auto Skills Centers
- 449 Recreational Swimming Pools
- 261 Bowling Centers
- 604 Club, Food, and Beverage Operations
- 49 Restaurants
- 47 Name Brand Food Operations
- 182 Golf Courses
- 6 Joint or Armed Forces Recreation Centers
- 322 Recreation Cabin Operations
- 146 RV Parks or Campgrounds
- 91 Marinas
- 66 Recreational Shooting Ranges
- 121 Stable Operations
- 884 Internet Cafes
  - Iraq/Kuwait/Afghanistan
  - 9,819 Internet PCs
  - 3,708 VOIP telephones
- 90,829 Total MWR Personnel
- \$1.5 B Appropriated Funds
- \$1.5 B Self-generated Funds
- \$ 86 M Net Income

***Primarily Installation Focused – Many Supporting Programs***

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# Military Installations on CE Lands



\*Park Deeded to Fort Hood 2002. Additional 5,283 acres permitted for Military Training and NRM

# C.A.S.T. Program – Take a Warrior Fishing Program



Eastman C.A.S.T. Take a Warrior Fishing event. Courtesy of castforkids.org



2015 Events – website is updated in Feb or March each year for these updates

- West Point Lake – June 6
- Stockton Lake – June 13

Willamette River – June 28  
Caesar Creek Lake – Sep 19



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# Other Opportunities

## Operation Purple Camps

- Operation Purple camps offer a free week of summer fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently, or will be deployed. The goal is to give military children tools to help deal with the stresses that result from a parent's deployment, through a memorable camp experience in a "purple" environment.



## Operation Honor Card -

- Corps volunteers can show support of military soldiers, wounded warriors, veterans, and their families by pledging their volunteer hours as a token of appreciation for their service to the nation.
- Individual volunteers can
  - pledge and track their hours online [www.honorcards.org](http://www.honorcards.org)
  - should include the code: "USACE" to indicate that they are volunteering hours for the Corps of Engineers

# Army Rangers from Camp Merrill conduct water drop training at Lake Sidney Lanier

Entering its 4<sup>th</sup> year, this successful partnership includes local, state, and other federal agencies.

Provides rangers an opportunity to meet training requirements for parachute jumps into different elements.

Provides an opportunity for families to see what Dad does.







## Army Reserves conduct water bucket training/ helicopter boundary line inspection at Clinton Lake

Flew over 'hot spots' of significant development pressure, past/current problems

Potential for future annual inspections



# Iowa National Guard training exercise at Saylorville Lake

- High water event left debris on bull nose of intake
- Existing MOA/Economy Act agreement with Camp Dodge
- Removed debris at cost savings of \$30k compared to contractor estimate





# U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, Medial Entomology Branch

- Partnership with **Caesar Creek Lake** to host “Operational Entomology” course
- Curriculum focuses on insect identification, disease vectors, risk assessment, trapping & control that potentially affect troops deployed throughout the world
- 6 training sessions with more than 100 students at Caesar Creek Learning Center
- Corps benefit: Supports our military, testing of arthropod vectors and pests for disease



# OC Memo on Troop Training Exercises

- March 24, 2015 memo from HQUSACE Asst Chief Counsel to MSC and District Counsels
- Conducting a review of the authority to accept troop services at Civil Works projects. Seeking an opinion from Army Office of General Counsel.
- Not aware of any statute or regulation that expressly authorizes the use of troop labor at CW projects.
- Looking into the potential applicability of the Corps' contributions authority to accept troop labor.
- In the interim, HQUSACE opinion is that we cannot legally accept troop labor services for free. (Can still use Economy Act to pay for services)







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Military Partnerships

## Military Partnerships

The Corps of Engineers is dedicated to encouraging the use of Corps recreation resources by the military and their families. Increased public awareness of Corps recreation programs, including increased awareness by Department of Defense and Armed Forces Commands, is a high priority.

Goal 2.4 of the [Corps Recreation Strategic Plan](#) is to “Strengthen relationships with military installations to meet the needs of both military families and the recreating public to foster use of Corps facilities by active duty, retired, and reserve military veterans and families.”

The Corps will contribute to the readiness and resilience of military members and their families through their participation in activities and programs at Corps lakes and rivers. The Corps will strengthen its unique relationship with the U.S. Armed Forces by expanding recreation programs and services for military members and their families. The Corps will promote safe and healthy outdoor recreation opportunities at Corps projects to all U.S. Armed Forces personnel, military families, and veterans.

- [Armed Forces Recreation Program](#)
- [Warriors in Transition Program](#)
- [Corps/Military Partnership Success Stories](#)
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