Introduction to the NRM Partnership Program

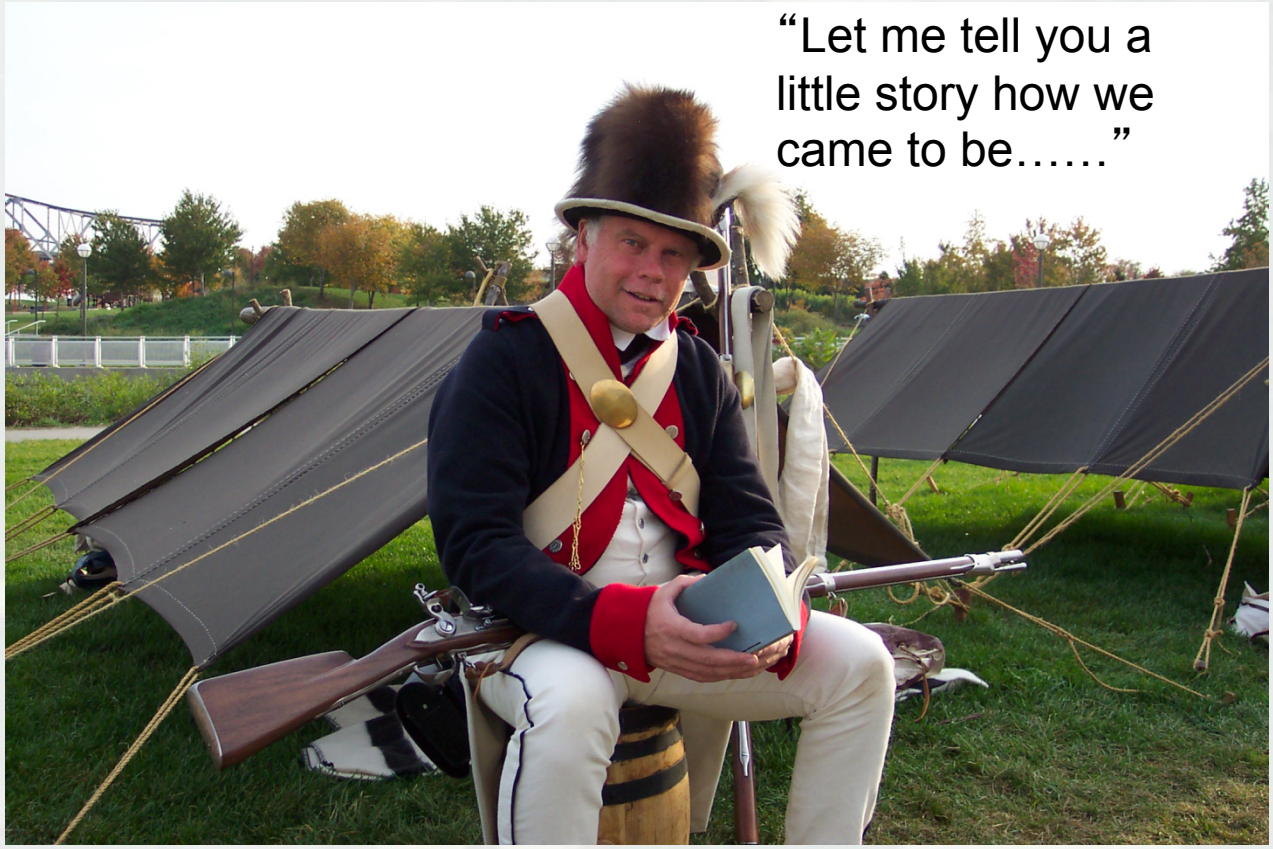
Partnerships in NRM
PROSPECT Course





US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®

History of the NRM Partnership Program



Joint Ventures: Partners in Stewardship

- Partnership conference in Los Angeles, November 2003
- First time the 7 land management agencies co-convened an effort of this kind
- One-stop networking between the federal government and partners
- Over 1,600 participants
- Demonstrated the Chief's commitment to partnering

“Too often we think of a partnership as a handout instead of a handshake.”

The Seven Land Management Agencies

- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- U.S. Forest Service
- National Park Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Reclamation
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

Outcomes

- The Corps of Engineers as a community recognized the value of partnering at all levels and in all business lines
- Stakeholder listening sessions were conducted
- Created HQ senior partnership position
- Partnership Advisory Committee established in October 2003

Partnership Program Status 2004

- Lack of understanding of the value of partnering at all levels
- Stakeholder listening sessions
  - "Agency culture is bureaucratic and self-serving"
  - "Processes are daunting"
  - "Corps does not partner like a partner"
- Established national committee to evaluate existing policies, authorities and develop new strategies
- Redefined "Partnership"

Partnership Advisory Committee 2004

PAC 2009 – Raystown

- LRD – Gene Davis
- MVD - Richard Otto (Retired)
- NAD - Cori Brown (Retired)
- NWD - Greg Miller (Retired)
- POD - Mike Lee
- SAD - Mike Hosey
- SPD - Chris Gallagher (Would really like to retire)
- SWD - Jeff Boutwell

Partnership Advisory Committee Strategies

- Policy - Revise regulations and develop legal primer
- Authorities - Legislative package modeled after other federal agencies authorities
- Training - APPL Workshop
- Funding - Non-appropriated funding source for multi-year efforts
- Incentives-Handshake funding, special items tag, performance measures
- Interagency collaboration team

Issues and Challenges

- Reduced funding, aging infrastructure and increasing customer demand
- Current organizational system results in different policy determinations
- Lack of clear policy guidance and poor decision making processes
- Lack of institutional knowledge
- Lack of basic authorities available to other land management agencies
- Inconsistency of interpretation of policies between districts and offices within the districts specifically with OC, RE etc.

Authority Needs

- Expand challenge partnership authority to include leased lands.
- Allow USACE to advance a percentage of funds or other resources to promote broader participation in cost share partnerships.
- Broad authority "to provide assistance to, and to cooperate with, federal, state and public and private agencies and organizations" for mission related purposes.
- Authorize the cooperative production of educational and interpretative program materials with interpretive associations.
- Permit and prescribe conditions for expending funds outside (but directly related to) fee owned lands.

The Partnership Philosophy

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers plays a key role in shaping the future of our Nation's water resources. Our partners are essential in making this happen. We recognize that partnerships must flow in both directions. Cooperation and collaboration are the keys to innovative solutions to meet a diversity of need. When we put our heads together, we can find answers far better than anything we can think of ourselves.

Partnerships are a smart way of doing business.

What is a Partnership?

- A relationship where people work together to achieve goals

- Voluntary collaboration working toward a common objective related to the agency/partner's mission
- Combines individual strengths to solve problems
- Builds consensus and broad-based community support

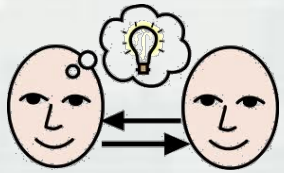
- Leverages funds and resources to meet challenges and improve opportunities
- Appropriate legal authority, consistent with agency policies

What is a Partnership?

- They may be formal or informal.

- Can be as simple as a contribution of materials, services, or funds (It is NOT a lease, license, or contract)
- Partnerships grow and change with time.
- Partnerships are not about doing more with less, but doing more with more partners.

What's the Big Deal About Partnerships?



