

Lavon Lake Master Plan Revision Public Information Meeting March 10, 2015

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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District



Purpose of this Meeting

- Fully describe the purpose and intent of a Master Plan
- Describe the revision process
- Answer questions you may have
- Ask for your participation
- Explain why the Lavon Lake Master Plan is in need of revision and how it may affect nearby communities and the public at large



National Environmental Policy Act of 1969

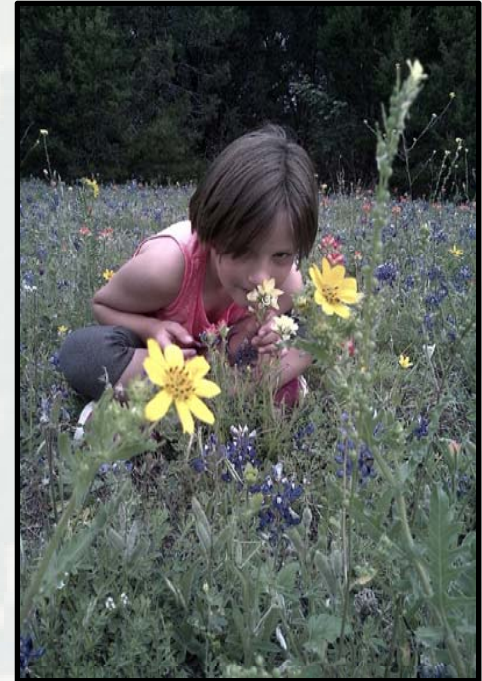
- Applies to all Federal Actions, including Master Plan Revisions
- Requires Federal agencies to *CONSIDER and DOCUMENT the environmental impacts of their proposed actions as part of an agency's OVERALL planning and decision-making*
- Requires Federal agencies to cooperate with Federal, state and local governments, and other concerned public and private organizations and citizens during project planning
- Scoping is where the agency asks for initial input from “the public” (agencies, governments, citizens, non-profits) with information about the project area, resources, etc



Purpose and Intent of Master Plans

The Corps defines a Master Plan as...

“ The strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all project recreational, natural and cultural resources throughout the life of the water resource development project.”



Source: Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-550 available at

www.usace.army.mil/library/publications



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Key Points Regarding Master Plans

- Main focus is stewardship of natural and cultural resources and provision of high quality outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities
- Proposed effective life of a Master Plan is 25 years
- Recreational use of the water surface is addressed
- Master Plans do not address in detail the technical aspects of water management for flood risk management or water supply



Additional Key Points

- Key sections of the Master Plan Revision include resource management objectives, revised land use classifications and a conceptual management plan for each land classification
- Potential outcomes could be designation of lands for resort development, new marinas, and utility corridors
- Stakeholder and public input is critical
- Protection of environmentally sensitive areas is given priority



What Will Not be Addressed

- By regulation, privately owned boat docks are not allowed at Lavon Lake and will not be addressed in the Master Plan
- National policy places strict limitations on the proposed construction of new public roads on Corps lands. With few exceptions road proposals that would cross Federal land will not be addressed



What About the Drought?

- Master Plans cannot change how water in the lake is managed
- Natural resources and recreation management must be implemented within the constraints of the primary missions of flood risk management and water conservation



FM 3286 Bridge, Summer 2014



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Why Revise the Lavon Lake Master Plan?

- Current Master Plan is dated May 13, 1972... has exceeded its useful life
- Collin County and adjacent Rockwall and Denton Counties each experienced more than 50% population growth during the 2000-2010 census period
- Residential development around Lavon Lake is expanding rapidly, especially on the west side
- The Master Plan must be revised to address current and future growth in the region



