Partnerships with the Military

Alana Mesenbrink Natural Resource Specialist Seattle District





A Lot is Happening Behind the Scenes

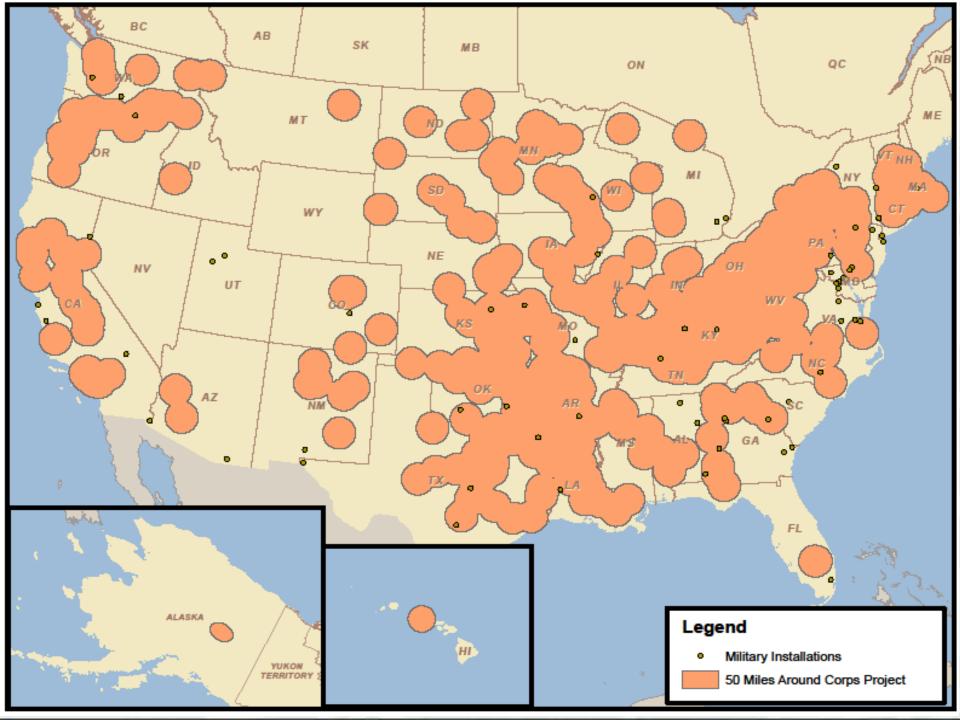
- MWR (Morale, Welfare, Recreation)
- Wounded Warrior Transition
- Wounded Warriors.org
- Leases with military on COE lands
- C.A.S.T. Take a Warrior Fishing program
- Operation Purple Camps
- Operation Honor Card
- Gold Medal Award
- Work with VA Hospitals
- SCA



MWR Programs on Military Bases

- USACE working at upper levels to connect MWR programs to USACE sites across country
- 51% of Army installations are within 60 miles of USACE lake





Who are We?



- 1.4 million Active Duty Service members
 - 66% are under the age of 30
 - 58% of Service members have families
 - 1.2 million active duty dependent children
 - 40% of the children are under the age of 5
 - Over 100,000 military families have members with special needs
- 1.3 million Reserve members (National Guard & Reserves)
 - 56% of Reserve members have families
- Over 2 million retirees
- 12 million MWR customers (Active Duty, Reserve, families, civilians, contractors)
- Nation's largest employer
- Reflect America's racial, ethnic, religious, and socioeconomic diversity

Department of Defense Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR)



- 534 Fitness Operations
- 189 Libraries
- 291 Multi-resource Learning Centers
- 244 Community Centers
- 180 Single Service Member Centers
- 733 Outdoor Recreation Operations
- 293 Information, Ticket, & Tours
- 182 Arts and Crafts Centers
- 227 Auto Skills Centers
- 449 Recreational Swimming Pools
- 261 Bowling Centers
- 604 Club, Food, and Beverage
 Operations
- 49 Restaurants
- 47 Name Brand Food Operations
- 182 Golf Courses

