



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Fort Worth District**

# News Release

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## **Corps of Engineers prepares, revises vegetation management plans**

**FORT WORTH, Texas** -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, announced today its intention to prepare vegetation management plans and to revise the mowing, underbrushing and access path guidelines for adjacent landowners at Lewisville and Grapevine Lakes. The Corps of Engineers is the federal steward for more than 24,000 acres of land at the two lakes. The Corps is required to manage and conserve those lands and natural resources consistent with ecosystem management principles.

The current guidelines, developed in 1976, are not ecosystem based and, in the long run, are not environmentally sustainable. Additionally, the Corps of Engineers has determined through recent meetings with individuals and landowner groups that inconsistent application of current guidelines has led to confusion about what adjacent landowners may do on federal land. In preparing the vegetation management plans and revised guidelines, the Corps hopes to achieve a balance between permitted private uses of adjacent landowners and protection of natural resources.

The ecosystem based vegetation management plans will specify goals and objectives for protecting and restoring naturally occurring wildlife habitat at the two lakes. The revised mowing, underbrushing and access path guidelines will address specific adjacent landowners' concerns such as mowing distances, timing of mowing, and size and type of

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## **Vegetation management plans**

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underbrush that can be removed. The Corps intends to publish an Environmental Assessment on the plans and revised guidelines at which time the public will be asked for comment. The Corps plans to publish the Environmental Assessment in July 2004.

Adjacent landowners should continue to follow existing guidelines while the revisions are being completed. The current guidelines can be obtained through the Elm Fork Project Office at 1801 N. Mill St, Lewisville, Texas or by calling (972) 434-1667. The current guidelines are also posted on the project website at:

<http://155.84.70.101/lewisville/adjlandvl.htm> for Lewisville Lake and at

<http://155.84.70.101/lewisville/adjlandgr.htm> for Grapevine Lake.

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