



Lake Red Rock Project
MASTER PLAN

CHAPTER 4

Land Allocation and Classification

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CHAPTER 4

LAND ALLOCATION, LAND CLASSIFICATION, AND EASEMENT LANDS

This Master Plan is essentially a land use plan; specific parcels of land are classified into land use categories based on resource capability. This Plan provides a conceptual guide for use, management, and development of all Corps lands at Lake Red Rock Project.

4.1. LAND ALLOCATION

In accordance with Engineer Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550 land allocations identify the authorized purposes for which corps lands were acquired. There are four categories of allocation:

- Operations
- Recreation
- Fish and Wildlife
- Mitigation

The entire approximately 50,000 acres originally acquired at the Lake Red Rock Project are allocated for Operations. Operations lands were acquired to provide safe, efficient operation of the project for its authorized purposes. The Lake Red Rock Project's authorized purposes include flood control, recreation, and fish and wildlife. Low flow augmentation benefit is also gained. In addition to the original land acquisition, an additional 3,212 acres were acquired during the late 1990s from willing sellers of flowage easement tracts. Flowage easement lands acquired in fee title are also allocated for Operations.

4.2. LAND CLASSIFICATION

All lands acquired for Red Rock Project are further classified to provide for development and resource management consistent with authorized purposes and other Federal laws. There are six categories of classification identified as:

- Project Operations
- High Density Recreation
- Mitigation
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Multiple Resource Managed Lands
- Water Surface

The classification process refines the land allocations to fully utilize project lands and considers public desires, legislative authority, regional and project specific resource requirements, and suitability. Land Classification indicates the primary use for which project lands are managed. (See Table 4.1 for Acreage and Appendix H for maps.)

4.2.1. Project Operations. This classification includes lands required for the dam and associated structures, powerhouse, operations center, administrative offices, maintenance compounds, and other areas that are used to operate and maintain Red Rock Project. Where compatible with operational requirements, Project Operations lands may be used for wildlife habitat

management, recreational use, or agricultural activities. Licenses, permits, easements, or other outgrants are issued only for uses that do not conflict with operational requirements.

4.2.2. High Density Recreation. Land developed for intensive recreational activities for the visiting public including day use areas and/or campgrounds. These could include areas for commercial concessions (e.g., marinas) and quasi-public development.

4.2.3. Mitigation. This classification is only used for lands with an allocation of Mitigation and that were acquired specifically for the purposes of offsetting losses associated with development of the project. Lake Red Rock Project has no lands under this classification.

4.2.4. Environmentally Sensitive Areas. This classification consists of areas where scientific ecological, cultural, or aesthetic features have been identified. Such sites may have known locations for threatened or endangered species; critical habitat for priority species; high quality native plant communities; have a landscape history indicating a serious lack of disturbance; scenic or iconic landscapes. Development on lands within this classification is normally prohibited to ensure that these sensitive areas are not adversely impacted.

4.2.5. Multiple Resource Management Lands. This classification allows for the designation of a predominate use described as follows, with the understanding that other compatible uses described below may also occur on these lands (e.g., a trail through an area designated as Wildlife Management).

- a. Low Density Recreation.** Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive public use (e.g., primitive camping, fishing, hunting, trails, wildlife viewing, etc.).
- b. Wildlife Management General.** Lands designated for stewardship of fish and wildlife resources. Many of these areas are intensively managed for native vegetation (e.g. savanna, prairie), enhancing opportunity and abundance for all types of native wildlife. These areas include land within the Red Rock Wildlife Unit and on Corps managed wildlife area.
- c. Vegetation Management.** Lands designated for stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover. Lake Red Rock Project does considerable vegetation management, but for the sake of simplicity and mapping, these lands are classified within Wildlife Management General.
- d. Future or Inactive Recreation Areas.** Areas with site characteristics compatible with potential future recreational development or recreation areas that are closed. Until there is an opportunity to develop or reopen these areas, they will be managed for multiple resources.

4.2.6. Water Surface. There are four possible sub-classifications, as follows. Red Rock Project has not utilized these sub-classifications.

- **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/or public safety.

- **Fish and Wildlife Sanctuary.** Annual or seasonal restrictions on areas to protect fish and wildlife species during periods of migration, resting, feeding, nesting, and/or spawning.
- **Open Recreation.** Those waters available for year-round or seasonal water-based recreational use.

Table 4.1. Land Classification Acres

Classification	Acres
Project Operations	162
High Density Recreation	3,517
Mitigation	0
Environmentally Sensitive Areas	1,967
Multiple Resource Managed Lands – Low Density Recreation	277
Multiple Resource Managed Lands – Wildlife Mgmt/Vegetation Mgmt.	32,086
Multiple Resource Managed Lands – Future or Inactive Recreation Areas	25
Water surface acres of Lake Red Rock at conservation pool (normal lake level) ¹	15,240

¹ Not Classified but supplied for information

4.3. EASEMENT LANDS

These are lands on which easement interests are held but no fee title ownership was acquired. Planned use and management is in accordance with the terms and conditions of the easement estate acquired for the project.

4.3.1. Flowage Easement. Under original project acquisition the Corps purchased approximately 29,000 acres of flowage easement. Due to a program to purchase flowage easement land in fee title, the current flowage easements total approximately 26,000 acres.

4.3.2. Roadway and Operational Easements. The Corps owns several easements around the project that allow for levees or remedial works and roadways leading to levees, resource areas or recreation areas.

4.4. OUTGRANTS

The Corps leases federally-owned lands at Lake Red Rock Project to state and local agencies for wildlife management and recreational purposes. These leases, often referred to as outgrants, specify what types of activities are allowed on Federal lands. All Federal regulations still apply. Examples of outgrants include the Iowa DNR management of the Red Rock Wildlife Unit and Elk Rock State Park, and the Marion County Conservation Board management of Cordova Park and Robert’s Creek Park.



Iowa DNR Partnership



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