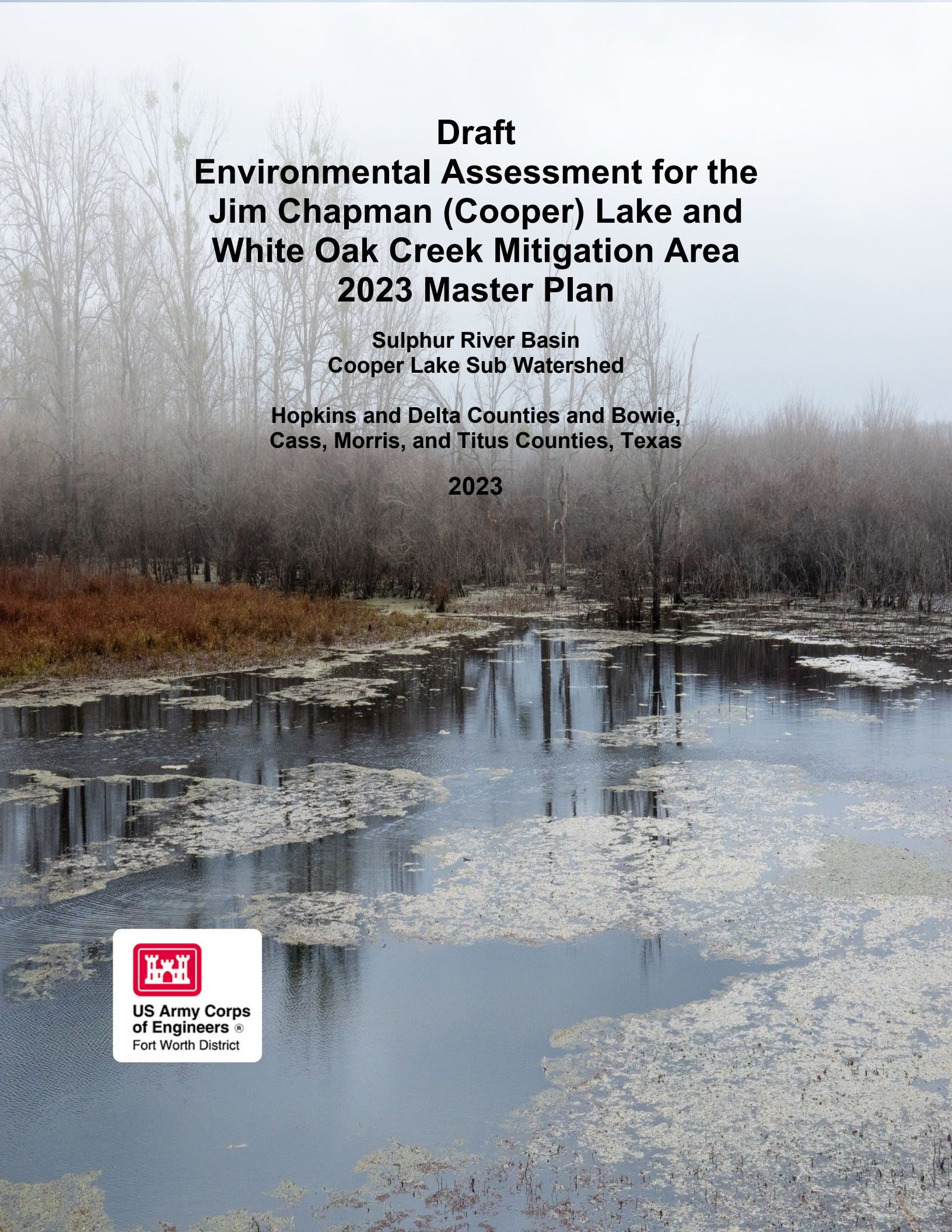
APPENDIX B – NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (NEPA) DOCUMENTATION



Draft
Environmental Assessment for the Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area 2023 Master Plan

Sulphur River Basin
Cooper Lake Sub Watershed

Hopkins and Delta Counties and Bowie, Cass, Morris, and Titus Counties, Texas

2023

US Army Corps of Engineers ®
Fort Worth District

ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ORGANIZATION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluates the potential environmental and socioeconomic impacts of the proposed 2023 Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area (WOCMA) Master Plan revision. This EA will facilitate the decision process regarding the Proposed Action and alternatives.

SECTION 1	*INTRODUCTION* of the Proposed Action summarizes the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action, provides relevant background information, and describes the scope of the EA.
SECTION 2	*PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES* examines alternatives for implementing the Proposed Action and describes the recommended alternative.
SECTION 3	*AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT* describes the existing environmental and socioeconomic setting. *ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES* identifies the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects of implementing the Proposed Action and alternatives. *MITIGATION* summarizes mitigation actions required to enable a Finding of No Significant Impact for the Proposed Action.
SECTION 4	*CUMULATIVE IMPACTS* describes the cumulative impacts on the environment that may result from the incremental impact of the action when added to other past, present, and reasonably foreseeable actions.
SECTION 5	*COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS* provides a listing of environmental protection statutes and other environmental requirements.
SECTION 6	*IRRETRIEVABLE AND IRREVERSIBLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES* identifies any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources that would be involved in the Proposed Action should it be implemented.
SECTION 7	*PUBLIC AND AGENCY COORDINATION* provides a listing of individuals and agencies consulted during preparation of the EA.
SECTION 8	*REFERENCES* provides bibliographical information for cited sources.
SECTION 9	*ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS*
SECTION 10	*LIST OF PREPARERS* identifies persons who prepared the document and their areas of expertise.
ATTACHMENT A	National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) Coordination and Scoping

This page intentionally left blank.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Tables

List of Figures

List of Attachments

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

Proposed 2023 Master Plan

Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area
Hopkins and Delta Counties, Texas

SECTION 1:INTRODUCTION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) to evaluate the proposed 2023 Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area (WOCMA) Master Plan (MP). The MP is a programmatic document that is subject to evaluation under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, (Public Law [PL] 91-190). This EA is an assessment of potential impacts that could result with the implementation of either the No Action or Proposed Action of the MP. It has been prepared in accordance with 33 Code of Federal Regulations ((CFR) Part 230 and the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations (40 CFR 1500-1508) as amended in 2020, and as reflected in the USACE Engineering Regulation, ER 200-2-2.

The proposed MP is a strategic land use management plan that provides direction to the orderly development, administration, maintenance, preservation, enhancement, and management of all natural, cultural, and recreational resources of a USACE water resource project, which includes all government-owned lands in and around a reservoir. It is a vital tool for responsible stewardship and sustainability of the project's natural and cultural resources, as well as the provision of outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities on Federal lands associated with Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA for the benefit of present and future generations. The proposed MP identifies conceptual types and levels of activities, but does not include designs, project sites, or estimated costs. All actions carried out by the USACE, other agencies, and individuals granted leases to USACE lands must be consistent with the proposed MP. Therefore, the proposed MP must be kept current in order to provide effective guidance in USACE decision-making. The original Jim Chapman Lake MP was approved in 1987 and then supplemented in 1990 with the WOCMA MP.

1.1 PROJECT DESCRIPTION

The proposed MP is comprised of two separate areas, Jim Chapman Lake and the WOCMA. Jim Chapman Lake, authorized in 1955 and constructed in 1986, is located on the Sulfur River in the Sulfur River Basin. The oblong basin averages 25 miles in width. The basin encompasses 3,558 square miles. From the eastern state line of Texas, the Sulfur River flows into Arkansas and joins with the Red River, a tributary of the Mississippi River. The Sulphur Basin has the largest average watershed yield of any major river basin in Texas. Approximately 24% of the basin is forested. Wright Patman Lake is also located within this basin and operated by the Army Corps of Engineers.

Jim Chapman Dam consists of a rolled earthfill embankment, one uncontrolled ogee weir outlet, and supporting facilities with a crest elevation of 446.2 NGVD29. The embankment is about 28,070 feet long with a maximum height of 79.5 feet above the streambed. The top of the dam, elevation 464.5, is 30 feet wide.

The White Oak Creek Mitigation Area is also located on the Sulfur River in the Sulfur River Basin, located in Bowie, Cass, Morris, and Titus Counties. It was created to mitigate for the creation of Jim Chapman Lake, which resulted in the significant loss of bottomland hardwood habitat. The White Oak Creek Mitigation Area MP was written as a supplement to the original Jim Chapman Lake MP in 1990. Section 6.2 *Wildlife Habitat Mitigation and the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area* of the proposed 2023 MP gives more detail on the creation of the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area.

The official real estate records reflect a total of 35,264 acres of land were acquired in fee simple title for the Jim Chapman Lake project and 25,360 acres of land were acquired in fee simple title for the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area. In addition, 308 acres (to 459.5 feet NGVD29) of flowage easement were purchased at Jim Chapman Lake and 16 acres at White Oak Creek Mitigation Area in accordance with USACE policy. As these are official acres (total fee: 58,022 acres), they differ from the calculated acres used throughout the 2023 MP, whose acres reflect the Geographic Information System (GIS) used in their calculation.

1.2 PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR THE ACTION

Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA together are a multipurpose water resource project and mitigation land constructed and operated by the USACE. The Jim Chapman Lake was designed to provide flood protection on the Sulfur River when operated in conjunction with the larger Sulfur River Basin System, and the WOCMA was designed to mitigate the loss of bottomland hardwood by the construction of the lake. The Lake and Mitigation Area have the following primary purposes authorized by the laws listed above:

- Flood control
- Water supply
- Fish and wildlife management
- Recreation
- Mitigation

Cooper Lake is an integral component of the larger Sulfur River Basin that has additional congressionally authorized purposes including flood control, water supply, fish and wildlife management, recreation, and mitigation within the WOCMA. In addition to these primary missions, the USACE has an inherent mission for environmental stewardship of project lands while working closely with stakeholders and partners to provide regionally important outdoor recreation opportunities. Other laws, including but not limited to PL 91-190, National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) and PL 86-717, Forest Cover Act, place emphasis on the environmental stewardship of Federal lands and USACE-administered Federal lands, respectively.

In accordance with Engineering Regulation (ER) 1130-2-550 Change 07, dated 30 January 2013 and Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550 Change 05, dated 30 January 2013, master plans are required for most USACE water resources development projects having a federally owned land base. A MP works in tandem with the Operational Management Plan (OMP), which is the task-oriented implementation tool for the resource objectives and development needs identified in the MP. This revision of the Jim Chapman MP is intended to bring the 1987 Jim Chapman MP up to date to reflect current ecological, socio-demographic, and outdoor recreation trends that are impacting the lake and mitigation area, as well as those anticipated to occur within the next 25 years.

The proposed 2023 *Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA MP (*hereafter MP) is the strategic land use management document that guides the efficient, cost-effective, comprehensive management, development, and use of recreation, natural resources, and cultural resources throughout the life of the project. It is a vital tool for responsible stewardship and sustainability of the project's natural and cultural resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The MP guides and articulates USACE responsibilities pursuant to federal laws to preserve, conserve, restore, maintain, manage, and develop the land, water, and associated resources. It is a dynamic and flexible tool designed to address changing conditions. The Plan focuses on carefully crafted resource-specific goals and objectives. It ensures that equal attention is given to the economy, quality, and needs in the management of Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA resources and facilities, and that goals and objectives are accomplished at an appropriate scale.

The master planning process encompasses a series of interrelated and overlapping tasks involving the examination and analysis of past, present, and future environmental, recreational, and socioeconomic conditions and trends. With a generalized conceptual framework, the process focuses on the following four primary components:

- Regional and ecosystem needs
- Project resource capabilities and suitability
- Expressed public interests that are compatible with Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA's authorized purposes
- Environmental sustainability elements

It is important to note what the MP does not address. Details of design, management and administration, and implementation are not addressed here but are covered in the Jim Chapman Lake OMP. In addition, the MP does not address the specifics of regional water quality, shoreline management (a term used to describe primarily vegetation modification or permits by neighboring landowners), or water level management, nor does it address the operation and maintenance of prime project operations facilities such as the dam embankment, gate control outlet, and spillway. Additionally, the MP revision does not address the flood risk management, water supply, or fish and wildlife purposes of Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA with respect to management of the water level in the lake.

The previous Plans were sufficient for prior land use planning and management, but changes in outdoor recreation trends, regional land use, population, current legislative requirements, and USACE management policy have occurred over the past decades. Additionally, increased urbanization, increasing fragmentation of wildlife habitat, national policies related to land management, climate change, and growing demand for recreational access and protection of natural and cultural resources are all factors affecting Jim Chapman Lake, WOCMA, and the region in general. In response to these escalating pressures and trends, a full revision of the 1987 MP and the Supplement in 1990 is required as set forth in this proposed MP. The MP revision will update land classifications and include new resource management goals and objectives.

1.3 SCOPE OF THE ACTION

This EA was prepared to evaluate existing conditions and potential impacts of proposed alternatives associated with the implementation of the proposed MP (MP). The alternative considerations were formulated with special attention given to revised land classifications, new resource management objectives, and a conceptual resource plan for each land classification category. The proposed 2023 MP is currently available and is incorporated into this EA by reference. This EA was prepared pursuant to NEPA.

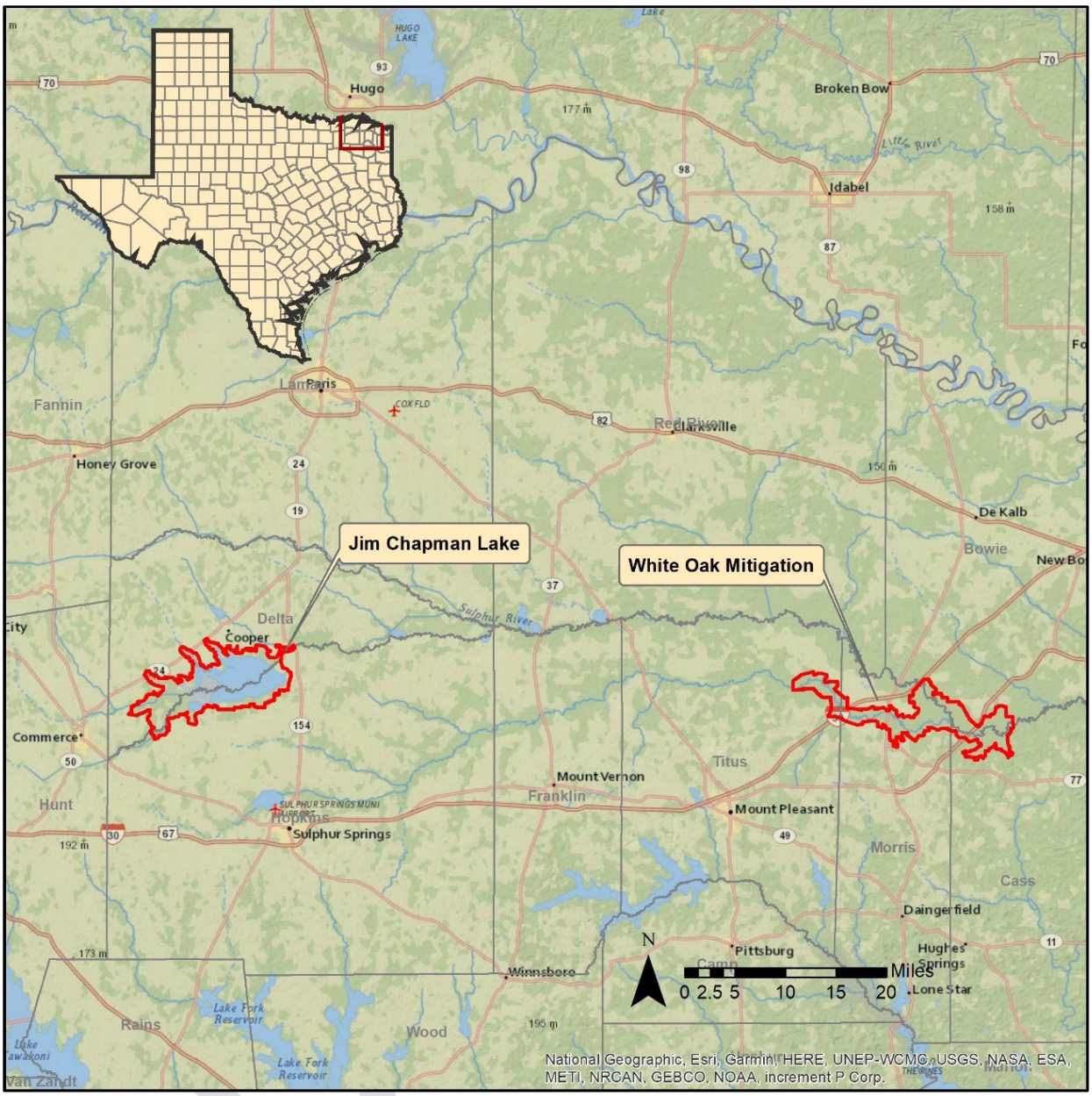


Figure 1-1. Vicinity Map of Jim Chapman Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area

The application of NEPA to make more strategic decisions not only meets the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) implementing regulations (CEQ 2020) and USACE regulations for implementing NEPA (USACE 1988), but also allows the USACE to consider the environmental consequences of its actions long before any physical activity is implemented. Multiple benefits can be derived from such early consideration. Effective and early NEPA integration with the master planning process can significantly increase the usefulness of the proposed MP to the decision maker.

SECTION 2:PROPOSED ACTION AND ALTERNATIVES

The purpose and need of the proposed action is to revise the 1987 MP so that it is compliant with current USACE regulations and guidance, incorporates public needs, and recognizes surrounding land use and recreational trends. As part of this process, which includes public outreach and comment, two alternatives were developed for evaluation, including a No Action Alternative and a Proposed Action Alternative. The alternatives were developed using land classifications that indicate the primary use for which project lands would be managed. USACE regulations specify five possible categories of land classification: Project Operations (PO), High Density Recreation (HDR), Mitigation, Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA), and Multiple Resource Managed Lands (MRML). MRML are divided into four subcategories: Low Density Recreation (MRML–LDR), Wildlife Management (MRML–WM), Vegetation Management (MRML–VM), and Inactive/Future Recreation (MRML–IFR) Areas.

USACE guidance recommends the establishment of resource goals and objectives for purposes of development, conservation, and management of natural, cultural, and man-made resources at a project. Goals describe the desired end state of overall management efforts, whereas resource objectives are specific task-oriented actions necessary to achieve the overall proposed MP goals. Goals and objectives are guidelines for obtaining maximum public benefits while minimizing adverse impacts on the environment and are developed in accordance with 1) authorized project purposes, 2) applicable laws and regulations; 3) resource capabilities and suitability; 4) regional needs; 5) other governmental plans and programs; and 6) expressed public desires. The five project-wide management goals established for Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA that were used in determining the Proposed Action, as well as the nationwide USACE Environmental Operating Principles, are discussed in detail in Chapter 3: Resource Goals and Objectives of the proposed MP and are incorporated herein by reference (USACE, 2023).