- Avoid unnecessary duplication of effort and promote coordinated efforts to resolve common challenges
- Partnerships are not only important, they are a necessity!
- Agency culture needs to promote partnering as a part of the management model and encourage training for staff.
- FY 14 Recreation budget = $252 million. Without sustainable cost-effective partnerships => Decrease in services and amenities and degradation of natural resources

- FY 13 partnerships reported in OMBIL: 1,089 partnerships with a total value of $50.8 million
- 51,368 Corps volunteers contributed 1,593,452 hours of work with a value of $35.3 million

Partnership Connection to the Recreation Strategic Plan

- Partnerships show up in all four Goals, with heavy focus in Goal 2 and are mentioned in 29 action items (approx. 1/3)
- Ensure access to water resources and quality outdoor recreation opportunities through new authorities and increased partnerships.
- Recreation Strategy action items in progress:
  - Working with Office of Counsel on consistent policies
  - Strengthening military partnerships – Military pass program, CAST Take a Warrior Fishing program, employment of Wounded Warriors
  - Engaging the CNREF to develop an alliance of cooperating associations
  - Building partnership competencies at all levels – NRMG pages, PROSPECT class, webinars: Please spread the word!

Building the Partnership Paradigm

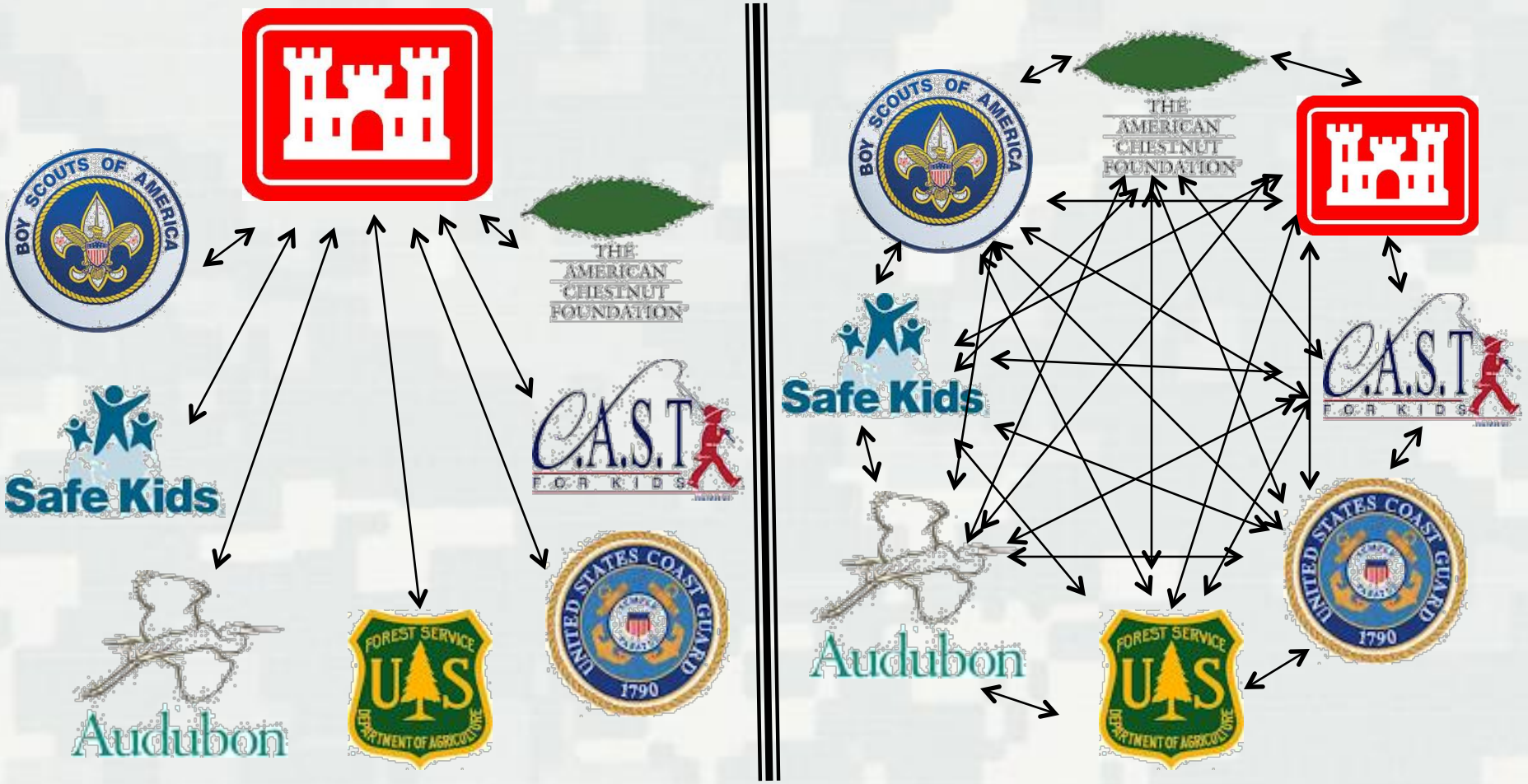
- Be proactive. Don't wait until you need something from someone.
- Attend local community events and make personal invitations to potential partners.
- Partnerships are not "free." They take time and effort to cultivate, and require a foundation built on trust to be successful.
- Where there is a will, there is a way.
- Partnerships are about getting to yes and finding ways to get things done.

Principles for Success

- Partnerships should be treated like a marriage.
- Establish clear expectations of roles and responsibilities at the beginning of the relationships to avoid future trials and tribulations.
- Share the resources and rewards.
- Never pass up a good catalyst.
- There is no reason to reinvent the wheel. Use the Gateway and the PAC team to find out if someone has done what you'd like to do.

- Communicate, communicate, communicate
- Learn the art of collaboration. Use processes such as master plan development as an opportunity to collaborate.

Consulting versus Collaborating



More interests collaborating = more potential partners, higher success for projects to be implemented, and more resources to draw upon

Understand Partnerships as Systems

- Networked partnerships with 3, 4, or more partners tend to be more productive relationship systems
- Federal partners often excel in planning, whereas private partners often excel at implementation.
- For a successful partnership, think of volunteers as investors who expect a return on the value they provide.
- The more interrelated the investment returns are, the stronger, more productive and longer lasting the partnership.

Partnership Challenges 2014

- What our partners say:
  - "Your processes are daunting and we don't understand them."
  - "You don't partner like a partner.
  - "When we deal with one part of the Corps, it is not like dealing with another part."
  - "We are frustrated."
- Our current authorities do not fully support two-way partnering.
- Districts are not consistent in policy interpretation.
- Support elements such as Office of Counsel (OC), Contracting, and Resource Management often adopt very conservative approaches.
- NRM and OC lack institutional knowledge at all levels.
- Decreasing funding=> less staff => less time to foster relationships with current or potential partners

Partnering Authorities/Guidance

- **WRDA 1992: Sec 203 (33 USC 2325) and Sec 225 (33 USC 2328), PL 98-63 (33 USC 569c)**: Authority to accept contributions, volunteers, and set up Challenge Partnership Agreements
- **42 USC 1856a, 41 USC 501, 31 USC 6301, WRDA 2000: Sec 213 (33 USC 2339), WRDA 1998: Sec 11, WRDA 1996: Sec 310, WRDA 1976: Sec 120:** Authorities to enter into cooperative agreements for fire protection, education/training, environmental conservation, research/development, and law enforcement services
- **ER/EP 1130-2-500**, Partners and Support, Chapter 9 (Cooperating Associations), Chapter 10 (Volunteers), Chapter 11 (Contributions), Chapter 12 (Challenge Partnerships, formerly Challenge Cost Share)
- **Executive Order 13352**, 26 Aug 2004, Facilitation of Cooperative Conservation: Orders agencies to work together to meet conservation goals

