

Memoranda of Understanding (MOU) & Memoranda of Agreement (MOA)

Partnerships in NRM
PROSPECT Course



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG[®]

Course Objectives

- Goal: Participants will learn of the differences between the two types of agreements and how they are developed and utilized.
- National MOU list and brief description of the types of work/activities included in the MOU
- Local MOUs and success stories



MOU & MOA: What are They?

- MOUs and MOAs are used to coordinate the Corps' authorized activities with another entity.

Outlines what each entity has to offer to the partnership, as well as what each has at stake.

These “agreements to agree” or umbrella agreements are often used interchangeably in conversation, but they are distinctly different.



Authority for MOUs

- There is no explicit authority which permits USACE to collaborate through these non-binding documents, but all activities need to be within the Corps mission.
- Anything the Corps does under the MOU would be based on other general authorities.
- For example, there is no explicit authority to hold meetings or conferences related to Civil Works projects, but usually such meetings are implicitly permitted by the general authorities as a necessary expense to accomplish our legislatively permitted goals.
- If the MOU has something to do with recreation or environmental stewardship at Civil Works sites, the general authorities related to operating and maintaining these areas would apply.





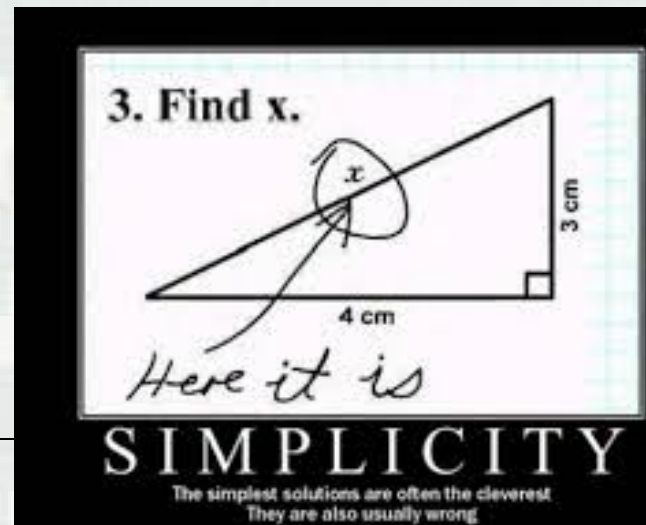
Memorandum of Understanding (MOU)

- A “general area of understanding” within both parties' authorities.
- No transfer of funds for services is anticipated.
- Nothing of value is transferred between the parties.
- MOUs often state common goals and nothing more.
- An MOU may be used to outline the operation of a program so that it functions a certain way.
 - ▶ For example, two agencies that have similar goals may agree to work together to solve a problem or support each other's activities by using an MOU.
- The MOU is nothing more than a formalized handshake that may help keep a partnership “on task”



MOUs are Simply an “Agreement”

- 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.” 
 - ▶ MOUs are not legally binding 
- MOUs can be as large, or as small in scope as you’d like them to be.
- Advice: Keep ‘em simple!



How to Get Started with a MOU

MOU Templates can be found on the NRM Gateway
<http://corpslakes.usace.army.mil/nrm.cfm>



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MOUs/MOAs Sample Templates

Here are two examples from the Portland District used when developing new MOUs or MOAs at the local level. Please note that processes may vary from district to district.

- [NWP: Portland District Sample MOU template](#) 
- [NWP: Portland District Sample MOA template](#) 

 Item is restricted to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and will open in a new window.

MOU Examples

USACE has over 40 MOUs that can be found on the NRM Gateway.

National MOUs/MOAs

All MOUs and MOAs listed are Natural Resources proponent unless otherwise noted.

- [Archive of MOUs/MOAs](#)

Agency/Organization	Start Date	Description	End Date
21st Century Conservation Service Corps	1/1/13	MOU between Department of the Army, DOI, DOA, DOC, DOL, EPA, CEQ, and CNCS (link to attached file) Purpose: To establish the interagency National Council for the 21 CSC and form an interagency working group.	In effect until terminated
American Chestnut Foundation	12/2009	MOU between USACE and the American Chestnut Foundation Purpose: To restore the American Chestnut on USACE lands	In effect until terminated
Association of Partners for Public Lands	10/2003	MOU between USACE and APPL Purpose: Partner on training, communication products, and policy	In effect until terminated
BASS	6/1996	MOU between Bass Anglers Sportsman Society and USACE Purpose: Maintain and enhance sportfishery resources, public fishing opportunities, and increase public understanding	In effect until terminated
BoatU.S.	2006	MOU between BoatU.S. and USACE Purpose: Cooperate on boating and water safety education outreach, materials, and education	In effect until terminated
Boy Scouts of America	3/1987	Cooperative Agreement between USACE and BSA Purpose: Work together to protect, develop, and conserve water resources	In effect until terminated
CAST (Catch a Special Thrill)	6/2012	Interagency MOU Purpose: Interagency MOU with CAST to develop and implement recreation programs, projects, and activities that serve children and military service members with disabilities and/or disadvantages.	6/2022
Cooperative Conservation	1/2009	MOU between the USACE and Cooperative Conservation (Department of Agriculture, DOC, DOD, DOI, and CEQ) Purpose: Identify issues, develop solutions, and share best practices in collaborative natural resource and environmental management	In effect until terminated