The goals for the proposed MP include the following:

GOAL A. Provide the best management practices to respond to regional needs, resource capabilities and capacities, and expressed public interests consistent with authorized project purposes.

GOAL B. Protect and manage the project's natural and cultural resources through sustainable environmental stewardship programs.

GOAL C. Provide public outdoor recreation opportunities that support project purposes and public interests while sustaining the project's natural resources.

GOAL D. Recognize the project's unique qualities, characteristics, and potentials.

GOAL E. Provide consistency and compatibility with national objectives and other State and regional goals and programs.

In addition to the above goals, USACE management activities are guided by USACE-wide Environmental Operating Principles as follows:

- Strive to achieve environmental sustainability. An environment maintained in a healthy, diverse, and sustainable condition is necessary to support life.
- Recognize the interdependence of life and the physical environment. Proactively consider environmental consequences of USACE programs and act accordingly in all appropriate circumstances.
- Seek balance and synergy among human development activities and natural systems by designing economic and environmental solutions that support and reinforce one another.
- Continue to accept corporate responsibility and accountability under the law for activities and decisions under our control that impact human health and welfare and the continued viability of natural systems.
- Seek ways and means to assess and mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment; bringing systems approaches to the full life cycle of our processes and work.
- Build and share an integrated scientific, economic, and social knowledge base that supports a greater understanding of the environment and impacts of our work.
- Respect the views of individuals and groups interested in USACE activities; listen to them actively and learn from their perspective in the search to find innovative win-win solutions to the nation's problems that also protect and enhance the environment.

Specific resource objectives to accomplish these goals can be found in Chapter 3 of the proposed MP.

The USACE will not address dam operations or water management of Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA under either the No Action or Proposed Action alternatives. Water management, which includes flood risk management and dam operations, is established in the Jim Chapman Lake Water Control Manual.

2.1 ALTERNATIVE 1: NO ACTION

Under the No Action Alternative, the USACE would not approve the adoption or implementation of the proposed 2023 MP. Instead, the USACE would continue to manage Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA's natural resources as set forth in the 1987 MP and the 1990 supplement. The 1987 MP would continue to provide the only source of comprehensive management guidelines and philosophy. However, the 1987 MP is out of date and does not reflect the current ecological, socio-political, or socio-demographic conditions of Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA or those that are anticipated to occur through 2048.

The No Action Alternative, while it does not meet the purpose and need, serves as a benchmark of existing conditions against which Federal actions can be evaluated, and is therefore included in this EA pursuant to CEQ regulations 40 CFR § 1502.14(c).

2.2 ALTERNATIVE 2: PROPOSED ACTION

Under the Proposed Action, the USACE would adopt and implement the 2023 MP, which guides and articulates USACE responsibilities pursuant to Federal laws to preserve, conserve, restore, maintain, manage, and develop the land, water, and associated resources. The proposed MP would replace the 1987 MP and 1990 Supplement and provide an up-to-date management plan that follows current Federal laws and regulations while sustaining the project's natural resources and providing recreational opportunities for the next 25 years. The Proposed Action would meet regional goals associated with good stewardship of land, water, and recreational resources; address identified recreational trends; and allow for continued use and development of project lands without violating national policies or public laws.

The proposed MP would classify all Federal fee land at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA into management classification categories. These management classification categories would allow uses of Federal property that meet the definition of the assigned category and ensure the protection of natural resources and environmental stewardship while allowing maximum public enjoyment of the lake and mitigation area's resources.

The proposed land classification categories are defined as follows:

- Project Operations: Lands required for the dam, spillway, switchyard, levees, dikes, offices, maintenance facilities, and other areas used solely for the operation of Jim Chapman Lake.
- High Density Recreation: Lands developed for the intensive recreational activities for the visiting public including day use and campgrounds. These areas could also be for commercial concessions and quasi-public development.
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas: Areas where scientific, ecological, cultural, or aesthetic features have been identified.
- Mitigation Areas**:** This classification is only used for lands with an allocation of Mitigation and that were acquired specifically for the purpose of offsetting losses associated with development of the project.
- Multiple Resource Management Lands (MRML): Allows for the designation of a predominate use with the understanding that other compatible uses may also occur on these lands.
    - MRML–Low Density Recreation: Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive recreational use (primitive camping, fishing, hunting, trails, wildlife viewing, etc.).
    - MRML–Wildlife Management: Lands designated for stewardship of fish and wildlife resources.
- Surface Water: Allows for surface water zones.

- Restricted: Water areas restricted for Jim Chapman Lake operations, safety, and security.
- Designated No-Wake: Water areas to protect environmentally sensitive shoreline areas and recreational water access areas from disturbance and areas to protect public safety.
- Open Recreation: Water areas available for year-round or seasonal water-based recreational use.

Table 2-1 shows the proposed classifications and acres contained in each classification, Table 2-2 shows the water surface classifications, and Table 2-3 provides the justification for the proposed reclassification.

Table 2-1 Proposed Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA Land Classifications

Prior Land Classifications (1987 Plan)	Acres*	Proposed New Land Classifications (2023)	Acres	2022-1987 Difference
Project Operations	371	Project Operations (PO)	512	141
Intensive Recreation Use	2,195	High Density Recreation (HDR)	1,957	(238)
--	--	Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)	7,213	7,213
Low Density Recreation Use	892	Multiple Resource Management – Low Density Recreation (MRML-LDR)	1,283	391
Wildlife Management Area	10,620	Multiple Resource Management – Wildlife Management (MRML-WM)	3,116	(7,504)
Mitigation (1990 WOCMA MP)	25,983	WOCMA Mitigation MP	25,983	0
Total Land Acres	**40,061**	**Total Land Acres**	**40,064**	**3**

Table 2-2. Proposed Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA Surface Water Classifications

Prior Water Surface Classifications (1987 Plan)	Acres	Proposed Water Surface Classifications (2023)	Acres	2022-1987 Difference
Permanent Pool	17,958	Open Recreation	17,901	4
--	--	Designated No-Wake	27	27
--	--	Restricted	30	30
TOTAL Water Surface	17,958	**TOTAL Water Surface**	17,958	0
TOTAL FEE	58,019			58,022

*1987 totals as calculated are presented in this table. Total Acreage differences from the 1987 MP and the 1987 calculated total are due to improvements in measurement technology. 1987 recorded acres are Project Operations: 348; Recreation – Intensive Use 2,100; Recreation – Low Density 860; Wildlife Management 9,480; 1990 White Oak Creek Mitigation Area 25,500. Differences in the totals from 1987 to 2023 totals are due to improvements in measurement technology, deposition/siltation, and erosion. Totals also differ due to rounding while adding parcels.

Table 2-3. Justification for the Proposed Land Reclassifications

Proposed Land Classification	Description of Changes
Project Operations (PO)	Approximately 370 acres of land previously classified as Project Operations remains Project Operations. At the south side of the lake, just off County Road 4772 and within Cooper Lake State Park, approximately 4 acres have changed from Intensive Recreation to PO. This area includes the lease area for a transmission tower and equipment At the west end of TPWD's Cooper State Park, South Sulphur Unit, and just off of White Rock Road, approximately 24 acres of land changed from Low Density Recreation to Project Operations. This area includes a water treatment facility, access road, and equipment storage 114 acres of the previous Wildlife Management were converted to PO to allow for management of the diversion channel, such as dredging activities that have been brought up in the past and could be exercised in the future triggered by our FRM mission.

High Density Recreation (HDR)	At the west end of Cooper Lake State Park, South Sulphur Unit, approximately 364 acres have changed from Low Density Recreation to HDR. That area falls within TPWD's existing State Park Lease. Although the only recreational facilities currently in that area are natural surface trails, TPWD has options for additional facilities that would require intensive recreation land classification A small area around John's Creek Boat Ramp and the entrance to Doctors Creek Unit of Cooper Lake State Park totaling 63 acres have been changed from Wildlife Management to HDR. These areas have historically been managed for intensive recreation, include permanent recreational facilities, and could include additional intensive recreation facilities in the future Approximately 1,529 acres were changed from Intensive Recreation to HDR. This is mostly a change in terminology, and the areas are still managed for intensive recreation.
Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA)	Approximately 7,213 acres of Wildlife Management with higher quality and sensitive habitats, including riparian areas and natural wetlands, have been changed to ESA. The areas have historically been managed to improve wildlife habitat, in partnership with TPWD, to help mitigate for the loss of wildlife habitat when the lake was created. The habitat will continue to be managed to provide quality wildlife habitat and may include future management to improve the habitat. Some areas are also known to include cultural or historic sites which are to be protected or preserved. See Section 5.5 for details on individual ESAs.

MRML – Low Density Recreation (LDR)	Approximately 647 acres of land changed from Intensive Recreation to MRML - LDR. This includes an area south of the project office and another area off 4766 into the Cooper Lake State Park. These areas have historically been managed for less intensive recreation, and ongoing management and projects will continue to include less intensive recreation. Three areas were changed from Wildlife Management to MRML - LDR totaling approximately 132 acres. A small area to the west of the entrance of Doctors Creek was changed, since it has historically been managed to improve wildlife habitat, and there are no plans to include any recreational facilities in that area. A larger area within the South Sulphur Unit of Cooper Lake State Park was changed to reflect historic and planned usage which includes trails and other less intensive recreation and lies within TPWD's Cooper State Park lease area. The last area is along the shoreline south of County Road 1528 with the access road to and just around John's Creek Boat Ramp and could include less intensive recreation including unpaved trails. Approximately 504 acres of land previously classified as Low Density Recreation changed to MRML - LDR. This is mostly a change in terminology, and the area is still managed for less intensive recreational activities.
MRML – Wildlife Management (WM)	Approximately 19 acres of land has changed from Intensive Recreation to MRML - WM towards the northeast end of the lake near the corner of County Road 4782 and County Road 4777. This area historically included intensive recreation facilities, but most

	have been removed. The area will be managed to improve wildlife habitat and could include removal of old infrastructure, invasive species removal, controlled burns, vegetation planting, and other management practices. Approximately 3,097 acres were changed from Wildlife Management to MRML - WM. This is mostly a change in terminology, and the areas are still managed for wildlife. Included in this area are the constructed wetlands at the southwest end of the lake along the north of the South Sulphur River. These areas will continue to be managed specifically to improve the wetland habitat which could include invasive species removal, repairing damage to the wetland cells, construction of new features to improve the wetlands, etc. This area also includes Utility Corridors that pass through or adjacent to areas changed from Wildlife Management to the newly designated ESAs. This is to consolidate future utilities into corridors to reduce habitat fragmentation and improve management of both utilities and the adjacent ESAs.

*The land classification changes described in this table are the result of changes to individual parcels of land ranging from a few acres to several hundred acres. New acreages were measured using more accurate GIS technology, thus total changes will not equal individual changes. The acreage numbers provided are approximate.

2.3 ALTERNATIVES CONSIDERED BUT ELMINATED FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION

Other alternatives to the Proposed Action were initially considered as part of the scoping process for this EA. However, none met the purpose of and need for the Proposed Action or the current USACE regulations and guidance. Furthermore, no other alternatives addressed public concerns. Therefore, no other alternatives are being carried forward for analysis in this EA.

SECTION 3:AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT AND CONSEQUENCES

This section of the EA describes the potential impacts of the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives on the natural, cultural, and social resources found within the USACE Jim Chapman Lake Fee Boundary. A description of the existing condition of resources can be found in Chapter 2 of the proposed MP. Only those resources that have the potential to be affected by implementation of either alternative will be analyzed in this EA. The following resources were excluded from further impact analysis because the No Action nor the Proposed Action would not have any impact on them: Hazardous, Toxic, and Radioactive Waste.

Impacts (consequence or effect) can be either beneficial or adverse and can be either temporary, short- or long-term caused by the action (40 CFR § 1501.3). As discussed in this section, the alternatives may create temporary (less than 1 year), short-term (up to 3 years), long-term (3 to 10 years), or permanent effects following the MP revision.

In considering whether the effects of the Proposed Action are significant, agencies shall analyze the potentially affected environment and degree of the effects of the action (40 CFR 1501.3). Impacts on each resource can vary in degree or magnitude from a slightly noticeable change to a total change in the environment. For this analysis, the intensity of impacts would be classified as negligible, minor, moderate, or major. The intensity thresholds are defined as follows:

- Negligible: A resource would not be affected, or the effects would be at or below the level of detection, and changes would not be of any measurable or perceptible consequence.
- Minor: Effects on a resource would be detectable, although the effects would be localized, small, and of little consequence to the sustainability of the resource. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset adverse effects, would be simple and achievable.
- Moderate: Effects on a resource would be readily detectable, long-term, localized, and measurable. Mitigation measures, if needed to offset adverse effects, would be extensive and likely achievable.

3.1 MAJOR: EFFECTS ON A RESOURCE WOULD BE OBVIOUS AND LONG-TERM AND WOULD HAVE SUBSTANTIAL CONSEQUENCES ON A REGIONAL SCALE. MITIGATION MEASURES TO OFFSET THE ADVERSE EFFECTS WOULD BE REQUIRED AND EXTENSIVE, AND SUCCESS OF THE MITIGATION MEASURES WOULD NOT BE GUARANTEED LAND USE

Please refer to Chapters 1.5, 2.5, and 2.6 of the proposed MP for existing land use information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.1.1 Alternative 1: No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the USACE would not implement the proposed MP, and thus the land use management would not be updated to current needs and demands. The operation and maintenance of USACE lands at Jim Chapman Lake and

WOCMA would continue as outlined in the existing MP to the existent that current and future laws and regulations will permit. Management would continue to lag behind the current and future recreational needs and public preferences. As the regulatory environment continues to change, management at Lake and Mitigation Areas would diverge from the plan. This divergence would create a patchwork of management requirements that would be inefficient for Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA staff to implement. The management would also increasingly lack transparency to the public, or alternately create more of a burden to staff to communicate how the lake management differs from that in the management plan. Implementation of the No Action Alternative would have moderate, adverse, short- and long-term impacts on land use within and on USACE Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA project lands due to conflicting guidance and management of USACE lands.

3.1.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The objectives for revising the proposed MP describe current and foreseeable land uses, consider expressed public opinion, regional trends, and USACE policies that have evolved to meet day-to-day operational needs. The reclassifications in the proposed MP were developed to help fulfill regional goals associated with good stewardship of land and water resources that would allow for continued use and development of project lands.

While High Density Recreation (HDR) is technically a new management classification, the bulk of the proposed 1,956 acres of HDR land is from areas previously classified as Recreational Intensive Use. MRML-LDR is new in name but how they are managed is the exact way as the lands that they would be replacing are managed which is Operations Recreation Low Density Use. The bulk of the previous LDR going to HDR for lands leased to the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department (TPWD) and 364 acres coming from areas previously classified as Recreation Low Density Use. Even though the acres are decreasing slightly overall for HDR from 2,195 to 1,956 acres, recreational opportunities would not decrease. The change in acreages reflects current and foreseeable recreational trends for the area.

MRML-LDR are lands that have minimal development or infrastructure that support passive public use such as hiking, nature photography, bank fishing, and hunting. Future uses may include designating additional natural surface hike/bike trails. These areas are managed for recreational purposes and provide more protection for wildlife and vegetation than HDR but less than the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) and are on equal footing in terms of protection as MRML- Wildlife Management (WM).

HDR and MRML-LDR are not the only new management classifications introduced in the proposed MP. The proposed establishment and reclassification of 7,212 acres as ESA would allow for greater protection of sensitive habitats or cultural resources. Conservation efforts within USACE Jim Chapman Lake fee owned boundary would be further aided by the proposed reclassification of 129 acres as MRML-LDR and 2,889 acres as MRML-WM. Even though MRML-LDR would decrease by 763 acres, and MRML-WM would decrease by 7,731 acres, with the prior losing the majority to HDR in area that is already reserved but never utilized for HDR while the latter would have the

majority of those acres being lost, would be converted to ESA, which means conservation efforts would not be further reduced.

On the waters of Jim Chapman Lake, the proposed MP would add established surface water use categories in addition to the current management of the lake. The proposed establishment of 30 acres of Restricted, 27 acres of Designated No Wake, and 17,962 acres of Open Recreation to the water surface, respectively, would allow for delineated, and safer management of the lake's waters when the lake is at its conservation pool. These classifications would help to improve safety of those recreating on and around Jim Chapman Lake. This would be done by restricting boat access and speeds around certain parts of the lake, as well as establishing areas that boating can occur in. The Jim Chapman Lake office would still maintain the authority to make ad hoc adjustments as needed by lake level, which would prevent the proposed classifications from being overly rigid or even ineffectual in various lake level conditions.

The 9 proposed utility corridors as explained in section 6.4 and in Table 6.1 of the proposed MP would have positive short-and long-term impacts on land use within Jim Chapman Lake. The positive impacts come from the consolidating of future disturbances associated with utility operations to limited areas which then frees up more land for other land uses. Their establishment would not necessarily increase the usage of nearby corridors. The corridor is limited to or incorporates an existing easement, future use of these corridors would in most cases require prior approval from the entities that have legal rights to the easement. These existing corridors may be used for placement of additional utilities by the grantee holding the easement, but only for purposes that directly serve the grantee or are of direct benefit to the Government. Expansion or widening of existing non-corridor easements will generally not be permitted. Any utility seeking an easement to cross USACE property within or outside of a designated corridor will still need to consider alternate routes around USACE property and demonstrate that a feasible alternative does not exist. Additionally, any expansion of existing or newly proposed utility corridors would need to undergo the required NEPA permitting process.

None of the land classification for WOCMA would change in the proposed MP from the 1990 supplement. These lands would remain classified as Mitigation as required by EP 1130-2-550. However, these Mitigation lands would be managed and maintained the same exact way as if they were classified as ESA. Because of this, no utilities nor corridors would be allowed to transect this area, while passive recreation and hunting would still be permitted. These management practices would help to maintain conservation in WOCMA.

The majority of the land use classifications proposed in the MP would maintain the functional management that is currently occurring. While the terminology updates appear substantial, they have been proposed after considerable public input, and seek to maintain the values the public holds highest at Jim Chapman Lake. Additionally, the land reclassifications provide a balance between public use, both intensive and passive, and natural resources conservation. Therefore, the implementation of the Proposed

Action would have major, long-term beneficial impacts to land use as the proposed land classes and utility corridors further refine areas for appropriate activities.

3.2 WATER RESOURCES

Please refer to section 2.6 of the proposed MP for existing water resource information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.2.1 Alternative 1: No Action

There would be no impacts on water resources as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative, since there would be no change to the existing MP. There are no known water resource related problems that the 1987 MP are helping to increase or maintain.

