USACE NRM Partnership Agreements - Flow of Money/Contributions
(for Recreation and Environmental Stewardship Partnerships)

**USACE $$$$ to us**

**Contributions**
(anyone except the project sponsor)
Authority:
33 USC 2325
WRDA 1992, Sec 203

**USACE $$$$ to us**

**Challenge Cost Sharing Cooperative Management**
(non-federal entity)
Authority:
33 USC 2328 WRDA 1992, Sec 225
amended by WRDA 2016, Sec 1155

**USACE $$$$ to partner**

**Cooperative Agreement for Training/Education**
(non-federal or non-profit)
Authority:
33 USC 2339
WRDA 2000, Sec 213
amended by WRRDA 2014,
Sec 1047(e)

**Challenge Partnerships**
(non-federal entity)
Authority:
33 USC 2328
WRDA 1992, Sec 225

**USACE $$$$ to partner**

**Cooperative Agreement for Research & Development CESU Program**
(Universities)
Authority:
10 USC 2358
WRDA 1996

**USACE $$$$ both ways**

**Cooperating Association**
(non-profit entity)
Authority:
33 USC 2328
WRDA 1992, Sec 225

**Cooperative Agreement with Indian Tribes for fish, wildlife, water quality, cultural resources**
(Indian Tribes)
Authority:
WRRDA 2014, Sec 1031b

**Economy Act**
(federal agency)
Authority:
31 USC 1535
## NRM Partnership Agreement Approval Levels

This document is intended to provide a brief overview of available partnership authorities and approval requirements. Corps personnel should coordinate all proposed agreements with their Office of Counsel.

### Agreement Type

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Agreement Type</th>
<th>Authority</th>
<th>Special Considerations</th>
<th>$ Value</th>
<th>Signature</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Contribution</td>
<td>33 USC 2325, Sec 203 of WRDA 1992</td>
<td>Acceptance level based on value</td>
<td>&lt; $2,500: Any staff member, $2,500 to &lt; $100K: Manager, $100K to &lt; $1M: District NRM and DC, $1M or &gt;: HQUSACE DC, NRM, DCW</td>
<td>No agreement to sign. District Contributions Plan provides authorization.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Partnership</td>
<td>33 USC 2328, Sec 225 of WRDA 1992</td>
<td>Signature based on value</td>
<td>$25K or &lt; delegable to OPM, &gt; $25K to $200K: delegable to Ops Chief, &gt; $200K: District Commander</td>
<td>District Commander unless delegated to Operations Project Manager and/or Chief of Operations per ER 1130-2-500. Agreements involving projects in more than one district must be approved by MSC Commander or their delegate.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Challenge Cost Sharing Cooperative Management</td>
<td>WRDA 2016, Sec 1155</td>
<td>A moratorium is currently in place for cooperative agreements and associated leases that allow CAs to collect and retain fees for use of Corps facilities.</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>District Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperating Association</td>
<td>33 USC 2328, Sec 225 of WRDA 1992</td>
<td>Agreements w/ DoD entities</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>District Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Economy Act</td>
<td>31 USC 1535</td>
<td>Agreement w/ non-DoD agencies where the Corps is the operating agency</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>District Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Level of signature depends on complexity of agreement and level of partner signature</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>OPM, Operations Chief, District Commander or higher official - depends on which authority is cited (if any) and/or level of signature at partner organization. Agreements with regional or national implications should be coordinated with affected MSCs and HQUSACE.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>Authorities vary. MOAs are used to document binding agreements between parties based on specific statutory authority (e.g., Economy Act agreements).</td>
<td>Depends on authority</td>
<td>District Commander unless delegated.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Volunteer</td>
<td>33 USC 569k</td>
<td>Delegation memo on file</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>District Commander</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Agreement - Noxious Weed Management</td>
<td>7 USC 2814</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>ASA (CW) has authority to enter into the agreement. Grants Officer signs the agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Agreement - Educational/Training Activities</td>
<td>33 USC 2339, Sec 213 of WRDA 2000 as amended by Sec 1047(c) of WRDA 2014</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>District Commander has authority to enter into the agreement. Grants Officer signs the agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Agreement - with Indian Tribes for fish/wildlife, water quality, cultural resource protection</td>
<td>WRRDA 2014, Section 1031(b)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Director of Civil Works has authority to approve district MOAs and delegate authority to Division and District Commanders to enter into cooperative agreements. District Grants Officer signs the agreement.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cooperative Agreement - Collaborative Research &amp; Development (CESU Program)</td>
<td>10 USC 2338</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>Director of Army lab has authority to enter into the agreement. Grants Officers who have received delegated authority sign the agreement.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

*Note: Signature levels listed are national standards. District Commanders have the authority to set stricter standards within their command. Check with your District Office of Counsel for further guidance.*