



Lake Red Rock Project
MASTER PLAN

APPENDIX B

Agency and Public Coordination

Stakeholder Involvement for a New Vision

Stakeholder involvement and gaining public input were paramount in creating a Master Plan for the Lake Red Rock Project that reflects public values and vision.

Stakeholders include the general public; lake visitors; stakeholder organization; and local, state and Federal stakeholder agencies/government.

Stakeholders were invited to actively join in the planning, review and input processes.

It was the Corp's responsibility to actively seek and listen to stakeholder input, evaluate comments, and create possible alternatives that best reflects public value and vision within the constraints of project authority and public law.

- It was important to listen to what people value about the work accomplished during the first 40 years of Lake Red Rock Project's environmental and recreation missions.
- It was important to listen to what people would like to see happen in the next 25 years in the environmental and recreation missions.
- It was important to understand why people felt Lake Red Rock is important to them.
- It was important to understand what threats people felt are currently affecting or possibly will affect what they value about Lake Red Rock.

The Corps Master Plan Team used a 4-step stakeholder involvement process shown on the right to gain public input. We went beyond requirements in stakeholder involvement because we felt public input was so important. Working with focus groups on developing conceptual alternatives allowed us to develop and/or nurture partnerships that are the foundation on which the majority of these ideas will become reality. We value our partnerships and look forward to working together to fulfill our joint vision.

Appendix B will allow you to follow the stakeholder involvement process through the four phases and read the large number of comments received during this process. The public commented on their future vision for Lake Red Rock and potential threats to their enjoyment and use of the project. Topics that had broad support and feasibility led to development of three Focus Areas—*Sustainable Environment; A Natural Place to Play; and Connections*—under which goals and concepts were further explored and refined in Phases 2 and 3.

Phase 1: Stakeholder Scoping

Purpose: To gain a broad prospective on potential future benefits from Lake Red Rock Project environmental and recreation missions



Phase 2: Focus Groups

Purpose: To develop alternatives for primary concepts identified during stakeholder scoping



Phase 3: Draft Goals Review

Purpose: To gain public input on draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts



Phase 4: Final Review

Purpose: To gain public input on final draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts



Stakeholder Involvement Process for Red Rock Master Plan Overview of Tools and Methods Used for Gaining Input

Phase 1: Stakeholder Scoping

Purpose: To gain a broad prospective on potential future benefits from Lake Red Rock Project environmental and recreation missions

- Small Group input meetings
- On-site Comment Forms (Visitor Center, Day Use Areas & Campgrounds)
- Website E- Comment Forms
- School Children Drawings
- Agency Coordination

Phase 2: Focus Groups

Purpose: To develop alternatives for primary concepts discussed during stakeholder scoping

- Environmental Focus Groups
- Recreation Focus Groups
- Connections Focus Groups

Phase 3: Draft Goals Review

Purpose: To gain public input on draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts

- Public Open House and Comment Form
- Website Posting and E-Comment Form
- Agency Coordination

Phase 4: Final Review

Purpose: To gain public input on final draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts

- Public Open House and Comment Form
- Website Posting and E-Comment Form
- Agency Coordination

Following are the categories of stakeholders who provided input:

Nature Enthusiasts and/or Specific Interest in Birding, Prairies, Woodland Wildflowers, etc.

Hunters and Fishermen

Boaters, Kayakers, Canoeists

Bicyclists

Campers and Other Lake Visitors

Hikers and Walkers

Horseback Riders

Off-road Vehicle Riders

Health and Wellness experts

Local Schools and Colleges

Neighboring Landowners and Subdivisions

Agricultural Interests

Economic Development Organizations

Local Elected Public Officials

State and Federal Elected Public Officials

Tribes

City, County, State and Federal Agencies



Phase 1: Stakeholder Scoping
Purpose: To gain a broad prospective on potential future benefits from Lake Red Rock Project environmental and recreation



Phase 2: Focus Groups
Purpose: To develop alternatives for primary concepts identified during stakeholder scoping



Phase 3: Draft Goals Review
Purpose: To gain public input on draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts



Phase 4: Final Review
Purpose: To gain public input on final draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts

The objective of Phase 1 of the stakeholder involvement process was to maximize input from a wide variety of stakeholders and viewpoints.

The Master Planning Team developed the following list of questions to encourage input at small group meetings; on-site discussions with lake visitors; and website e-comment.

- 1) In your opinion, what are the current or future environmental threats facing public lands and waters at Lake Red Rock?
- 2) If you were in charge of Lake Red Rock, what improvements would you make? Where would you make them?
- 3) Why does managing the land and waters at Lake Red Rock matter to you?
- 4) What do you like or what changes would you make to improve plant communities, fish habitat, or wildlife habitat at Lake Red Rock?
- 5) What are some outdoor recreation opportunities that should be continued, expanded, added, or eliminated at Lake Red Rock?
- 6) What are the important benefits of Lake Red Rock to you and your family?

The Master Planning Team also developed fact sheets to assist the public in understanding the Master Planning Process. These were distributed to the public via all of the input method described above. A copy of the Master Planning Process fact sheet is shown to the right. Additional fact sheets were developed that provide an overview of the Lake Red Rock Project and describe the current environmental and recreation programs at Lake Red Rock for stakeholders not familiar with those project missions.

Press releases were written and distributed to local and area media to advise stakeholders that the Lake Red Rock Master Plan was being revised and they were invited to provide comment.

A unique tool was used to gain input from area youth. They were asked to draw their vision for the future of Lake Red Rock. You will see some of their input later in this section.



The Master Planning Process

What is a Master Plan?

A master plan is a vision and guidance document that looks out 25 - 50 years to guide current management decisions with the resources available in order to achieve our vision for the future. The master plan looks at management opportunities and constraints, site potential and limiting factors, user needs and characteristics, and then blends these components into a guidance document. The master plan is also a resource document that is based on current facts and trends to be used by managers to guide decisions in order to work towards a shared future vision of Lake Red Rock.



Why do we need a new Master Plan?



The first master plan for Lake Red Rock was completed in 1976 and has been used to guide recreational and environmental stewardship decisions during the past 35 years. The focus of the initial plan was to document existing conditions and to create a zoning plan to guide future development. The original objectives were 1) to provide diversified water-oriented recreation for central Iowa residents, 2) to establish and improve the Canada Geese distribution and hunting opportunities in the state, and 3) to assist water quality enhancement of the Des Moines River downstream of the project. A new master plan is needed to address current conditions, new objectives, and re-evaluate management opportunities for the future of these public lands. The previous master

plan and current plan did not and will not address water level management and flood control. A separate regulation manual is used to regulate discharge and storage at the reservoir.

Public Involvement in Master Planning Process

Public participation will be a priority in the current Master Planning process. We will be seeking public input from key stakeholders through a focus group process. In addition, open houses or public meetings will also be utilized to gather input from the general public. We really want to know what you want, what your vision for the future of the lake's recreation and natural resources might be, etc.



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Phone: (641) 828-7522 or (641) 628-8690

Website: www.lakeredrock.org Email: redrockmasterplan@usace.army.mil

Master Plan Zoning

The master plan identifies zoning for Lake Red Rock. Public lands are allocated and classified into management categories which, based upon resources available and public needs, will provide for full utilization while protecting project resources. This zoning determines what types of development is permitted – for instance campgrounds are permitted in intensive use areas but not wildlife management zones. The 1976 Master Plan used slightly different zoning terminology than the new plan will use and also included detailed construction diagrams for campgrounds, picnic areas etc., this level of detail will not be outlined in the new plan.

We will again re-assess the project's environmental attributes, public needs etc. but will not be producing detailed site designs. Instead the focus will be on gathering public input and developing detailed natural resource inventories to guide in reassessing the future recreational needs and desired future condition for natural resources.