3.2.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The reclassifications and resource management objectives required for implementing the Proposed Action would allow land management and land uses to be adjusted for current and reasonable, foreseeable future changes in water resources. For example, the establishment of 7,213 acres as ESA lands would help stabilize soils through the promotion of and restoration native habitat. In turn, the habitat present at Jim Chapman would help buffer and filter storm runoff before making its way into the lake. Minor, beneficial impacts to water quality may be realized during storm events as the natural areas may help to reduce erosion and subsequent water turbidity. The establishment of 8,633 acres as ESA lands, proposed usage of MRML-LDR and WM land classifications would result in more upland areas and wetlands being protected from erosion and sedimentation. Even though MRML–LDR would decrease by 763 acres, and MRML–WM would decrease by 7,731 acres, with the prior losing the majority to HDR in area that is already reserved but never utilized for HDR. While the latter would have the majority of those acres being lost would be converted to ESA, which means wetlands being protected not be further reduced. Keeping the entire WOCMA as mitigation would help to protect and maintain the existing wetlands by acting as alternative mitigation sites for any loss of wetland located at Jim Chapman. The proposed resource objectives would promote the decision-making processes to take into consideration their impacts to Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA flood/conservation pool levels.

Additionally, 27 acres of surface waters are proposed to be classified as Designated No Wake. These areas are near shorelines where wave action can increase erosion. This proposed Designated No Wake classification is expected to help prevent further erosion and further reduce water turbidity.

Therefore, implementation of the proposed MP would have minor, positive, short- and long-term impacts on water resources within and on USACE project lands.

3.3 CLIMATE, CLIMATE CHANGE, AND GREENHOUSE GASSES (GHG)

Please refer to section 2.2 and 2.3 of the proposed MP for existing climate, climate change and greenhouse gas information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA .

3.3.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The No Action Alternative would not result in any change in management of Jim Chapman Lake project land. Implementation of the 1987 MP would have no impact (beneficial or adverse) on existing or future climate conditions. Current policy (Executive Orders [EO] 13783 and 13990, and related USACE policy) requires project lands and recreational programs be managed in a way that advances broad national climate change mitigation goals including, but not limited to, climate change resilience and carbon sequestration. These policies would continue to be implemented under this Alternative which are not addressed in the 1987 MP goals and objectives, which is further proof of the 1987 MP inability to meet current laws and regulations.

3.3.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The proposed MP would have negligible positive impacts to climate, climate change, and GHG emissions in the region. The impacts would come from the MP promotion of land management practices and design standards that promote sustainability. Management under the proposed MP would also follow current policy to meet climate change goals as described for the No Action Alternative. Ground disturbing activities that result from guidance from this document would go through the NEPA and design process prior to implementation. It is during that time, that impacts to the climate would be analyzed for ground disturbing activities. The proposed MP would then promote land management practices and design standards that promote sustainability which would have negligible impacts to climate, climate change, and GHG emissions.

3.4 AIR QUALITY

Please refer to section 2.4 of the proposed MP for existing air quality information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.4.1 Alternative 1: No Action

Implementation of the No Action Alternative would not result in any change to air quality in the region. The 1987 MP would remain compliant with the Clean Air Act because the MP includes only guidelines and does not incorporate actions which produce criteria pollutants.

3.4.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The continual implementation of the 1987 MP and the 1990 Supplement would not result in any change to the current and foreseeable future air quality in the region. For the new MP for Jim Chapman it is best advised to continue with the 1987 MP and the 1990 Supplement since the MP includes only guidelines and does not incorporate actions which produce criteria pollutants.

3.5 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND SOILS

Please refer to section 2.5 of the proposed MP for existing topography, geology, and soils information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.5.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The No Action Alternative does not involve any activities that would contribute to changes in existing conditions, so there would be no short- or long-term, minor, moderate, or major, beneficial, or adverse impacts on topography, geology, soils, or prime farmland as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative.

3.5.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The proposed MP takes into consideration of the various topographical, geological, and soils aspects of USACE Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA project lands. The reduction of HDR lands (2,195 acres to 1,956 acres), the proposed usage of MRML-LDR and WM classifications, and the establishment of 7,418 acres as ESA would help to increase the long-term preservation and stabilization of the soils within USACE Jim Chapman Lake project lands. The 9 proposed utility corridors would consolidate disturbances associated with utility operations to limited areas, further helping to reduce soil exposure to erosive wind and water forces. Based on this analysis and discussion the proposed action would have minor, positive, long-term impacts on soil conservation and topography, and geology at Jim Chapman Lake.

3.6 NATURAL RESOURCES

Please refer to section 2.8 of the proposed MP for existing natural resources information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.6.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The No Action Alternative does not involve any activities that would contribute to changes in existing conditions; therefore, no short- or long-term, major, moderate, or minor, beneficial, or adverse impacts on natural resources would be anticipated as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative.

3.6.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The implementation of reclassifications of land management classes, improvement of resource management objectives, and the overall improvement of the proposed MP would allow natural resources within USACE Jim Chapman and WOCMA Federal Project lands to be better managed and accounted for. The better management would be from implementing the knowledge gained from the Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Procedure (WHAP) (Appendix C of the proposed MP) completed for Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA, which helps to locate where high quality habitat and unique habitat areas.

The implementation of proposed land reclassifications would allow project lands to continue and further support USFWS and the TPWD missions associated with wildlife conservation and implementation of operational practices that would protect and enhance wildlife and fishery populations and habitat. The implementation of the

proposed MP would allow for better cooperative management plans with the USFWS and TPWD that would help to preserve, enhance, and protect vegetation and wildlife habitat resources that are essential to various endangered and threatened species that may be found within USACE Jim Chapman Lake Federal Project lands. To enhance management opportunities and beneficially impact habitat diversity. The new resource objectives also allow for natural resources to be managed with consideration of how they would be impacted from the retention of flood waters. The reduction of HDR lands (2,195 acres to 1,956 acres), the proposed usage of MRML–LDR and WM classifications, and the establishment of 7,418 acres as ESA, especially in prime ecological areas, helps to protect natural resources from various types of adverse impacts such as habitat fragmentation. Even though MRML–LDR would decrease by 763 acres, and MRML–WM would decrease by 7,731 acres, with the prior losing the majority to HDR in area that is already reserved but never utilized for HDR while the latter would have the majority of those acres being lost would be converted to ESA, which means the protection that natural resources within the fee boundary would not be further reduced. The 9 proposed utility corridors described in section 6.4 and Table 6.1 of the proposed MP would help to increase the acreage of habitat that would not be disturbed in the future by consolidating future utilities. Utility consolidation would be achieved from the restriction of all new utilities being built along existing easements and proposed corridors. Therefore, under the Proposed Action, there would be major short- and long-term major, beneficial impacts on natural resources as a result of implementing the proposed MP.

3.7 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

Please refer to section 2.8.3 of the proposed MP for existing information on threatened and endangered species with the potential to occur within the USACE fee owned boundary.

3.7.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The No Action Alternative does not involve any activities that would contribute to changes in existing conditions; therefore, no short- or long-term, major, moderate, or minor, beneficial, or adverse impacts on threatened and endangered species would be anticipated as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative.

3.7.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The implementation of the proposed MP would allow for better cooperative management plans with the USFWS and TPWD that would help to preserve, enhance, and protect vegetation and wildlife habitat resources that are essential to various endangered and threatened species that may be found within USACE Jim Chapman Lake Federal Project lands. To enhance management opportunities and beneficially impact habitat diversity, the reclassifications in the proposed MP include 7,418 acres as ESAs. Proposed resource objectives requires that threatened and endangered species would be managed by various ecosystem management principles. In addition, all new utilities would be built along existing easements and along the 9 proposed utility corridors. This would help to reduce future loss of natural resources and habitat

fragmentation that could potentially occur from placement of utility lines on project lands.

Any future activities that could potentially result in impacts on federally listed species would be coordinated with USFWS through Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act. There are negligible impacts on federally threatened and endangered species anticipated as a result of implementing the Proposed Action Alternative. Therefore, the USACE has determined that the proposed Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA MP would have No Effect on all federally threatened and endangered species within Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.8 INVASIVE SPECIES

Please refer to section 2.8.4 of the proposed MP for existing information on invasive species within the USACE fee owned boundary.

3.8.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The No Action Alternative does not involve any activities that would contribute to changes in existing conditions, so Jim Chapman Lake would continue to be managed according to the existing invasive species management practices. There would be no short- or long-term, minor, moderate, or major, beneficial, or adverse impacts from invasive species as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative.

3.8.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The implementation of the reclassifications of land management classes, improvement of resource management objectives, and the overall improvement of the proposed MP would allow invasive species within USACE Jim Chapman and WOCMA Federal Project lands to be better managed and accounted for. Improved invasive species management would occur from implementing the knowledge gained from the Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Procedure (WHAP) survey conducted at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA, which helps to identify high value habitat and unique habitat areas that need further protection from invasive species so as to protect their value and uniqueness that invasive species may destroy or degrade them. The reduction of HDR land (2,195 acres to 1,956 acres), the proposed usage of MRML–LDR and WM classifications, and the establishment of 7,418 acres as ESA, especially in prime ecological areas would help to protect natural resources from various types of adverse impacts such as habitat fragmentation. This, in turn would decrease the spread of invasive species as well as from the changes to their respective land management classifications. Even though MRML–LDR would decrease by 763 acres, and MRML–WM would decrease by 7,731 acres, with the prior losing the majority to HDR in area that is already slatted but never utilized for HDR while the latter would have the majority of those acres being lost would be converted to ESA, which means the management for invasive species control would not be further reduced. The proposed MP resource objectives also promote the monitoring and reporting of invasive species as well as the ability to take action to prevent and/or reduce the spread of these species. The 9 utility proposed corridors would help to further reduce the spread of invasive species by removing avenues of entry that they can be introduced and spread by consolidating all new utilities within the existing easements. Therefore, under the Proposed Action, there

would be short-and long-term minor, beneficial impacts on invasive species as a result of implementing the proposed MP.

3.9 CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

Please refer to section 2.9 of the proposed MP for existing information on cultural, historical, and archaeological resources within the USACE fee owned boundary.

3.9.1 Alternative 1: No Action

There would be no additional short- or long-term, minor, moderate, or major, beneficial, or adverse impacts on cultural, historical, or archaeological resources as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative, as there would be no changes to the existing MP.

3.9.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The implementation of the reclassifications of land management classes, improvement of resource management objectives, and the overall improvement of the proposed MP would allow cultural, historical, and archaeological resources within USACE Jim Chapman Federal Project lands to be better managed and accounted for. Based on previous surveys at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA, the required reclassifications, proposed utility corridors, resource objectives, and resource plan would not change current cultural resource management plans or alter areas where these resources exist. Any future ground-disturbing activities would be coordinated with the State Historic Preservation Officer and federally recognized Tribes to ensure compliance with Section 106 of the NHPA, the Archaeological Resources Protection Act, and the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act. Therefore, no significant adverse impacts on cultural, historical, or archaeological resources would occur as a result of implementing the proposed MP. Beneficial impacts may occur as a result of the proposed MP due to lands being classified as PO, ESA, MRML–WM, or Mitigation, which would generally protect any historic properties within those lands against ground disturbing activities.

3.10 SOCIOECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

Please refer to section 2.10 of the proposed Jim Chapman Lake WOCMA MP for existing socioeconomic and environmental justice information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.10.1 Alternative 1: No Action

The continual implementation of the 1987 MP would result in the existing beneficial socioeconomic impacts to continue, as visitors would continue to come to the lake from surrounding areas. In addition to camping, many visitors purchase goods such as groceries, fuel, and camping supplies locally, eat in local restaurants, stay in local hotels and resorts, play golf at local golf courses, and shop in local retail establishments. These activities would continue to bring revenues to local companies, provide jobs for local residents, and generate local and state tax revenues. There would be no

disproportionately high or adverse impacts on minority or low-income populations or children with the implementation of the No Action Alternative.

3.10.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The implementation of the proposed MP land reclassifications, resources objectives, and resource plan reflect changes in land management and land uses that have occurred since 1987 and 1990. Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA offers a variety of recreational opportunities for visitors. The proposed MP would be beneficial to the local economy through direct and indirect job creation and local spending by visitors. Beneficial impacts would be similar to the No Action Alternative.

After using the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Climate and Economic Screening Tool (CEST) (2022), Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA is determined to be surrounded by disadvantaged communities. These communities are defined by the EPA (2022) as those that meet one or both screening criteria, meet the threshold of burden for the CEST, and or are on land within the boundaries of Federally Recognized Tribes. The CEST provides two burden criteria for disadvantaged communities as being characterized by "(1) at or above the threshold for one or more environmental, climate, or other burdens, and (2) at or above the threshold for an associated socioeconomic burden". The communities for Jim Chapman Lake primarily reside on the Northeast and Southeast sides, while WOCMA primarily can be found around the central and eastern portion of it. The burden criteria that the communities around Jim Chapman Lake are meeting are climate change, health, and transportation. While the communities around WOCMA meet the burden for climate change, energy, housing, and transportation, there would be no adverse impacts to these communities as a result of implementing the proposed MP because no construction activities would occur as result of implementation that would otherwise impact these communities. There would be no adverse impacts on the economy in the area and no disproportionate impacts on minority or low-income populations, children, or on environmental justice as a result of the Proposed Action.

3.11 RECREATION

Please refer to section 2.11 of the proposed MP for existing recreation information in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.11.1 Alternative 1: No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be no short- or long-term, minor, moderate, or major, beneficial, or adverse impacts on recreational resources, as there would be no changes to the existing MP. The USACE would continue to lease recreation lands at Jim Chapman Lake to non-federal partners, who are anticipated to maintain and improve existing facilities with potential plans for future expansion.

3.11.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA is beneficial to the local visitors and also offers a variety of free recreation opportunities to the public. The proposed action would still

allow for current leases to exist and for future lease proposals. Even though the amount of acreage available for High Density Recreation would decrease (2,195 acres to 1,956 acres) with implementation of the proposed MP, this land reclassification reflects changes in land management and land uses that have occurred since 1987 and 1990 at Jim Chapman Lake. Existing passive recreational activities would still be allowed within all lands regardless of the land classification. The proposed resource objectives would promote that all decisions made in regard to the lake take into consideration their impacts to recreation and make adjustments be needed. Therefore, under the Proposed Action, there would be no adverse, short- or long-term impacts on recreation as numerous existing recreation opportunities would remain in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA to accommodate various outdoor based recreation activities and provides opportunities for future improvements by non-federal partners.

3.12 AESTHETIC RESOURCES

Please refer to section 2.8.5 of the proposed MP for existing aesthetic resource conditions in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA .

3.12.1 Alternative 1: No Action

There would be no short- or long-term, minor, moderate, or major, beneficial, or adverse impacts on visual resources as a result of implementing the No Action Alternative, as there would be no changes to the existing MP.

3.12.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA currently plays a pivotal role in availability of parks and open space in Bowie, Cass, Delta, Hopkins, Denton, Morris, and Titus Counties. Even though the amount of acreage available for High Density Recreation would decrease (2,195 acres to 1,956 acres) with implementation of the proposed MP, this land reclassification reflects changes in existing land management and land uses that have occurred since 1987 and 1990 at Jim Chapman Lake. Existing passive recreational activities would still be allowed within all lands regardless of the land classification. The resource objectives would promote that all decisions made in regards to the lake consider their impacts to recreation and should be monitored should adjustments be needed. The conversion of these lands would have no effect on current or projected public use or visual aesthetics, since views from natural and recreation areas would remain in place. Furthermore, the proposed usage of MRML–LDR and WM classifications, and the establishment of 7,418 acres as ESA would protect lands that are aesthetically pleasing and available for passive recreation activity at Jim Chapman Lake and limit future development. Even though MRML–LDR would decrease by 763 acres, and MRML–WM would decrease by 7,731 acres, with the prior losing the majority to HDR in area that is already slatted but never utilized for HDR while the latter would have the majority of those acres being lost would be converted to ESA, which means aesthetic resources would not be further reduced. All new utilities would be built along existing easements and along the 9 proposed new utility corridors to limit aesthetics impacts to natural landscapes. Additionally, proposed resource objectives would place an emphasis on increasing public education on recreation, nature, cultural resources, and ecology resources at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA. Therefore,

under the Proposed Action, there would be no adverse, short- or long-term impacts on recreation as numerous recreation opportunities would remain in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA to accommodate various outdoor based recreation activities.

3.13 HEALTH AND SAFETY

Please refer to section 2.7 of the proposed MP for information concerning health and safety in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

3.13.1 Alternative 1: No Action

Under the No Action Alternative, the Jim Chapman MP would not be revised. No significant adverse impacts on human health or safety would be anticipated.

3.13.2 Alternative 2: Proposed Action

The implementation of the proposed MP would result in the classification of Restricted (30 acres), Designated No-Wake (27 acres), and Open-Recreation (17,962). These classifications would maintain and, in some cases, improve boating, non-motorized recreation, and swimming safety near the Jim Chapman Lake Dam, water intake structures, and key recreational water access areas such as boat ramps and designated swimming areas.

The project would continue to have reporting guidelines in place should water quality become a threat to public health. Existing regulations and safety programs throughout the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA project area would continue to be enforced to ensure public safety. The resource objectives promotes various factors that impact human safety at the lake are monitored and that actions are taken to address, eliminate, or reduce those factors. Additionally, the objectives place an emphasis on educating the public on water safety and on flood risk management efforts at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA. Therefore, under the Proposed Action, there would be short-and long-term minor, beneficial impacts on health and safety as a result of implementing the proposed MP.

3.14 SUMMARY OF CONSEQUENCES AND BENEFITS

Table 3-1 provides a tabular summary of the consequences and benefits for the No Action and Proposed Action alternatives for each of the 13 assessed resource categories.

