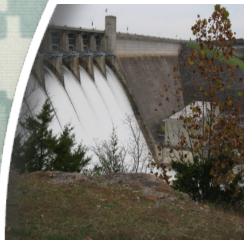
Titus V. Hardiman Chief NRM Section Little Rock District









Partnerships

- Traditional Partnerships
 - ► State Wildlife and Enforcement Agencies
 - ▶ Municipalities, Civic and Community Orgs
 - ▶ Boy and Girl Scouts
 - ▶ Trail Groups
 - ▶ Volunteers
- Recent Partnerships
 - ▶ Hospitals
 - ▶ Non-Profit Organizations
 - ► For-Profit (Businesses)



Cooperative Agreements

- Types of Agreements Used:
 - ► MOU/MOAs
 - ► Challenge Partnership Agreements
 - Handshake program
 - ▶ Cooperative Agreements
 - w/Non-Profits
 - Law enforcement services
 - Fire protection services
 - Others



Authorities:

- P.L. 102-580, Water Resources Development Act of 1992,
 Section 225
- ER & EP 1130-2-500, Chapter 9-Cooperating Associations



Cooperating Association vs. Friends Group:

- Cooperating Association: refers to a legal entity, organized under state law, which enjoys a non-profit and tax-exempt status under Internal Revenue Service codes and which operates under the terms of a Cooperative Agreement with the Corps.
- Friends Group: generally refers to local volunteer groups of citizens organized for a specific purpose or interest in a particular geographical area. Friends groups may or may not have 501(c) status. A friends group does not become a cooperating association unless a cooperative agreement is signed.

What are the benefits of partnering with Cooperating Associations?

- Associations can purchase materials, equipment, programs, exhibits, services, and publications to be used at the project.
- ► Fundraising, sponsoring, collaborating
- ► Associations can develop an organized constituency not typically accessible to the Corps.
- Associations can be advocates for the Corps. Some can lobby if they are established with that mission.
- ► Can hire support staff to help Corps missions.



- Getting Started with Cooperating Associations:
 - ➤ Consult with Office of Counsel early in the process of trying to develop a new cooperating association.
 - ▶ Determine if there is an existing association or non-profit group in your area.
 - ▶ USACE employees can facilitate activities that lead to creation of a cooperating association.
 - Nonprofit groups must have a developed structure and operating procedures.



- Getting Started with Cooperating Associations:
 - ► Provide them resources to assist with forming an association
 - Web resources (IRS.gov, etc.)
 - Supporting associations (APPL)
 - Training
 - ► Look for established umbrella organizations or chapters



- Cooperating Associations must have:
 - ► Board of Directors
 - ► Complete Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws
 - ► Incorporation
 - ► Non-profit 501 c status
 - ► Mission that aligns with the Corps mission



- USACE Efforts
 - ► Provide the Association with Corps' goals, programs and activities.
 - ▶ Provide members with a sample Cooperative Agreement to review
 - ► Sign the agreement
 - ► Establish annual goals
 - ▶ Now the hard work begins...



- USACE Efforts
 - Currently 58 Cooperating Associations in Partnership with the Corps
 - http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/employees/coopassoc/ coopassoc.cfm















- Remember: Successful Partners...
 - Want the partnership to succeed
 - ► Seek win-win solutions; being flexible but focused
 - Are open and clear about their own goals
 - ► Listen well and respond to other views
 - ▶ Are prepared to trust
 - Have integrity and act consistently
 - Effectively and efficiently carry out tasks and responsibilities
 - ▶ Will not just sweep difficulties under the carpet



Questions?



