Understanding Nonprofit and For-Profit Cultures





The Company



Partnerships in NRM PROSPECT Course





2004

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Goals

- Review both the 501(c) non-profit and agency persona and their individual drivers
- Understand what non-profits look for in partnerships
- Examine ways to utilize and integrate strengths of partners
- Understand how non-profit partners can provide advocacy/lobbying
- Learn why for-profit corporations and private individuals give



Non-Profit Culture vs. USACE

Non-Profit

- Articles, By-laws
- Strategic Plan
- Initiatives Plan
- Funding Plan
- Impact

USACE

- Regulations
- Operations Plan (OMP)
- Implementation Strategy
- Budget
- Execution





Make-up of Non-Profit vs. USACE

Non-Profit

- Board of Directors
- Executive Director
- Staff
- Members
- Volunteers
- Donors & Funders

USACE

- Division/District Commander
- Park Manager
- Rangers
- Visitors
- Volunteers
- Donors & Funders







Funding for Non-Profit vs. USACE

<u>Non-Profit</u>

- Contributions donations; grants
- Earned Revenue sales; service fees

USACE

- Congress-Appropriations
- Contributions





What Does The Non-Profit Want?

- Mission fulfillment For Impact!
- Opportunity to expand its resources
- Respect: 2 way partnership not your ATM
- Community recognition
- Long term relationship







Common Myths About Non-Profits

- Non-profits are not accountable
- Non-profits are not businesses
- Non-profits cannot make a profit (It's not really not-for-profit, but instead = For impact)
- Non-profits can't lobby



http://foundationcenter.org 990 information on foundations

What it tells you:

- Size/operating budget of organization
- Total revenue and source of revenue
- Total expenses
- Cash reserves
- How much top employees
 make in salary

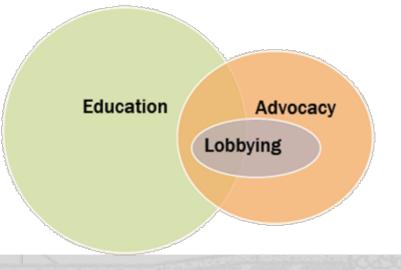
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Non-Profit Advocacy/Lobbying

- Public lands and non-profits have opportunities and needs that are affected by the choices of legislators and policy makers.
- 501 (c)(3) organizations <u>can</u> engage in education, advocacy, and lobbying (in limited quantities: 20% of a non-profit's \$ and time can go to lobbying) that furthers their charitable purpose
- Government employees may NOT engage in lobbying as part of their professional lives, but can as private citizens**

**(Caution: Be careful to avoid the appearance of impropriety.)







Benefits of Non-Profit Advocacy

- Enhance agency reputation
- Attract partners
- Support agency priorities
- Leverage federal funding with other sources and volunteers
- Inform public
- Carry out stewardship

NOTE: Local advocacy is very important! Elected officials pay more attention to what's written in their local/state papers than what's in the Washington Post. New authorities rise from the constituents.





Non-Profit Advocacy/Lobbying

- <u>Education</u>: Providing **unbiased** info to the government or public
 - Ex: "The Corps legal decision to terminate cooperative joint management agreements affected operations of 8 coop associations, 34 parks and 4 visitor centers."

- <u>Advocacy</u>: Sharing info with legislators, executive branch or the public to influence them, but not a specific legislation or call to action
 - Ex: "The Corps really needs to have the ability and legal authority to have cooperative joint management agreements to benefit the public and its partners."

- <u>Lobbying</u>: Attempts to influence specific government decisions or actions. Reflects a viewpoint and is a call to action.
- Ex: "Please support /vote "Yes" on HR 4100 LOCAL Act and the S 2055 Corps of Engineers Cooperative Joint Management Restoration Act"





Partnering with For-Profit Organizations

□ What beliefs do we hold about partnering with Corporations?

□ What questions do we have about partnering with Corporations?

□ What barriers have we encountered?