Current Zoning Categories*:

Project Operations. This classification category should include those lands required for the structure, operations center, office, maintenance compound and other areas that are used solely for project operations.

Recreation. Land developed for intensive recreational activities by the visiting public, including developed recreation areas and areas for concession, resort, and quasi-public development.

Mitigation. This will only include land acquired or designated specifically for mitigation.

Environmental Sensitive Areas. These are areas where scientific, ecological, cultural or aesthetic features have been identified. These areas must be considered by management to ensure the sensitive areas are not adversely impacted.

Multiple Resource Management. Lands managed for one or more of, but not limited to, these activities:

- (a) Recreation - Low Density - low density recreation activities such as hiking, primitive camping, wildlife observation, hunting, or similar low density recreational activities.
- (b) Wildlife Management General - fish and wildlife management activities. Lands in this sub-category shall be evaluated for consideration for lease or license to the Department of the Interior or the state or shall be designated for direct management by the Corps.
- (c) Vegetative Management - management activities for the protection and development of forest and vegetative cover
- (d) Inactive and/or Future Recreation Areas - recreation areas planned for the future or that have been temporarily closed. These lands will be classified as multiple resource management in the interim.
- (e) * Current zoning categories are slightly different than those used in 1976 planning.

Zoning Categories from 1976 Plan

Legend

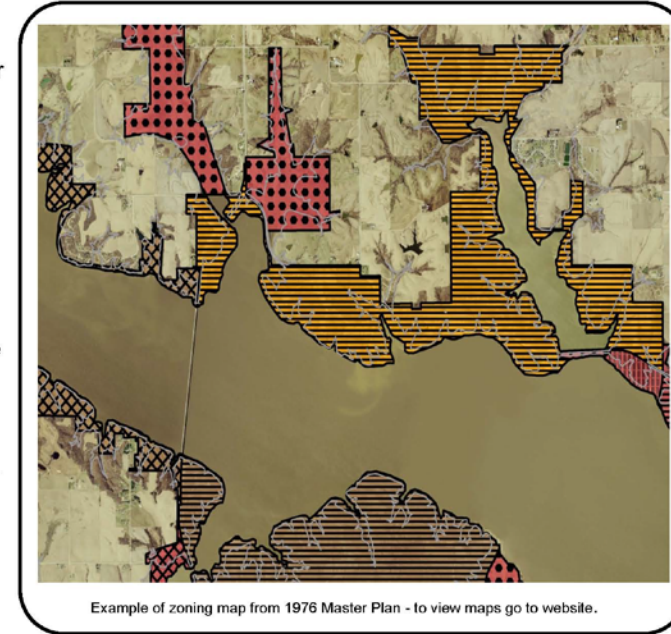
780-Flood Pool

Land Use

- Project Operation
- Operations:Recreation-Intensive Use
- Operations:Recreation-Low Density
- Operations:Reserve Forest Land
- Operations:Wildlife Management

Administered by

- Iowa Dept. of Natural Resources
- Marion County Conservation Board
- Corps of Engineers



Example of zoning map from 1976 Master Plan - to view maps go to website.



PHASE I STAKEHOLDER SCOPING Small Group Input Meetings

Several small group meetings were held in June - November 2011 to have discussion and gain input from stakeholders. Following are comments from these meetings.

09 June 2011	Red Rock Lake Association
14 June 2011	City of Knoxville
16 June 2011	Pella Bike Club
27 June 2011	Central Iowa Bike & Triathlon Clubs
28 July 2011	Fishing Clubs
29 June 2011	Knoxville Rotary
23 August 2011	Pella Young Professionals
25 August 2011	City of Pella/Pella Businesses
22 August 2011	Birds & Biodiversity Experts
25 August 2011	Health and Wellness
19 September 2011	Wildlife and Hunting
02 November 2011	Trail Riders/Friends of Elk Rock
04 November 2011	Central Iowa Anglers

09 Jun 2011 Red Rock Lake Association

- More hiking and biking opportunities esp. finish bike trail and add mountain bike trail
- More winter activities, especially cross country skiing
- Build high quality, well run marina to act as hub of activity for lake, including boat house, various rentals, concessions etc.
- Attract more younger users, especially college students.
- Do more beach and concession development
- Do better job of managing woodlands and do additional prairie restoration
- Build more fish habitat structures, stock pheasants
- Add more campsites
- Address sedimentation of lake, rip rap eroding shorelines

14 Jun 2011 City of Knoxville

- Build a trail around the lake, connect cities of Pella and Knoxville, build trail on south side of lake
- Improve habitat for upland game and remove invasive trees and shrubs, use fire and grazing to manage habitats
- Address sedimentation of the lake and sewage from Des Moines
- Do better job of marketing lake resources and promote as tourism destination
- Maintain a high quality marina and provide facilities for canoe/kayakers as well
- Build more high water beaches
- More educational opportunities, tours etc.
- More boat access, esp. near housing developments
- More channel markers for boaters

16 Jun 2011 Pella Bike Club

- Expand trail around the lake and connect to other regional trail systems (all members)
- Better signage
- Provide equipment rentals, esp. kayak and canoes
- Add additional attractions like restaurants, etc. to attract people during the week
- Do something about flooded trail (mentioned by every club member)
- Better marina
- Add mountain bike trails
- Do something about lake sedimentation and water quality

27 Jun 2011 Central Iowa Bike & Triathlon Clubs

- More soft trails especially mountain bike trails
- Better trail signage, more interpretive kiosks
- Increase miles of trail
- Connect bike trails to cities and regional trail systems
- Add more restrooms and water fountains on bike trail
- Add more cabins
- More commercial retail, restaurants on the lake
- Summer camps for youth
- More competitions, e.g. biking, boating, triathlons
- Add cross country skiing and other winter activities
- Multiple marinas
- Improve facilities, parking, access across dam, beach access etc. for triathlon competitions



28 Jun 2011 Central Iowa Fishing Clubs & DNR Fish

- More channel markers, especially in upper lake
- Add workshops on fishing and hunting
- More fish habitat, work with fishing clubs to install
- Build fish rearing ponds to increase fish survival and enhance opportunities to catch popular game fish species
- Install fish barriers to reduce loss of fish through dam
- Reduce sedimentation, rip rap shoreline
- Develop handicap fishing piers
- More docks, fish cleaning stations etc

29 Jun 2011 Knoxville Rotary

- Address siltation, water quality, esp. sewage from DSM and flood damage
- Complete trail around lake and eliminate need to close trails during floods
- Explore development of second marina
- More high water boat ramps
- Rental concession for boats, bikes, kayaks, etc
- More walk in access to water

22 August 2011 Birders and Biodiversity Experts

- Have canoes/kayaks for rent/borrow (Good to get people on water moving slow)
- More interpretive materials
- Concern with sedimentation, shoreline erosion, water quality, invasive species
- Increase buffer of conservation land around lake
- Preserve scenic areas
- Appreciate beauty of large lake and blufflands
- Red Rock is critical % of Iowa's minimal public lands
- Protect and increase size of blocks of forest; savanna and prairie to benefit sensitive avian species
- Increase non-motorized recreation opportunities
- Increase interpretive facilities (bird blinds, observation platforms)
- Red Rock is important as a nature reserve
- Increase environmental education
- Connect habitats to each other, both within lake area & surrounding habitats

22 August 2011 Birders and Biodiversity Experts (continued)

- Control invasives
- Biological inventory is critical
- Reconstruct large scale habitats
- Create travel corridors for fauna
- Important to have access to areas for waterfowl and shorebird viewing
- Develop prime viewing areas and manage for bird viewing opportunities