- 6 Joint or Armed Forces Recreation Centers
- 322 Recreation Cabin Operations
- 146 RV Parks or Campgrounds
- 91 Marinas
- 66 Recreational Shooting Ranges
- 121 Stable Operations
- 884 Internet Cafes
 - Iraq/Kuwait/Afghanistan
 - 9,819 Internet PCs
 - 3,708 VOIP telephones
- 90,829 Total MWR Personnel
- \$1.5 B Appropriated Funds
- \$1.5 B Self-generated Funds
- \$ 86 M Net Income

Primarily Installation Focused – Many Supporting Programs

Warrior Transition Command

SOLDIER SUCCESS THROUGH FOCUSED COMMITMENT

- Serves as the lead proponent for the Army's Warrior Care and Transition Program
- Ensures that non-clinical processes and programs that support wounded, ill, and injured Soldiers are integrated and optimized throughout the Army
- Supports the Army's commitment to the rehabilitation and successful transition of wounded, ill, and injured Soldiers back to active duty or to Veteran status

Programs



Warrior Transition Units

- More intensive multi-complex medical treatment
- Treatment takes place at major military treatment installations
- Focus on healing to transition back to the Army or to civilian status
- WTUs provide personal support to wounded Soldiers who require at least six months of rehabilitative care and complex medical management.

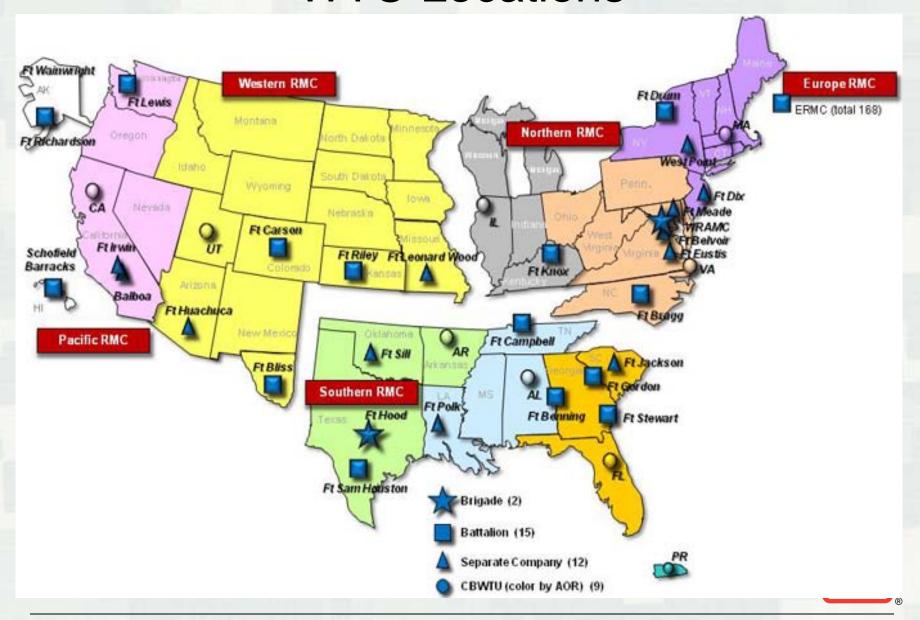


Community Based Warrior Transition Units

- Typically Army Reserve and National Guard Soldiers
- Do not need the day-to-day medical management provided by WTUs on Army installations
- Enables the Soldier to recover & transition closest to his/her personal support network or in his/her home



WTC Locations



The Triad of Care

Primary Care Manager

Develops integrated treatment plan

Nurse Case Manager

Clinical plan with performance goals

Squad Leader

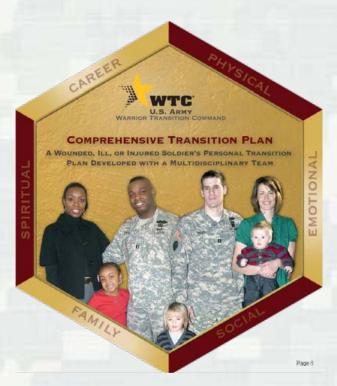
Military Standards

- Augmented by an interdisciplinary team of health care and transition specialists who work together to coordinate and optimize the care and transition of each individual Soldier.
- Interdisciplinary team made up of social workers, physical therapists, occupational therapists, Wounded Warrior Advocates