7 USACE Authorized Partnership Types: Choosing the Right Tool for the Job

NOTE: Sometimes, more than one type of agreement will work for your partnership. The length, complexity and extent of the project or partnership should drive the choice of agreement tool/partnership type

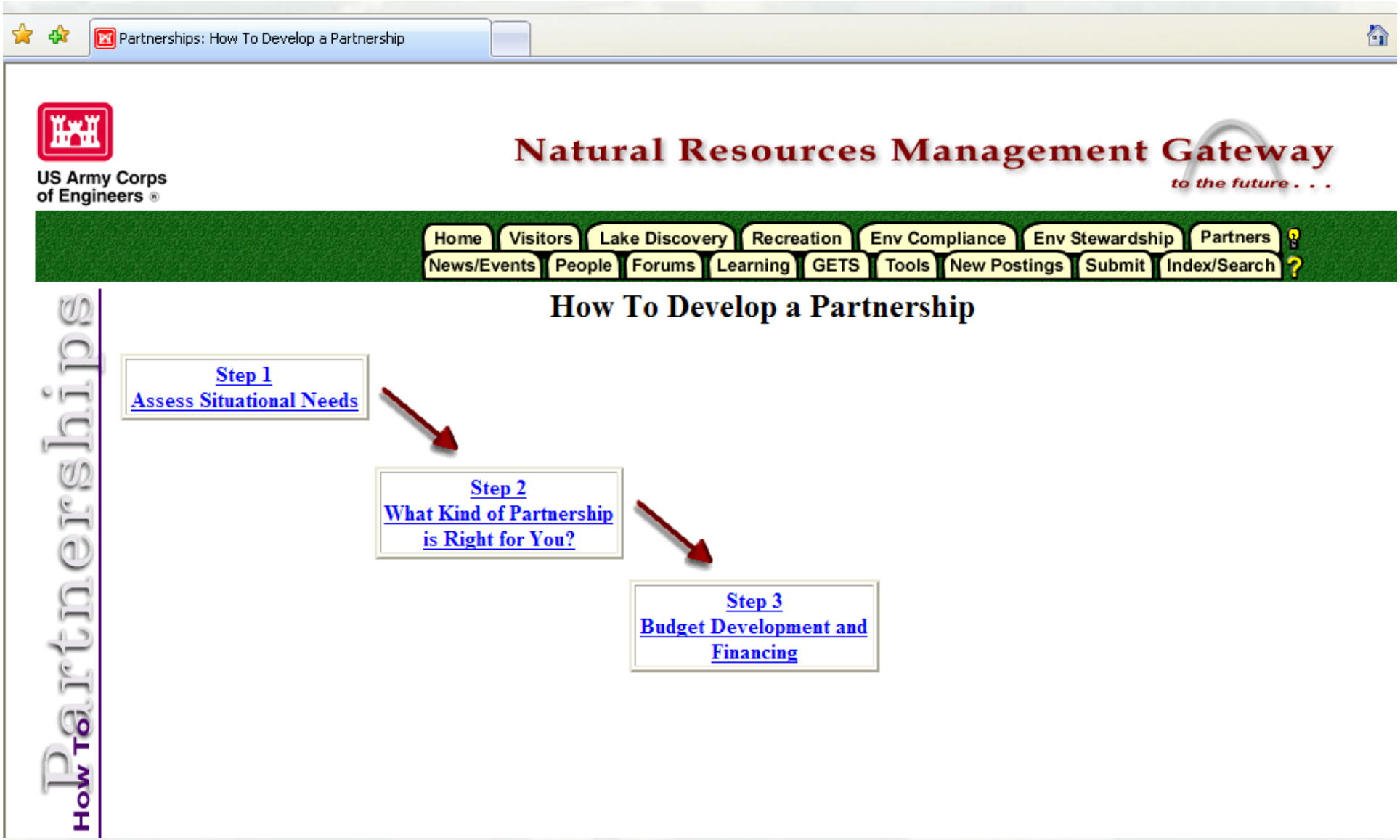
- **Economy Act Agreements:** Agreements for services and/or supplies with other federal agencies which are only used when goods/services can't be provided as conveniently or cheaply by commercial contract

- **Cooperative Agreements:** Agreements for services and/or supplies with state, county, city, or other organizations. USACE authority for cooperative agreements is limited to specific types.

- **Cooperating Associations:** Tax-exempt non-profit, free-standing corporate entities with boards of directors, set up through a cooperative agreement

7 USACE Authorized Partnership Types

- **Challenge Partnerships:** A type of cooperative agreement with non-Federal public and private entities on facilities and natural resources maintained at full Federal expense
- **Memorandums of Understanding/Agreement (MOU/MOA):** "Agreement to agree" but does not obligate funds. MOA establishes legal terms that will be included in a Support for Others reimbursable order to follow
- **Volunteer Agreements:** Allow the Corps to accept services of volunteers for a variety of natural resources work with the exception of law enforcement and policy-making
- **Contributions Program:** Simplest form of partnership. Acceptance of money, materials, or services from groups and individuals geared toward environmental stewardship, restoration, and recreation


Partnerships: How To Develop a Partnership
US Army Corps of Engineers
Natural Resources Management Gateway
to the future . . .
Home
Visitors
Lake Discovery
Recreation
Env Compliance
Env Stewardship
Partners
News/Events
People
Forums
Learning
GETS
Tools
New Postings
Submit
Index/Search
How To Partnerships
How To Develop a Partnership
Step 1
Assess Situational Needs
Step 2
What Kind of Partnership is Right for You?
Step 3
Budget Development and Financing

Step 2 - What Kind of Partnership is Right for You?

District Commanders are responsible for approval/execution of most partnering agreements. However, this authority can be delegated to the Chief of Operations or the Operations Project Manager through a delegation of authority memo. The Corps of Engineers has a number of authorities and programs that allow it to provide work or funds or accept work or funds from Federal, State, Tribal, or non-Federal entities. The following list includes the partnership types within our authorities.

Challenge Partnerships – The Corps can enter into agreements to accept funds, materials, and services from non-Federal public and private entities to provide for operation and/or management and development of recreation facilities and natural resources at water resource development projects, where such facilities are being maintained at full federal expense. This program allows the Corps to accept services or funds in the above circumstances; it does not permit the Corps to reimburse for services. The contributed resources are combined with regular project resources to accomplish work within current authorities and contained in the annual or five-year plan in the approved operational management plan. (33 U.S.C. §2328; EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 12; ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 12).

Cooperating Associations – The Corps may enter into cooperative agreements with tax-exempt, non-profit organizations that volunteer services to the Corps. Cooperating associations are used to accomplish such broad goals as natural resource management, interpretation and visitor service activities at Corps civil works projects, fee-owned lands, and other areas for which the Corps has administrative and management responsibilities. (EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 9; ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 9).

