



# NEWS RELEASE

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## **Corps signs partnership agreement with Outdoor Dream Foundation** Partnership to provide recreation opportunities for children in need

**SAVANNAH, GEORGIA** – As part of its community outreach and recreation mission, the [U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Savannah District](#) announces a newly-established partnership with the Outdoor Dream Foundation, a nonprofit organization based in Anderson, S.C., that provides outdoor adventures for children with terminal or life-threatening illnesses.

[Col. Jeff Hall](#), Savannah District commander, and Harold Jones, founder of the [Outdoor Dream Foundation](#), signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Aug. 10, marking an official partnership between the two organizations that will make a positive impact on children's lives for years to come.

"The Outdoor Dream Foundation does tremendous work to improve the quality of life for children who otherwise may not get a chance to experience their dreams," said Col. Jeff Hall, Savannah District commander. "I extend my heartfelt gratitude to the Foundation for making this partnership possible. By using the federal lands, waters and recreation areas we have available to us, we can help make a child's life brighter and create lasting memories for them and their families."

Hall and Jones signed the MOU at the [Richard B. Russell Dam and Lake Project](#) in Elberton, Ga., where the Corps has hosted several events with the Foundation earlier this year, such as [Kid's Fishing Day](#) in May and a wild turkey hunt in April.

The partnership spans the boundaries of the Savannah District's three dam and reservoir projects on the Upper Savannah River—[Hartwell](#), [Richard B. Russell](#) and [J. Strom Thurmond](#). Together, these projects encompass 153,000 acres of water and 118,000 acres of land, providing an abundance of recreation opportunities.

Under the terms of the memorandum, both the Corps and the Outdoor Dream Foundation will seek opportunities to work in partnership with one another to support outdoor recreation and educational opportunities. The Corps will foster communication and understanding to make appropriate lands and waters under the Corps' jurisdiction available for specific projects or events, while the foundation will cooperate in planning, outreach, and other joint activities between the two organizations.

The public may recognize Harold Jones from his portrayal as "Coach Jones" in the 2003 motion picture *Radio*. The movie tells the true story of how Jones befriends a special needs teenager nicknamed "Radio" and helps him become an integral part of the Anderson community. Radio is still a member of the community today and is a part of the Outdoor Dream Foundation.

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**Photo caption:** Col. Jeff Hall, Savannah District Commander, and Harold Jones, founder of the Outdoor Dream Foundation, shake hands after signing a Memorandum of Understanding at Richard B. Russell Lake, Aug. 10. Park rangers from the Russell Project Office are pictured from left to right: Ken Crawford, Julian George, Erin Parnell, Gordon Grizzle, Ed Faust and B.J. Hilton.