Table 3-1. Summary of Consequences and Benefits

Resource	Change Resulting from Revised MP	Environmental Consequences: No Action Alternative	Environmental Consequences: Proposed Action	Benefits Summary
Land Use	No effect on private lands. Emphasis is on protection of wildlife and environmental values on USACE land and maintaining current level of developed recreation facilities.	Fails to recognize recreation trends and regional natural resource priorities.	Recognizes recreation trends and regional natural resource priorities identified by TPWD and public comments.	Land classification changes and new resource objectives fully recognize passive use recreation trends and regional environmental values such as protection of prairies.
Water Resources Including Groundwater, Wetlands, and Water Quality	Small change to recognize value of wetlands.	Fails to recognize the water quality benefits of good land stewardship and need to protect wetlands.	Promotes restoration and protection of wetlands and good land stewardship.	Specific resource objective promotes restoration and protection of wetlands.
Climate, Climate Change and Greenhouse Gases	Minor change to recognize need for sustainable,	Fails to promote sustainable, energy efficient design.	Promotes land management practices and design	Specific resource objectives promote

Resource	Change Resulting from Revised MP	Environmental Consequences: No Action Alternative	Environmental Consequences: Proposed Action	Benefits Summary
	energy efficient design.		standards that promote sustainability.	national climate change mitigation goal. LEED standards for green design, construction, and operation activities would be employed to the extent practicable.
Air Quality	No change	No effect	No effect	No added benefit
Topography, Geology and Soils	Minor change to place emphasis on good stewardship of land and water resources.	Fails to specifically recognize known and potential soil erosion problems.	Encourages good stewardship that would reduce existing and potential erosion.	Specific resource objectives call for stopping erosion from overuse and land disturbing activities.
Natural Resources	Moderate benefits through land reclassification	Fails to recognize ESAs, and regional priorities calling	Gives full recognition of sensitive resources and regional trends and priorities	Reclassification of lands included 7,418 acres of ESA which resulted in an increase

Resource	Change Resulting from Revised MP	Environmental Consequences: No Action Alternative	Environmental Consequences: Proposed Action	Benefits Summary
	and resource objectives.	for protection of wildlife habitat.	related to natural resources.	in lands protecting natural resources.
Threatened and Endangered Species, including TXNDD species.	Minor change to recognize both federal and state-listed species.	Fails to recognize current federal and state-listed species.	Fully recognizes federal and state-listed species as well as SGCN listed by TPWD and Rare species listed by TPWD.	The MP sets forth the most recent listing of federal and state-listed species and addresses on-going commitments associated with USFWS Biological Opinions.
Invasive Species	Minor change to recognize several recent and potentially aggressive invasive species.	Fails to recognize current invasive species and associated problems.	Fully recognizes current species and the need to be vigilant as new species may occur.	Specific resource objectives specify that invasive species shall be monitored and controlled as needed.

Resource	Change Resulting from Revised MP	Environmental Consequences: No Action Alternative	Environmental Consequences: Proposed Action	Benefits Summary
Cultural Resources	Minor change to recognize current status of cultural resources.	Included cursory information about cultural resources that is inadequate for future management and protection.	Recognizes the presence of cultural resources and places emphasis on protection and management.	Reclassification of lands included 7,418 acres as ESA and specific resource objectives were included for protection of cultural resources.
Socioeconomics and Environmental Justice	No change	No effect	No effect	No added benefit
Recreation	Moderate benefits to outdoor recreation programs.	Fails to recognize current outdoor recreation trends.	Fully recognizes current outdoor recreation trends and places special emphasis on trails.	Specific management objectives focused on outdoor recreation opportunities and trends are included.
Aesthetic Resources	Minor benefits through land reclassification	Fails to minimize activities that disturb the	Promotes activities that limit disturbance	No added benefit. Specific

Resource	Change Resulting from Revised MP	Environmental Consequences: No Action Alternative	Environmental Consequences: Proposed Action	Benefits Summary
	and resource objectives.	scenic beauty and aesthetics of the lake.	to the scenic beauty and aesthetics of the lake.	management objectives to minimize activities that disturb the scenic beauty and aesthetics of the lake.
Health and Safety	Minor change to promote public safety awareness.	Fails to emphasize public safety programs.	Recognizes the need for public safety programs.	Includes specific management objectives to increase water safety outreach efforts. Also, classifies 30 acres of water surface as restricted and 27 acres designated no-wake for public safety purposes.

SECTION 4:CUMULATIVE IMPACTS

The most severe environmental degradation may not result from the direct effects of any particular action, but from the reasonably foreseeable future. As defined in 40 CFR 1508.1 (aa) (CEQ Regulations) as amended in 2020, “reasonably foreseeable means sufficiently likely to occur such that a person of ordinary prudence would take it into account in reaching a decision.” Which is further clarified in 1508.1(g) under effects or impacts as to applying to “changes to the human environment from the proposed action or alternatives that are reasonably foreseeable and have a reasonably close causal relationship to the proposed action or alternatives, including those effects that occur at the same time and place as the proposed action or alternatives and may include effects that are later in time or farther removed in distance from the proposed action or alternatives.”

4.1 PAST IMPACTS WITHIN THE ZONE OF INTEREST

Jim Chapman Lake was authorized for construction by the Flood Control Act of 1955 (PL No. 218, 84th Congress, 1st Session). Although originally it was named Cooper Reservoir. The name change to Jim Chapman Lake was by order of President Clinton in honor of the local congressman, from nearby Sulfur Springs in 1998. The White Oak Creek Mitigation area was Authorized by Congress in PL 99-662, the Water Resources Development Act of 1986 after the *Report on Acquisition of Wildlife Mitigation Lands* was sent to the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors in September of 1981. This report recommendations were endorsed by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors and The Report of the Chief of Engineers to the Secretary of the Army.

4.2 CURRENT AND REASONABLY FORESEEABLE PROJECTS WITHIN AND NEAR THE ZONE OF INTEREST

Future management of the 307.7 acres of Flowage Easement Lands at Jim Chapman Lake and 16.6 acres at WOCMA includes routine inspection of these areas to ensure that the Government’s rights specified in the easement deeds are protected. In almost all cases, the Government acquired the right to prevent placement of fill material or habitable structures on the easement area. Placement of any structure that may interfere with the USACE flood risk management and water conservation missions may also be prohibited. The MP does not manage any activities within flowage easements, only fee owned land.

At the time of this publication there are not any proposed projects in and around Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

National USACE policy set forth in ER 1130-2-550, Appendix H, states that USACE lands will, in most cases, only be made available for roads that are regional arterials or freeways (as defined in ER 1130-2-550). All other types of proposed roads, including driveways and alleys, are generally not permitted on USACE lands. The proposed expansion or widening of existing roadways on USACE lands would be considered on a case-by-case basis.

4.3 ANALYSIS OF IMPACTS WITHIN THE REASONABLE FORESEEABLE FUTURE

Impacts on each resource were analyzed according to how other actions and projects within the zone of interest might be affected by the No Action Alternative and Proposed Action. Impacts can vary in degree or magnitude from a slightly noticeable change to a total change in the environment. For the purpose of this analysis the intensity of impacts would be classified as negligible, minor, moderate, or major. These intensity thresholds were previously defined in Section 3.0. Moderate and in some cases high growth and development are expected to continue in the vicinity of Jim Chapman Lake within the reasonably foreseeable future and adverse impacts on resources would not be expected when added to the impacts of activities associated with the Proposed Action or No Action Alternative. A summary of the anticipated impacts into the reasonably on each resource is presented below.

4.3.1 LAND USE

A major impact would occur if any action is inconsistent with adopted land use plans or if an action would substantially alter those resources required for, supporting, or benefiting the current use. Land use around Jim Chapman Lake has experienced a significant change in the past 30 years, from an area that was primarily farmland and pastures to what it is now rural development. Under the No Action Alternative, land use would not change. Although the Proposed Action would result in the reclassification of project lands, the reclassifications were developed to help fulfill regional goals associated with good stewardship of land resources that would allow for continued use of project lands.

Section 6.4 of the proposed MP also identifies the need and location for proposed utility corridors. The purpose of utility corridors is to condense the footprint and associate impacts of any future roads and utilities crossings on USACE lands. Therefore, impacts from the reasonably future on land use within the area surrounding Jim Chapman Lake, when combined with past and proposed actions in the region, are anticipated to be negligible.

4.3.2 WATER RESOURCES

A major impact could occur if any action is inconsistent with adopted surface water classifications or water use plans, or if an action would substantially alter those resources required for, supporting, or benefiting the current use. The lake and dam provide a multi-purpose reservoir for flood risk management, water supply, fish and wildlife management, and recreation within the Sulphur River Basin. The reclassifications and resource objectives required to revise the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA MP are compatible with water use plans and surface water classification; further, they were developed to help fulfill regional goals associated with good stewardship of water resources that would allow for continued use of water resources associated with Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA. Therefore, impacts from the reasonably future impacts on water resources within the area surrounding Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA, when combined with past and proposed actions in the region, are anticipated to be minor.

4.3.3 CLIMATE

The Proposed Action would neither affect nor be affected by the climate. Therefore, implementation of the revised land use classifications in the proposed MP, when combined with other existing and proposed projects in the region, would not result in impacts from the reasonably foreseeable future on the climate.

4.3.4 CLIMATE CHANGE AND GHG

Under the Proposed Action, current Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA project management plans and monitoring programs would not be changed. In the event that GHG emission issues become significant enough to impact the current operations at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA, the proposed MP and all associated documents would be reviewed and revised as necessary. Therefore, implementation of the proposed MP, when combined with other existing and proposed projects in the region, would result in negligible reasonably foreseeable future impacts on climate change or GHG.

4.3.5 AIR QUALITY

There are not any new highway and roadway projects that are scheduled near the zone of interest for Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA which if there were any, would increase the amount of new emissions that could potentially affect air quality within the region. The Proposed Action would not adversely impact air quality within the area. Vehicle traffic along park and area roadways and routine daily activities in nearby communities contribute to current and future emission sources; however, the impacts associated with the reclassification of lands at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA under the Proposed Action would be negligible. Seasonal prescribed burning could occur on Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA to help maintain the various prairies, but would have minor, negative impacts on air quality through elevated ground-level O_3 and particulate matter concentrations; however, these seasonal burns would be scheduled so that impacts are minimized. Implementation of the proposed MP, when combined with other existing and proposed projects in the region, would result in minor adverse and beneficial reasonably foreseeable future impacts on air quality.

4.3.6 TOPOGRAPHY, GEOLOGY, AND SOILS

A major impact could occur if a proposed future action exacerbates or promotes long-term erosion, if the soils are inappropriate for the proposed construction and would create a risk to life or property, or if there would be a substantial reduction in agricultural production or loss of Prime Farmland soils. Reasonably foreseeable future impacts on topography, geology, and soils within the area surrounding Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA, when combined with past and proposed actions in the region, are anticipated to be negligible.

4.3.7 NATURAL RESOURCES

The significance threshold for natural resources would include a substantial reduction in ecological processes, communities, or populations that would threaten the long-term viability of a species or result in the substantial loss of a sensitive community that could not be offset or otherwise compensated. Past, present, and future projects are not anticipated to impact the viability of any plant species or community, rare or sensitive habitats, or wildlife. The establishment of ESA, MRML-WM, and MRML-VM areas, as well as resource objectives that favor protection and restoration of valuable natural resources would have beneficial reasonably foreseeable future impacts . No identified projects would threaten the viability of natural resources. Therefore, there would be major long-term beneficial impacts to natural resources resulting from the revision of the proposed Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA MP when combined with past and proposed actions in the area.

4.3.8 THREATENED AND ENDANGERED SPECIES

The Proposed Action and No Action Alternatives would not adversely impact threatened, endangered, or TXNDD species within the area. Should federally listed species change in the future (e.g., delisting of the American burying beetle or other species or listing of new species), associated requirements would be reflected in revised land management practices in coordination with the USFWS. The USACE would continue cooperative management plans with the USFWS and TPWD to preserve, enhance, and protect critical wildlife habitat resources.

No reasonably foreseeable future impacts on federal and state listed species are anticipated.

4.3.9 INVASIVE SPECIES

To the extent that funding would allow, the USACE would continue its proactive mechanical and targeted pesticide treatments to control invasive species that affect not only the natural biological resources, but also recreational opportunities.

Invasive species control has and would continue to be conducted on various areas across the project lands. Implementing Best Management Practices (BMP) would help reduce the introduction and distribution of invasive species, ensuring that proposed actions in the region would not contribute to the overall reasonably foreseeable future impacts related to invasive species.

The land reclassifications required to revise the 1987 MP and 1990 Supplement are compatible with Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA invasive species management practices. Therefore, there would be minor long-term beneficial impacts on reducing and preventing invasive species within the area surrounding Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA.

4.3.10 CULTURAL, HISTORICAL, AND ARCHAEOLOGICAL RESOURCES

The Proposed Action would not affect cultural resources or historic properties, as the MP revision does not involve any ground disturbing activities. However, ESA and Wildlife Management lands provide additional protection against ground disturbances.

Additionally, the proposed Utility Corridors would restrict any future pipelines, roads, or other infrastructure to already disturbed areas, further limiting impacts on cultural resources. Therefore, this action, when combined with other existing and proposed projects in the region, would not result in major reasonably foreseeable future impacts on cultural resources or historic properties.

4.3.11 SOCIOECONOMICS AND ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE

The Proposed Action would not result in the displacement of persons (minority, low-income, children, or otherwise) as a result of implementing the reclassifications, resources objectives, and resource plan proposed in the proposed MP. Therefore, the effects of the Proposed Action on environmental justice and the protection of children, when combined with other ongoing and proposed projects in the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA areas, would not be considered a major reasonably foreseeable future effect.

4.3.12 RECREATION

Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA provides regionally significant outdoor recreation benefits including a variety of recreation opportunities. Even though the amount of acreage available for High Density Recreation and Low Density Recreation would decrease as a result of implementing the reclassifications, resources objectives, and resource plan proposed in the 2023 MP, these changes reflect changes in existing land management and historic recreation use patterns that have occurred since 1987 and 1990 at Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA. The conversion of these lands would have no effect on current or projected public use. Therefore, the Proposed Action, when combined with other existing and proposed projects in the region, would result in negligible beneficial reasonably foreseeable future impacts on area recreational resources.

4.3.13 AESTHETIC RESOURCES

No impacts on visual resources would occur as a result of implementing the reclassifications, resources objectives, and resource plan proposed in the 2023 MP. The Proposed Action, especially the classification of ESAs, in conjunction with other projects in the region, would result in minor beneficial reasonably foreseeable future impacts on the visual resources in the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA areas.

4.3.14 HAZARDOUS MATERIALS AND SOILD WASTE

No hazardous material or solid waste concerns would be expected with implementation of the proposed MP; therefore, when combined with other ongoing and proposed projects in the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA areas, there would be no major reasonably foreseeable future impacts on hazardous materials and solid waste.

4.3.15 HEALTH AND SAFETY

No health or safety risks would be created by the Proposed Action. The effects of implementing the proposed MP, when combined with other ongoing and proposed projects in the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA areas, would not be considered a major reasonably foreseeable future impacts.

SECTION 5: COMPLIANCE WITH ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

This EA has been prepared to satisfy the requirements of all applicable environmental laws and regulations and has been prepared in accordance with the CEQ's implementing regulations for NEPA, 40 CFR Parts 1500 – 1508, and the USACE ER 200-2-2, *Environmental Quality: Procedures for Implementing NEPA*. The revision of the proposed MP is consistent with the USACE's Environmental Operating Principles. The following is a list of applicable environmental laws and regulations that were considered in the planning of this project and the status of compliance with each:

Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act of 1958, as amended – The USACE initiated public involvement and agency scoping activities to solicit input on the proposed MP revision process, as well as identify reclassification proposals, and identify significant issues related to the Proposed Action. Information provided by USFWS and TPWD on fish and wildlife resources has been utilized in the development of the proposed MP.

Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended – Current lists of threatened or endangered species were compiled for the proposed MP. There would be no adverse impacts on threatened or endangered species resulting from the revision of the 1987 MP. However, beneficial impacts, such as habitat protection, could occur as a result of the revision of the proposed MP by classification of ESA and Vegetation Management lands.

Executive Order 13186 (Migratory Bird Habitat Protection) – Sections 3a and 3e of EO 13186 direct Federal agencies to evaluate the impacts of their actions on migratory birds, with emphasis on species of concern, and inform the USFWS of potential negative impacts on migratory birds. The 1987 MP and 1990 Supplement revision would not result in adverse impacts on migratory birds or their habitat. Beneficial impacts could occur through protection of habitat as a result of the proposed MP revision.

Migratory Bird Treaty Act, as amended – The Migratory Bird Treaty Act of 1918 extends Federal protection to migratory bird species. The nonregulated "take" of migratory birds is prohibited under this act in a manner similar to the prohibition of "take" of threatened and endangered species under the Endangered Species Act. The timing of resource management activities would be coordinated to avoid impacts on migratory and nesting birds.

CWA of 1977, as amended – The Proposed Action is in compliance with all state and Federal CWA regulations and requirements and is regularly monitored by the USACE and TCEQ for water quality. A state water quality certification pursuant to Section 401 of the CWA is not required for the proposed MP. There would be no change in the existing management of the reservoir that would impact water quality.

National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966, as amended – Compliance with the NHPA of 1966, as amended, requires identification of all properties in the project area listed in, or eligible for listing in, the NRHP. All previous surveys and site salvages were coordinated with the Texas State Historic Preservation Officer. Known sites are mapped and avoided by maintenance activities. Areas that have not undergone cultural

resources surveys or evaluations would need to do so prior to any earthmoving or other potentially impacting activities.

Clean Air Act of 1977, as amended – The USEPA established nationwide air quality standards to protect public health and welfare. Existing operation and management of the reservoir is compliant with the Clean Air Act and would not change with the proposed MP revision.

Farmland Protection Policy Act (FPPA) of 1980 and 1995 – The FPPA's purpose is to minimize the extent to which Federal programs contribute to the unnecessary and irreversible conversion of farmland to non-agricultural uses. There are Prime Farmland and farmland of state importance on Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA project lands, but these would not be significantly impacted.

Executive Order 11990, Protection of Wetlands, as amended – EO 11990 requires Federal agencies to minimize the destruction, loss, or degradation of wetlands, and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in executing Federal projects. The Proposed Action complies with EO 11990.

Executive Order 11988, Floodplain Management, as amended – This EO directs Federal agencies to evaluate the potential impacts of proposed actions in floodplains. The operation and management of the existing project complies with EO 11988.

CEQ Memorandum dated August 11, 1980, Prime or Unique Farmlands – Prime farmland is land that has the best combination of physical and chemical characteristics for producing food, feed, forage, fiber, and oilseed crops, and is also available for these uses. The Proposed Action would not impact Prime Farmland present on Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA project lands.

Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice – This EO directs Federal agencies to achieve environmental justice to the greatest extent practicable and permitted by law, and consistent with the principles set forth in the report on the National Performance Review. Agencies are required to identify and address, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on minority populations and low-income populations. The revisions in the proposed MP would not result in a disproportionate adverse impact on minority or low-income population groups.

SECTION 6: IRRETRIEVABLE AND IRREVERSIBLE COMMITMENT OF RESOURCES

NEPA requires that Federal agencies identify "any irreversible and irretrievable commitments of resources which would be involved in the Proposed Action should it be implemented" (42 U.S.C. § 4332). An irreversible commitment of resources occurs when the primary or secondary impacts of an action result in the loss of future options for a resource. Usually, this is when the action affects the use of a nonrenewable resource, or it affects a renewable resource that takes a long time to regenerate. The impacts for this project from the reclassification of land would not be considered an irreversible commitment because subsequent MP revisions could result in some lands being reclassified to a prior, similar land classification. An irretrievable commitment of resources is typically associated with the loss of productivity or use of a natural resource (e.g., loss of production or harvest). No irreversible or irretrievable impacts on Federally protected species or their habitat is anticipated from implementing revisions to the Jim Chapman Lake and WOCMA MP.