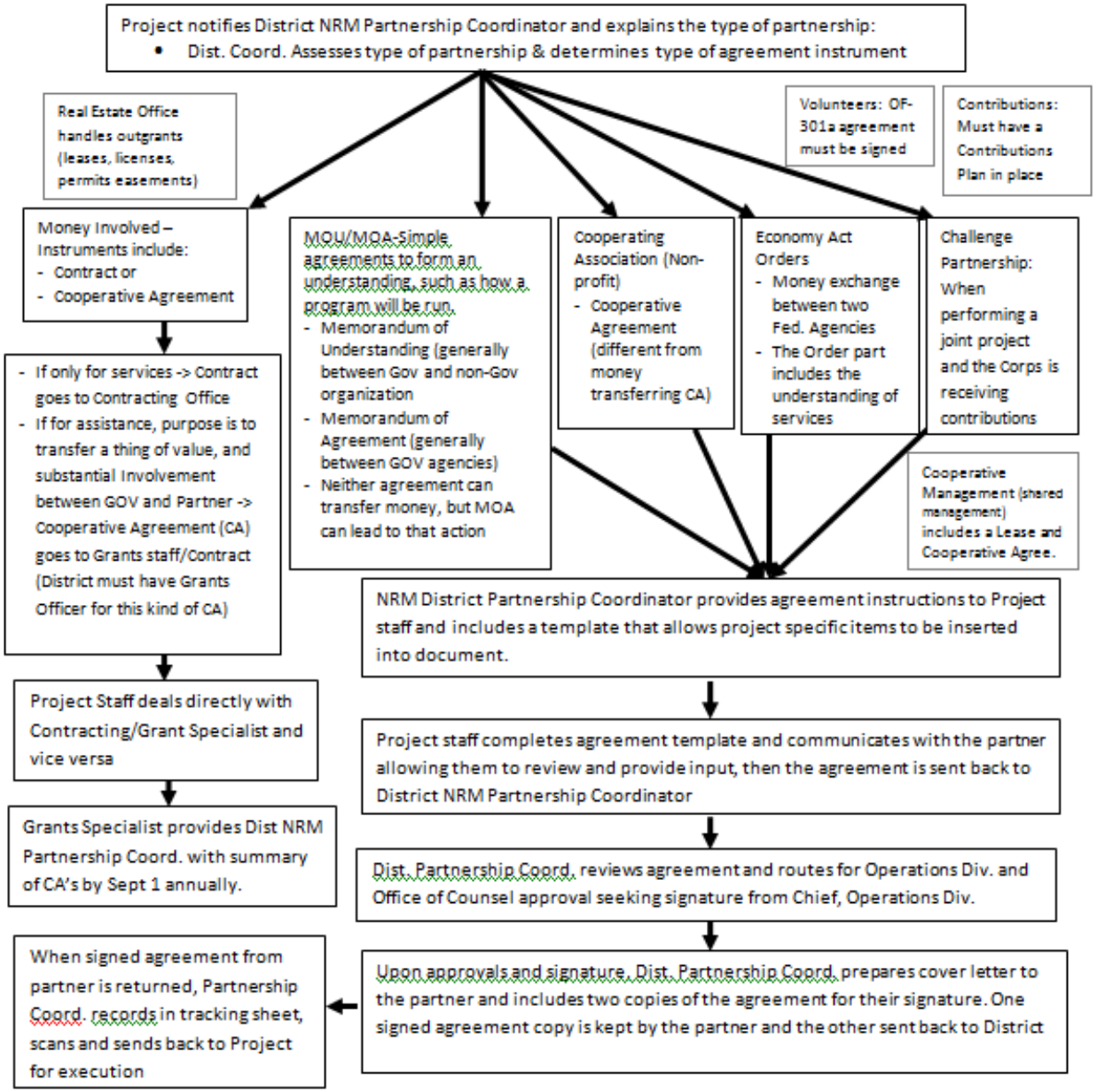
Volunteers – The Corps is authorized to accept the services of volunteers to carry out any Corps activity except policy-making or law enforcement. Volunteer agreements allow the Corps to accept the services of volunteers and to provide for their incidental expenses. (33 U.S.C. §569c; ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 10; EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 10; EP 1130-2-429).

Contributions Program – The Corps is authorized to accept contributions of cash, funds, materials, and services from persons, including governmental entities but excluding the project sponsor, in connection with carrying out a water resources project for environmental protection, restoration or recreation. Contributions must be used for work items within current authorities and contained in an approved annual five-year operational management plan. A contributions plan serves as the agreement for this program. Note: Real estate cannot be accepted under this program. (33 U.S.C. §2325; EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 11; ER 1130-2-500, Chapter 11).

Memoranda of Understanding (MOU)/Memoranda of Agreement (MOA) – These are "agreements to agree" which coordinate the Corps' authorized activities with another entity. MOUs often state common goals and nothing more. Thus, MOUs do not contemplate funds transfers and should usually include language that states something similar to: "This is not a funds obligating document; by signing this agreement the parties are not bound to take any action or fund any initiative." They may be used to run a program a certain way so that it functions better with the program of a sister agency, for example.

Portland District Agreement Process – Snap Shot

Agreements are seen as formalizing partnerships; thus the first step is often done with Project staff forming a partnership or an understanding with an organization, or also includes volunteers. When it's time to formalize the partnership via the NRM program the following occurs:



Economy Act Agreements

Agreements for services and/or supplies with other federal agencies

- Rogue River and USFS: Forest Health Services

- Lucky Peak and BLM: Electrical transmissions lines to power recreation area
- Omaha District and NPS: Environmental remediation, technical assistance

- Lake Ouachita and USFS: Prescribed burns, trail maintenance, construction
- Portland District and BLM: Prescribed burns
- Upper Mississippi River and USFWS: Habitat improvements

Cooperative Agreements

USACE is authorized to use cooperative agreements for:

- Programs fulfilling educational or training purposes
- Fire protection
- Law enforcement
- Non-Federal O&M, recreation and NRM improvements on properties maintained at full Federal expense
- Research and development
  - Portland District and Discover Your Northwest – Creation of Cooperating Association for the bookstore at Bonneville
  - J Strom Thurmond and US Forest Service – Prescribed burn
  - CESU Research Cooperative Agreement with National Audubon Society and Cornell Lab of Ornithology –Avian monitoring
  - Bonneville Dam and Penn State – Visitor Surveys

Cooperating Associations

- Legal entity, organized under state law
- Non-profit tax-exempt status under IRS 501 (c) codes
- Operate under the terms of a cooperative agreement with the Corps
- Free-standing corporate entity with board of directors
- Can purchase equipment and materials for use at Corps projects
- Can operate bookstores on-site
- Can conduct and/or fund programs and volunteer recognition events
- Develops partnerships with communities and improves communication among long constituencies

*The Corps currently has 61 cooperating associations. Listed on NRMG

Cooperative Management of Corps Parks

- Legal review summer of 2013. 12 September 2013 guidance memo reversed 2011 decision. Audits underway, complete by end of February
- Cooperating associations are not allowed to retain and expend user fees generated from Corps constructed facilities where the Corps retains some operations and maintenance.
- Affected ORHF, Friends of Raystown Lake, OLWF, Outdoor Recreation and Outreach, Inc., and Friends of Lake Ouachita
- Change did not affect cooperating associations that operate book stores, hold events or other activities where user fees are not charged.
- Corps paid back $10.1 million back to Treasury from FY 13 O&M funds. Still some fees to be paid back in FY 14 (less than $100k)
- CJM parks turned back to Corps. Some CAs continue limited partnering
- Legislative interest by Senators Blunt and McCaskill (MO), Pryor, Boozman, and Cotton (AR), Casey (PA), Broun (GA)