Comprehensive Transition Plan

- 7 part interdisciplinary process for every Soldier
- After processing and assessment comes goal setting and the soldiers transition track to customize their recovery process
- Includes an individual plan that the Soldier builds for him/herself with the support of the WTU cadre.
- WTC assists with finding work for the soldier in the federal workplace
- This can either help define/redefine their MOS, or position them for life in the workplace after they have served their commitment to the Army.







How it Works:



- WTU/CBWTU's identify potential soldiers for this program
 - ► Compile list and locations for Transition Soldiers (TS)
- Make contact with established POC's at each District/Project
 - Establish available need at Corps locations
- Transition Soldier reports for duty
 - Work with Corps to establish hours of duty, schedule around medical requirements
 - Establish duties as assigned, work to accommodate TS occupational requests/requirements
- Administration/Reporting
 - Verify/sign time records
 - ► Corps supervisor communicates progress/performance with TS squad leader
- Rotations can be anywhere 180-460 days in WTU program



Mutually Beneficial...

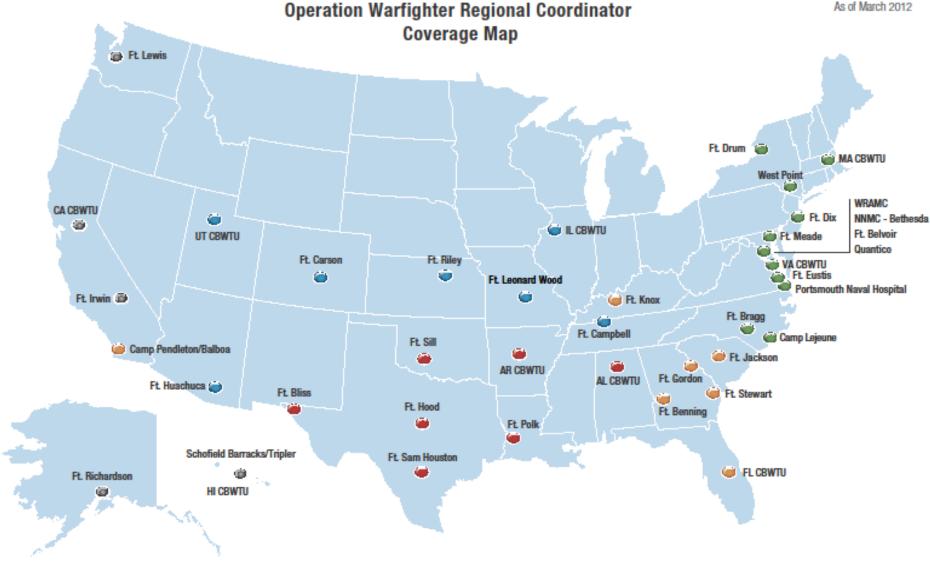
Corps Benefits

- Does not count as FTE while working under WTU
- No labor costs, paid by Title 10 funds of Dept of Army
- Accomplishes Goal 1.4.e of Recreation Strategic Plan
- Use soldier as supplemental labor to address a variety of labor shortfalls
 - Water safety contacts
 - Natural Resources work
 - "Utility Ranger" duties
- Support our Mother Organization

Soldier/WTU Benefits

- Employed in Federal workplace as per the WTU program
- Acquire real-world experience to help transition to post military experience
- Acquire skills to apply toward change of MOS if desired
- Flexible schedule allows soldier to get treatment as priority and work
- Variety of work options
 - Maintenance
 - Natural Resources/Visitor Assistance
 - ▶ Powerhouse