23 August 2011 Pella Young Professionals

- Concern with water quality
- Concern with bugs
- Want more interpretive programming
- Want more organized activities (kayaking lessons, jet skis, etc)
- Want place to eat and hang out at the lake, bar at lake
- Construct camping shelters (more secure)
- Want more electronic communication of recreation opportunities
- Need to train community on opportunities
- Lake is good for area economics
- Need large venue for outdoor weddings
- Need storm shelters
- Need better wayfinding and signage on trails
- Want amphitheater with live music
- Make more native prairies to bring in more diverse species
- More winter sports activities
- Lake is important for quality of life and employee retention
- ATV Trails
- Improve shore access in remote areas
- Preserve natural resource. Over development should be avoided



25 August 2011 City of Pella/Pella Businesses

- Concern with water quality, sedimentation, shoreline erosion
- Need restaurant on lake
- Expand bike trail
- Need better promotion of recreational opportunities
- Need better wayfinding system
- Balance tourism with natural beauty
- Need more rentals at lake (boat, bike, kayaks, etc), guide services
- Need large gathering venue at lake (300-400 people)
- New Visitor Center with more displays
- New amenities (cabins, marina development)
- Expand education programs
- More events & activities
- Continue improving boat access
- Snowmobile trails
- ATV Area
- Raise low section of Volksweg Trail
- Expand camping facilities
- Encourage native vegetation
- Lake has significant impact on quality of life
- Want our children to be able to enjoy the lake as we have
- Positive impact on economic development

25 August 2011 Health and Wellness

- Need to package and market recreation activities
- Opportunities to partner with health care providers, schools, corporations
- Emphasize active recreation opportunities
- Provide recreation learning opportunities

19 September 2011 Wildlife and Hunting

- Concern with siltation, water quality
- Concern with habitat fragmentation
- Concern with invasive species

19 September 2011 Wildlife and Hunting, Cont.

- Concern with loss of grassland/prairies and areas overgrown with brush
- Would like specialized food plots to attract specific species (doves, pheasants)
- Manage for game species
- Develop watershed management plan
- Construct a sediment retention basin on Whitebreast Creek
- Want a cooperative effort with county to maintain lake access, especially secondary accesses for hunting and fishing
- Need more docks and boat ramps
- Do not reduce public hunting acres
- Relocate Archery Area (current area floods and is impacted from bike trail)
- Need to do more woodland management
- Need large secure nesting areas
- Use more of DNR and Corps Ag leases for wildlife versus crops
- Need better education of opportunities, more communication & programs to get people outdoors, special hunts

02 November 2011 Trail Riders/Friends of Elk Rock

- Concern with siltation and water quality
- Concern with invasive species
- Expand the horse trails at lake – ideally 50-60 miles
- More miles of trail is the highest priority
- Estimate 200 horses use the current trails daily on a busy weekend
- Opportunity to see wildlife and lake vistas make the Red Rock trails attractive
- Like social aspect of camping in Elk Rock and riding the trails
- Equestrian riders add to local economy – perhaps more than most other users

04 November 2011 Central Iowa Anglers

- Concern with sedimentation, erosion of shoreline, and water quality
- Need more shore fishing opportunities (fishing piers, fish structure near shore, shore access)
- Need stable lake level during spawn
- Need more reefs and habitat in lake
- Need rearing ponds
- Need Stocking program, build a hatchery nearby



PHASE I STAKEHOLDER SCOPING

On-Site Comment Forms (Visitor Center, Day Use Areas & Campgrounds)

Visitors at Lake Red Rock Visitor Center, Day Use Areas and Campgrounds were encouraged to provide comment on Lake Red Rock's future. Following are comments received.

- Extend bike trail
- More shoreline access for anglers
- More special events and programs like bike check and chalk art
- Boat Rentals
- No alcohol on beach, stop littering on beach
- Address water pollution, sedimentation and over development
- More camping facilities, picnic areas, beaches
- Update playgrounds and beaches, e.g. volleyball, tetherball, disc golf
- Update visitors center
- Address invasive species
- More rentals for adventure sports like kayaking, windsurfing, rock climbing, etc.
- Fishing pier for the handicapped
- More water faucets
- Raise bike path at Marina Cove, add more miles of trail
- Create more fish habitat
- High water boat ramp at South Overlook
- Improve shower facilities and update restrooms, consider making them more effective tornado shelters
- Show movies in evenings and continue education/nature programs
- Better beach patrol, reduce littering and drinking
- More prairie grasses and wildflowers, more upland (non-flooded) habitat for deer
- Provide better signage and facility information at campsites
- Concern with pollution at beach
- Camping with full hookups, Kayaking
- Enjoy quality of nature
- Equine trails should be expanded
- More paddle in campgrounds
- Enjoy Nature and wildlife educational opportunities



Lake Red Rock

Special
Request

Attention Campers!

“Help Plan the Future of Lake Red Rock”

(See back of this flyer)



If you were in charge of Lake Red Rock what improvements would you make in the next 25 years? The Corps is revising its 35 year old master plan and would like your input. Your comments will help to guide the future of recreation and natural resource development at the lake. (Note: The master plan does not cover flood control and water level management—that is governed by a separate regulation manual.)

Please consider filling out the questions on the back of this flyer. You can drop off completed questionnaires at the fee booth or the Lake Red Rock visitors center. On Friday evening a Ranger will also be visiting the campground to pick up completed questionnaires and to visit with you individually. For more information about the master plan go to www.lakeredrock.org—click on “master planning” tab.

Lake Red Rock
1105 North Highway T15, Knoxville, IA 50138
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www.lakeredrock.org



PHASE I STAKEHOLDER SCOPING – Website E-Comment

Interested in helping to shape the future of recreation and natural resource development at Lake Red Rock?



➤ Visit www.lakeredrock.org to learn more about our master plan revision – click on the *Master Plan* button.

➤ Make suggestions using the web site comment card or send suggestions directly to: redrockmasterplan@usace.army.mil.

Note: The master plan only governs future recreation and natural resource development. It does not cover water level management of flood control. A separate regulation manual guides water level management.

Website Responses Question 1. In your opinion what are current or future environmental threats facing public lands and waters at Lake Red Rock?

- Red rock was built as a flood control lake not a recreational lake. Easements were made for flood control not boating. Mismanagement has caused excessive siltation. Hopefully it will become a frog pond within the next 10 years.
- Sedimentation-43%! If we don't fix this problem. What will the sedimentation be when our kids/grandkids want to use this resource? Or will there even be a lake at this rate? If we don't fix this problem FIRST.....all the ideas, time and money spent on utilizing this resource more would be a waste. The lake will flood every year and ruin any new beaches, trails, boat ramps...etc...
- Continued use of the lake for recreation. The river basin has already been virtually destroyed—the siltation of the original channels has destroyed habitat and the continual raise and lower of the lake levels continues to erode the surrounding lands.
- Farm fertilizer pollution in the water.
- I believe pollution to be the largest current threat, while I'm not aware of any major spillage events in the Red Rock area, I am aware that water quality can always be improved. Upland wetlands are a necessity along the river to mitigate agricultural pollution.
- Woody plant invasion is diminishing ability to visit, travel through and enjoy the areas. It is also limiting historical species. Invasive species are a significant problem on land and will presumably cause serious problems within the lake.
- The rate of siltation and the water quality
- Contaminated water from upstream – Red Rock has become Des Moines sewer. I feel that ongoing silting problem will shorten the usable life span of the lake and cause problems with runoff storage in the mentioned 25 to 50 year period. I don't have the solution for either of these, but would be willing to lend a voice to get attention to the problem.

Website Responses Question 1 Continued In your opinion what are current or future environmental threats facing public lands and waters at Lake Red Rock?

