

Lake O' the Pines Master Plan Public Information Meeting to Present Draft Revision July 10 & 11, 2018

Presented By
Ricky Maxey
Interim Forester/Natural
Resource Specialist
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth District



Purpose of this Meeting

- Announce the availability of the draft revision of the Lake O' the Pines Master Plan and accompanying Environmental Assessment
- Highlight changes proposed in the revised Master Plan compared to the previous 1989 version.
- Provide the public the opportunity to meet with USACE staff to review and discuss Master Plan recommendations.
- The draft Master Plan with Environmental Assessment is available for 30-day public comment beginning July 11, 2018.



Process Followed to Date

- Initial public meetings were held April 25, April 27, and May 16, 2017 to announce preparation of a Master Plan Revision for Lake O' the Pines
- Public and agency comments were received during a 30-day comment period from May 16 thru June 15.
- All public and agency comments received were reviewed and considered in the preparation of the draft Master Plan Revision. (see Chapter 7 of the draft for comments and Government response)
- Wildlife habitat evaluation completed for entire lake area.
- A Draft Environmental Assessment was prepared and is included in the Master Plan Revision as Appendix B



What Master Plans Are Not

- Master Plans **do not** address in detail the technical aspects of:
 - ▶ Regional water quality
 - ▶ Water management for flood risk management
 - ▶ Water supply or water level management
 - ▶ Shoreline Management Plan
 - Private boat docks and vegetation management by adjacent landowners



Public/Agency Comments Summary

TOPIC	COMMENTS
<p>Shoreline Management – Request to Change Protected Area to Limited Development Area</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Lakeshore/Shoreline Management Zones were established by, and regulated through the Lake O’ the Pines Lakeshore/Shoreline Management Plan, and are not addressed in the Master Plan.
<p>Increase Recreational Facilities/Opportunities</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corps maintains our recreational facilities, and is open to increasing those opportunities within policies. • A number of boat ramps are now operated by the counties. • The Corps has a number of concessionaire operated facilities as well • The Corps works with a number of partners to improve current facilities/opportunities, and is open to address ideas as they are provided.
<p>Invasive Species Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corps is aware of the numerous invasive species that threaten our lands and waters, and we are constantly working to stay current with that knowledge. • The Corps is working through a Memorandum of Understanding with the Northeast Texas Municipal Water District and the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department to attack these issues, particularly aquatic invasives, with a combined front utilizing fiscal and physical resources of each partner to survey and control these species.
<p>Recreation and Natural Resource Management</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The Corps Environmental Stewardship Program with assistance from NRM Staff work to provide conservation driven management of the natural and cultural resources at Lake O’ the Pines. We have an active forest management program, and work cooperatively with a number of federal and state resource management agencies like the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, USGS and USFWS, and NGO’s like Collins Academy and the Cypress Basin Chapter of Texas Master Naturalists to perform numerous projects. Staff work to apply Best Management Practices (BMP’s) with these activities.

Land Classification Definitions

Land Classification	Definition
Project Operations	Those lands required for the dam, operations center, office, maintenance compound and other areas that are used solely for project operations
High Density Recreation	Land developed for intensive recreational activities by the visiting public, including developed recreation areas and areas for marinas and related concessions, and resorts
Multiple Resource Management Lands	Low Density Recreation: Activities such as hiking, primitive camping, wildlife observation, and hunting
	Wildlife Management General: Fish and wildlife management activities
	Vegetative Management: Management activities for the protection and development of a specific vegetative cover
	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
Easement Lands	All land for which USACE holds an easement interest but not fee title. Planned use and management of easement lands will be in strict accordance with the terms and conditions of the easement estate acquired for the project