National MOUs

- American Chestnut Foundation
- BASS
- Boat US
- Boy Scouts
- CAST
- Ducks Unlimited
- Federal Highway Administration
- FLW
- Girl Scouts
- IMBA
- Leave No Trace
- National Audubon Society
- NEEF
- NFWF
- National Park Service
- National Wild Turkey Federation
- NRCS
- Outdoor Alliance
- Paralyzed Veterans of America
- Recreation Fisheries Habitat
- Safe Kids
- SE Tourism Policy Council
- SCA
- Nature Conservancy
- Tread Lightly!
- USDA
- USFWS
- USGS
- US Power Squadron
- US Coast Guard and Auxiliary
- Watchable Wildlife
- Wildlife Habitat Council

MOU Successes in FY 13

- American Chestnut Foundation: 6 locations, \$70,418 partner value
- Boy Scouts: 44 locations, \$245,197 value
- National Audubon: 6 locations, \$265,609 value
- NEEF: 6 locations, \$210,513 value
- National Park Service: 4 locations, \$116,736 value
- National Wild Turkey Federation: 8 locations, \$111,449 value
- Student Conservation Association: 25 locations, \$1.8 million value
- US Coast Guard Auxiliary: 18 locations, \$205,578 value



American Chestnut Foundation

SCA Water Safety Intern



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CAST Take a Warrior Fishing®

Who can sign a MOU?

- A draft of the MOU should be forwarded for review by the District Office Partnership Coordinator and the other agency before finalizing the draft.
- Signature of the MOU should be made in accordance with USACE District policies and authorizations.



Corps Foundation MOU signing

- MOUs can be signed by the OPM, District Operations Chiefs, District Engineers, Division Commanders, or HQ representatives depending on the scope of the activity.



Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) is a “conditional agreement” where one party agrees to perform services if the other party provides the funds.

The MOA should be supplemented with support agreements that define the support, basis for reimbursement for each category of support, the billing and payment process, and other terms and conditions of the agreement. *Note: Each District has different processes and procedures; contact your District Office Partnership Coordinator.

MOAs often establish common legal terms that will be read into every reimbursable order that follows. MOAs do not obligate any funds themselves, but they establish the terms for future service and cite one of the appropriate authorities to do so.



SUPPORT AGREEMENT

1. AGREEMENT NUMBER <i>(Provided by Supplier)</i>		2. SUPERSEDED AGREEMENT NO. <i>(If this replaces another agreement)</i>		3. EFFECTIVE DATE (YYYYMMDD)		4. EXPIRATION DATE <i>(May be "Indefinite")</i>	
5. SUPPLYING ACTIVITY				6. RECEIVING ACTIVITY			
a. NAME AND ADDRESS				a. NAME AND ADDRESS			
b. MAJOR COMMAND				b. MAJOR COMMAND			
7. SUPPORT PROVIDED BY SUPPLIER							
a. SUPPORT <i>(Specify what, when, where, and how much)</i>		b. BASIS FOR REIMBURSEMENT		c. ESTIMATED REIMBURSEMENT			
ADDITIONAL SUPPORT REQUIREMENTS ATTACHED: <input type="checkbox"/> YES <input type="checkbox"/> NO							
8. SUPPLYING COMPONENT				9. RECEIVING COMPONENT			
a. COMPTROLLER SIGNATURE		b. DATE SIGNED		a. COMPTROLLER SIGNATURE		b. DATE SIGNED	
c. APPROVING AUTHORITY				c. APPROVING AUTHORITY			
(1) TYPED NAME				(1) TYPED NAME			
(2) ORGANIZATION		(3) TELEPHONE NUMBER		(2) ORGANIZATION		(3) TELEPHONE NUMBER	
(4) SIGNATURE		(5) DATE SIGNED		(4) SIGNATURE		(5) DATE SIGNED	
10. TERMINATION <i>(Complete only when agreement is terminated prior to scheduled expiration date.)</i>							
a. APPROVING AUTHORITY SIGNATURE		b. DATE SIGNED		c. APPROVING AUTHORITY SIGNATURE		d. DATE SIGNED	