- Lake is silted in already and is rapidly approaching a stage of not being fit for recreation. The shallowness of the lake often makes the water unsafe for humans and animals alike.
- The constant filling and draining of Lake Rock has caused the lake to fill with sediment, from erosion and run off. The fact that the Raccoon River drains in to the lake is also a problem because of the farming along the river. Flood control needs to be regulated in a more timely manner.
- Several threats are prevalent, including siltation, pollution, over use, invasive non-native species. Building a resort on the lake would lead to over usage. For example, on the weekends there are already many boats on the water and it is difficult to find a quiet enough place to ski or relax.
- Sewage and waste from the Des Moines river
- We see a lot of “scum” floating along the river way off and on all summer long. Not sure what it is-sometimes white and foamy looking and sometimes green. It looks nasty.
- Too much government regulations
- Algae, silt, run-off chemicals from farm-fields
- Pollution from the river and run off from farms. Laws and rules that make people wear life jackets.
- Shoreline erosion
- The continued building of homes on the lakes shore
- High water and siltation
- General water conditions. All the dead rough fish below the dam.
- Future growth and encroachment on the area.
- The siltation. I know it's hard to manage on a river system, but it needs to be controlled somehow.
- This may not go here but we have to stop the people that trash our lands around lakes also the lakes themselves. My wife and me are 60 years old...we were stopped by a DNR person wanting to see our fishing licenses. We showed him then I asked if he was going to ask the 200 Asians that don't let you fish because they are lined up and reserve spots for their friends, and trash the place.
- Watershed issues. Not being able to filter out nitrogens, ext...before it hits the lake and probably the largest concern at Red Rock is the erosion leading to siltation of the lake. I think these things are likely to decrease the boating at the lake, the desire of people to use the beaches and campgrounds. As an avid fisherman my biggest concern is that these thing will have a negative impact on the lake. Red Rock is a really good fishery and could probably be phenomenal with cooperation from anglers, army corps and DNR.
- The immense silting problem is the worst.
- Flooding, lake filling in with sedimentation, lack of water quality.
- Siltation causing much of the lake to become unusable.
- Water Pollution, creating opportunities for more non-water related recreation.
- Very bad



Website Responses Question 1 (continued) In your opinion what are current or future environmental threats facing public lands and waters at Lake Red Rock?

- Mismanagement.mismanagement.mismanagement. that about sums it up. This lake was built in the name of flood control not recreation. Managing it as a recreational lake has created excessive siltation and will eventually solve whitebreast watershed residents problems for us, the sooner the better, fill it up with mud and just get rid of it. I am personally working on a legal suit regarding the 10 ft. raise of the permanent pool as we believe it is an easement violation. More to come later.
- Siltation is a major.
- Erosion, silting & water clarity.
- Silt build up and pollution of water.
- Urban sprawl/residential developments, water quality management upstream, maintaining adequate minimum core areas of habitat to support a good diversity of wildlife, proper water level management for wildlife and recreation, and managing sediment deposition in the lake.
- Sprawl from surrounding communities and lake homes.

Website Responses Question 2. If you were in charge of Lake Red Rock what improvements would you make? Where would you make them?

- The management needs to be reviewed by someone from outside the corps of engineers. They have no idea of how to manage a watershed as they are proving throughout the Midwest this year.
- DREDGE THE LAKE – starting approx 5 miles west of the mile long bridge, back thru Whitebreast, and up to the dam. Contact/hire erosion control association(s) to find ways to keep down the amount of sediment build up. ADVERTISE – people in our own community do not realize we have some of the amenities Red Rock has to offer. Hire a marketing manager just for Lake RedRock to promote what w currently have. Plus you will need it for my next suggestion. BUILD COMMERCE – we have such a great opportunity to build commerce for Marion County and surrounding communities with Red Rock as its feature. Restaurants and shopping would be a big draw. This commerce would need to have a business association where it would be mandated up keep. For example...look at our marina. It does not look clean or inviting, for those of us who live in this community or our visitors. Qui9te frankly...its embarrassing.
- Stop making a recreation lake out of a flood control project. Maintain the parks for camping but do not concentrate on boating.
- Maintain the lake at the permanent pool level or drain it. If it is purely recreation there is no need to allow the levels to fluctuate. If it is for flood control the permanent pool should never have been raised to its current level.
- I would use it as flood control like they said it was for when they took the land from everyone at the beginning not turn it into a lake resort

Website Responses Question 2 Continued If you were in charge of Lake Red Rock what improvements would you make? Where would you make them?

- 1 key priority would be to increase acreage of parks surround the lake (easements, wildlife areas, parks). Providing more room for wildlife to flourish could also bring more tourists to see and experience the area. More multi-use trails (for hikers, mountain bikers, trail runners, and bird watchers) would also be a priority. Improving accessibility brings more tourists to the region which means more money to put into ensuring good resource management. Finally, I would ensure that there are detailed maps of all of the trails, amenities and unique features that are easily accessible to any visitors of the website. This helps make potential visitors aware of all of the resources in the region.
- Dirt trails around the lake.
- MTB trails and/or bike paths or bike lanes. My family literally doesn't go anywhere where we can't safely ride our bikes together.
- Addition of a couple more campgrounds around the lake... currently, if you don't get a reservation in soon enough, there is nowhere to camp. Elk Rock campground has the right idea by offering camping through the fall of the year and into the winter months-their system of have a port potty works well late into the fall-even without showers and bathroom facilities it is the nicest time of the year to be out around the lake. We have utilized Elk Rock camping area into November and December the last few years. It would be nice to renovate the Ivan's area and again open it to the camping groups. Howell and Ivan's are in a great area and both offer a nice view of the river and are close to the visitor's center and Knoxville/Pella.
- I would like to see some improvements made at the South Overlook picnic area/viewing shelter. It is about the only place to get a good view of the dam itself, but the view has become very obstructed with huge trees growing up to block the gorgeous view towards the dam. The rickety shelter built up off the ground needs to be replaced.
- If I were in charge of Lake Red Rock, I would make it my main objective to maintain what I have and not to build more Bike Trail, which I might say is used very little. The roads, areas that need mowing, campgrounds and all other facilities need to be kept in good repair so that they don't require replacing.
- Every fall, winter I would lower it as much as I could. That way in the spring when you have excess snow and rain you could do a better job of handling the run off.
- Since we have had quite a number of high water seasons the last few years, and since the lake level is regularly higher than it used to be, I would expand the high water boat launch ramp at Wallashuck campground (Add a dock). I would restore the campground at Ivan's Stations. I would make more nature trails around the lake. I would expand the bike trail to circle the entire lake. This would be a great tourist draw to the region, and give more recreational opportunities. I would investigate the possibility of bank vegetation plating to also reduce the erosion and sedimentation. I would look at adding another beach to the lake, presently there are only two.



Website Responses Question 2 Cont. If you were in charge of Lake Red Rock what improvements would you make? Where would you make them?