The Corps' Vision for Lavon Lake

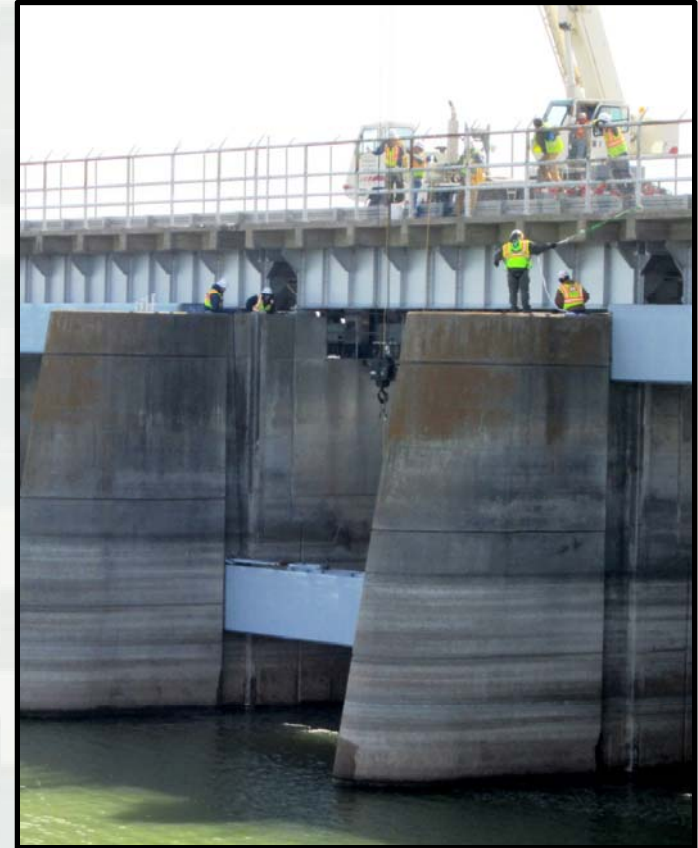
The land, water surface and recreational resources of Lavon Lake will be managed to protect, conserve, and sustain natural and cultural resources, especially environmentally sensitive resources, and provide outdoor recreation opportunities that complement overall project purposes for the benefit of present and future generations.



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Lavon Lake Missions

- Flood Risk Management
- Water Conservation
- Environmental Stewardship
- Public Outdoor Recreation



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Fast Facts about Lavon Lake

- The original Lavon Dam and Lake was completed in 1954
- The Lavon Lake enlargement was completed in 1975 almost doubling the size of the lake
- At conservation (normal) pool elevation the lake covers 21,357 acres
- At the 100-year flood pool elevation the lake covers 32,700 acres
- The federal property boundary line is 155 miles long



More Fast Facts

- Lavon Lake is the primary source of water for the North Texas Municipal Water District which supplies water to 1.6 million people
- The federal lands and water surface of Lavon Lake represent the largest, and perhaps most important, outdoor recreation venue in Collin County and the northeastern counties comprising NCTCOG
- 16,158 acres of land above conservation pool
- 849 acres of flowage easement

