

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

BALTIMORE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS RAYSTOWN LAKE PROJECT 6145 SEVEN POINTS ROAD HESSTON, PA 16647-8303

April 26, 2021

Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership https://www.friendsofreservoirs.com/C/O Jeff Boxrucker, Coordinator

Dear Members of the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership:

On behalf of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers at the Raystown Lake Project, I am writing this letter in support of the proposal to conduct fisheries habitat improvements through the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership FY2022 Large Grant Project.

Over the past 25 years, the staff at Raystown Lake has worked diligently with the Friends of Raystown Lake, the Pennsylvania Fish and Boat Commission, and other partners to implement vital enhancements to improve the overall quality and availability of suitable habitat within our lake. This opportunity to partner with the Reservoir Fisheries Habitat Partnership through the Large Grant Project would culminate in the largest aquatic habitat enhancement effort conducted at the Raystown Lake Project. We recognize the tremendous opportunities associated with this project to strengthen our existing partnerships, promote student involvement in novel research opportunities, advance public awareness of healthy aquatic ecosystems through education and outreach, and conduct important habitat improvements over several sites within the lake.

As noted, if this proposal is funded our agency is committed to providing considerable construction and material costs, staff labor, and education outreach. We look forward to the opportunity to engage in this partnership effort to further enhance the fishery while raising awareness of this important conservation initiative to Raystown's 1.5 million annual visitors. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me directly at Jude.T.Harrington@usace.army.mil or by phone at 814-658-6801.

Sincerely,

Jude Harrington

Operations Manager Raystown Lake Project