Challenge Partnerships

- Provide opportunities for non-federal public and private groups and individuals to contribute and participate in the operation and/or management of Corps natural resources and recreation facilities.
- Allows USACE to accept funds or materials for an operating project
- Cannot accept real estate (land)
- Partnership on Corps operated lands and waters; cannot be used with lessees
- Work is generally accomplished during one fiscal year.
- **NOTE**: Challenge Partnerships (formerly known as Challenge Cost Sharing) are NOT the same as traditional cost sharing (PL 102-580 vs. PL 89-72)

Handshake Partnership Program

- Initiate new, or enhance existing recreation and natural resource partnerships by providing a financial incentive (up to $30,000)
- Demonstrate the “handshake” not a handout concept
- Can be used for a Challenge Partnership project with a non-federal partner on Corps maintained facilities
- 2014 Recipients: Allatoona, Carr Creek, Dorena, Falls, Kaw, Red Rock, Shelbyville, Mark Twain, Mount Morris, New Hogan, Philpott, Pomme de Terre, Stockton
- 131 partnerships funded since 2004 with a total value of $10.4 million and 63% partner share ($6.6M)
- Handshake Partnerships since 2004: SAD (31), MVD (28), NWD (23), NAD (13), LRD (16), SWD (11), SPD (9)

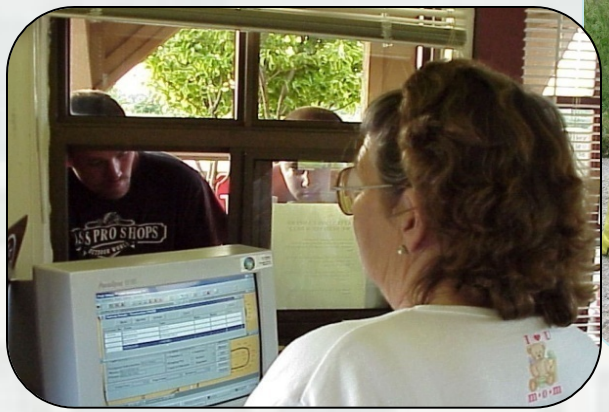
MOU/MOA

- MOU "Agreement to agree" but does not obligate funds. Used for simple common-cause agreements which are not legally binding.
- MOAs, on the other hand, establish common legal terms that establish a "conditional agreement" where the transfer of funds for services are anticipated.
  - Savannah District and Outdoor Dream Foundation: Recreation opportunities for seriously ill children
  - DeGray Lake and Alcoa Metals: Wildlife Management
  - Pittsburgh District and 411th Engineer Brigade: Construction
  - Portland District and Naval Undersea Warfare Center MOA: Underwater inspections, surveys, and repairs

Volunteers

In 2013: 51,368 Corps volunteers contributed 1,593,452 hours of work with an estimated value of $35.3 million

- Receive protection for personal liability under the Tort Claims Act
- Entitled to first aid and medical treatment for on-the-job injuries under the Federal Employees Compensation Act
- Operate government owned or leased vehicles
- Sell permits
- Collect fees



Cannot:

- Create policy
- Perform law enforcement duties

Benefits of Volunteers



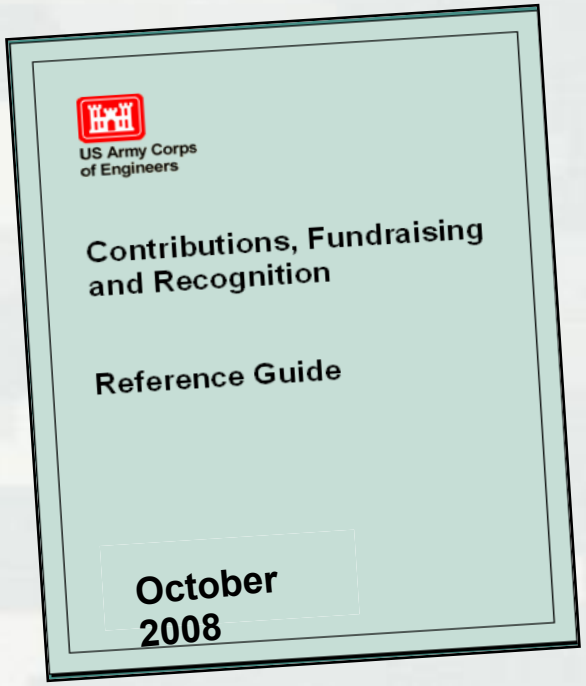
- Create advocacy: Volunteers are some of our best cheerleaders and much more likely to donate financially, with 78% contributing $25 or more versus 38% of non-volunteers.
- Create connection: Volunteers have an increased a appreciation for the lands and waters where they serve
- Supports learning: Volunteers conduct many of our outreach programs
- Energizes donors: Philanthropists like to see projects supported by strong volunteer corps

Volunteers

- National Volunteer Clearinghouse:
  - 800-VOL-TEER (800-865-8337)
  - www.CorpsLakes.us/volunteers
  - POC: Allison Walker (615) 736-7988
- www.volunteer.gov

- Volunteer application: Optional Form 301 (Can be downloaded at http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/volunteer/volunteer.cfm)
- Volunteer Agreement: Optional Form 301A
- OF 301, 301A, and 301B (new form) currently under review at OMB
- Applicants under 18 must have parental or legal guardian consent
- Volunteer Pass program started May 2013

Contributions, Fundraising and Recognition Reference Guide



The Guide sets forth:

- Roles and responsibilities of Corps employees
- Criteria for determining when contributions may be accepted
- Permissible activities associated with fundraising
- Appropriate forms of donor recognition.

(Statement to include in Project OMP)
"It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers that contributions to provide for operation and management of recreation facilities and protection and restoration of natural resources at civil works water resource projects shall be accepted and used, as provided by PL 102-580, Water Resources Development Act, 1992 (106 Stat. 4838, 33 United states Code (USC) 2328, Section 203). Contributions which are within current authorities, consistent with the Corps mission, and are for work items contained in an approved annual or five-year Operational Management Plan may be accepted."

Contribution and Donor Recognition Plan

- Template document that can be used by districts or projects. Approved by HQ Counsel/RM.
- Describes general categories of work identified in MP/OMP eligible to accomplish under the authority of the Corps Contributions program
- Includes methods for receiving and accounting for monetary contributions
- Describes procedures for recognizing contributors and ensuring that recognition is commensurate with the level of donation
- Plan template released in December 2011. It serves as an approved example, but will not be a mandatory format.
- LRL, LRP, MVK, MVP, MVR, MVS, NWK, NWO, NWP, NWW, SAJ, SAM, SAS, SAW, SPK, SPN, SWF, SWL, and HQUSACE have plans.

Grants

- Contribution Program provides the means and processes on how to administer funds the Corps might receive from a grant.
- Types: Federal/state/local governments, private (from a foundation, corporation or other NGO), public charity, and non-profit groups
- Grants are NOT augmentation of appropriated funds.
- Few Federal grants directly available to the Corps
- Some State grants directly available to Corps, but often require matching funds up front. (State boating and waterway grants)
- Many more grants available to friends groups/cooperating associations
- CNREF provided state and national lists of potential grants and is available to help with seeking grants

Resources: NRM Gateway

http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/partners/partners.cfm

Partnerships

Partnerships

Headquarters POC

Partnerships Pages Quick-finder Index

In today's financial environment PARTNERING is an essential tool that allows the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to effectively manage recreation and environmental resources. In order to successfully meet our recreation and stewardship missions, and to foster shared values, vision, and a sense of ownership it is imperative that we work together with state governments, Native American tribes, private/public organizations, local communities, and other partners to maintain or advance programs from wildlife protection and habitat improvement to recreational facility enhancements.