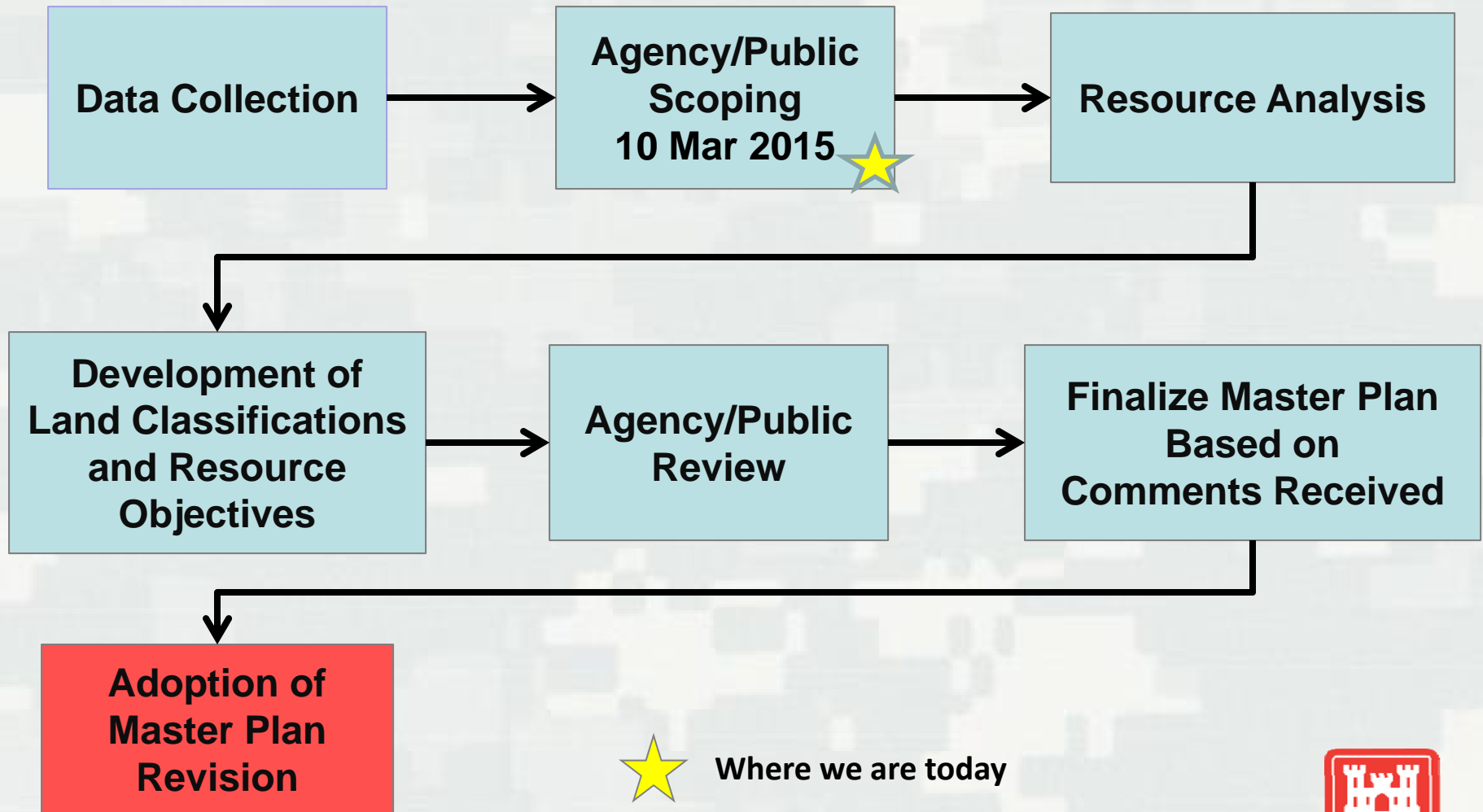


Master Plan Revision Process

- Accomplished by a team of Corps employees with input from other agencies
- Public and stakeholder input will be carefully considered
- An Environmental Assessment of the Master Plan will be prepared and appended to the plan



The Master Planning Process



Where we are today



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What Major Changes Are Needed in the Current Master Plan?

- Reclassify all project lands and water surface
 - ▶ Some currently designated parks may be reclassified as wildlife or low intensity recreation lands
 - ▶ New or expanded high density recreation areas could be designated
 - ▶ Anticipate significant lands being classified as environmentally sensitive areas
 - ▶ Decide where, if any, new marinas or resort may be located
 - ▶ Designate utility corridors



Additional Major Changes

- Prepare new Resource Objectives
 - ▶ Need current recreation objectives that reflect major trends identified by TPWD and through public input
 - ▶ Need current natural resource objectives that reflect major habitat and open space needs identified by TPWD, NCTCOG, and public input



