

Supporters of the Corps Recreation Program (SCRP)

September 9, 2008

Lieutenant General Robert L. Van Antwerp
Chief of Engineers and Commanding General
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
441 G. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20314

Dear General Van Antwerp:

The recreation program of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers serves tens of millions of Americans annually and contributes to the nation's health and well-being, our economy and to community and family cohesiveness. There are many organizations which support the recreation mission of your agency today and who look forward to sustaining and even enhancing this mission. We also believe that there are changes which will make the recreation mission of the Corps more successful and more understood.

In the Recreation Strategy presented to you and your agency earlier this year, key Supporters of the Corps Recreation Program (SCRP) outlined important reasons for support of the program and general recommendations for improving the program. The Strategy included our strong opinion that the Corps is contributing to the nation, and to the Department of Defense, in many areas that are unrecognized. You invited our organizations to move beyond general recommendations and submit to you a core of actions which would counteract fiscal and manpower pressures now facing your agency and allow the Corps recreation program to continue as the largest federal provider of public recreation opportunities.

We are pleased to submit our list of suggested actions, and to further report that work is already underway of many of these – and in each case, the resources of your agency will be leveraged substantially by the resources of your partners, public and private.

We invite you to review the attached actions and call upon you to designate some or all of these actions as priorities, to be undertaken and accomplished in FY 2009 and 2010.

The organizations submitting these action suggestions are listed on the following page and now plan to meet in Washington in October to focus on these action items. We look forward to working with your agency on many exciting initiatives in the days ahead.

Sincerely,

Supporters of the Corps Recreation Program (SCRP)

c/o ARC • 1225 New York Avenue, NW • Suite 450 • Washington, DC 20005 • 202-682-9530