Partnering helps to pool scarce resources, to promote coordinated, focused, and consistent mutual efforts to resolve common problems and missions, and to avoid unnecessary duplication of effort. The NRM Program has embraced this reality and is committed to fully exploring the potential development of new public-private partnerships to leverage limited appropriated funds and human resources.

This page will help you determine the right tools for your partnerships, find the right training to expand your knowledge, and learn from the successful efforts of your peers. You will find answers to longstanding questions and discover how to effectively utilize important partners such as the Corps of Engineers Natural Resources Education Foundation. The bottom line: **partnering is smart business**.

Partnership Types: Which is right for you?

- Challenge Partnerships Program
- Handshake Partnerships Program
- Contributions Program
- Cooperating Associations Program
- Memoranda of Understanding/Agreement (MOU/MOA)
- Volunteer Program
- Economy Act Agreements
- Cooperative Agreements

How To:

- Policy & Procedures
- Training
- Grants/Alternative Funding Sources
- Partnership Advisory Committee
- Division & District POCs
- Partnerships in OMBIL
- FAQs
- News / Current Issues
- Good Enough to Share
- Partnership Outreach Sheet

Sharing the Challenge

Partnership Opportunities with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

US Army Corps of Engineers®

BUILDING STRONG®

Why Partner with the Corps?

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages some of the most cherished lakes, rivers and lands near your communities and towns. Communities are proud of their special place in our parks. Many of our partners and visitors comment that they grew up near a Corps lake, or they spend as much time as they can in a particular Corps park. Great family memories are created during a boating, fishing, camping trip, or after a quiet day of hiking or biking on one our many trail systems. These experiences are important in strengthening families and communities. Our parks also have significant economical impact, with visitors spending upwards of $18 billion on trip expenses and durable goods annually. With the help of our partners, we can provide more service to the public than without you by our side.

The Corps Story

- As the leading federal provider of recreation, one out every ten Americans visits a Corps lake.
- Park visitation exceeds all other federal agencies.
- Manage 12 million acres of land and water
- Visitors spend nearly $18 billion on trip expenses and durable goods annually, resulting in 500,000 jobs
- 422 lakes in 43 states hosting 33% of all fresh water lake fishing
- 4,000 recreation sites of which 80% are within 50 miles of a metropolitan area
- 101,000 campsites, 3,800 boat ramps, 5,000 miles of trails

By partnering with us, you will have a hand in helping manage our lakes and rivers for your customer's benefit. The American public loves our Corps lakes. How much is an opportunity or special moment worth? How much would someone be willing to pay to see an elk run across the valley ahead of them, watch their granddaughter catch her first fish, or share family stories around the campfire? People are willing to spend money to see or experience something they cannot see or experience anywhere else. Sharing these values as part of your marketing strategy makes sense. Partnering with the Corps will bring large exposure to your organization, with 370 million people visiting a Corps lake each year.

What our partners say: "Partnering with the Corps allows our organization to accomplish so much more than we could ever do alone. The expertise, vision and leadership that the Corps brings to the table provides a strong foundation for any project we're working on together." Dan River Basin Association

Partnering Benefits

- Increases public relations and a general feeling of goodwill toward your organization
- Strengthening the environmental, social and economic health of communities
- Helping conserve America's natural places for future generations
- Potential market branding to reach out to new customers
- Increases employee or staff well-being as they recreate in our parks
- Enjoyment of being in a park environment while helping serve others
- Our recreational and land management programs are diverse and the partnership opportunities are varied

Partner Spotlights

Raystown Lake had the potential to be a mountain bike destination, but it took a partnership between the Corps, the Friends of Raystown Lake and the International Mountain Biking Association to turn this vision into a reality. The Friends of Raystown Lake raised funds and leveraged volunteers to build the trails and other infrastructure around the lake. Together with the community, other partners and with IMBA's technical assistance, the agency and the local group built 30 miles of trails. From the $800,000 initially invested, the project generated $2 million of local economic stimulus in the first year alone.

Patients undergoing extended medical treatment in the Little Rock area now have an affordable and peaceful place to stay in a beautiful setting along with their families thanks to the University of Arkansas for Medical Sciences. UAMS provided $90,000 to build six dedicated campsites specifically for medical care patients in the park. "UAMS is very pleased to partner with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to make these campsites available for patients," said UAMS Chancellor I. Dodd Wilson, M.D. "We are very appreciative of the support and compassion the Corps has shown in helping make this possible."

Paralyzed Veterans of America has been partnering for years with the Chena River Lakes project in Alaska to hold special moose hunts for veterans. Companies such as Ruger, Leopold Optics and Savage Arms also participate by sponsoring hunters' travel expenses. Over time, the need for special housing became evident and resulted in the design and construction of an accessible hunting cabin. The 'Wheeling Hunter' cabin provides hunters and volunteers the ability to assemble, mobilize, eat and rest during the annual veteran moose hunt. It is primarily used by members of our military who have serious mobility impairments and are confined to wheelchairs. The cabin offers a great interpretive opportunity and chance to promote the Corps, our partners and our volunteers. It showcases our commitment to the military community and goal to make public lands accessible to everyone.

Corps Recreation Values and Roles

- Providing places for people and water to meet.
- Providing safe and accessible recreation opportunities and educating the public on how to play in and around water.
- Protecting resources for present and future generations to use and enjoy.
- Supporting healthy communities through access to outdoor activities for the community, military and general public.
- Continuing to maintain a geographic distribution of recreation opportunities throughout the country.

US Army Corps of Engineers®

How to Partner: For additional information on partnership opportunities visit **http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil.** *You may also contact your local USACE Office or the USACE National Partnership Coordinator:* **Heather.D.Burke@usace.army.mil**

US Army Corps of Engineers
www.CorpsLakes.us

Corps Lakes Gateway

Your gateway to fun at Corps Lakes!

Select a State | Select a Corps of Engineers Lake | Select an Activity | Search

370 million visits a year at 422 lakes in 43 s

Partnerships in Natural Resources Management

Our Nation's lakes, rivers, and parks need you! Imagine yourself creating new recreation opportunities, improving and creating trails, preserving history, protecting wildlife, caring for the environment, ensuring healthy watersheds, expanding learning opportunities, or improving accessibility.

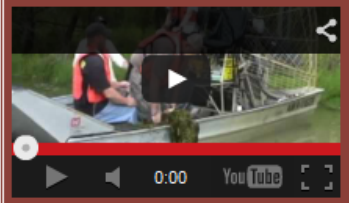
Each year, the Army Corps of Engineers partners with thousands of individuals and organizations on recreation and environmental projects to enhance our nation's natural resources. We are proud of our broad range of existing partners and eagerly seek to expand mutually beneficial relationships with others.