Lavon Lake Land Classification Now and Proposed

Current Land Classifications	Proposed New Land Classifications
Project Operations	Project Operations
Recreation Lands	High Density Recreation
Operations – Recreation Intensive Use	Environmentally Sensitive Areas
Operations – Recreation Low Density Use Operations – Wildlife Operations – Natural Area	Multiple Resource Management •Low Density Recreation •Wildlife Management •Vegetation Management •Future/ Inactive Recreation Areas
	Water Surface



LAVON LAKE

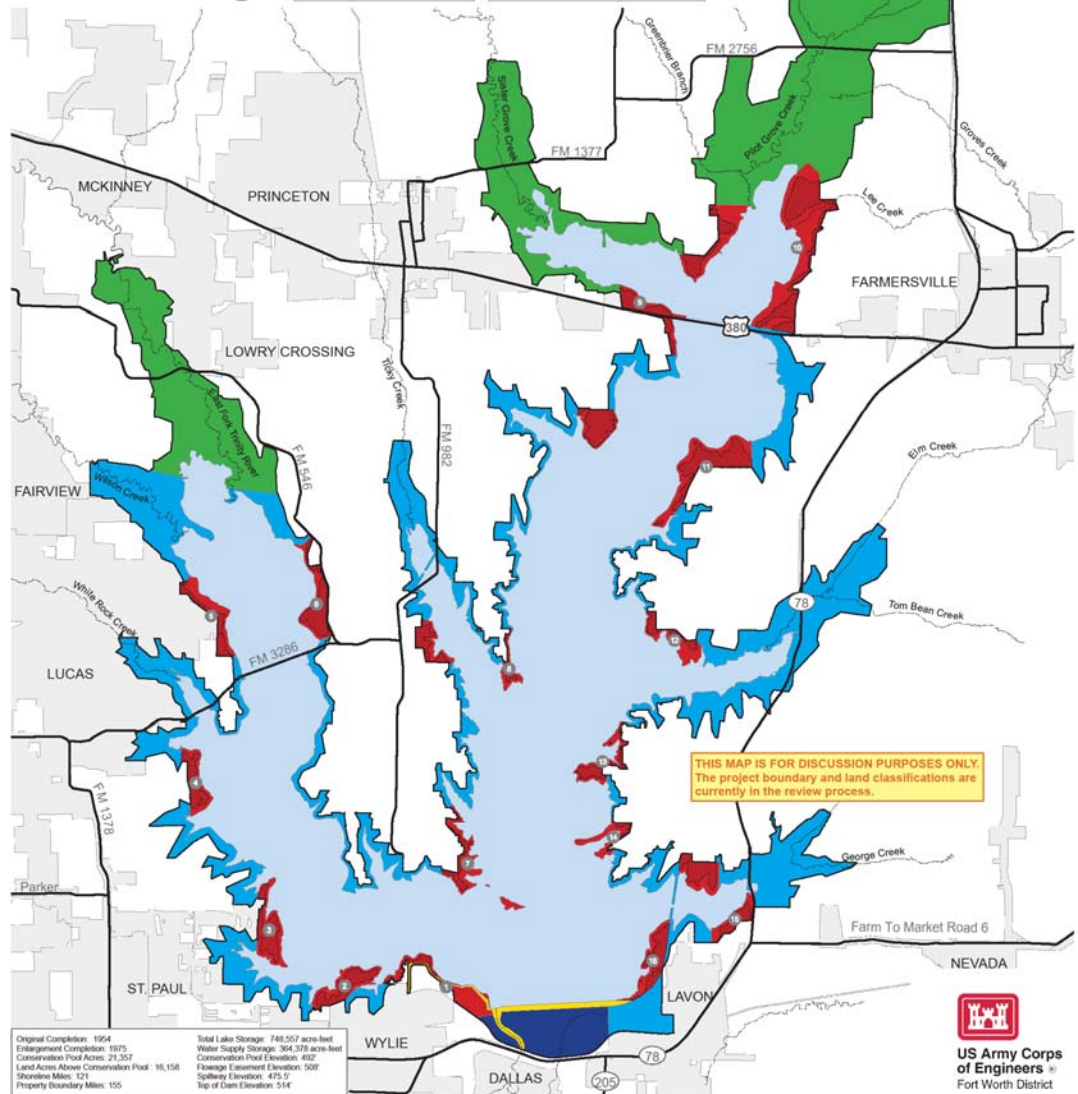
LAND CLASSIFICATION

- From 1972 Master Plan



PUBLIC USE AREAS	
1 Avalon	11 Twin Groves
2 East Fork	12 Caddo
3 Collin	13 Elm Creek
4 Brockdale	14 Lakeland
5 Highland	15 Pebble Beach
6 Bristonia	16 Little Ridge
7 Clear Lake	17 Matland
8 Tickey Creek	18 Lavonia

LEGEND	
[Black line]	Paved Road
[Grey outline]	Project Boundary
[Red]	Recreation Lands
[Red]	Operations: Recreation - Intensive Use
[Blue]	Operations: Recreation - Low Density Use
[Green]	Operations: Wildlife
[Yellow]	Project Operations
[Dark Blue]	Operations: Natural Area



THIS MAP IS FOR DISCUSSION PURPOSES ONLY. The project boundary and land classifications are currently in the review process.

Original Completion: 1954
 Total Lake Storage: 748,557 acre-feet
 Water Supply Storage: 364,378 acre-feet
 Conservation Pool Acres: 29,357
 Conservation Pool Elevation: 492'
 Land Acres Above Conservation Pool: 16,158
 Flowage Assessment Elevation: 508'
 Shoreline Miles: 121
 Spillway Elevation: 425.5'
 Property Boundary Miles: 155
 Top of Dam Elevation: 514'



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Land Classification	Definition
Project Operations	Those lands required for the dam, operations center, office, maintenance compound and other areas that are used solely for project operations
High Density Recreation	Land developed for intensive recreational activities by the visiting public, including developed recreation areas and areas for marinas and related concessions, and resorts
Multiple Resource Management	Recreation –Low Density: Activities such as hiking, primitive camping, wildlife observation, and hunting
	Wildlife Management General: Fish and wildlife management activities
	Vegetative Management: Management activities for the protection and development of a specific vegetative cover