SECTION 7: PUBLIC AND AGENCY COORDINATION

In accordance with 40 CFR §§1501.7, 1503, and 1506.6, the USACE initiated public involvement and agency scoping activities to solicit input on the revision of the 1987 MP as well as the 1990 supplement, as well as identifying reclassification proposals and significant issues related to the Proposed Action. The USACE began its public involvement process with a public scoping meeting to provide an avenue for public and agency stakeholders to ask questions and provide comments. This public scoping meeting was held on March 21, 2022 at the Hopkins County Reginal Civic Center in Sulphur Springs, Texas. Due to the severe rain, thunderstorms, high winds, and tornadoes going on during the time of the meeting, while our partners from TPWD attended, no one from the public attended the open house meeting. However, following the public meeting a notice was sent to all known stakeholders informing them that all meeting materials, including the current MP, a map of the current land use areas, the slide presentation, and comment forms were available online to the public.

A second public meeting will be held on February 27, 2023 at the Hopkins County Reginal Civic Center in Sulphur Springs, Texas from 4-6pm. This meeting will introduce the public to the draft MP and EA and will begin the 30-day public review period of the MP, EA and draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). As with the first public meeting, the USACE, Fort Worth District, placed advertisements on the USACE webpage, and various social media sites sponsored by adjacent cities. In addition, news releases will be sent to area newspapers

Tribal coordination was conducted by USACE recognizing that Native American Tribes are sovereign nations and consulted on projects though government-to-government consultation, from 21 March 21, 2022 to April 22, 2022 during the 30-day public comment period, the USACE did not receive any comments from Tribal Nations.

Comments received during the initial scoping period and on the draft MP and EA will be incorporated in the documents, as appropriate, and will be located in Appendix F of the proposed MP.

Attachment A to this EA includes the ads published in the local newspaper, the agency coordination letters, and the distribution list for the coordination letters published as of the time of this draft publication. The draft EA has been coordinated with agencies having legislative and administrative responsibilities for environmental protection.

This page intentionally left blank.

SECTION 8: REFERENCES

Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ). 2020. Update to the Regulations Implementing the Procedural Provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act

Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) (2022A) Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. Explore the Map. Retrieved from https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/

EPA (2022B) Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool. Methodology. Retrieved from https://screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/methodology

United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2023. Draft Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek MP, Sulphur River Basin: Cooper Lake Sub Watershed, Hopkins and Delta Counties and Bowie, Cass, Morris, and Titus Counties, Texas. USACE, Fort Worth District.

USACE. 1988. *Engineering Regulation 200-2-2, Procedures for Implementing NEPA*. Washington, DC.

SECTION 9: ACRONYMS/ABBREVIATIONS

%	Percent
BMP	Best Management Practice
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CWA	Clean Water Act
EA	Environmental Assessment
EO	Executive Order
ESA	Environmentally Sensitive Area
FONSI	Finding of No Significant Impact
FPPA	Farmland Protection Policy Act
GHG	Greenhouse Gas
HDR	High Density Recreation
HTRW	Hazardous, Toxic, Radioactive Wastes
IFR	Inactive/Future Recreation
LDR	Low Density Recreation
MP	Master Plan
MRML	Multiple Resource Management Lands
NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
NGVD29	National Geodetic Vertical Datum 1929
NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
O_3	Ozone
OMP	Operational Management Plan
PL	Public Law
$PM_{2.5}$	Particulate Matter Less than 2.5 Microns
PM_{10}	Particulate Matter Less than 10 Microns
PO	Project Operations
RPEC	Regional Planning and Environmental Center
TCEQ	Texas Commission on Environmental Quality
TPWD	Texas Parks and Wildlife Department
TXNDD	Texas Natural Diversity Database
U.S.	United States
U.S.C.	U.S. Code
USACE	U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
USEPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
USFWS	U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
WHAP	Wildlife Habitat Appraisal Procedures
WM	Wildlife Management
WOCMA	White Oak Creek Mitigation Area
VM	Vegetation Management

SECTION 10: LIST OF PREPARERS

Sylvester I. Rodriguez - Biologist, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, Fort Worth District- 2 years of USACE experience.

Paul E. Roberts - Biologist, Regional Planning and Environmental Center, Fort Worth District- 8 years of USACE experience.

Attachment A: NEPA Coordination and Public Scoping

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT WORTH DISTRICT
P. O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102

March 15, 2022

PUBLIC NOTICE

OPEN HOUSE PUBLIC MEETING FOR JIM CHAPMAN (COOPER) LAKE AND WHITE OAK CREEK MITIGATION AREA MASTER PLAN REVISION
JIM CHAPMAN LAKE, SULPHUR RIVER BASIN
BOWIE, CASS, DELTA, HOPKINS, MORRIS AND TITUS COUNTIES, TEXAS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District (USACE), is revising the Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan (MP). An open house public meeting will be held from **6:00 pm to 8:00 pm** on **March 21, 2022, at the Hopkins County Regional Civic Center, 1200 Houston Street, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482.** The meeting will provide attendees with information regarding the revision content, process, and general schedule. Attendees can view current land use classification maps and ask the USACE staff questions. A 30-day comment period will begin on March 21, 2022, and end on April 22, 2022, during which the public can send comments, suggestions, and concerns.

The MP is defined by the USACE as the strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all recreational, natural, and cultural resources throughout the life of the water resource development project. In general, it defines "how" the resources will be managed for public use and resource conversation.

Revision of the MP will not address in detail the technical operational aspects of the lake related to flood risk management, water conservation, or shoreline management program which specifies what private uses are permitted along the shoreline. The MP study area will include Jim Chapman (Cooper) Dam and Lake as well as the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area and all adjacent recreational and natural resources properties owned in fee by the USACE.

The current 1990 MP was created and given limited approval for building public use facilities, and later was updated to authorize comprehensive land use and resource management. Public participation is critical to the successful revision of the MP. Information provided at the open house public meeting, including the existing MP, may be viewed on the USACE website at the following link beginning March 21, 2022:

https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/About/Lakes-and-Recreation-Information/Master-Plan-Updates/Jim-Chapman-Lake/

Comments must be submitted in writing and can be given to USACE staff at the open house public meeting. Comments can also be emailed to Jim-Chapman-MP@usace.army.mil, or mailed to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Attn: Matthew Seavey, Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake Manager, 64 Clear Springs Park, Texarkana Texas 75501.

Brandon Wadlington on behalf of

Jeff F. Pinsky
Chief, Environmental Branch
Regional Planning and Environmental Center

Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan Revision

General Information

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Fort Worth District, is revising the Jim Chapman Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan. The Master Plan is intended to serve as a comprehensive land and recreational management plan with a life span of 25 years. The Plan guides the stewardship of natural and cultural resources and the provision of outdoor recreation facilities with opportunities to ensure sustainability of federal land associated with Jim Chapman Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area.

Public Meeting and Agency Input

The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is hosting a public meeting to provide information and receive public input to begin the process of revising the Master Plan for Jim Chapman Lake including the White Oak Mitigation Area. No changes to the Master Plan have been proposed at this time, and the public meeting will initiate a 30-day comment period to review the existing Master Plan and provide comments. The public meeting will be held at 6:00 pm on March 21, 2022 at Hopkins County Regional Civic Center, 1200 Houston Street, Sulphur Springs, TX 75482. **The existing Master Plan documents and map are available to download at the bottom of the page as well as a comment form with instructions on how to send comments.**

About Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area

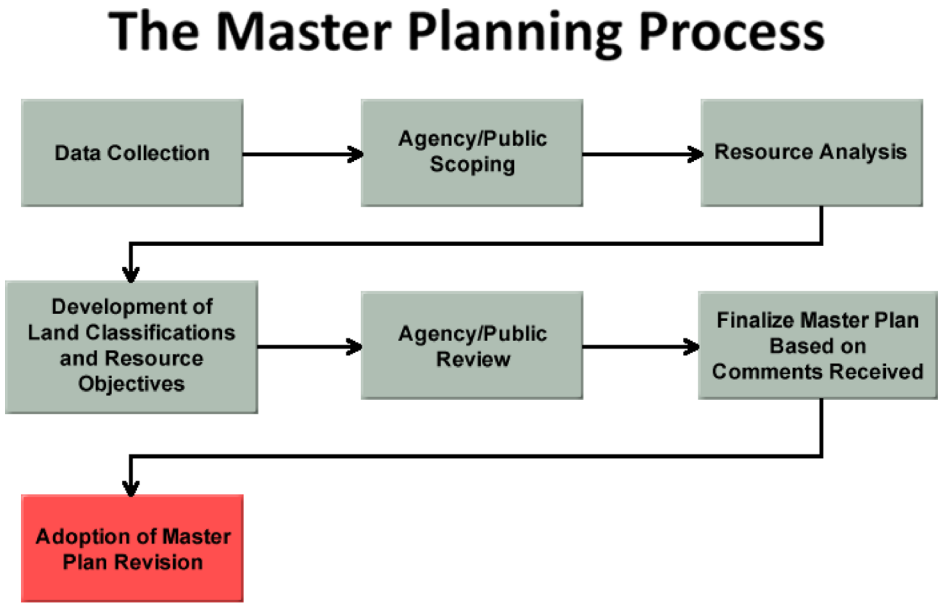
The project was originally named Cooper Lake after the nearby town of Cooper, TX. In 1998, an Act of Congress officially renamed the project to Jim Chapman Lake, named in honor of former Congressman Jim Chapman from nearby Sulphur Springs. The project is still known locally as Cooper Lake, and the state park at the project retains the original name of Cooper Lake State Park. Jim Chapman Lake is in the Sulphur River Basin and is located in Delta and Hopkins Counties. The project is a multi-purpose reservoir for flood control, water supply, fish and wildlife management, recreation, and mitigation within the White Oak Mitigation Area. In addition to these primary missions, USACE has an inherent mission of environmental stewardship of project lands and works closely the stakeholders to provide regionally important outdoor recreation opportunities.

What is a Master Plan?

The Master Plan is the strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all recreational, natural, and cultural resources of the lake throughout the life of the water resources project. The Master Plan does not entail facility designs, daily project administration details or any technical discussion regarding flood risk management, water quality, water supply, shoreline management, or water level management. Many of these topics are covered in the many other Operational Plans that each lake and the district office develop separately from the Master Plan.

Why Revise the Master Plan?

participation is critical to the successful revision of the Master Plan.



Provide Comments or Questions

Comments may be submitted in person at the meeting, delivered to the project office, online by filling out the Comment Form below and clicking the link provided on the comment form, by mailing the comments to the address below, or via email at the email address provided. Only written comments will be accepted. **The comment period begins March 21, 2022 and ends April 22, 2022.** Comments and questions pertaining to the Master Plan revision can be addressed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Matt Seavey, Lake Manager
Jim Chapman Lake / Cooper Dam
64 Clear Springs Park
Texarkana, TX 75501

Email: Jim-Chapman-MP@usace.army.mil

Related Files

March 18, 2022

- Public Meeting Presentation - Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan (1.7 MB)
- Comment Form with Instructions (552 KB)
- Public Notice (120 KB)
- Cooper Lake Master Plan Design Memorandum No. 10 - August 1987 (15.0 MB)
- Cooper Lake Supplement No. 1 to Master Plan Design Memorandum No. 10, White Oak Creek Mitigation Area - January 1990 (14.6 MB)
- Maps - Jim Chapman / Cooper Lake Existing Land Classifications (15.4 MB)
- News Release

US Army Corps of Engineers ®

Comment Form Instructions
Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan Revision

30 Day Comment Period
March 21 through April 22, 2022

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is in the process of revising the Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan. The master plan revision will guide the land and recreational management of the federally owned property that make up the its flood storage area for the next 25 years. Management activities include protecting natural and cultural resources, providing public land and water recreation, protecting the public, and ensuring reservoir and dam operations. Pertinent information and a copy of the current land use map can be found on the USACE website below.

To add your comments, ideas, or concerns about the future land and recreational management for the master plan, please submit comments using any of the following methods:

- Fill out and return a comment form available below or at:
  https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/About/Lakes-and-Recreation-Information/Master-Plan-Updates/Jim-Chapman-Lake/
- Provide comments in an email message or use comment for and send to:
  Jim-Chapman-MP@usace.army.mil
- Provide comments in a letter or use comment form and mail to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Matt Seavey, Lake Manager
Jim Chapman Lake/Cooper Dam
64 Clear Springs Park
Texarkana, TX 75501; (903) 945-2108,
Jim-Chapman-MP@usace.army.mil

Thank you for your participation in helping develop the Master Plan for Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area.

US Army Corps of Engineers ®

Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake and White Oak Creek Mitigation Area Master Plan Revision Comment Form

Public Meeting

March 21, 2022

Sulphur Springs, Texas

Comments Due By April 22, 2022

Questions, comments, or suggestions?

Your input into the master plan revision and related environmental concerns under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is key to developing a successful master plan for the lake project. Please write your questions, comments, or suggestions in the space provided here and mail or e-mail them to the address below no later than the date of this form. Thank you for your participation!

Optional Information (used for mailing list to keep you informed and will not be used for any other purpose):

Name:_____ Affiliation:_____

Address:_____ City:_____ State:_____

Zip code:_____ Phone: _____ Email:_____

Mail or email comment sheet to the following Point of Contact:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Matthew Seavey, Lake Manager
64 Clear Springs Park
Texarkana, TX 75501; (903) 945-2108
Jim-Chapman-MP@usace.army.mil

Additional information and comment sheets can be found at the following:
https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/About/Lakes-and-Recreation-Information/Master-Plan-Updates/Jim-Chapman-Lake/

SUBMIT

PRINT

RESET

From:	Rodriguez, Sylvester I CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)
To:	debra_bills@fws.gov; houston.robert@epa.gov; fred.schrank@tx.usda.gov; Peter.Schaefer@tceq.texas.gov; Karen.Hardin@tpwd.texas.gov
Bcc:	Roberts, Paul E CIV USARMY CESWF (USA)
Subject:	Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake 30-day Public Comment Period
Date:	Tuesday, March 22, 2022 12:02:00 PM

Good morning,

I'm Sylvester Rodriguez, Biologist, in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Regional Planning and Environmental Center.

I'm the environmental lead on the revision to the Jim Chapman (Cooper) Lake Master Plan.

The Cooper Lake Master Plan (Hopkins and Delta Counties, Texas) is the long-term strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all the project's recreational, natural, and cultural resources within the federal fee boundary. Under the guidance of ER-1130-2-550 Change 05, the Plan guides the efficient and cost-effective development, management, and use of project lands. It is a dynamic tool that provides for the responsible stewardship and sustainability of the project's resources for the benefit of present and future generations. The Plan works in tandem with the Operational Management Plan (OMP), which is the implementation tool for the resource objectives and development needs identified in the Master Plan. The Master Plan guides and articulates the USACE responsibilities pursuant to federal laws. Efforts are under way to revise the current Master Plan. The Master Plan revision will update land classifications, plan for the modernization of existing parks, and inform the management of wildlife and other resource lands within USACE managed property at Cooper Lake for the next 25 years.

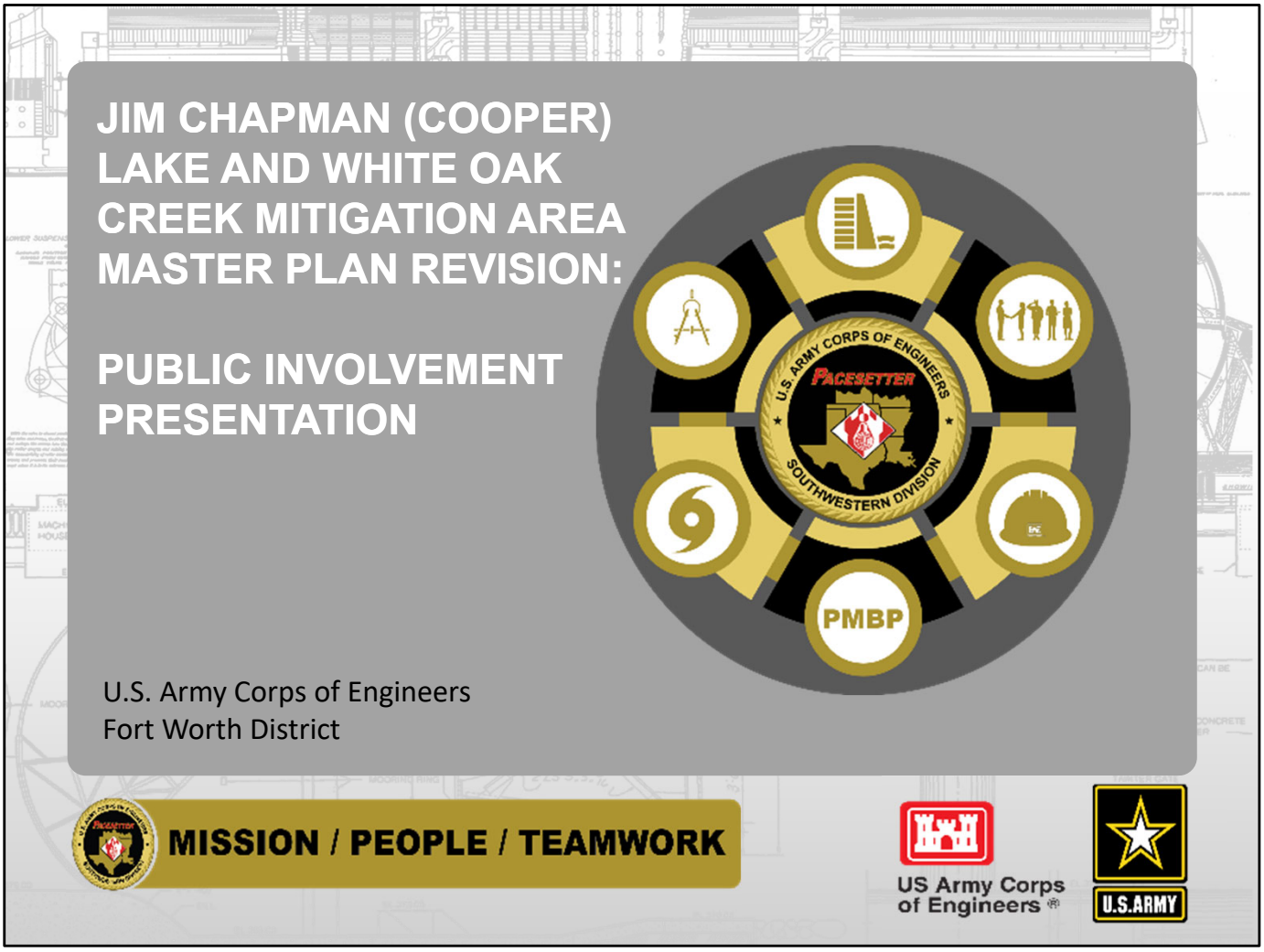
Since the 1987 Master Plan, land classifications have been standardized across USACE. An explanation of the revision process, and instructions for public participation in the revision are available at the following website: https://www.swf.usace.army.mil/About/Lakes-and-Recreation-Information/Master-Plan-Updates/Jim-Chapman-Lake/

An open house public meeting was held from 6:00 pm to 8:00 pm on March 21, 2022, at the Hopkins County Regional Civic Center, 1200 Houston Street, Sulphur Springs, Texas 75482. However, due to harsh weather there was no turnout. All members of the public are encouraged to submit written comments and suggestions from March 21, 2022 to April 22, 2022.