Examples of Successful Partnerships | National Partners with the Corps of Engineers

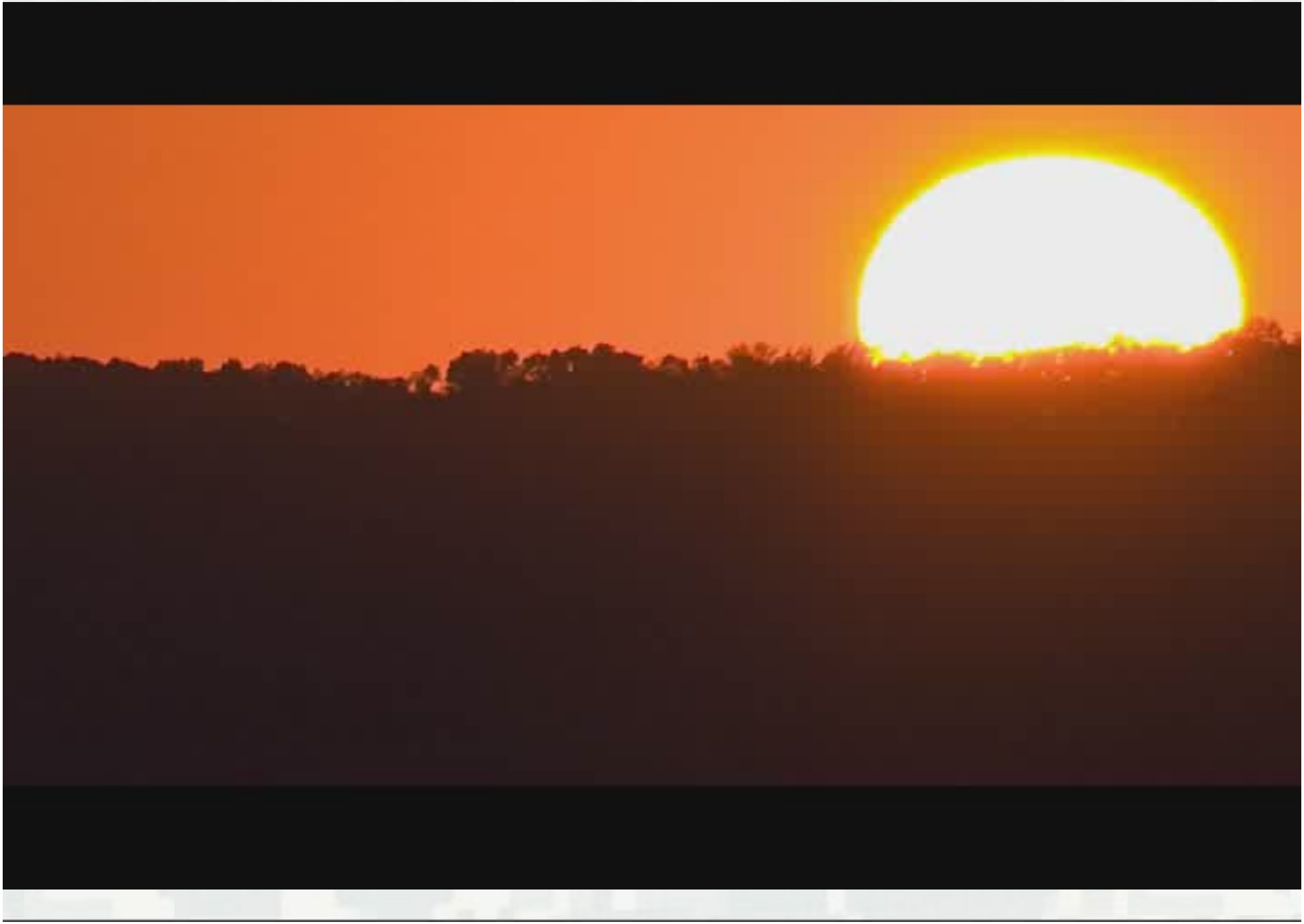
Partnership opportunities are available at hundreds of Corps-managed sites nationwide. The Corps is the Nation's largest provider of outdoor recreation, operating 422 lakes and river projects in 43 states, and managing almost 12 million acres of land and water. Click here to read more.

To find out more about partnering with the Corps contact our Natural Resource Management National Partnership Program Manager or your Regional Partnership Representatives.

Have fun. Make new friends. Make a difference! We look forward to working with you!