- Make the lake more recreation. Have hotels/condos around the lake along with restaurants and bands/music.
- I would like to see all the debris cleaned up along the shores to keep it from floating in the water when the level goes up. This will also make exploring around the shores with my family easier.
- I would release a much bigger amount of water in the early spring so that we avoid the constant flooding every year. The focus should be on flooding precautions first and not recreation.
- Cleaner lake water (when level was dropped last year, perfect opportunity that was lost to cut out trees that are normally just under the surface/take garbage that was on the lake bottom away (tires for example)
- Rebuilding Whitebreast beach, locating higher on the hill like was done at North Overlook. Moving the docks located on the boat ramps to the side of the ramps allowing boats to pick up people without being in the way of those trying to load and unload onto trailers. Adding more bike paths and walking trails. Making the lake more handicap accessible – adding a dock area like the ones found in Indianola where wheelchairs can fish from the dock. Rip rap shoreline. Targeted structure for fishing habitat.
- No more new homes, dealing with the farms in the watershed.
- I would make fishing habitat improvements to improve the fishery. Habitat could be placed in key locations to improve the shore fishing as well as habitat only accessible by boat.
- Docks at boat ramps so people's boats won't get beat on the rocks. Better game fishing on the lake like other lakes in the state to keep us locals here.
- Upgrade boat ramps, put boat beaching areas, extra docks for boarding/unboarding next to boat ramps to improve flow and relieve congestion.
- Need more docks and more marina parking
- Work on removing the silt and adding massive amounts of walleyes. People come from hundreds of miles to fish a good walleye lake. I live 40 minutes from red rock and drive to storm lake or spirit almost every weekend just for that reason.
- We need boat docks at all the boat ramps. Marina don't have enough parking
- I would start by putting together a plan to save the lake from silt problem if that is possible. I have faith that a solution can be found, but I do realize that the resources (money) might not be made available. Silt problem. Improvements to watershed. Placement of more fish holding structures. Increasing or creating programs to optimize the fishing for popular sport fish. I would love to see it all, smallmouth, walleye, muskie, wipers in additions to the species already there but I would use the DNR biologists to help determine what species would be successful so the resources could be used in a way that actually adds up to a tangible difference.

Website Responses Question 2 Continued If you were in charge of Lake Red Rock what improvements would you make? Where would you make them?

- I would like to see a bunch of assorted fishing structures put in a t points that do not get a lot of siltation
- Place a fish hatchery there. Need northern, muskies, and walleyes stocked.
- Adding a fish hatchery to raise walleye and stripers.
- The lake should go back to flood control
- Fishery improvement would be top priority. Rearing ponds for improving the release of stocked fish would be an excellent improvement.
- Enforce laws on littering, fishing & boating. On all corps grounds & water.
- Build silt dams on watershed. Build fish structure and rearing ponds
- Eliminate power boating, restrict jet skies to the lower (eastern) reaches of the lake, manage the western end of the lake for shallower water to benefit waterbirds and provide caqnoeing/kayaking experiences, and restore more native upland habitats to the lands surrounding the lake.
- I would make the marina to have a restaurant or to put a restaurant or 2 on the water so boats can pull up and dine right from the water. An outside bar would be nice too with the restaurants. A Boat-in Movie theater would be neat too. I'd also work on keeping up the fish population and habitats for fish.
- Extend the Volksweg Trail, and PLEASE put in a mountain biking trail!
- Please invest in creating a Mountain Bike trail in the Lake Red Rock park system.

Website Responses Question 3. Why does managing the land and waters at Lake Red Rock matter to you?

- I believe the corps has violated their easements repeatedly by managing the lake as a recreational instead of flood control costing landowners hundreds of thousands of dollars.
- This lake and surrounding land is a great benefit to not only those that live close but to the state of Iowa. On a more personal level, I want my kids and grandkids to have the opportunity to experience this lake. I want to be a part of making sure this lake is not only here for them to enjoy but make it better than what it is today.
- The land and waters should be important to everyone, what happens to them will eventually happen to humans.
- It is our privately owned property being destroyed. You brag how much the lake brings into the local economy, maybe for a select few, what about all the damage it does and no reparations are ever made.
- These lands are a valuable asset for the state and country. Proper management can ensure that those resources are not squandered. Proper management also can provide jobs and tourism.
- It's a nice area. If there was more to do around the lake it would be a better attraction for my family and me.



Website Responses Question 3 (continued). Why does managing the land and waters at Lake Red Rock matter to you?

- Natural areas of Iowa are so rare; the combined natural, public lands around the Lake are a wonderful resource for Iowans, tourism and natural flora and fauna. The area needs to be managed to preserve and improve that resource.
- So that the Lake can be enjoyed by future generations.
- I have always camped and fished Lake Red Rock – I haven’t fished it in quite awhile as I don’t trust that the fish are safe to eat with all the contaminants afore mentioned from jupstream. Currently, I would not use the beach as the water quality again is an issue. I would like to see more of an effort put forth to keep the water quality in a more user friendly state. I realize that Red Rock is mainly for flood control, (initially anyway), but in an emergency situation of some kind, people could rely on the lake for a usable water source...would you want to use the water in the lake for drinking – even in an emergency? We need to keep the lake as clean as possible and do better to improve the quality and purity of the water for future generations –not to meet minimum cleanliness or bacterial standards, but to be a leader in showcasing the lake as a user friendly area that the public will not hesitate to use.
- Because of the history that’s under the water my family lost all they had my great great grandfather homesteaded land some was taken and was never in danger of flooding.
- The management of the land and the water at Lake Red Rock matter to me because my family lost our home to the construction of Red Rock Lake and I would like for it to be maintained so that no other families lose theirs. This would include flooding downstream.
- This dam was built for flood control, the CORPS NEEDS to do a better job of protecting the people downstream. It seems like to the average person, all your worried about is recreation.
- Is a great resource for the people of central Iowa. It has huge economic impact, as well as environmental impact. I personally camp often at the lake campgrounds and frequently go boating and swimming on the lake.
- I could be great for the Knoxville and Pella communities to have the lake bring in revenue and tourism to the communities.
- We live nearby, and enjoy the lake, bike and horse trails. We don’t boat, but love to walk around the lake and our dogs enjoy swimming in it. (We don’t swim in it – see earlier scum comment)
- It matters because due to their poor management our farm ground gets flooded for no reason every year anymore. Due to the water soaking the banks constantly, we lose large chunks of soil-land every year. Doesn’t matter what is along the banks, it takes everything...trees, grasses, and crops. We try to wait later every year to plant, but it gets us everytime. We have lost our crops the last 4 years in a row. It used to flood only once in 10 years in the past. This is over a \$50,000 loss to our farm every year. We cannot get insurance on back up water.

Website Responses Question 3 (continued). Why does managing the land and waters at Lake Red Rock matter to you?

- Born and Raised in Marion County, Live in Lakeview addition by Whitebreast Campground.
- It is just as important as roads, schools, farms, etc.
- I like to fish there.
- Cleaner water, better fishery.
- Managing all of the land and waters in Iowa matters to me because it is the right thing to do. I enjoy hunting, fishing and other outdoor activities.
- It is close to home I live in Knoxville. I have a family of 6 and we spend a good amount of time doing various things from fishing, boating, walking, camping.
- It is a nice lake. I think it is managed well now.
- Preservation of public land for the future. Better fishing wanted.
- I grew up with the outdoor opportunities and want to continue to have it for my 6 grandchildren.
- Lake Red Rock is the Largest Lake in Iowa. So it has that majestic factor. Additionally it is a beautiful, unique place. On the fishing side of things, I believe that Iowa has the Potential, to rival states like Minnesota, and Missouri, in terms of quality of fishing. Growing up we always went to Minnesota fishing and the general mentality is that fishing in Iowa is nothing like fishing in Minnesota in terms of fish quality (size and abundance). While we will never have 10,000+ lakes we can (and do) have lakes that are excellent fisheries. I believe the Red Rock offers an opportunity to have an excellent fishery (something that the state could show case for tourism ext...) it already has great white bass size, channel cats size, flathead cat size, big crappie and probably others. I have even caught some beautiful Small mouth bass in the lake. Nothing big but that would be an amazing species to help along if possible.
- Red Rock is a Jewel, the land and waters can be treated with the mentality that it’s simply flood control and water supply and therefore who cares if it’s a mudhole with no trails and no fishing or boating. Or it can be recognized as a Jewel and a place where wildlife can thrive (both animals and plant life) and place with fantastic fishing. Best of all it can be a place where people can encounter these things. Children can go with their parents and grandparents on a nature trail and encounter many plant species and see animals. Whole families, youth groups, boy and girl scouts can enjoy time camping at one of the campgrounds and go out and engage with nature, be off the couch and enjoying the outdoors, getting on the lake and do some skiing, and my favorite fishing. So much potential here it will be sad to see it silt in. Lake Red Rock is a Jewel so I encourage the lake association, corps, DNR and ordinary citizens to recognize this.
- I am afraid at the rate it is going the lake will be almost unfishable within the next 10 years.
- I recreate there a lot. I live nearby.