PATRICK BRICK National Program Manager

P: 703-428-7540 C: 571-344-2809 E: patrick.brick.ctr@osd.mil

BILLY RAY KING

P: 253-208-2512 E: bking@afsc-usa.com

MIKE CROWE

P: 719-433-1459

ERASMO VALLES

P: 210-439-0030

E: evalles@afsc-usa.com E: mcrowe@afsc-usa.com

OWF POINTS OF CONTACT BY INSTALLATION OR CBWTU

WALT MYHRE

E: wmyhre@afsc-usa.com

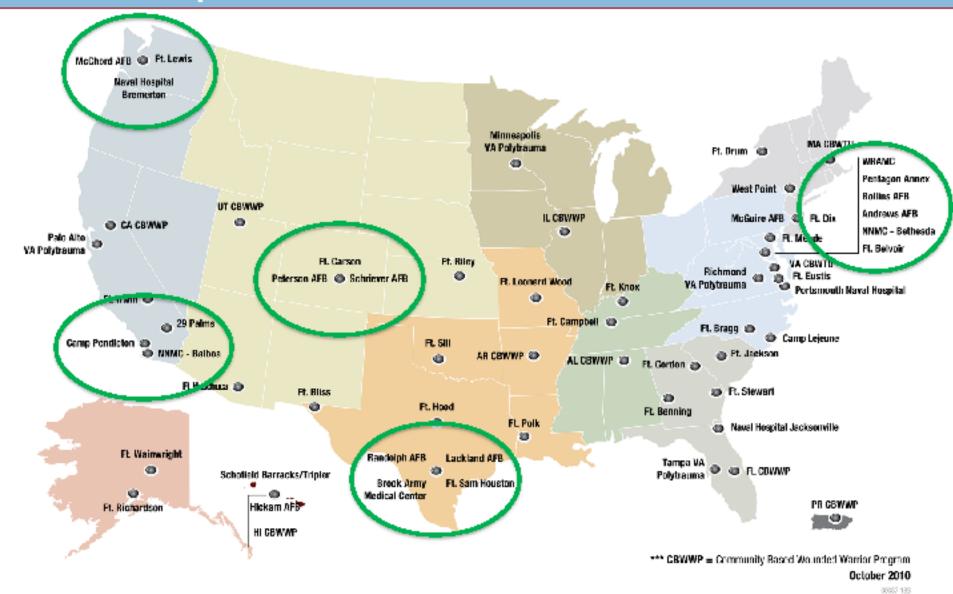
P: 210-896-9535

KATIE SPENCER

P: 703-428-7565 C: 571-425-2939

E: katherine.spencer.ctr@osd.mil

Location Map of OWF Candidates and Coordinators



*Circles indicate presence of dedicated OWF Coordinators



USACE - POCs:

South Atlantic Division:

60 Forsyth St, Atlanta GA, 30303 Ryan Hartwig (404)562-5134

Mobile District:

109 St. Joseph St, Mobile AL,36602 Ken Day (251)690-3724

Savannah District:

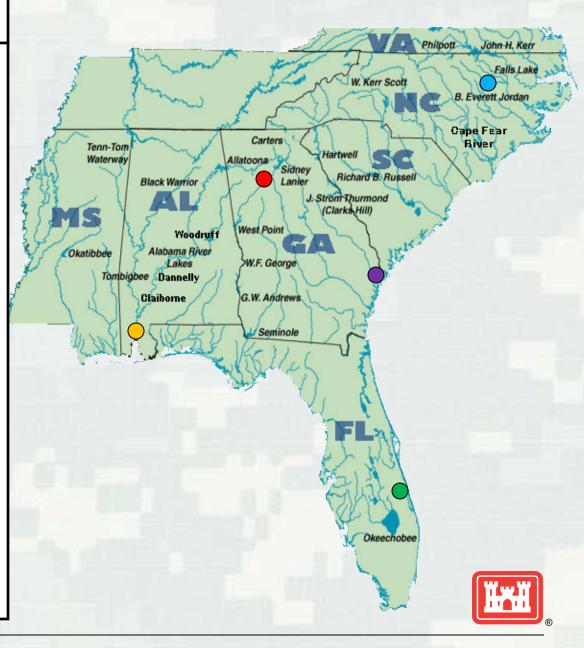
100 W Oglethorpe, Savannah GA,31401 Chrissy Westerberg (912)652-5056