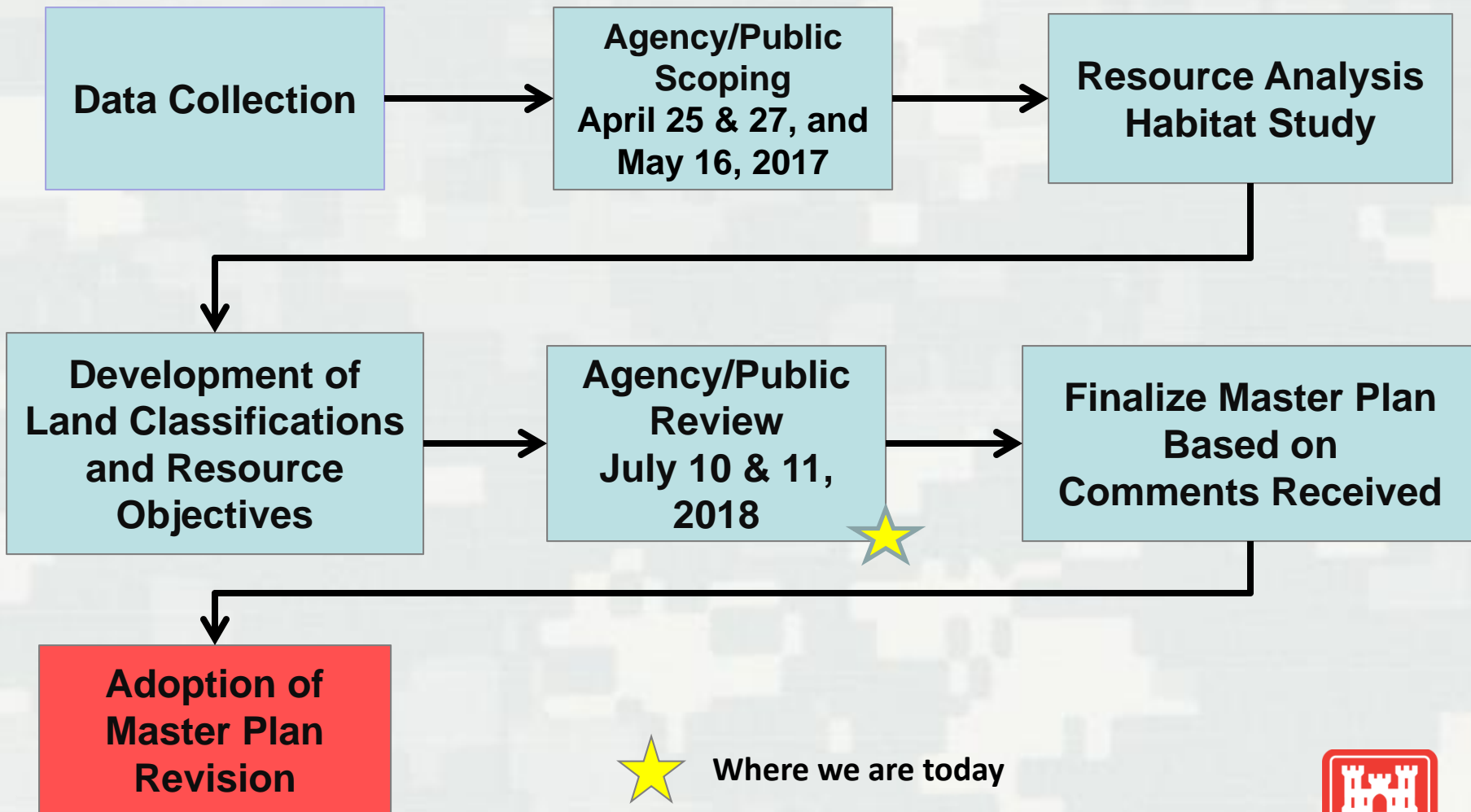
Change in Land Classifications and Acreage

1989 Land Classifications	Acreage	New Classifications	Acreage	Net Difference
Project Operations	211	Project Operations	290	79
Recreation	1,596	High Density Recreation	1,231	(365)
ESA - Recreation	520			
Environmentally Sensitive Areas	858	Environmentally Sensitive Areas	4,236	3,378
Recreation (Low Density)	3,567	MRML – Low Density Recreation	1,782	(1,785)
Wildlife Management	3,731	MRML – Wildlife Management	1,774	(1,957)

Change in Land Classifications and Acreage (Continued)

1989 Land Classifications	Acreage	New Classifications	Acreage	Net Difference
Vegetative Management	800	MRML – Vegetative Management	2,325	1,525
Inactive/Future Recreation	175	MRML -Inactive/ Future Recreation	5	(170)
ESA - Inactive/ Future Recreation	185			
Permanent Pool	18,700	Permanent Pool	17,767	(933)
Flowage Easement	16,054	Flowage Easement	16,063	9

The Master Planning Process



Next Steps

Public and agency comments due on draft	August 10 , 2018
Comments considered and incorporated	Sept - Oct 2018
Internal Review of Final Master Plan and EA	November 2018
Final Approval by District Engineer	Nov - Dec 2018
Notice to Public of Final Master Plan	December 2018



How to Participate

- Visit with **USACE** staff at conclusion of presentation.
- Review the draft Master Plan. It is posted on the **USACE** website provided on the comment forms. A printed copy is available from the **USACE** Lake O' the Pines Project Office.
- Pick up a comment form tonight and follow instructions for submitting written comments. Verbal comments cannot be considered. Comments are due by close of business on August 10, 2018



This concludes the presentation.
You are invited to meet with staff members for further discussion.
Thank you for your time and willingness to participate.

Please be safe, and wear your life jacket. Thanks!



BUILDING STRONG®