Environmentally Sensitive Areas	Inactive and/or Future Recreation Areas: Recreation areas planned for the future or that have been temporarily closed Areas where scientific, ecological, cultural or aesthetic features have been identified. These areas must be considered by management to ensure they are not adversely impacted
Easement Lands	All land for which USACE holds an easement interest but not fee title. Planned use and management of easement lands will be in strict accordance with the terms and conditions of the easement estate acquired for the project



Water Surface Classification	Definition
Restricted	Water areas restricted for project operations, safety, and security purposes
Designated No-Wake	To protect environmentally sensitive shoreline areas, recreational water access areas from disturbance, and for public safety
Fish and Wildlife Sanctuary	Annual or seasonal restrictions on areas to protect fish and wildlife species during periods of migration, resting, feeding, nesting, and/or spawning
Open Recreation	Those waters available for year round or seasonal water-based recreational use



Land Classifications

Project Operations - This category includes those lands required for the dam, spillway, switchyard, levees, dikes, offices, maintenance facilities, and other areas that are used solely for the operation of the project



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Land Classifications

High Density Recreation - Lands developed for intensive recreational activities for the visiting public including day use areas and/or campgrounds. These could include areas for concessions (marinas, comprehensive resorts, etc)



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Land Classifications

Environmentally Sensitive Areas - Areas where scientific, ecological, cultural or aesthetic features have been identified. Designation of these lands is not limited to just lands that are otherwise protected by laws such as the Endangered Species Act, the National Historic Preservation Act or applicable State statutes. These areas must be considered by management to ensure they are not adversely impacted

Examples may include mature bottomland forests, river and stream corridors, scenic bluffs, and native prairie.



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Land Classifications

Low Density Recreation - Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive public recreational use (e.g. primitive camping, fishing, hunting, trails, wildlife viewing, etc.)