•Jacksonville District:

1400 Centrepark Blvd; STE 750 W. Palm Beach FL, 33401 Adam Tarplee (561)472-8880

•Wilmington District:

2080 Jordan Dam Access Rd, Moncure, NC, Carmen Boyette (919)542-4501x27



Warrior Transition POCs:

CBWTU-Florida AO:

MAJ Charles Hansrote; (407)648-6292

CBWTU-Alabama AO:

MAJ Greg O'Hara; (256)313-0511

CBWTU-Virginia AO:

MAJ Marie Burkhart; (757)961-6564

WTU-Ft Benning:

LTC Veronica A Kouassi; (706)604-7535

WTU-Ft Gordon:

Ms Tanesha J Espey; (706)787-0319

WTU-Ft. Stewart:

LTC Rose Deck; (912)767-1022

WTU-Ft. Bragg:

TBD (910)907-5205

▲ WTU-Ft. Jackson:

TBD (803)751-2441









Corps of Engineers aids transition for wounded warrior

BY RACHEL PARKS

Sentinel Staff

66

When new buildings are constructed on Fort Hood for Soldiers, civilians and families, it's up to the employees at the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to run samples of concrete, asphalt, soil and masonry through a battery of tests to make sure the construction is of the highest quality.

When Staff Sgt. James Taylor, A Company, 2nd Battalion, Warrior Transition Brigade, joined the military as a field artilleryman in Sept. 2004, he never imagined that he would one day have a part in the Corps of Engineers quality assurance process.

But after medical issues brought Taylor to the Fort Hood WTB, he decided to take part in the Vocational Reintegration Program, an internship program designed to transition wounded warriors from the military to the civilian workforce. That brought him to the Corps of Engineers quality assurance office at Fort Hood.

"The Corps of Engineers was very receptive to the program and offered an opportunity to mentor and train in quality assurance and material testing," Ron Harris, the supervisory materials OA, said.





Staff Sgt. James Taylor, WTB, tests the strength of a concrete sample at the Corps of Engineers Quality Assurance Office at Fort Hood. Taylor has been with the agency for more than four months.

smooth.

"When I came over here I knew absolutely nothing," he said. But with mentorship from the civilians he picked up quickly. "Now I know how to run various tests. Working in the field I've made a lot of contacts and met a lot of good people," he added.

Taylor said taking part in the internship moved him out of the rut he was in as he faced the prospect of leaving the Army.

"I love my job in the military but

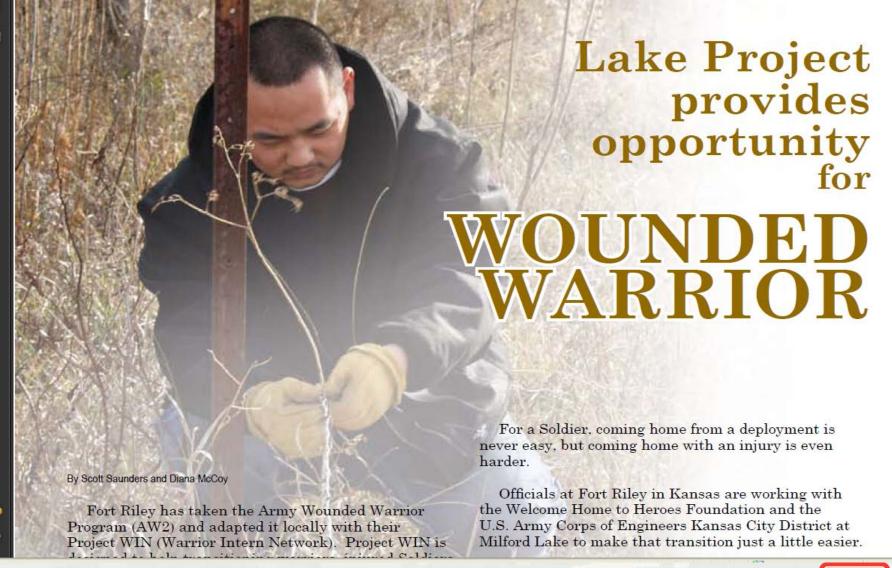
"He's totally different from the first day I talked to him," Burgin said.