Corporate Giving Impact

□ \$20.8 billion annually

- <u>www.corporatephilanthropy.org</u>
- ✤ 49% direct cash; 33% foundation cash; 18% non-cash
- ✤ 3% to environmental causes and programs
- □ 81% have a corporate foundation
- □ 56% have formal paid-release time volunteer programs
- Corporate giving continues to rise
- Trends
 - More focused giving (cause and trust)
 - High priority on matching gift and employee engagement programs
 - International giving is on the rise (lead by manufacturing companies)

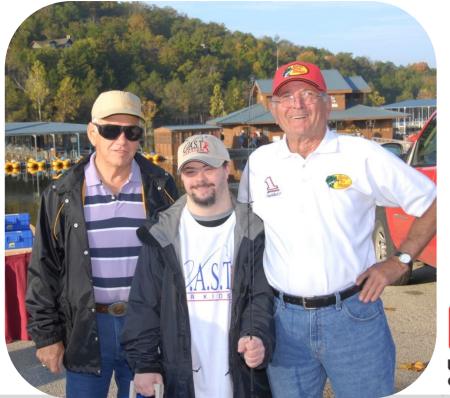




What Do Corporations Give?

- **G** Funding
- □ In-kind goods and services
- Volunteers
- □ Industry expertise
- Promotion and communication









Why Do Corporations Give?

Social responsibility

- Care about the cause
- ✤ To be citizens, not just residents

Marketing

- Internal and external customers
- Employees involved in something "greater"
- Market share or competitive advantage

Public Relations

- Key leaders have tie to the cause
- Industry experience sharing
- ✤ Influence



Why Would Corporations Give to Corps Projects?

- □ Think broader than Corps... we provide access/network to:
 - Our friends groups and cooperating associations
 - Our established MOU partners
- □ Match between the land's needs and corporate interests
- □ Variety of volunteer opportunities
- Testing of products
- □ We manage areas that impact their industry
 - Tourism
 - Outdoor recreation
- Government connection
- Employee retention (lifestyle/community building)
- Past success trust







Risks for the Corps

- Perception of commercialization
- □ Implied endorsement
- **Corporate image**
- □ Contracting and/or litigation conflict
- Loss of trust unable to keep our end of agreement
 - Budget changes
 - Regulation or law changes





Where to Meet/Find Corporations

- Partners of current partners
- □ Chambers, economic development and civic groups
- Look at which corporations are within 100 miles of your project
- □ Internet NRM Gateway & corporations with common goals
- □ Current State partnerships with corporations
- □ Topical conferences/trainings (conservation, tourism...)





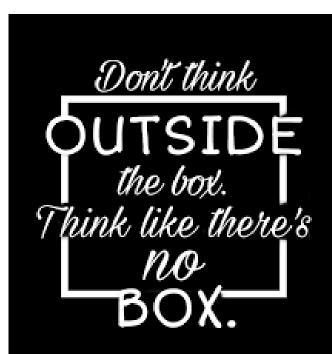






Group Exercise: What Non Profits and For Profits are in Your Community?

- Break into teams of 3 or 4 for 10 minutes
- List organizations that are within 50-100 miles of your project.
 Examples are provided on the handouts.
- Think outside the box like there is no box!
- Even organizations that seemingly have no connection to the Corps may have an interest in working with us.
- Each group will work with an instructor and report their ideas



How to Approach a Corporation or Non Profit

Research and understand the organization before approaching

- What is their mission and future goals
- Social responsibility and community engagement
- Past giving
- Bring friends that already have a relationship to the table
- Personal contact
 - Set up a meeting w/foundation director or community outreach point of contact
 - First meeting is getting to know each other follow their lead based on interest
 - If mutual interest, set up second meeting and offer to bring proposal
- □ Simple, to the point partnership proposal
 - Don't lead with a bunch of policy and paperwork
 - Benefits to them and for the public (Corps)
 - What we can offer to the partnership and what we need
 - Plan for recognition and public relations





Resources

<u>http://www.tgci.com/funding.shtml</u> - grant opportunities/foundations by state

□ <u>http://foundationcenter.org</u> – 990 information on foundations

□ <u>http://philanthropy.com</u> – go to corporate giving

<u>http://foundationcenter.org/findfunders/topfunders/top50giving.html</u>