If you have any information or suggestions to assist in the development land classification alternatives and/or resource objectives, we would appreciate them.

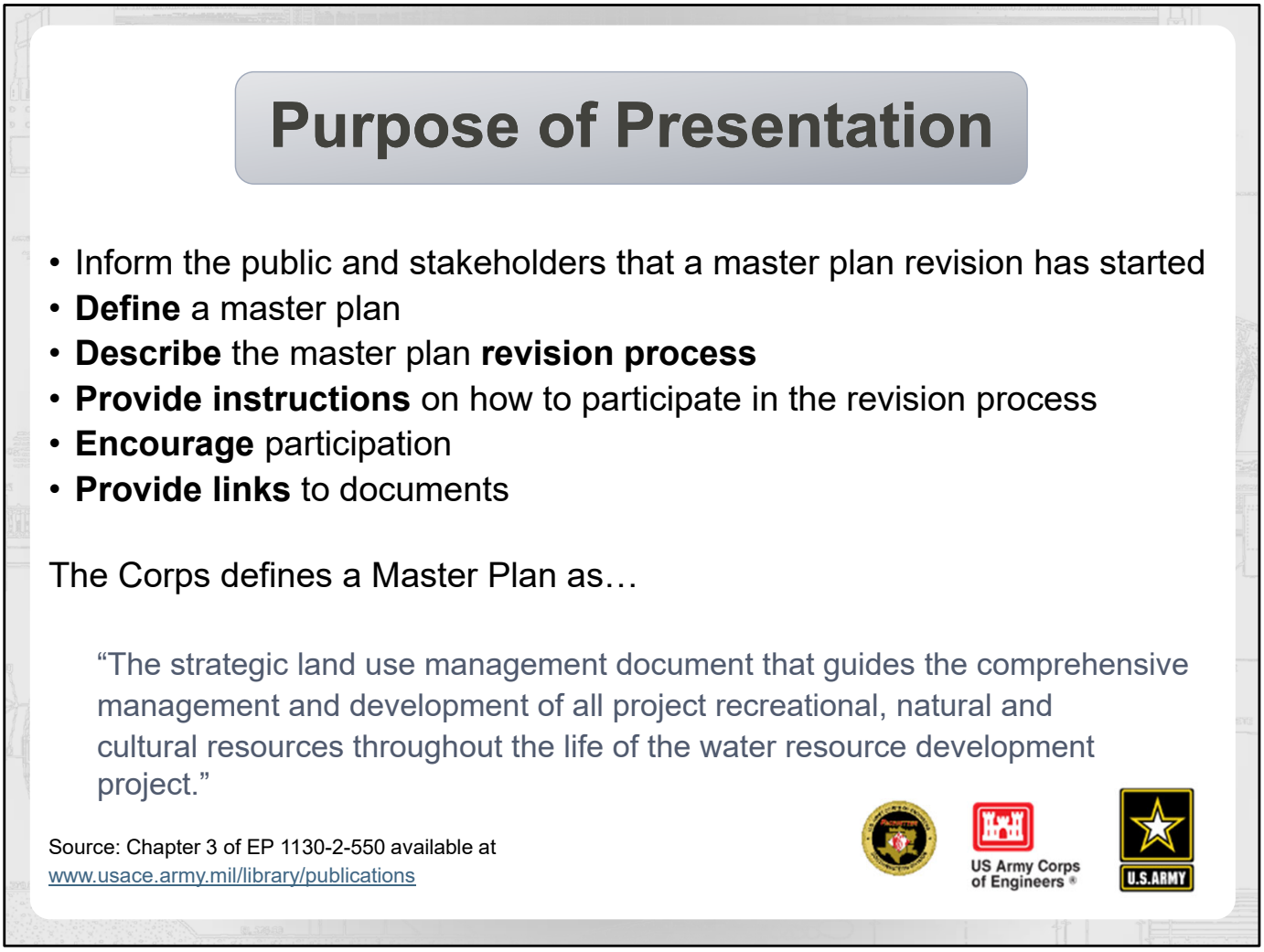
Sincerely,

Sylvester Rodriguez
Biologist
Regional Planning and Enviromental Center
US Army Corps of Engineers
Office: (817) 886-1486



Hello, my name is Joshua Quring and I work for the US Army Corps of Engineers in the Regional Planning & Environmental Center where I am the Program Lead for the Lake Master Plan Program in Southwest Division.

On behalf Matt Seavey**,** the Lake Manager, and myself welcome to the Public Involvement Presentation for the master plan revision at **Jim Chapman Lake.** Public and stakeholder involvement is critical to the success of the master plan revision. Thank you for taking the time to attend this meeting.



The purpose of this presentation is to inform the public and stakeholders that a master plan revision has started at **Jim Chapman Lake**. This presentation will define a master plan, describe the master plan revision process, provide instructions on how to participate in the process, and encourage participation. It will also provide links to documents and details about how to contact the Corps to ask questions.

The information provided through public and stakeholder comments is essential to the decision making process of how project lands and water surfaces will be classified and managed. The Corps wants your ideas and comments. After watching this presentation, review the other material on the project website and send in comments and participate in planning the future of **Jim Chapman Lake**.

Topics to be covered in this presentation are summed up under these 8 questions that are often asked in a public meeting or workshop:

- What is a Master Plan?
- Why do a revision?
- What is the revision process?
- What is not part of a Master Plan?
- What is changing in the Plan?
- How can I participate?
- Who can I talk to about the plan?
- When will the Master Plan be done?

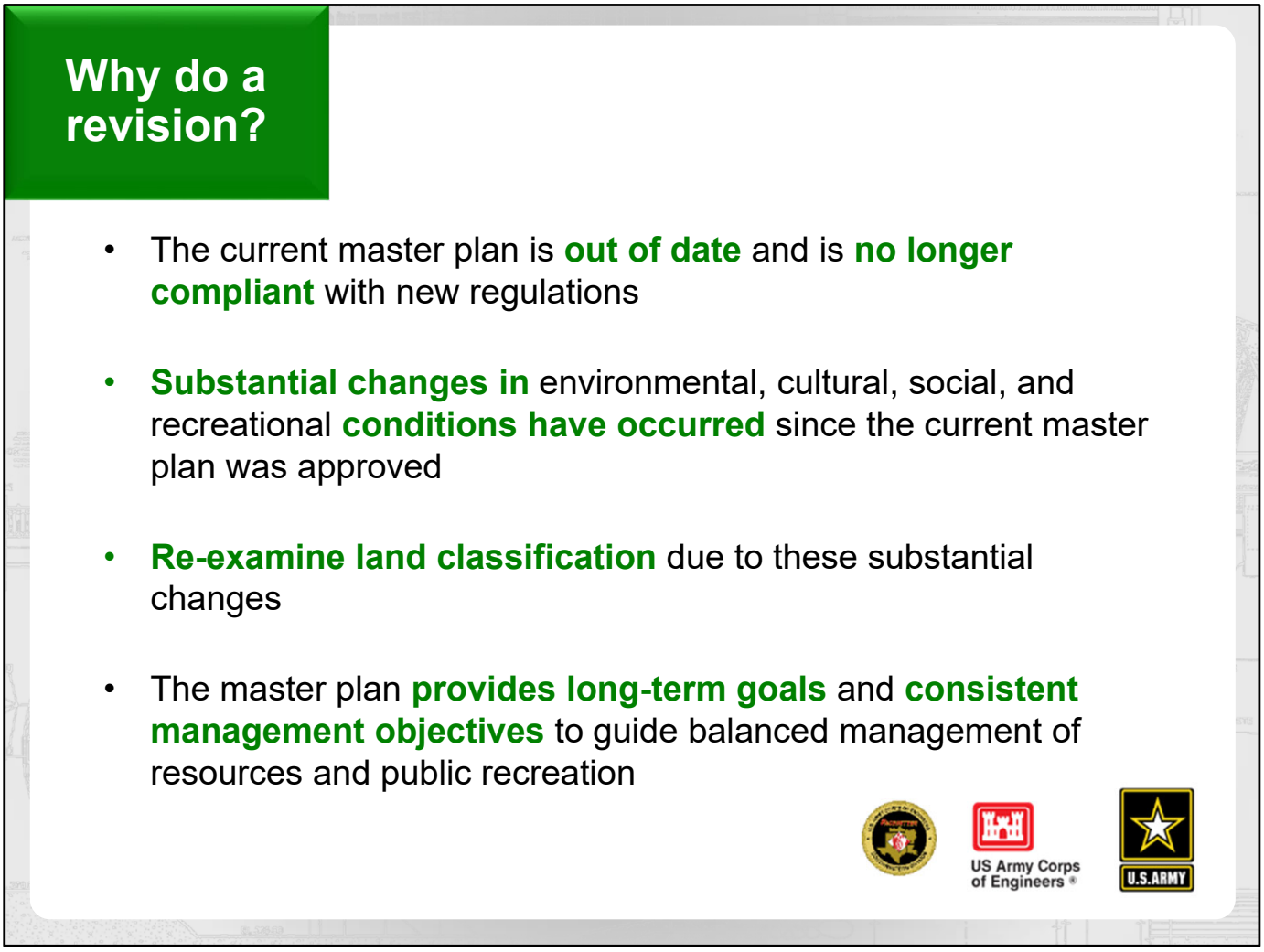
Under each of these 8 topics, this presentation will provide details to help you better understand the master plan project and your role in the process.

You might be wondering, what is a master plan?

The master plan is the document that will guide the land use and management of the project for the next 25 years, while adhering to all applicable Federal laws including the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. The focus of the plan is the designation of land classifications with corresponding management plans, as well as establishing resource management objectives.

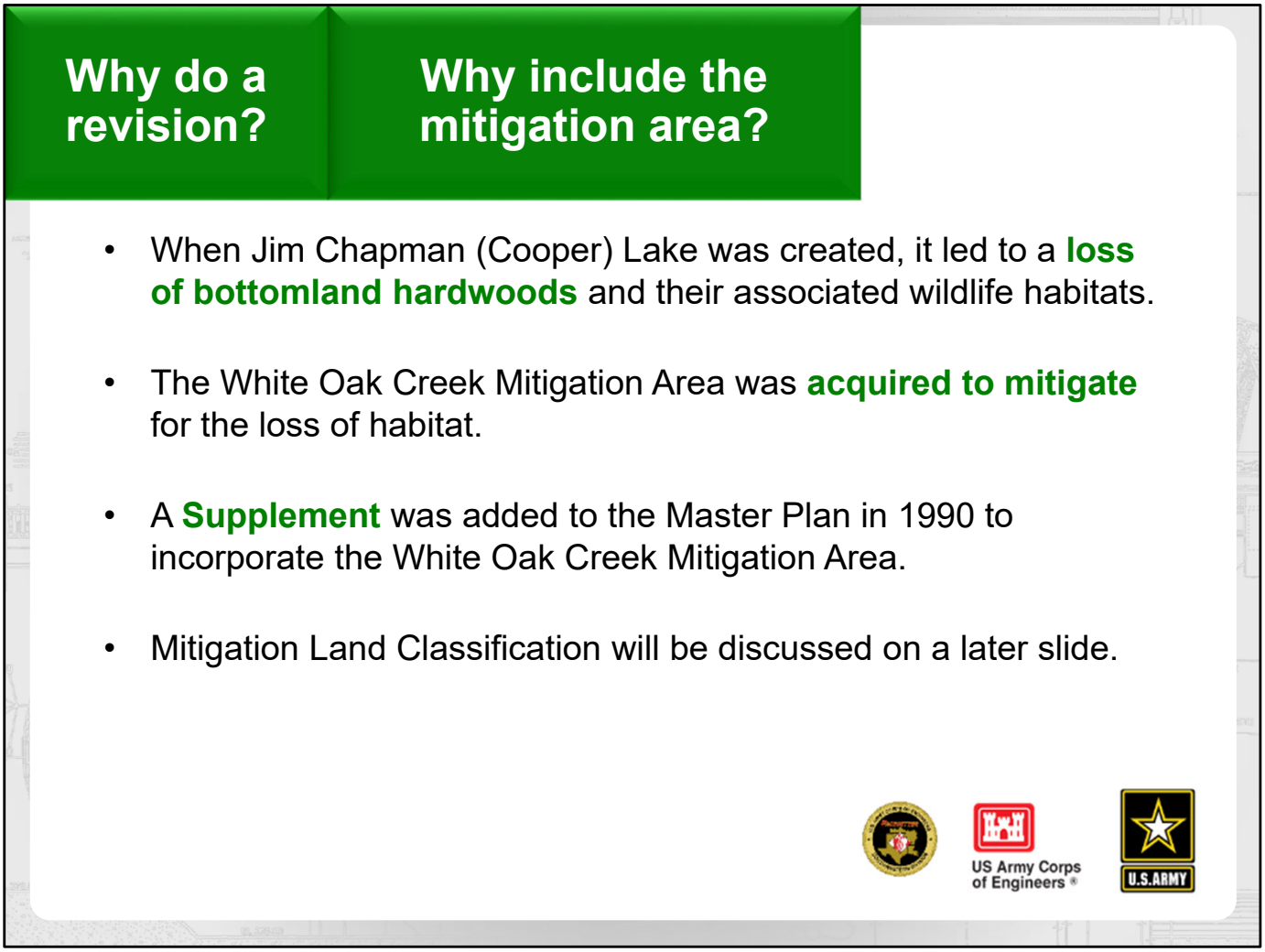
The key to a successful master plan is public involvement.

Participation, in the form of providing written comments, is how you can help.



Why is the Corps doing a revision to the master plan at this time?

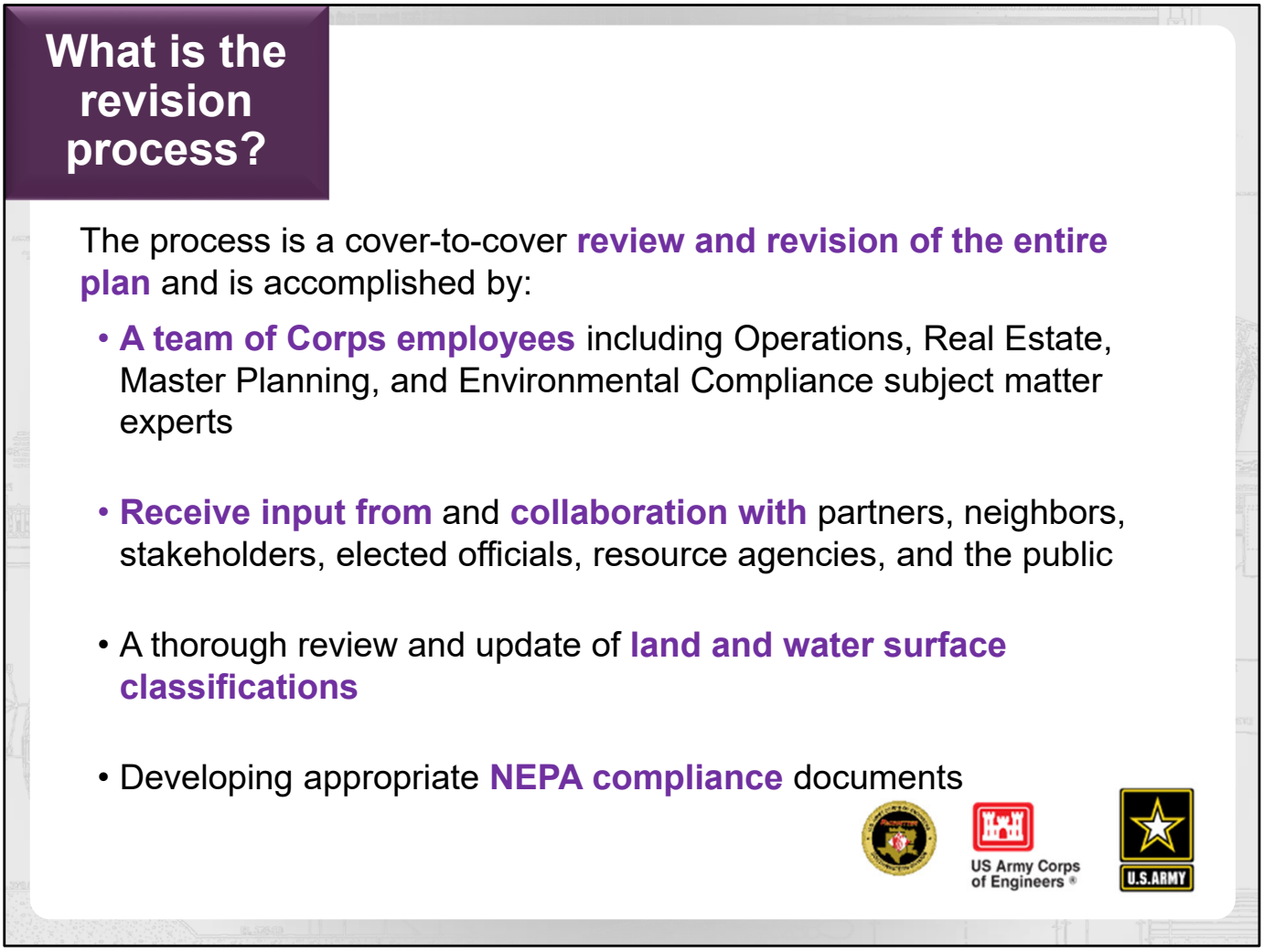
The Corps is undergoing master plan revisions at many of their projects nationwide as existing plans are no long compliant with current regulations. Many projects have also been influenced by changes in the surrounding environment, either by increased urbanization and growth, or changes in rural patterns of land use. As change is ever constant, an update to the plan is needed to capture how the project land classifications meet the current and future projected uses. Not only does land use change, but also management resources in terms of personnel over time, the master plan provides stability, with long-term goals, and a consistent management strategy, for project resources.



