



# *NPS Partnership Construction Projects*

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*TEL Participant Guide*



*April 14, 2011*

## **Thanks! for joining us for the TEL class on NPS Partnership Construction Projects (PCP)**

### ***If you have any Questions...***

When you have a question, press and hold down the push-to-talk button, maintaining a distance of 12-18 inches, wait a second and then ask your question or make your comment.

Then *release* the push-to-talk button. This is important because until you release the button, you will not be able to hear the instructor.

The instructor will acknowledge you and then ask for your question or comment. Stating your name and location not only helps the instructor, but also helps other students who are participating at different locations to get to know their classmates.

In this specific class, you can also send any questions to the Fish & Wildlife Training Center studio at [broadcast@fws.gov](mailto:broadcast@fws.gov) or **fax** us questions to 866-488-6655. We will try to answer these questions on-air during the broadcast.

### ***Why a class on Partnership Construction Projects?***

- 1. We're responding to a request from Regional Coordinators and Parks for training and additional information about the process and requirements.*
- 2. The class also addresses many of the questions we get on a regular basis.*

*The purpose of this class is to provide participants with information that will assist them in the planning and implementation of a partnership construction project.*

### ***Presentation Team:***

Linda Neal, Partnership Program Coordinator for Construction Projects  
WASO Office of Partnerships and Philanthropic Stewardship

Kathy Schneider, Chief of Construction Program Management  
Midwest Region, Omaha, NE

Rich Fedorchak, Partnerships Program Training Manager, Mather Training Center  
WASO Office of Partnerships and Philanthropic Stewardship

### **A few Goals of this Class...**

- Clarify the steps, available tools, and approvals needed for partnership construction projects.
- Clarify the roles of the Parks, Regional Offices, Washington Office, Development Advisory Board (DAB), and Solicitors.
- Encourage Superintendents to contact their Regional Partnership Coordinator as soon as a potential partnership project is being considered.
- Foster close collaboration between Regional Partnership Coordinators and Regional Construction Managers at the earliest stages of partnership project proposals.
- Encourage Regional Partnership Coordinators to attend a DAB meeting within the next 12 months.
- Encourage TELNET participants to join subsequent WEBINAR(s) related to the Partnership Construction Process.

### **A few Learning Objectives...**

At the end of this class, participants will be able to:

- Describe the basic steps in a “standard” NPS construction project; i.e., one without partner involvement.
- Describe the additional steps needed when partners are involved – and the purpose of those steps.
- Describe how the Partnership Questionnaire can help early discussions between Park Superintendents and their Partners....and with Regional support staff.
- Describe how the Partnership Questionnaire can help early discussions between Park Superintendents and their Regional support staff and with their Partners.
- Describe why a facility built within a National Park may cost more than a facility built on private land.
- Describe the ownership and management issues related to partner-funded or partner-built facilities.
- Describe some advantages and disadvantages of having partners manage design and construction contracts.
- Describe NPS’s role when partners manage design/construction.
- Describe the function of DAB.
- Describe 4 factors that are key to a partnership construction project’s success.
- Describe why and when it is important for parks to brief their Regional Directors, DAB and the Director on the status of a Partnership Construction project.
- Name one reason why it is a good practice to consult early with your Regional Solicitor and Regional program managers.



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## **Standard NPS Construction Steps**

- ✓ Project concept is identified in park planning documents & PMIS.
- ✓ Prioritized for Funding by Region, WASO and DOI
- ✓ NPS Project Manager identified.
- ✓ Develop Schematic Designs with Value Analysis & Class B cost estimates.
  - TOOLS: DSC Workflows and DAB submittal forms & information.
- ✓ DAB Review and Approval
- ✓ Design Completed
- ✓ All funds are in hand.
- ✓ Construction begins.



## **Partner Construction Considerations**

*What are the options for partner involvement?*

- Partner raises funds and donates them to NPS
- Partner is involved in design discussions
- Partner provides design and/or construction services
- Post-construction Partner is involved in operating the facility

*Will it cost less or more?*

- Project management costs
- Federal laws and requirements (Universal Accessibility, LEED, Davis-Bacon, etc.)
- Costs to NPS

*Who will own it?*

- Bottomline: NPS owns and is responsible for facilities on park lands
- Even if built to be used primarily by partners

*Should partner manage Design & Construction?*

It all depends...

- Do they have the capability?
- Have they done this before?

**Note!** NPS is still involved in all reviews, approvals and key decisions about the project.

*What about the long term costs associated with the facility?*

- NPS is ultimately responsible for the O+M of its facilities, whether or not the Partner is intending to cover all or some of these costs.
- Questions to ask about covering long term costs:
  - Base increase for Park?
  - Fundraising includes endowment?
  - Fees, revenues?
- Should be no unanticipated new costs to the park.



### **Some Advantages & Disadvantages of Partners Managing Design & Construction**

#### Advantages:

- Possible advantage to the partner's fundraising efforts
- Might enhance the partner's organization, membership and support for the Park.
- Could foster a "shared-stewardship" relationship between Park/Partner.

#### Disadvantages:

- Project process is more complicated and could be lengthier
- Could be a steep learning curve for the Partner
- Additional approvals necessary





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***✓ For more information tune into the webinar on  
Wednesday, May 11 at 1:00pm***



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