ENG Form 4914-R-

Used with non- DOD agencies

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS INTERAGENCY/SUPPORT AGREEMENT <i>(ER 1140-1-211)</i>		1. AGREEMENT NO.	
3. PROJECT TITLE		2. <input type="checkbox"/> INITIAL AGREEMENT <input type="checkbox"/> AMENDMENT NO.	
		4. EFFECTIVE DATE	
		5. COMPLETION DATE	
6. NAME AND ADDRESS OF USACE ORGANIZATION		7. NAME AND ADDRESS OF OTHER AGENCY	
8. SCOPE OF WORK <i>(Additional pages may be used as needed)</i>			
9. SPECIAL PROVISIONS <i>(Additional pages may be used as needed)</i>			
a. All rates expressing the unit cost of services provided in this agreement are based on current rates which may be subject to change for uncontrollable reasons, such as legislation, DoD directives, and commercial utility rate increases. The receiver will be notified immediately of such rate changes that must be passed through to the support receivers.			
b. This agreement may be cancelled at any time by mutual consent of the parties concerned. This agreement may also be cancelled by either party upon giving at least 180 days written notice to the other party.			
c. In case of mobilization or other emergency, this agreement will remain in force only within supplier's capabilities.			
10. USACE PROJECT OFFICER		11. OTHER AGENCY PROJECT OFFICER	
TELEPHONE		TELEPHONE	
ADDRESS		ADDRESS	

DD Form 1144 – Used with other DOD agencies

How to Get Started with a MOA

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MOA Examples

- United States Geological Survey and USACE
 - Purpose: Provision of goods and services (planning, design, construction, restoration, R&D, engineering, training, etc.)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture and USACE
 - Purpose: Forest Insect and Disease Suppression on DOD Lands
- Federal Highway Administration and USACE
 - Purpose: Collaborate to provide goods and services
- General Services Administration (GSA) and USACE
 - Purpose: Customer surveys
- National Park Service and USACE
 - Purpose: Natural and cultural resource management



Who can sign a MOA?

- A draft of the MOA should be forwarded for review by the District Office Partnership Coordinator and the other agency before finalizing the draft.
 - ▶ Signature of the MOA should be made in accordance with USACE District policies and authorizations.
 - ▶ Typically the MOA is signed at the District level by the District Engineer or their authorized representative.



USACE District Policies and Authorizations

Note that neither MOUs nor MOAs can be used independently to receive services or obligate funds beyond those separately authorized, and that any MOU or MOA with outside entities should be made in accordance with USACE District policies and authorizations.



Local MOU or MOA

Local MOUs or MOAs are not required if the proposed partner's parent organization or primary organization has an existing National MOU or MOA with the Corps.

However, if the potential partner requests a local MOU or MOA as a condition to partner with the Corps, you may use the National MOU/MOA as a model example to create a local version.

Raystown/Ruffed Grouse Society WMA



Tioga-Hammond/PA Fish & Boat Commission Fish Habitat Improvements



John Martin/CO State Parks Eagle trees



Local MOU Successes

SWD, NWK, MVS: Regional MOU with Bass Pro Shops, August 2012

- 2013 focus on water safety - Go Outdoors Event in 54 stores and Family Summer Camp in 56 stores with 12,000 contacts.
- Focus for FY 14: Continued support in Bass Pro Store events. Fish habitat projects with matching funds from Bass Pro, NFWF, Friends of Reservoirs, National Reservoirs Fisheries Habitat Initiative. Support for cooperative joint management legislative fix.



Local MOU Successes

LRP: Youghiogheny Dam and The Chestnut Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited Unlimited, June 1998

WHEREAS, the Chestnut Ridge Chapter of Trout Unlimited has contacted both the Corps of Engineers (Pittsburgh District) and the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission to propose the construction and operation of a "cage culture" trout nursery in the tailrace of Youghiogheny Dam to produce brown and rainbow trout for stocking in the Youghiogheny River and other nearby suitable waters for the benefit of the angling public, and

Nice size brown trout, like this one, are being found more often in the Youghiogheny River.



Local MOU Successes

SAS: Outdoor Dream Foundation, August 2011 (for outdoor recreation)

- Seek Opportunity to partner with ODF to provide unique outdoor recreation and educational opportunities.
- Foster communication and understanding to make appropriate land and waters available for specific projects.
- Recognize the contribution of ODF and their public partners
- Cooperate in area of facility planning, education outreach, program development
- Collaborate in the development of annual action plans.

Some fun after catching a catfish at the 24th Annual Kid's Fishing Derby at Richard B. Russell Lake



Local MOU Successes

NWP: Bonneville Power Administration, OR Dept of Agriculture, Oregon Hunters Assn, USDA Forest Service, May 2013

- Cooperative project to improve habitat while meeting BPA's vegetative maintenance objectives
- Establish self-sustaining low-growing plant communities that provide diverse habitat for wildlife
- Reduce invasive exotics and replace with native plants
- Studies conducted for pollinators
- Obliterate and restore unnecessary road segments



Recap Questions

An MOU states

- a. Common goals and nothing more
- b. Common legal terms that will be read into every reimbursable order that follows.
- c. there will be an exchange of funds between the partners.
- d. that no work can be done unless each partners is present.



Recap Questions

TRUE or FALSE

If there is a national MOU with an organization, you need to develop an MOU with the local chapter of the organization to partner with them.

FALSE



Recap Questions

An MOU can be signed by which of the following?

- a. OPM
- b. District Ops Chief
- c. District Engineer

