

FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT
Programmatic Environmental Assessment

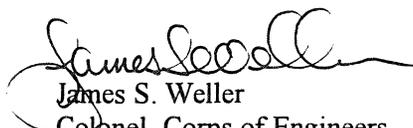
A Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) was prepared which discussed the environmental impacts of more than 300 individual development actions being proposed by 18 public and private entities for implementation within the next 10 years on Federal lands around Lewisville Lake. The PEA identified the future and foreseeable individual development actions, assessed the potential cumulative impacts from these actions on the human and natural environment, and presented information to be used in the ensuing supplement to the Lewisville Lake Master Plan, Design Memorandum No. 1C, June 1985. The PEA was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 and pertinent implementing regulations.

Nine types of activities were addressed in the PEA including: 1) bridges and roadways; 2) water-related recreation use facilities; 3) parks – including enhanced amenities in existing recreational areas; 4) utilities and utility corridors; 5) golf courses; 6) habitable structures, such as hotels, lodges, and cabins; 7) trails; 8) land use classification changes, and 9) other miscellaneous activities. The PEA identified potential significant impacts which might result from some of the activities as proposed. These activities, such as additional marinas, bridges, golf courses, and a land use reclassification will require additional assessment tiered from the PEA.

The PEA was circulated to interested individuals, groups, organizations, cities, state, and federal agencies for review and comment. A Public Notice describing the availability of the document was published on August 19, 1999 and the entire document was made available via the internet and at several local libraries and city halls. The comment period closed on September 24, 1999. Comments were received from 86 agencies, groups, and individuals and petitions were signed by more than 1,600 persons. Comments from agencies and municipalities principally supported the findings of the PEA with some concern expressed about the level of boating activity and water quality. Citizen remarks were generally in opposition to additional boating facilities, marina construction, hotels, and recreation activities which would require large areas to be cleared of native vegetation. These types of projects will require further analysis under NEPA and are not considered a part of this finding. Concerns were also raised about the presence of *Methyl Tertiary Butyl Ether (MTBE)*, a gasoline additive, in the water. Consultation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency indicates that the parts per billion levels detected and any increased levels from the additional number of vessels authorized by the policy addressed in the PEA are not likely to represent a human health risk.

Based upon my review of the PEA, supporting documentation, and the comments received, I find that an environmental impact statement is not required based on the fact that there will be no significant long-term adverse impacts on the natural or cultural environment resulting from the proposed activities carried forward in the final analysis. This Finding of No Significant Impact is based upon the proposed activity fitting one of the project types described in the PEA and meeting all conditions prescribed for that particular project type. In those instances where the action does not conform to a described project type or to all the conditions, a Supplemental Environmental Assessment and corresponding Finding of No Significant Impact or Environmental Impact Statement and Record of Decision may be considered to address the differences.

Date 30 Sep 99


James S. Weller
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
District Engineer