Burgin said if wounded warriors can spend several months in an internship program, developing skills for their resume or making civilian contacts, it can have a profound effect on their healing.

"The first step in helping them heal is getting them out of the medical environment," he added. "It gets them out of uniform and it gets them some exposure to specialized experience. That brings the



6



MILE SITTED STEPS IN TO

Not to be confused with Wounded Warriors.org



Natural Resources Management Gateway to the future . . .

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Wounded Warrior Program

The Wounded Warrior Project (WWP) began when several veterans and friends took action to help others in need. What started as a program to provide comfort items to wounded service members has grown into a complete rehabilitative effort to assist warriors as they recover and transition back to civilian life. Thousands of wounded warriors and caregivers receive support each year through non-profit WWP programs designed to nurture the mind and body and encourage economic empowerment and engagement.

MISSION: To honor and empower wounded warriors.

VISION: To foster the most successful, well-adjusted generation of wounded warriors in this nation's history.

PURPOSE:

- 1. To raise awareness and enlist the public's aid for the needs of injured service members
- To help injured service members aid and assist each other.
- 3. To provide unique, direct programs and services to meet the needs of injured service members.

Corps projects are encouraged to partner with and support the Wounded Warrior Project to the maximum extent possible.

Corps/Wounded Warrior Success Stories

- NAB: Jennings Randolph Lake Wounded Warrior Project Fundraising Sniper Competition, October 2011
- SWF: Canyon Lake Wounded Warrior Hunt, December 2010

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- Operation Purple Camps

Technical Problems

Partnership between USACE Jennings Randolph Lake, Storm Mountain, Inc., and the Wounded Warrior Project (Photos by Jimmy Lapua)

On Saturday October 15, 2011 the Robert W. Craig Campground quarry was used during a unique competition held by Storm Mountain. Storm Mountain serves as the premier training facility for military, law enforcement, and counter-terrorism personnel.

As part of a three day competition benefiting the <u>Wounded Warrior Project</u>, Segment 2, the Sniper/Observer stalk was held at Jennings Randolph Lake. There were 22 two-man teams ranging from active duty Special Forces to West Virginia State police SWAT teams.





The objective was to stalk undetected across an open field to within 200 yards of the intended target without being spotted by the target and to successfully get two shots off using blanks. The target for the exercise was Storm Mountain president, Rod Ryan, who used binoculars to direct "walkers" to the location of the snipers. If spotted, they were eliminated from the competition. A majority of the teams were able to get within the 200 yard line by belly crawling across the wet field or using the available cover.

The event started at 8 a.m. with the arrival of the first group. After a safety talk and a discussion of the rules, the team proceeded down the Kalbaugh Pond road to begin the competition. It took several hours for the teams to get within the intended objective. After a quick lunch break, the second group arrived and the competition started over. The final group left the area around 6 p.m.

We heard many "thank you's" from the participants to the Corps for allowing them to use our facilities for the competition/exercise. Many were active members of the armed forces and had served in either Iraq or Afghanistan. Registration fees from the 50 competitors and donations from several fund raising partners helped to raise \$32,000 for the Wounded Warrior Program.







Canyon Lake Wounded Warrior Hunt

On the weekend of December 17-19, 2010, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at Canyon Lake hosted their first Wounded Warrior Hunt. This was not the first time that Wounded Warriors from Brooks Army Medical Center's Warrior Transition Battalion hunted white-tailed deer at Canyon Lake but it was the first time that Canyon hosted a hunt dedicated to only Wounded Warriors. During the 2009 hunting season, two Wounded Warriors took their first deer both of which were bucks and during the November 2010 hunt a third Wounded Warrior hunting with the Serve Outdoors sponsored handicap hunt harvested a nice buck as well. The December 2010 dedicated Wounded Warrior Hunt served 14 hunters that were able to harvest 9 bucks and 3 does.