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Land Classifications

Wildlife Management - Lands designated for stewardship of fish and wildlife resources



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Land Classifications

Vegetative Management - Lands designated for stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover



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Water Classifications

- Water Surface- Restricted
- Water Surface-Designated No Wake
- Water Surface-Fish and Wildlife Sanctuary
- Water Surface- Open Recreation



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Utility Corridors

- Linear strips of Federal land used for consolidation of multiple utility lines
- Establish only where no viable alternative to crossing Federal land exists
- Main purpose is to reduce negative environmental impacts
- Generally follow existing roads or utility lines



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Examples of Resource Objectives

- **Recreation Objective:**
 - ▶ Expand existing trails and create new trails for a variety of users
 - ▶ Extend key boat ramps to accommodate low lake levels

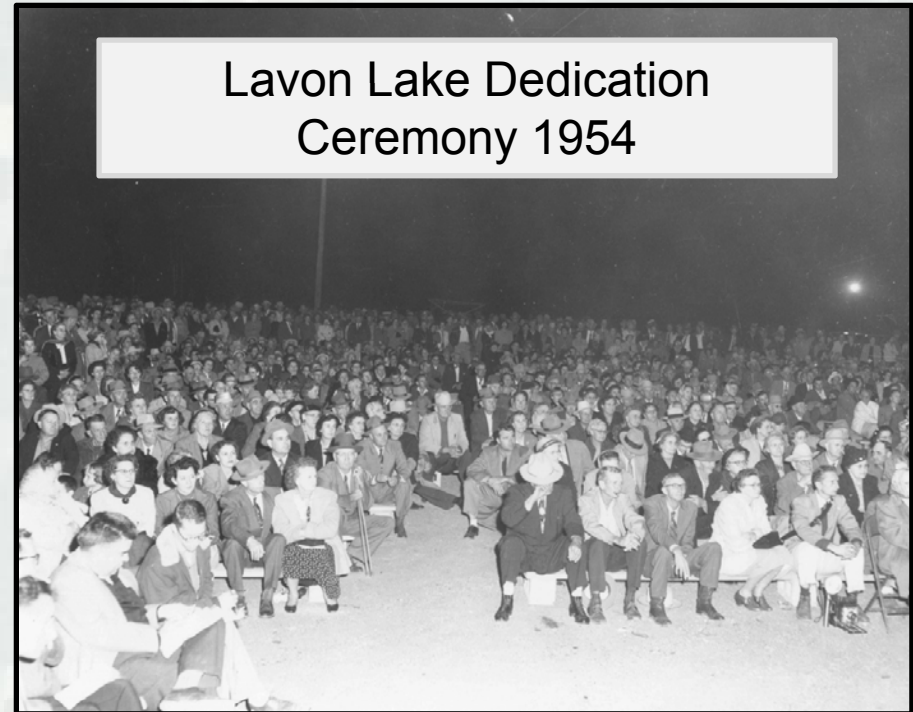
- **Natural Resource Objective:**
 - ▶ Restore degraded prairie sites to support a diversity of native grasses and forbs
 - ▶ Implement a zebra mussel control program

- **General Objective:**
 - ▶ Reduce encroachments and trespass through improved boundary marking and surveillance



How Can I Participate?

- Attend Meetings
- Visit our website at:
(www.swf.usace.army.mil)
- Send us an e-mail at:
(lavonlakemp@usace.army.mil)
- Visit with our lake staff
- Tell your friends
- Fill out a comment card now or take it home and send later



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Master Plan Next Steps

- Typical lake master plan update will take 12 to 18 months to finalize. Lavon Lake Master Plan update is in the initial stage of development.
- 30 day public comment - 10 Mar – 10 Apr
- Draft MP document - 6 - 8 months
- Draft MP / EA public meeting
- Final document - 6 - 8 months



The End

Please use our remaining time to visit with staff members, ask questions and help us produce an excellent Master Plan



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