Website Responses Question 3 (continued). Why does managing the land of waters at Lake Red Rock matter to you?

- I spend many days a year with my family fishing and boating. We would miss having these opportunities
- I am a farmer and landowner in the whitebreast creek watershed.
- I like to fish it.
- If something isn't done soon we will lose it. Our children need the same experiences we had.
- For clean useable water. Fishing. Recreation parks and picnic areas.
- I am an avid outdoorsman and birder, but I also enjoy hunting and recreational boating on the lake.
- Because my child and our family love to spend time fishing and boating there and it helps protect our safety and continues to help us enjoy our time there and love coming there! My husband is a huge fisherman too, so it's important to him.
- I enjoy fishing, hunting, and biking. The hunting is good, but the biking and fishing could be better.
- Yes

Website Responses Question 4. What do you like or what changes would you make to improve plant communities, fish habitat or wildlife habitat at Lake Red Rock?

- It's a lost cause. Silt will fill that mud puddle in and end our problems for us.
- I do not have a lot of knowledge on this topic, but from information received at the meeting tonight, it seems that by dredging and lowering the lake levels would improve perennial vegetation for wildlife. This would also improve productivity of fisheries by allowing more light. Also prevent smothering of spawning beds.
- Wildlife habitat is overgrown and populations uncontrolled. The deer herds need thinned before disease becomes a problem.
- Remove the noxious weeds and brush (multiflora rose) that was introduced by the government and have been allowed to flourish unchecked. Control the weeds that the local weed commissioner makes everyone else control, cockleburrs for example.
- More land, less pollution.
- Prairie and savanna need to be expanded as those communities are more representative of the area. More needs to be done to protect the lake from invasive species; Asian carp and Zebra mussels are going to severely damage it.
- Improve soil conservation measures.
- I think that the current wildlife refuge areas are great. Again, I think the basic fish habitat is lacking from the water quality but I know that there is little that can be done without the cooperation of upstream entities.
- Keep the water at the lake not in the fields and ditches.
- I think that if things were taken care as they should be, this would be a moot point.
- More native prairie areas. Work on cleaning up the water.

Website Responses Question 4 (continued). What do you like or what changes would you make to improve plant communities, fish habitat or wildlife habitat at Lake Red Rock?

- I don't know
- I love watching eagles in the winter and the other wildlife that use the lake. We'd see lots of deer when riding the horse trails. They rarely ran from us on horseback, so got great photos!
- I would love to see more hands on animal programs in the visitor center for kids. I would love to have fishing areas that are easily accessible and not in the same areas as boat ramps.
- More stocking of walleyes and adding more fish habitat.
- Fish habitat and wildlife, though I know this is tough with the silt problem.
- Boat docks as mentioned above, fish habitat the lake is just a giant bowl no actual structure there is nothing to hold fish. I would rather stay here but lake rathbun has a stocking program where I can catch very nice walleye I would love to be able to do that at red rock! Keeping people from throwing rough fish on the banks.
- Put pallets or trees into the lake to increase fish habitat. More fish stocking especially walleye and bass.
- I would love to see some big dredge lines in there. Not only removing sediment but creating fantastic edges for fish to relate to. Add rock to some of the underwater islands or up on some of the big flats near the channel.
- It would be wonderful to get almost any kind of native aquatic plant life growing in the lake.
- I suspect that watershed improvements would improve the presence of aquatic plants, and I think the native plants on land are great as they are. Perhaps the DNR or Corps knows of something that would benefit the lake and water quality if it grew along the banks. I would love to see the addition of some well placed fishing structure in the lake. Whether it be rock reefs, or brush piles. Central Iowa Anglers would be glad to assist in building and placing habitat. Many in the angling community are interested in this and finding FREE workers to coordinate, actually build, and place habitat, and even pay for some materials would not be hard to find. Anglers are passionate about their sport. If you don't hear from them it's because they don't know about it.
- It would be wonderful to get almost any kind of native aquatic plant life growing in the lake.
- I would love to see continued fishing habitat added to the lake. Rearing ponds to help with the success of the fish in the lake. A good stocking program would be great. This lake is a nice asset to the state as a fishery. I would appreciate anything you can do to continue to keep it a good fishery.
- Add additional structure for fish habitat, rock piles, wooden pallets, etc...
- Adding fish habitat such as rock piles and pallet piles.
- Like nothing. Good luck managing a fishery in a mud puddle.
- More structure placement.
- Increase fish habitat w/in the lake & my comment on law enforcement!



Website Responses Question 4 (continued). What do you like or what changes would you make to improve plant communities, fish habitat or wildlife habitat at Lake Red Rock?

- Build fish habitat using cedar trees, pallets etc. Central Iowa Anglers did an excellent job on Big Creek and Blue Heron Lake they also helped with fish rearing ponds at Saylorville Lake area.
- I would like to see more restoration of native habitats, especially prairies and oak savannahs. With respect to the lake, I like the extensive mudflats west of Highway 14 and would like to see these flats exposed (this will require some water level management) from about 1 August through 1 October for the benefit of migratory birds including shorebirds, American White Pelicans, and dabbling ducks. I am opposed to raising pool levels earlier in fall for waterfowl hunting – this makes little biological sense because early waterfowl like teal prefer mudflats, and because this eliminates habitat that benefits a far greater diversity of other migratory waterbirds (e.g. ~30 species of shorebirds).
- I think the main threat to the waters is the silt deposits resulting from erosion upstream. For the lands around the lake, I would like to see continued and expanded use of controlled burns to thwart the invasive plant species that choke out the habitat.

Website Responses Question 5. What are some outdoor recreation opportunities that should be continued, expanded, added or eliminated at Lake Red Rock?

- They should be eliminated.
- More family oriented special events. Bring the 4th of July celebration back to the lake. More accessible boat ramps.
- Camping, hiking, bike trails expanded. Boating reduced or eliminated.
- Anything that does not negatively affect the surrounding land.
- I would like to see the Elk Rock area open to new mountain biking trail development.
- More trails, especially multi-use trails that are also groomed for mountain biking. If the trails are developed, the people will come. Many Iowans respect trails as well and would certainly volunteer to help maintain such trails. This would bring tourism and build up community in the region. Associations such as the Central Iowa Trails Association (CITA) might also be interested in helping develop and groom such trails. Also, trails like this can be a great way of educating the community on natural resource management and stewardship. They foster this sense of stewardship in all who experience the joy of being outdoors!
- Dirt trails! Human powered trails similar to the La Crosse, WI trail system would be wonderful. A disc golf course would be fun too.
- MTB trails and/or bike paths or bike lanes.
- IF the area had a properly designed single-track mountain bike track, I would come and camp several times a year. I currently drive from DM to Iowa City to camp at Sugar Bottom and take advantage of their mountain bike trail system. I would LOVE to see a single-track mountain bike system in the area adjacent to the camping areas. I would use it all the time and be very involved in supporting it; and I know that I'm not alone.

Website Responses Question 5 (continued). What are some outdoor recreation opportunities that should be continued, expanded, added or eliminated at Lake Red Rock?