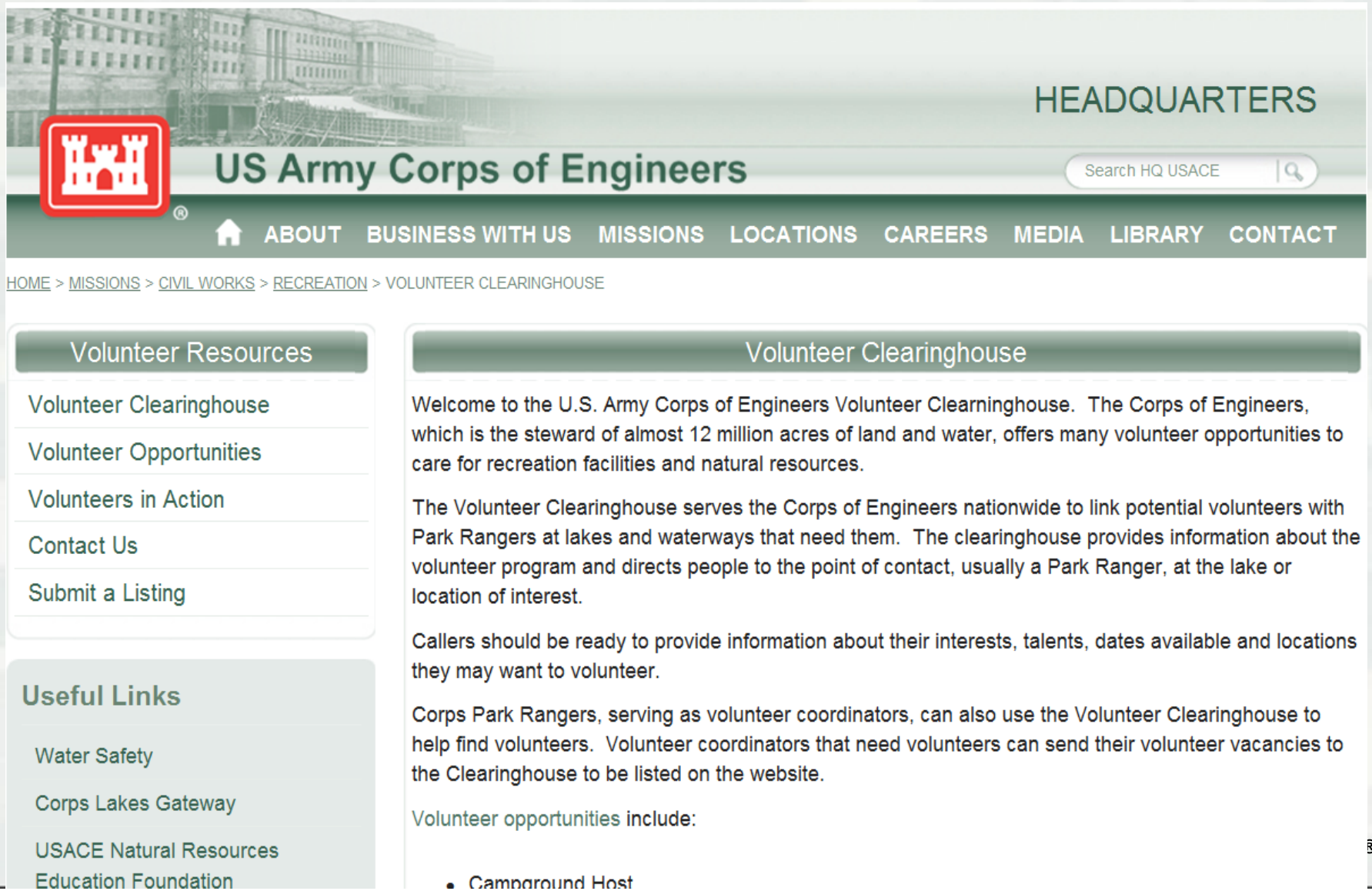


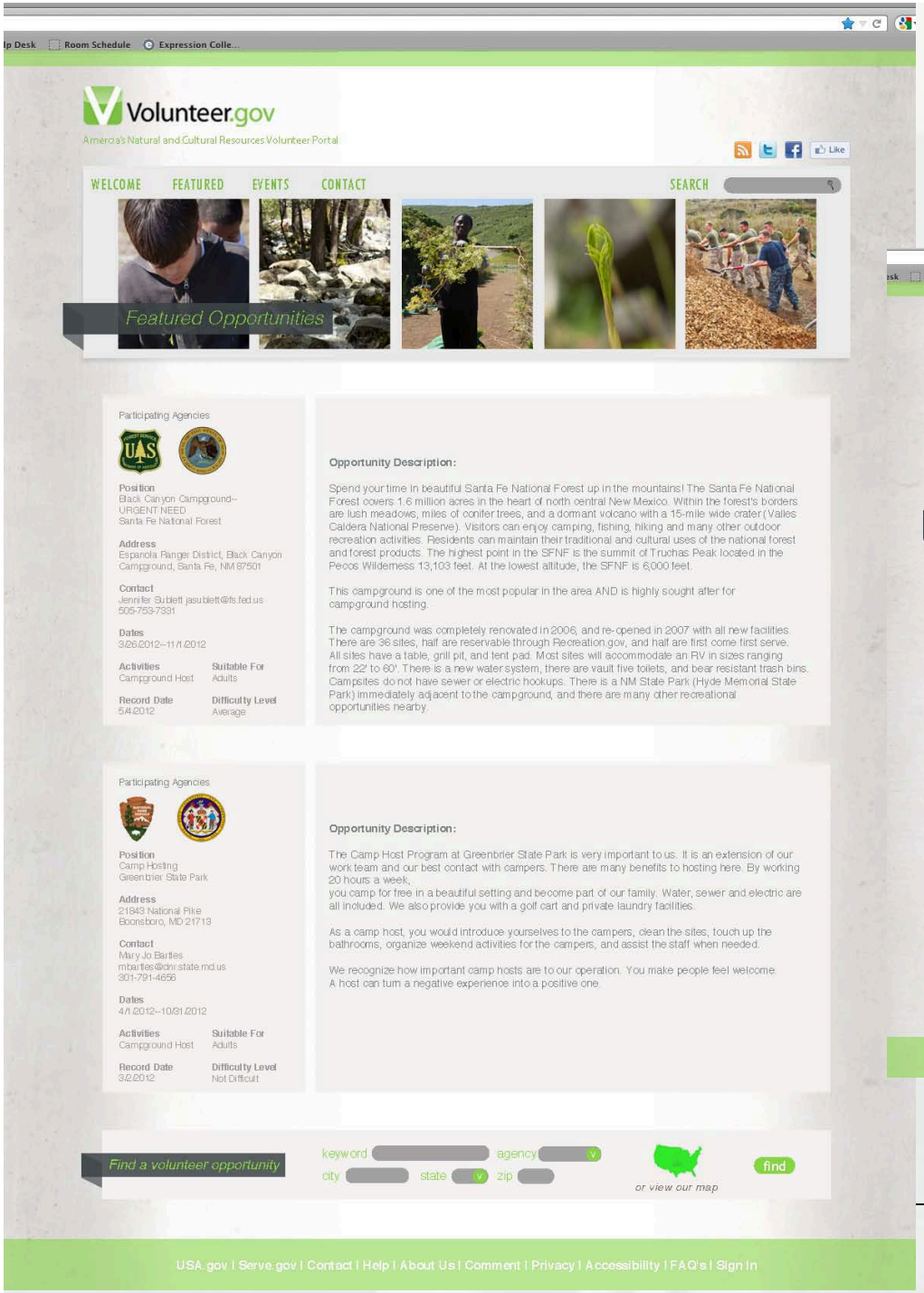
Check out more videos



Resources: Volunteer Clearinghouse

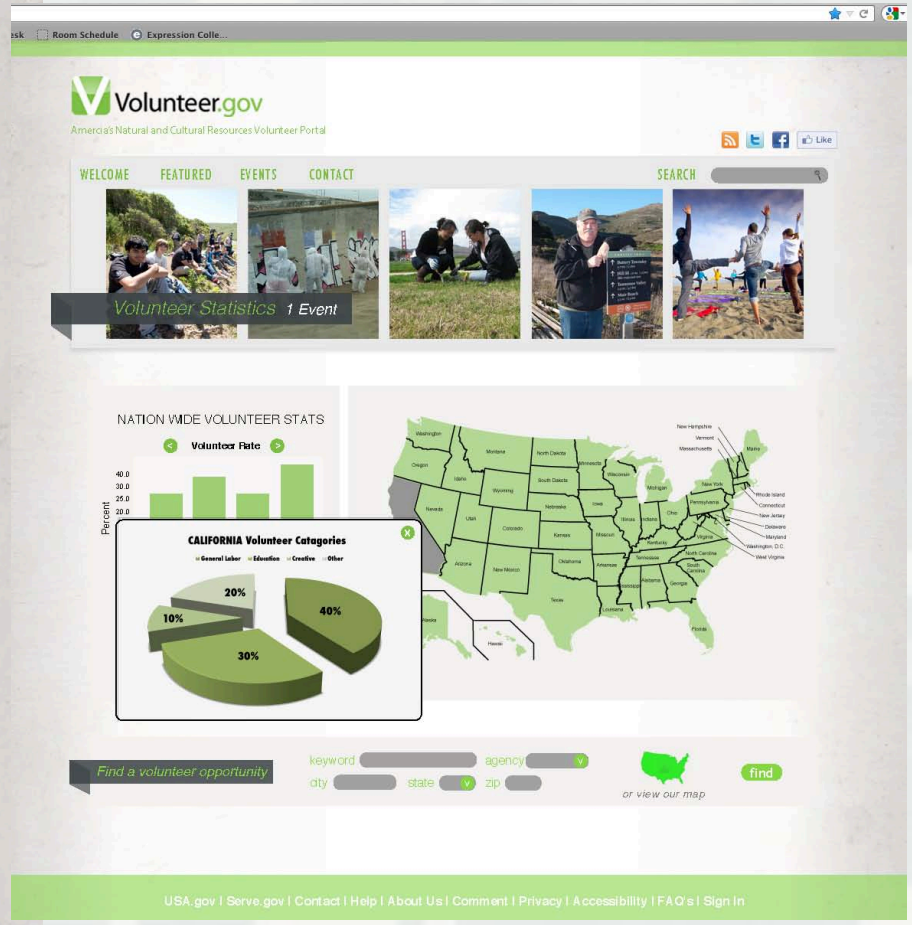
http://www.corpslakes.us/volunteer/





Resources:

www.Volunteer.gov



BUILDING STRONG®

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Philpott Lake Partnership Flow Chart

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Review

- Partnerships are all about relationships, trust, and communication.
- They take an investment of time and commitment, and require flexibility to adapt to change.
- There are 7 types of partnerships used by the Corps: Contributions, MOU/MOAs, Challenge Partnerships, Economy Act, Cooperative Agreements, Cooperating Associations, Volunteers
- Although leases, licenses, and contracts may be used as instruments in addition to a partnership agreement, they are NOT partnerships themselves.
- Contributions are the Corps' most utilized form of partnership.
- You probably have more partnerships than you realize.