

Handshake Partnership Program

Program Update

APPL Conference

February 24, 2011



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®

Pine Flat Lake



Handshake Partnership Program

- **Incentive to use partnership authorities**
- **Encourage community engagement**
- **Promote mutually beneficial activities**



Handshake Partnership Program

FY 2004 to FY 2011

- 94 recipients

- \$1,153,000 in “seed money”



Old Hickory Lake



San Francisco Bay Model



Enid Lake



Handshake Partnership Program Investment (FY 04 – FY11)

Handshake Funds: \$ 1,153,000

Corps Offices: \$ 1,377,000

Partners: \$ 4,678,000

Total : \$ 7,208,000



Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **\$250,000 total annual program**
- **\$25,000 maximum request**
- **\$5000 cooperating association bonus**
 - ▶ **could receive up to \$30,000 total with bonus**



Handshake Partnership Program Time Line

- **Applications Period Begins** July
- **Application Deadline** Oct

- **Recipients Announced** Dec
- **Agreement Deadline** Aug
- **Expend Funds** 2 yrs
 - ▶ funds transmitted to District/Project via MIPR or FAD



Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **Application - NRM Gateway Partnership Page**
 - MS Word form
 - Example Applications
- **May submit multiple applications but may receive funding for only one**
- **Recipients must sit out a year before applying again**



Handshake Partnership Program

Application Evaluation Criteria

- **Sustainability**
- **Partnership Value**
- **Recreational Benefit**
- **Environmental Stewardship Value**
- **Communication and Education Value**
- **Innovativeness**



Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **No required % matching contribution by partner's**
- **Partner's contributions - cash, volunteer services/labor, materials, supplies**
 - Reference ER & EP 1130-2-500 Ch 11
- **Make sure to include all contributions made by partners on the application. Proposals with higher % of partner contribution and participation compete better**



Handshake Partnership Program Incentive Categories

- **Bonus point categories may change annually**
- **Categories for FY12 have not been selected**
- **Bonus Points categories for FY 11 were:**
 1. **Utilizes an Existing National Memorandum of Understanding**
 2. **Includes veterans and/or military family organizations**
 3. **Presidents Challenge – Active Lifestyle Program**



Handshake Partnership Program

Cooperating Association Bonus

- Incentive to formalize partnerships by entering into a Cooperative Agreement with non-profit partners
- Compete for an additional \$5000
- Challenge Partnership that includes a partner (Friends Group/Cooperating Association) that has recently signed a Cooperative Agreement with Project/District (qualifying date specified annually) can compete for the additional funds

Reference: - ER and EP 1130-2-500 Chapter 9 Cooperating Associations



Handshake Partnership Program Basics

- **Handshake funds must be spent via the same processes as any other appropriated funds; in accordance with contracting laws, FAR, DFAR, and AFAR, and all other regulations.**
- **Cannot “Give” Handshake Funds to partners**
 - **The Corps does not have granting authority**
- **Handshake funds cannot be spent on Corps salaries or travel**



Handshake Partnership Program

Manage Expectations

- **Realistic view of the opportunity**
 - **Example: FY 11**
 - **36 applications submitted**
 - **11 selected to receive funds**

- **Prior to applying discuss with partners what you all will do if project is not selected**
 - **Go ahead with project using more local office and/or partner funds**
 - **Agree on a scaled down version**
 - **Identify funding from other sources**
 - **Try a different project**



Handshake Partnership Program

New for FY 2012

- 1. Challenge Partnerships Projects**
- 2. Student Conservation Association (SCA)
Intern/Crew - stand alone projects**

(details will be provided in application instructions for FY 12)



Challenge Partnership Project Basics

- **Challenge Partnership Agreement**
 - ▶ Formerly Called Challenge Cost-Share Agreement
 - ▶ Reference Chapter 12, ER & EP 1130-2-500
 - ▶ Example Agreements on NRM Gateway

- **Requirements:**
 - ▶ Corps facilities and resources maintained at 100% Corps expense

 - ▶ Agreement with a non-federal public or private entity

 - ▶ Within authorities and in approved OMP



Handshake Partnership Program

SCA Projects

- **USACE is authorization through Section 213(a) of the Water Resources Development Act of 2000 to enter into cooperative agreements with non-federal public and nonprofit entities for services relating to natural resources conservation or recreation management at Corps Civil Work Projects.**
- **USACE utilizes the existing Department of the Army cooperative agreement (contract) and the SCA.**
- **New** - The SCA intern/crew project does not have to be part of a challenge partnership project to compete for Handshake Program funding
- **SCA program information on NRM Gateway Partnership Page**
▶ <http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/sca/sca.cfm>



Handshake Partnership Program

For More Information:

NRM Gateway Partnership Pages

<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partnerhships.html>

Partnership Advisory Committee Members

MVD - Jamie Gyolai

NAD - Allen Gwinn

SWD - Jeff Boutwell

LRD - Chris Rapenchuk

SPD - Chris Gallagher

NWD - Alana Mesenbrink

SAD - Michael Hosey



Handshake Partnership Presentations

- **Allen Gwinn - Raystown Lake**
- **Brandon Randig - Granger Lake**
- **Titus Hardiman – SWL**
- **Chad Eller -W Kerr Scott Reservoir**