- Hiking trails need to be expanded. Power boat speeds should be limited, especially in bays and near shore as power boaters represent a significant hazard or at least significant impediments to enjoyment to other lake users.
- Parts of the bike trail need repair. More education of trail users about safety and staying right and passing on the left. I have had many close calls when cycling. Complete the extension of the bike trail. Repair the retaining wall at Whitebreast Beach. Add a drive at North Overlook Beach that goes down to the water for loading and unloading equipment. The new beach and higher level parking lot are great, but there used to be a lower parking lot that meant a much shorter carry for windsurfing equipment. The lake is currently 18 feet above normal pool and the haul from the parking lot is probably close to 100 yards. When the lake gets to normal pool level it will probably be 150 yards. By the time I get all of my equipment hauled down to the beach (3-4 trips), I'm almost too tired to windsurf!
- The wife and I love to camp around the lake. Although we do not utilize the swimming or fishing aspects of the lake, we do like the trails for walking and biking. It would also be nice if there were ATV trails made available-with restrictions of course to allow another genre and group to be involved in the outdoors around the lake. I realize this would have to be a limited access area to keep the encroachment down on the wildlife areas, but an area to the West of the mile long bridge should be considered for this.
- Help the children learn nature and history.
- You should implement a short term volunteer work program. For example a person could camp at a campsite for 2 weeks for free, if they work a few hours per day on maintenance, repair, cleanup, mowing, etc.
- It doesn't seem to me like there is much there now. We need to have affordable hotels and condos or cabins, restaurants, and music available for boaters and people around the lake.
- Until my horse died, we used ride the horse trails all the time-loved them! Hated when they blocked off a lot of the rougher trails. It was nice to have a choice – easy trails or harder ones. We also enjoy the bike trails. Nice to have a safe-car free place to ride.
- The fact that we will soon be required to wear a life jacket at Red Rock! If this is the case we will take our boat and camper to Rathbun! I will no longer use the lake or the campgrounds if I am required to wear a life jacket in my boat!
- More kids focused programs, they are the future. Elk Rock Park is amazing. It is great to see the horses allowed in the park. We would love more information about the snowmobile trails. Can they use the horse trails in the winter? More cabins – if they are money makers – would be wonderful. We have tried to reserve them but they are always booked.
- Boating and fishing, more kids events.



Website Responses Question 5 (continued). What are some outdoor recreation opportunities that should be continued, expanded, added or eliminated at Lake Red Rock?

- No mandatory life jackets. That plan would keep me from visiting Red Rock.
- I am not up on all that is offered so I cannot comment
- Hard to find camping spots, docks to protect our boats.
- Add more campsites to current parks. But keep them in line with current campsite conditions. Don't cram them next to each other. County Park Roberts Creek West is a great example of how a campground should be, Whitebreast is a close 2nd.
- I know a ton of people always looking for good clean campsites. Like I said above. If you stock this reservoir heavily with walleyes and the word gets out that this is a good place to go to catch them, it will increase local revenues so much. Full campgrounds, local bait sales, food, gas, docking fees, it goes on and on. No other fish in Iowa attracts the number of anglers on a consistent basis than the walleye. Look at Clear Lake for example, the lake generates so much money for that community every year and it's not from the people on jet skis or speed boats.
- Trophy fish programs. There is a program on Saylorville for Wipers that seems to be successful so far. The idea of having a really good chance at big Hybrid stripers (wipers) on Red Rock is very exciting. There already is a chance for that and the white bass fishing can be excellent at times, but I think it's possible that Red Rock could be world class in this regard. The biologists would be better suited to answer that than me but I know the Central Iowa Anglers would support the expansion of a wiper program here. If walleye or Muskie or Northern Pike would thrive and become a catchable and sizeable population on the lake then I would definitely support that.
- Bike trail is nice. Would like to see ATV area!!!! Better docks and additional launch facilities. Better fishing!!!!
- The proposed mandatory wearing of life jackets are an infringement on my rights to choose. Helmets are not required if you are riding a motorcycle on Corp property why us on the water?
- Better fishing areas that are easy to reach from shore.
- Hunting in certain areas and wildlife viewing in general should be continued. I oppose the sentiment that pool levels should be managed to provide greater boat access to the western reaches of the reservoir-these areas should be off-limits to motorized boats but accessible to non-motorized water vessels. I would also like to see the big power boats banned from the lake-they are incredibly disturbing to all forms of wildlife and their engine noise is an unwelcome distraction to any visitor that encounters them!
- I think the recreation opportunities have gotten really good. The beach reconstruction was great too
- Please put in a mountain biking trail in the woods around lake red rock. Also please extend the Volksweg Trail further northwest. There is a huge biking population that lives in the area.
- Lake Red Rock needs a Mountain Biking Trail System.

Website Responses Question 6. What are the important benefits of Lake Red Rock to you and your family?

- No benefit. Whitebreast Creek has been destroyed by this mistake of a lake. It has been ruined for my, my children and all generations to come.
- My family enjoys boating and using the trails to bike or walk on.
- Picnic & camping areas, bike paths.
- Personally, it is of no benefit to us. It has negatively affected the local tax base by the loss of property tax and loss of income from the lands and families that used to populate the area. I do not know how you can make decisions about the recreational uses of a lake without considering the flip side of the flooding and water control issues. Decisions made about recreation will be made in a vacuum without any consideration of the negative. A balanced, well thought decision cannot be arrived at as long as the factors are considered separately. You will probably throw this survey out-since it is not pro recreation just a realistic view. You do have my permission to use this survey in public meetings, but the entire responses must be used not just bits and pieces. I also kept a copy of the survey. If your goal is to tilt the scales all in the favor of recreation, I think this survey will accomplish it.
- Great recreation area, we use it for kayaking and hiking.
- Biking trails are likely the most important since that's what we use the most. Camping also is very valuable.
- You can't get kids outdoors enough these days. Places like Red Rock are great places to go with lots of things to do to keep them off the computer/video game system.
- We ride bikes for our health, recreation, and fun. We'd love to have a destination like LRR to spend time riding.
- Getting away from city life and enjoying nature.
- The Lake area is a priceless resource for quiet reflection and enjoyment of nature close to home. It provides an accessible place for learning about and enjoying natural areas. The tourism draw and its economic benefits are valuable to the region.
- Cycling on bike trail and windsurfing at North Overlook and Whitebreast Beaches.
- It gives us an area to walk and bike without the fear of getting run over by road traffic. The area around the lake are inviting and security issues are a t a minimum. The rangers do a great job with patrols and are very professional in their appearance and demeanor.
- None at all.
- None!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!!
- Beauty of nature-We love to watch sunsets on the lake, see the deer run through the area, watch the eagles on the river. Recreation-Camping, boating, hiking
- It is great to have a lake so close to home for boating and swimming along with the campgrounds and recreation areas.
- We enjoy walking, riding and biking around the lake. It is also fun teaching our children about different things we see, animal tracks, plants, etc.
- I love to do recreational activities at Red Rock! I currently boat and camp at Red Rock.



Website Responses Question 6 (continued). What are the important benefits of Lake Red Rock to you and your family?