In addition to the hunting experiences, the entire weekend was enhanced by the sponsorship of the Huey 091 Foundation in that they provided meals, entertainment and lodging for the hunters. Many great stories were shared around the camp fire and over some really good BBQ, Mexican food and your standard hunting camp chow like hamburgers and hotdogs. The entertainment was provided by Nashville Artist, Matt Snook who was flown in by the Huey 091 Foundation. Additionally, the foundation coordinated with the Ft. Sam Houston Recreation Area at Canyon Lake to provide lodging for the Wounded Warriors. The sponsorship efforts by the foundation greatly enhanced the quality of the hunt and they even invited the Wounded Warriors family members to come out for the weekend in order that the experience would be a family experience.

Hundreds of volunteer hours were worked by Huey 091 Foundation volunteers and by Corps personnel at Canyon Lake to honor these men, women and their family members for the sacrifices that they've made and continue to endure. Everyone from the hunters and their family members to volunteers and Corps personnel had a great time during the hunt and Canyon Lake looks forward to hosting future Wounded Warrior Hunts.







BUILDING STRONG®

Gator Hunt

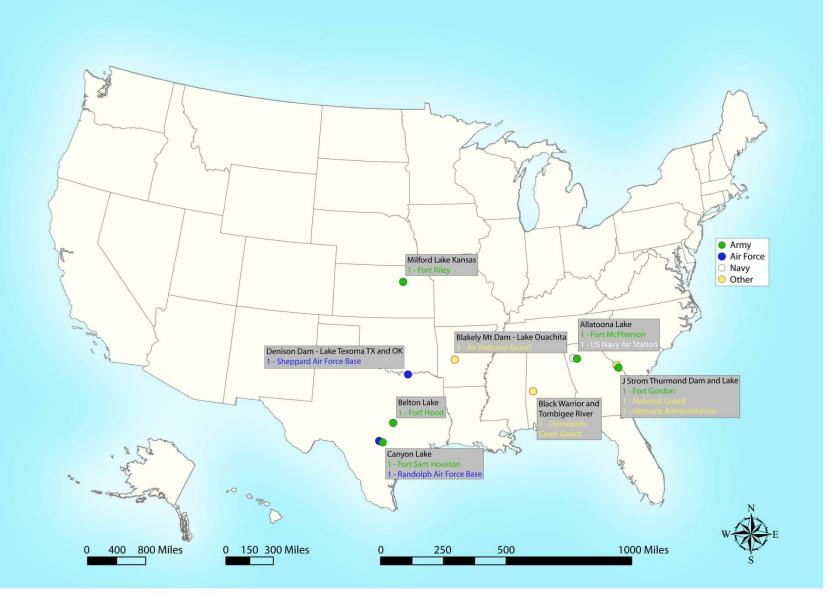








LEASES ON USACE LANDS



C.A.S.T. Program – Take a Warrior Fishing Program









mila artinerships

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Operation Purple Camps

Operation Purple camps offer a free week of summer fun for military kids with parents who have been, are currently, or will be deployed. The goal of the Operation Purple camp program is to give military children tools to help deal with the stresses that result from a parent's deployment, through a memorable camp experience in a "purple" environment. Operation Purple camps are open to military children of all ranks and Services: active and reserve components. At Operation Purple camps, military children experience an exciting week of outdoor fun and adventure.

2011 Operation Purple camps were held in 25 states as well as Okinawa, Japan. Host camps are chosen annually and locations often change from year to year. Click here to find out more about each camp.