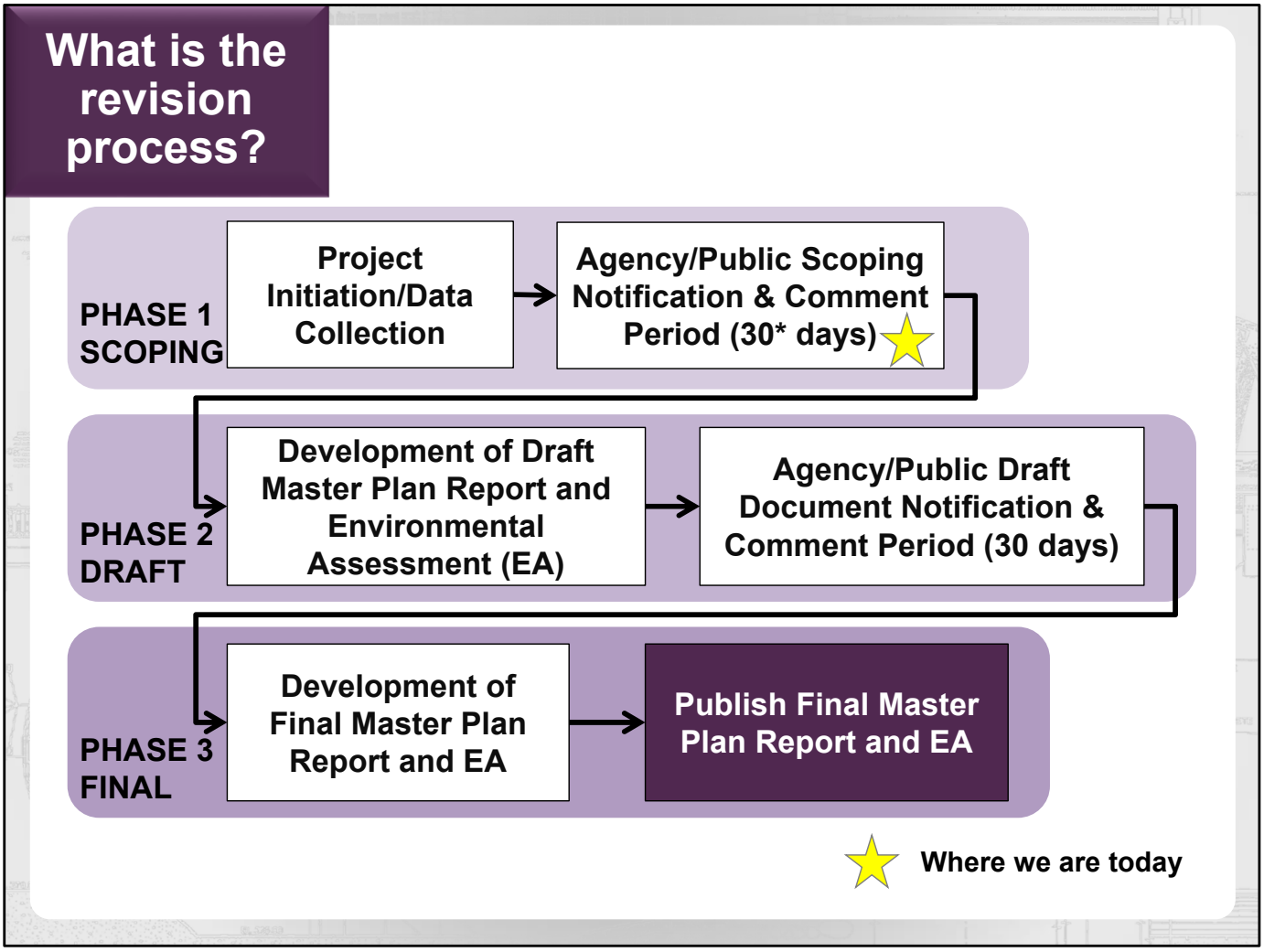
Why is the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area included with Jim Chapman Lake?

When Jim Chapman Lake was created, it led to a loss of bottomland hardwoods and their associated wildlife habitats. A Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement (SEIS) addressed the loss and recommended the acquisition of land with a similar habitat to mitigate for the habitat loss. The White Oak Creek Mitigation Area was acquired to mitigate for the loss of habitat from the construction of Jim Chapman Lake.

A Supplement was added to the Jim Chapman Master Plan in 1990 to incorporate the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area, so the two are a connected part of a single project. Lands acquired or designated specifically for offsetting losses associated with development of the project are considered separable mitigation lands. Lands allocated as separable mitigation lands can only be given the mitigation land classification. On an upcoming slide, we'll discuss more about the different land classifications, including the mitigation land classification.



The revision process includes a cover-to-cover review and update of the entire plan. The revision involves input from the public and stakeholders, but is compiled and completed by a team of Corps employees from a wide array of disciplines. Operations, Real Estate, Master Planning and Environmental Compliance are a few of the subjects where expertise is needed. The revision process will review all of the land and water surface classifications and recommend changes as appropriate. The revision process is a federal action that requires compliance with NEPA, and the appropriate documentation will be a part of the plan.



The revision process includes 3 phases: (scoping, draft and final)

- The scoping phase is when the federal agency asks for initial input from other agencies, citizens and organizations regarding project area, resources and uses. This is the phase we are currently in, as noted by the yellow star on the chart.
- The draft phase is when the Corps asks for public comments on the proposed recommendations in the draft master plan document.
- The final phase is when the Corps incorporates public comments from the draft review into a final master plan document.
- The plan is published after formal approval by the District Commander.

What is the revision process?

Land Classifications

Source: Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550

Land Classification	Definition
Project Operations	Lands required for the dam, spillway, levees, office, maintenance facilities and other areas that are used solely for project operations.
High Density Recreation	Land developed for intensive recreational activities for the visiting public, including day use areas and campground areas for commercial concessions, and quasi-public development.
Multiple Resource Management Lands	**Low Density Recreation**: Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive public recreational use (e.g., trails, primitive camping, wildlife observation, fishing and hunting).
	Wildlife Management: Lands designated for the stewardship of fish and wildlife resources.
	Vegetative Management: Lands designated for the stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover.
	Inactive and/or Future Recreation Areas: Recreation areas planned for the future or that have been temporarily closed.
Environmentally Sensitive Areas	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.
Mitigation	Lands acquired or designated specifically for offsetting losses associated with development of the project. Lands allocated as separable mitigation lands can only be given this classification.

The Corps defines land classification as the primary use for which project lands are managed. All Federally owned lands are zoned for development and resource management consistent with project purposes.

Utilizing the current Federal guidance, the land classifications are defined as shown in this table.

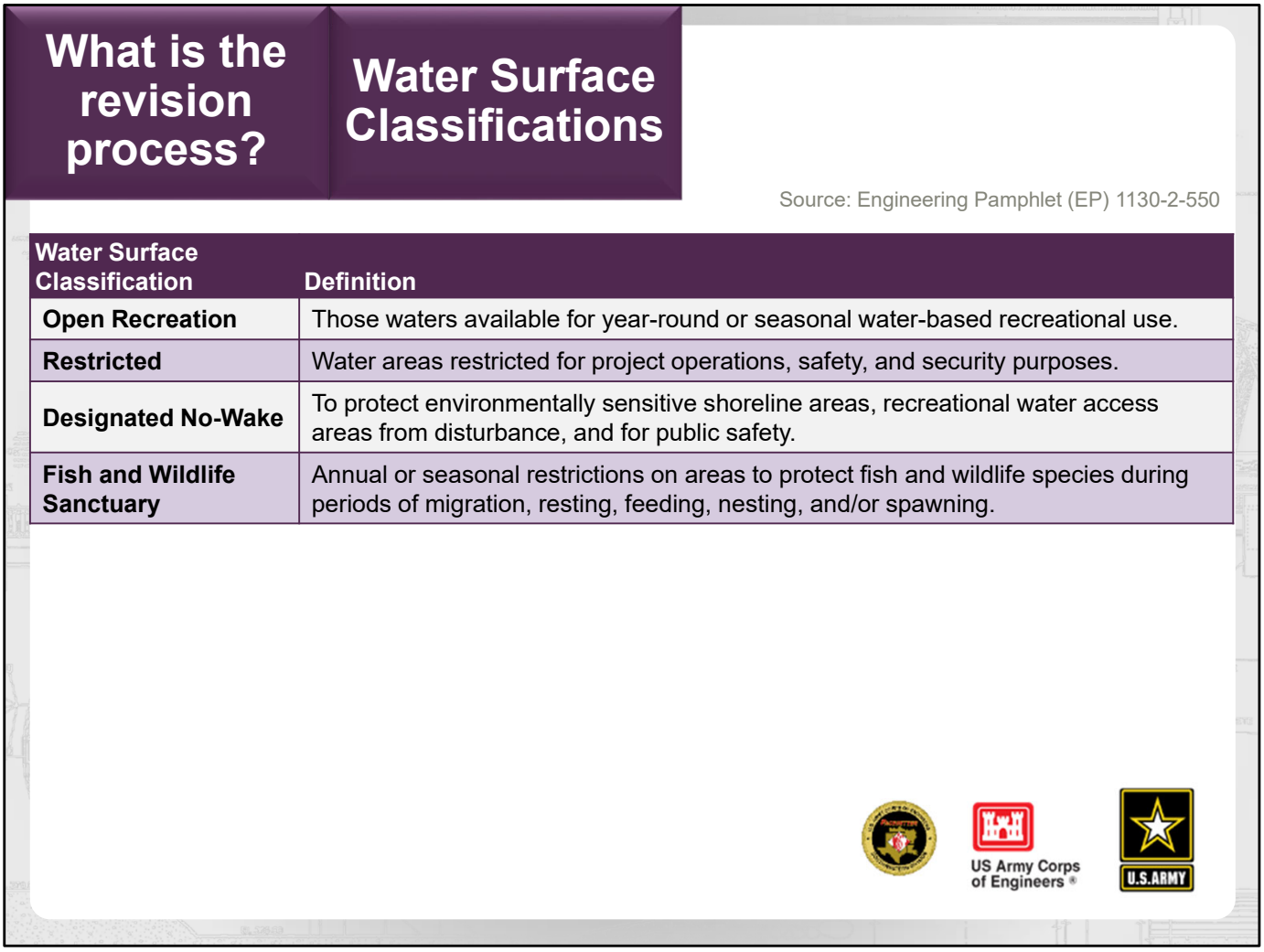
The Project Operations classification is used solely for lands dedicated for the operation of the project, including the dam, spillway, levees, project office, and other operational features.

The classification High Density Recreation is assigned to lands that are being used for intensive recreational activities, including day use and campground areas.

The Multiple Resource Management Lands allows for the designation of a predominate use and are subdivided into 4 classifications. All 4 classifications essentially allow for similar activities to occur, but are managed with a particular emphasis, including low density recreation, wildlife management, vegetative management, and inactive or future recreation areas.

The protection of Environmentally Sensitive Areas is given priority, and are for lands with unique scientific, ecological, cultural, or aesthetic features. Examples include endangered species habitat, scenic shorelines, and rare and unique plant communities to mention a few.

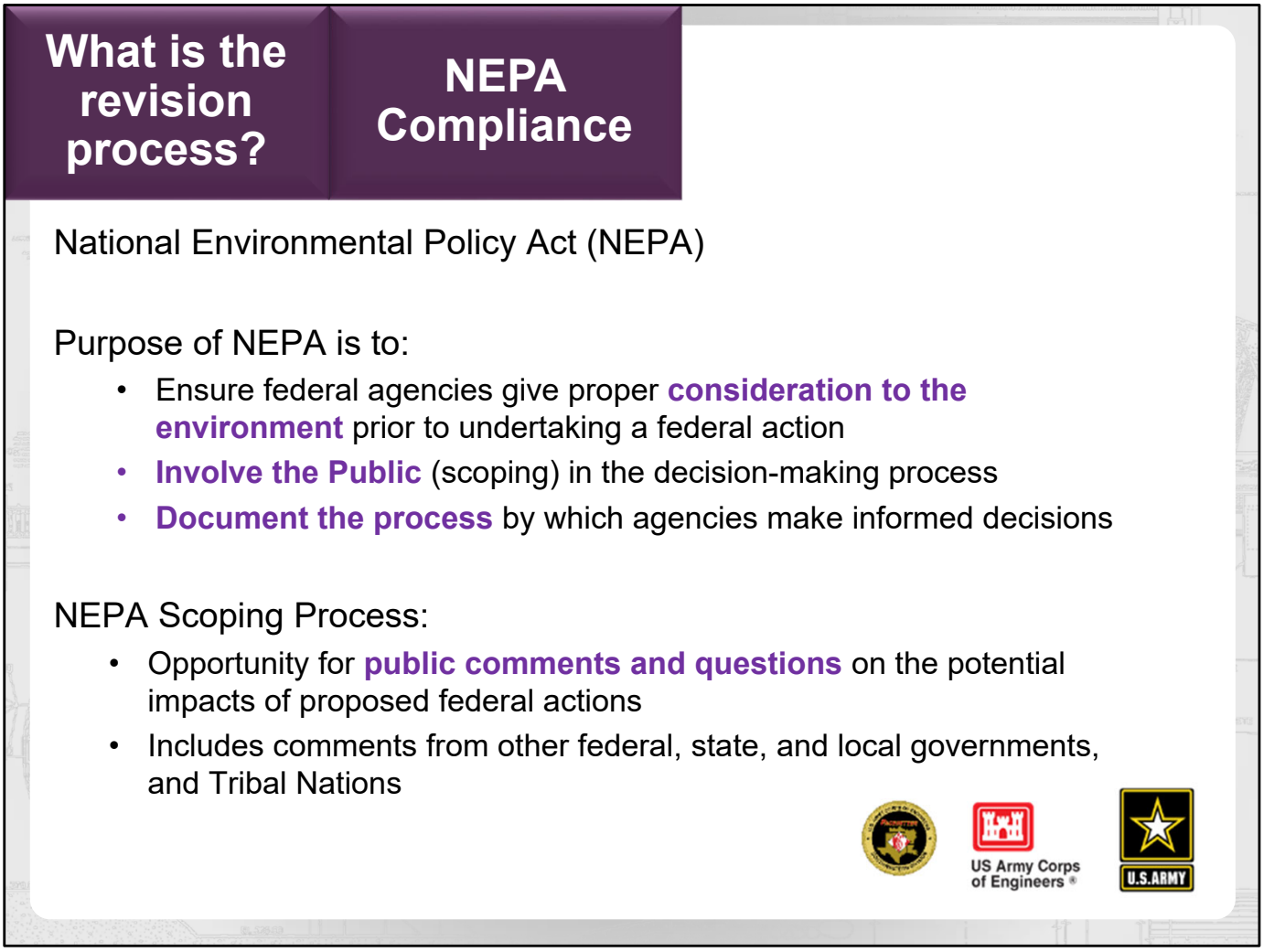
The Mitigation classification is reserved for lands acquired or designated for offsetting losses associated with the development of the project. Most lakes do not have any mitigation lands, but we will have mitigation lands to include the White Oak Creek Mitigation Area.



Water Surface Classification	Definition
Open Recreation	Those waters available for year-round or seasonal water-based recreational use.
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.

Water surface classifications are defined much like land classifications in that they reflect how the water surface is to be managed.

The water surface will be reviewed and classified using 4 classifications. The dominate classification is typically open recreation which allows year round use of the water surface. The other 3 classifications place restrictions on the water surface based on safety, access, shoreline protection, and wildlife needs. Restricted water surfaces do not allow access due to safety and security purposes. No-wake water surfaces limit vessel speeds to protect shorelines from wake damage, and are used near marina and boat ramps for public safety. Fish and wildlife sanctuary water surfaces can be employed on an annual or seasonal basis to restrict access to protect fish and wildlife species.

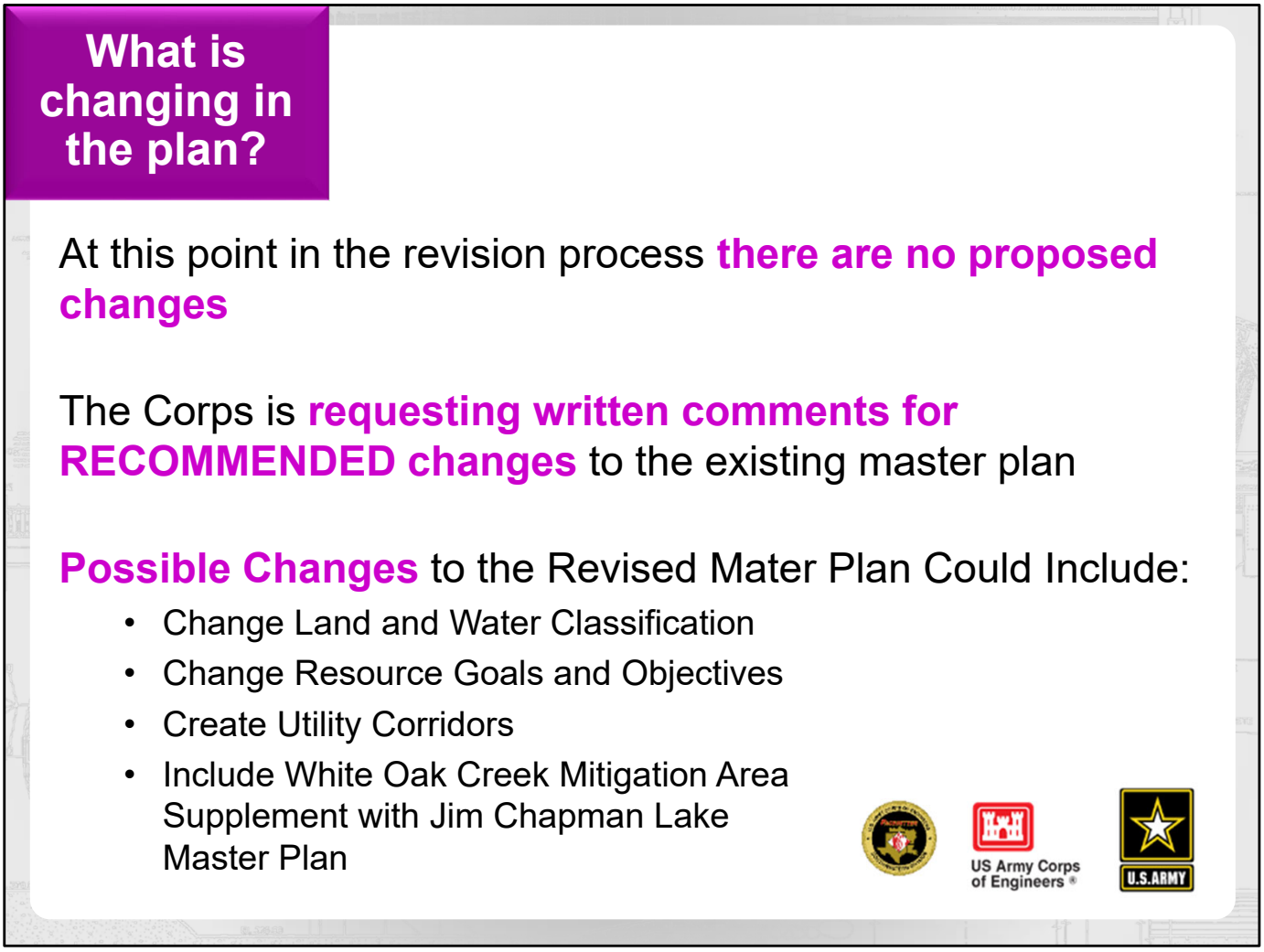


NEPA is the National Environmental Policy Act.