Operation Purple Camps Success Stories

- SAM: Tennessee-Tombigbee partnership with OPC and Crow's Neck Environmental Education Center
- Operation Purple Camps on the Tenn-Tom Waterway

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Technical Problems
Updated: July 2011





Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Project Involvement in Operation Purple ® Camp at Crow's Neck Environmental Education Center









In June 2008, the Bay Springs Office of the Tennessee-Tombigbee Waterway Project partnered with the Crow's Neck Environmental Education Center to assist and conduct programs at an Operation Purple ® Camp. Below is a list of activities conducted by the Corps:

Beach Day: The Corps provided use of Piney Grove Beach for "Beach Day." Corps park rangers opened the day with a well-received water safety program, which resulted in the children happily complying when required to use life jackets in the water. Rangers also watched children from the beach area and taught kids how to bank fish. Several campground and beach attendants also volunteered on their day off to help.

Service Project: Part of the camp curriculum included a service project, which Corps park rangers organized. Rangers brought the campers to a degraded nature trail in the campground and

demonstrated how to rehabilitate it. The kids were very excited to work on this project, and the trail was greatly improved when they finished. (There were even requests asking if there was more they could do!)



Military Speaker: Another part of the camp curriculum was to provide a military speaker. This is ideally someone who has served in Afghanistan or Iraq, and is familiar with speaking to children. LTC Payne from Mobile District spoke to the kids about his experiences in Iraq and was enthusiastically applauded and questioned by the campers eager to learn more about Iraqi culture.

Fishing Day: Several park rangers led demonstrations and instructional workshops to teach the basics of fishing and aquatic habitats. In the afternoon they took kids to the closest fishing pier and boat ramp to catch their first fish.

Miscellaneous Support: Throughout the week, park rangers regularly stopped by to offer their help (bringing

ice, running errands, etc). The camp director reported that the week would not have been as successful without the support of the Corps rangers, and that a lot of interest was sparked in Army Corps park ranger careers.

For more information about Operation Purple ® Camps, visit www.nmfa.org







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Operation Honor Card

The Corps entered into a partnership in 2011 with a non-profit called "Operation Honor Cards." Operation Honor Cards is a joint project of Blue Star Families, the American Red Cross, and ServiceNation: Mission Serve, working together with the Veterans Administration, the Corporation for National and Community Service, Joining Forces, and the Department of Defense. The program aims to create an atmosphere of 'shared service' by encouraging Americans to perform volunteer service in honor of military families and veterans.

This program will promote and collect virtual Honor Pledges of volunteer service through the website www.honorcards.org. Individuals or organizations fill out an Honor Card stating what act of volunteer service they will do to honor a service member, veterans, wounded warrior or military family.

The Corps is participating by pledging 1 million volunteer hours for the program for 2011.

Individual volunteers for the Corps can also pledge and track their hours via the website, and choose the service project they will be doing to honor a service member and/or military family. When filling out their Honor Card online, they should tell what their service project will be and include the code: "USACE" to indicate that they are volunteering hours for the Corps of Engineers.

Through this program, you can show your community's pride for our military by building an "Honor Wall" at your next event, at your project office, or visitor center which will enable everyone to see the direct results in your community. An "Honor Wall" in a visitor center can also be a great way to advertise the program and recruit volunteers beyond those serving during a special event day. Spread the word about the website for individual and volunteers who would like to make the pledge online.

This is an opportunity for the Corps and our volunteers to show our support of military soldiers, wounded warriors, veterans, and their families by pledging community service in their honor, as a token of appreciation for their service to the nation.

- Operation Honor Card Service Kit, 2011
- · OHC Post Card template

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Military Partnerships

The Corps of Engineers is dedicated to encouraging the use of Corps recreation resources by the military and their families. Increased public awareness of Corps recreation programs, including increased awareness by Department of Defense and Armed Forces Commands, is a high priority.

Goal 2.4 of the Corps Recreation Strategic Plan is to "Strengthen relationships with military installations to meet the needs of both military families and the recreating public to foster use of Corps facilities by active duty, retired, and reserve military veterans and families."

The Corps will contribute to the readiness and resilience of military members and their families through their participation in activities and programs at Corps lakes and rivers. The Corps will strengthen its unique relationship with the U.S. Armed Forces by expanding recreation programs and services for military members and their families. The Corps will promote safe and healthy outdoor recreation opportunities at Corps projects to all U.S. Armed Forces personnel, military families, and veterans.

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