Compliance with NEPA is required during the master plan revision process. NEPA is required so that federal agencies give proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking a federal action. Scoping during NEPA involves the public in the decision-making process, while documenting the process by which federal agencies make informed decision.

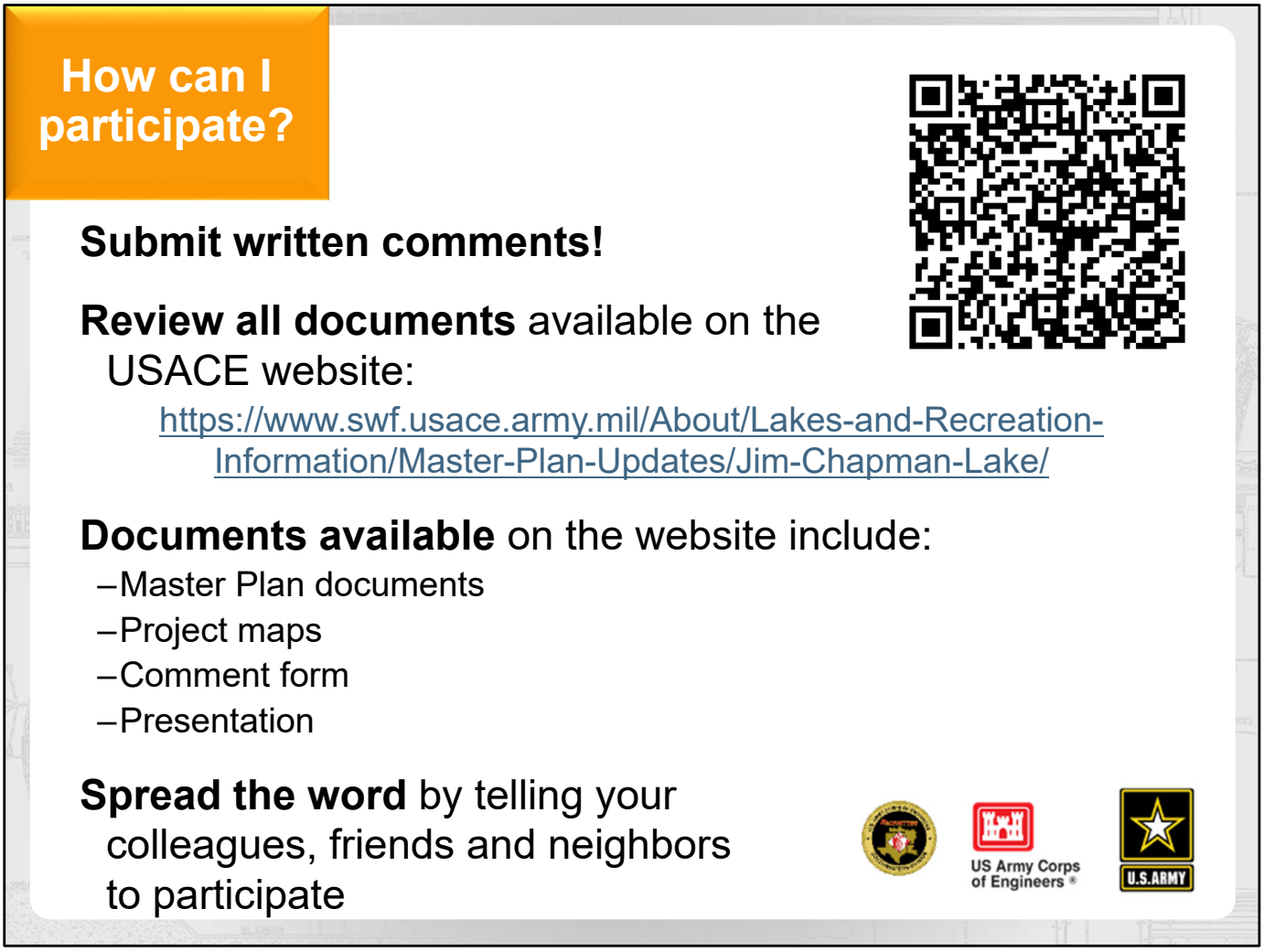
The NEPA process provides the public with the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the potential impacts of proposed federal actions. It also includes comments from other federal, state and local governments, and Tribal Nations.

There are topics of public interest that will not be part of the master plan. The master plan does not include facility designs, daily project administration details, or any technical discussion regarding flood risk management, water quality, water supply, shoreline management, water level management, hydropower, or navigation.



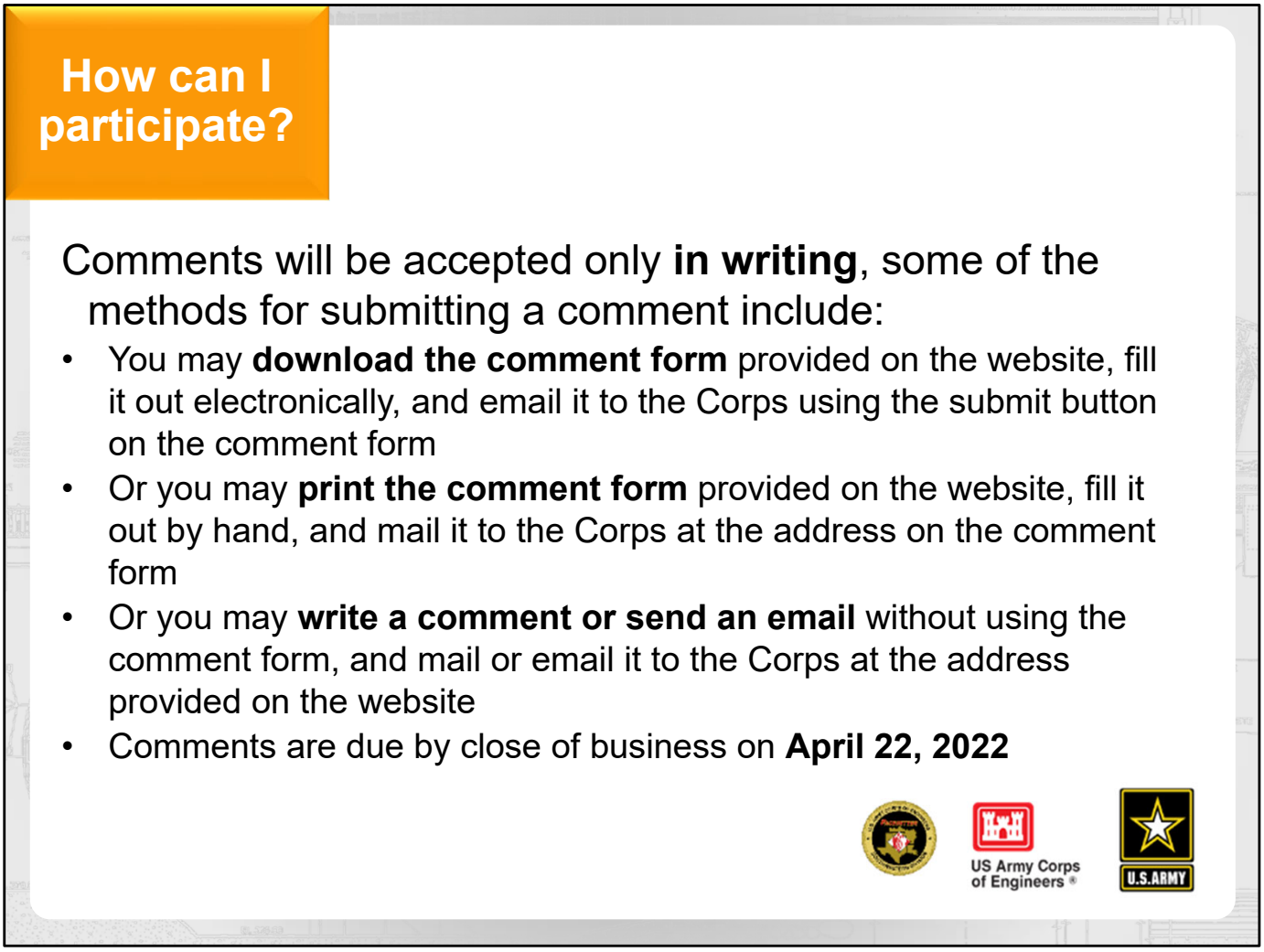
The master plan will be changing from the current master plan.

However, at this point in the Scoping Phase of the process, nothing has been proposed to change. Scoping is where the federal agency asks for initial input from other agencies, citizens, and organizations regarding project area, resources and uses. The purpose of this public involvement presentation is to inform the Public that the master plan revision has started and collect suggestions and written comment for possible changes to the master plan. Possible changes could include land and water classifications, resource goals and objectives, the creation of utility corridors, and the inclusion of the mitigation area into the main body of the master plan document.



You can participate in the process by reviewing the documents available on the website and submit written comments. The Corps will only accept comments in written format. The project website is hosting all the documents relevant to the master plan revision, including the current master plan documents, project maps, comment forms with instructions on how to submit a comment, and copies of this presentation for your review. As the project progresses, and new information is developed, it will be posted to this project website, so you may want to bookmark the site for future reference.

We are asking for your help to spread the word to others, letting them know the master plan revision has been initiated, and this is the opportunity to participate in the process.



The Corps can accept any form of written comments and we have provided a few methods that may make it easier to submit.

A comment form has been prepared and is available on the website which you can download and fill out electronically. Hit the submit button on the form, and it will autofill the email address, and you can send it in.

Another method is to print the comment form provided on the website and fill it out by hand, or electronically, and mail it into the Corps.

Or you can write a comment in a letter, or email, and send it in. You don't have to use the comment form.

We will except all of these methods, and any other, as long as it's a written comment.

The comment period is open for 30 calendar days from the initial announcement.

Who can I talk to about the plan?

Talk to anyone from the USACE at the meeting to answer your questions.

- Call the Lake Office at: (903) 838-8781
- Visit the Lake Office at: 64 Clear Springs Park Texarkana, TX
- Email us your questions at: Jim-Chapman-MP@usace.army.mil

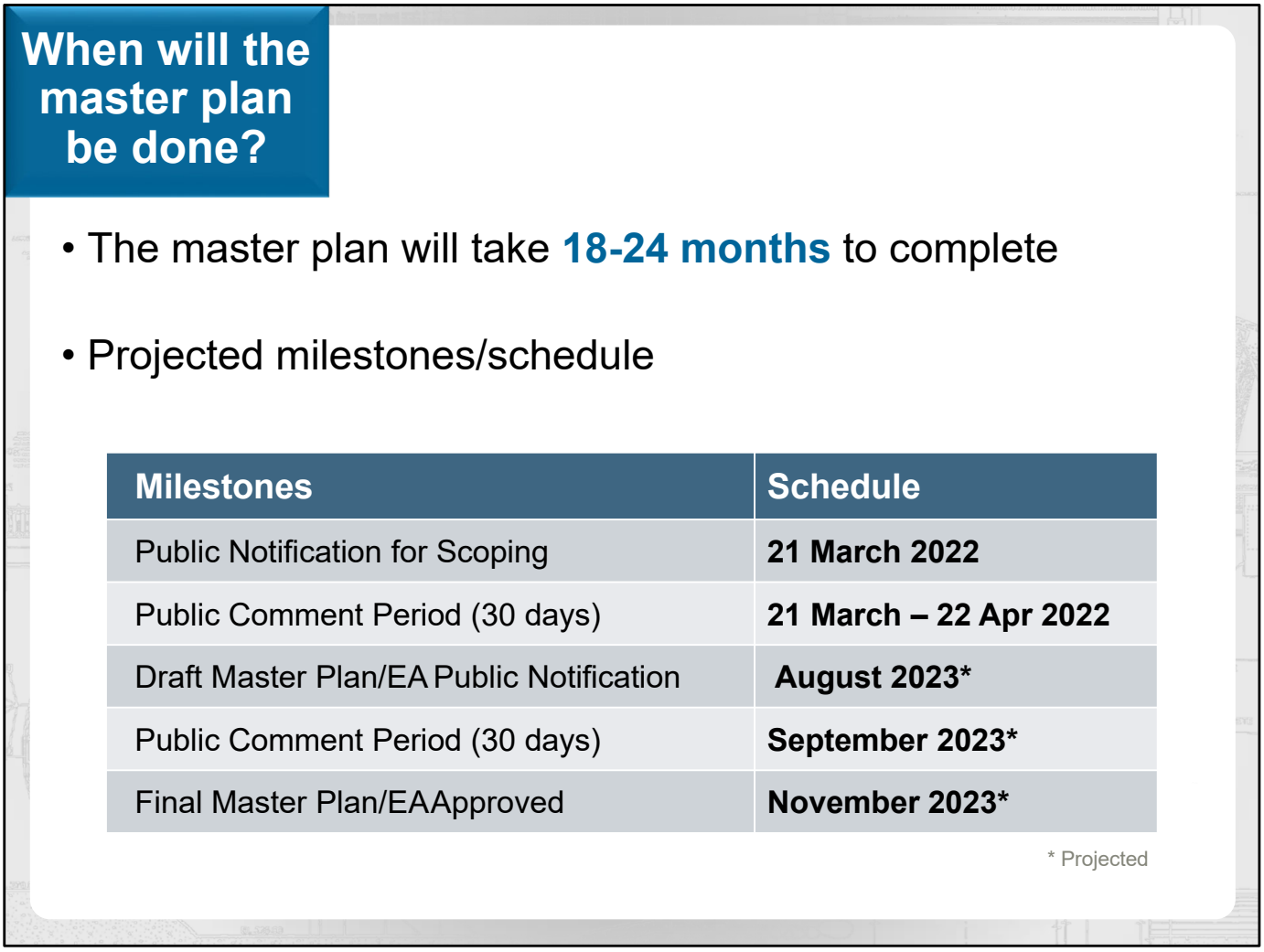
US Army Corps of Engineers

U.S.ARMY

If you have questions regarding the master plan, please call or email the following Corps project office or district staff.

You can also send questions to the Email address setup for this project as listed on this slide.

If you need to review a printed copy of the information, please contact the lake office to make your request.

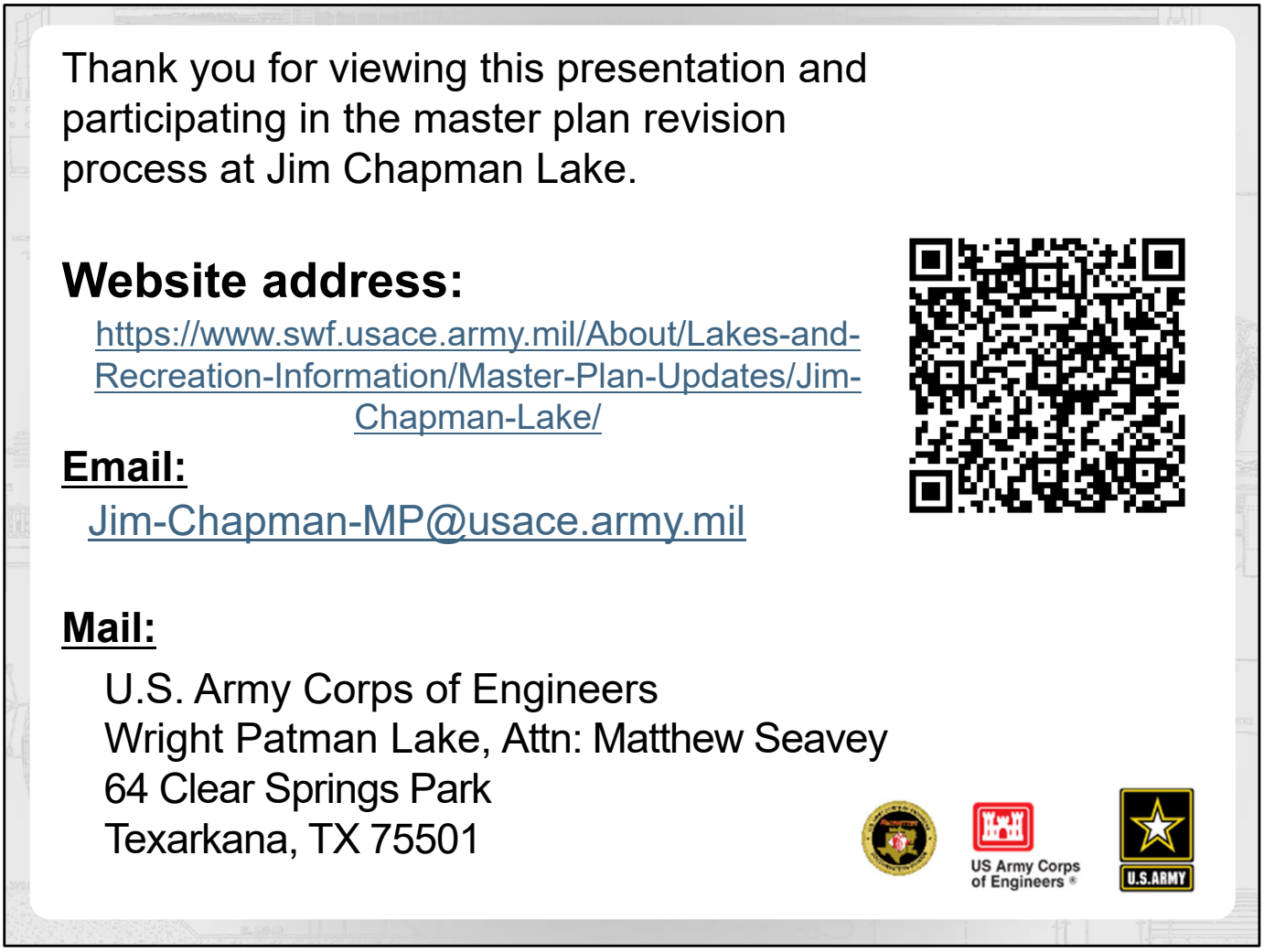


The master plan will take 18-24 months to complete.

Public notification for scoping initiated on Mar 21, 2022. The 30-day comment period when written comment are accepted will remain open until April 22, 2022.

The draft document is scheduled to be available for public review by May 2021 followed by a public comment period.

The final approved master plan and EA is scheduled for November 2023



Thank you for viewing this presentation and participating in the master plan revision process at Jim Chapman Lake.

Project documents are available at this website.

Please send your comments to the Email address, or Jim Chapman Lake Office Address listed here.

Thank you.