- We farm so it is not a benefit to our family. We would rather have the water go down our creek naturally than be held for the lake. We would not mind the nature flooding of a day or two, which would be rare versus flooding that hangs around for months and months. Especially when it could be avoided if controlled properly.
- Scenery, flood control, recreation
- We enjoy boating, fishing, hiking, picnicking and bird watching. We love to visit Elk Rock park and see the horses. The lake is a part of our family :-)
- Recreation, especially fishing
- Camping and fishing
- Red Rock offers a great alternative to the lakes located north of Des Moines. They are close enough to be usable, the fishing is as good or better than the local lakes, and Red Rock is nearly as crowded. Also, I believe Red Rock is a much prettier lake and has some amazing scenery.
- A place to share time with family and friends
- Rest, relaxation, stress relief, fishing, boating and camping opportunities
- Fishing and water sports
- A fun relaxing outdoor weekend spent camping, fishing and just going hiking around. It's a beautiful area and its worth doing the work to enhance it.
- Flood control for all of us. Also family recreation. Not just the water but we love to watch the wildlife around the lake.
- It's a beautiful, unique and close to home place to go enjoy a day on the water or even a whole weekend, camping, fishing, eating out and shopping in Pella. I would be floored if the Lake isn't a big Draw for Knoxville and Pella.
- Fishing above and below the dam
- Recreation #1
- No benefits. Whitebreast Creek has been ruined by the Corps in my lifetime.
- Recreation opportunities
- Close enough from my home to spend a day on the lake & visit surrounding places. This brings income to the area through spending of bait, gas & other purchases.
- Keeping a recreation area open for use by me and future generations. Keeping a clean useable water source for public. Help with flood control.
- It offers a large block of public land with access to pursue a wide range of outdoor activities, and I find that incredible valuable.
- The benefits are that it's very close to my parents home, easy to use the boat ramp, the size is great, fishing close by is wonderful for us, being able to walk down below the river on the trails and camp is a huge asset. We love so many things about the area!! It's wonderful!!
- Exercise and recreation. I live near it, so it is very nice to keep it clean and add amenities we can use on a consistent basis.

WOW! That's a lot of great input!

Now let's see what our next generation of lake users envision and care about. ...



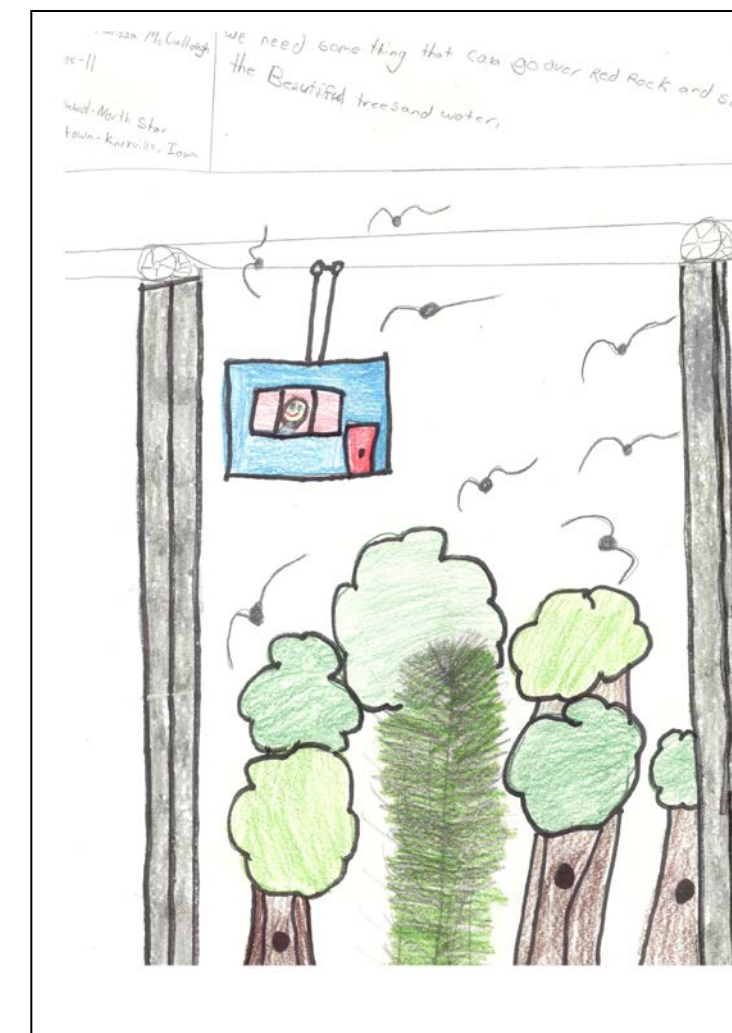
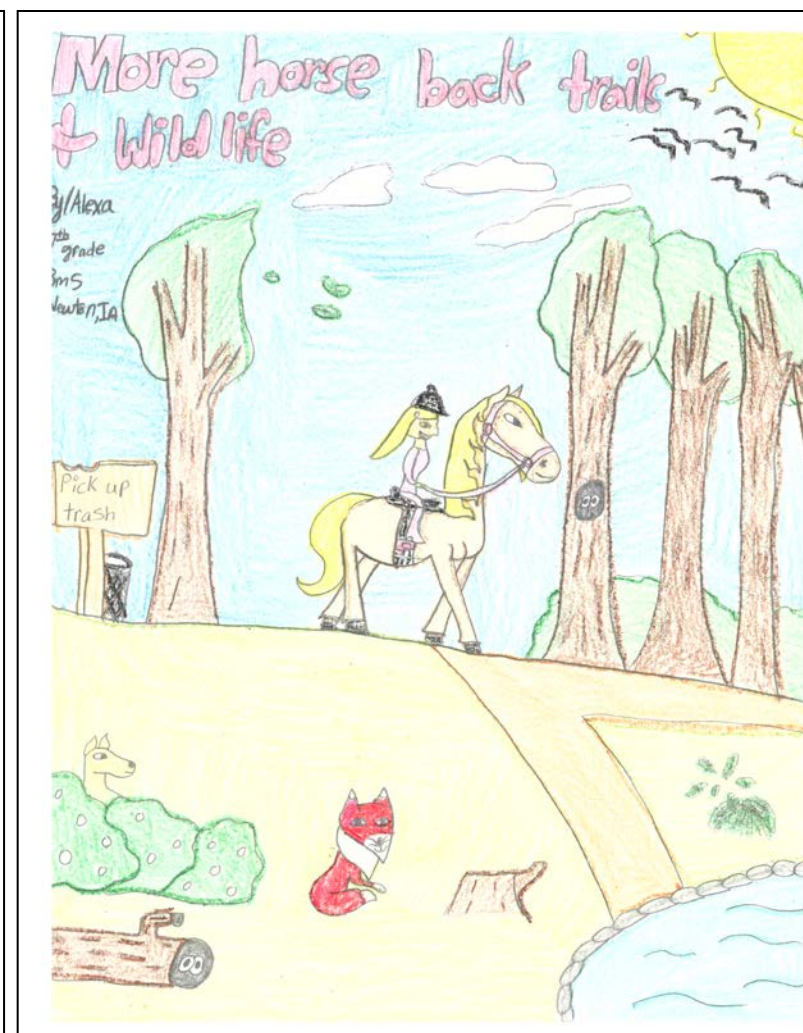


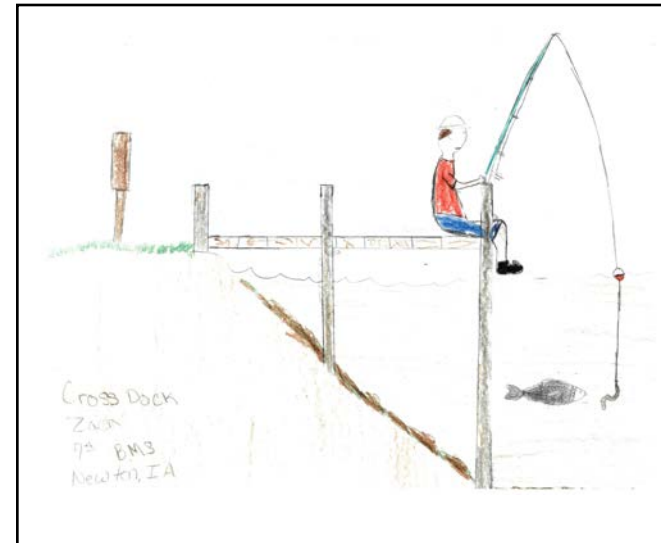
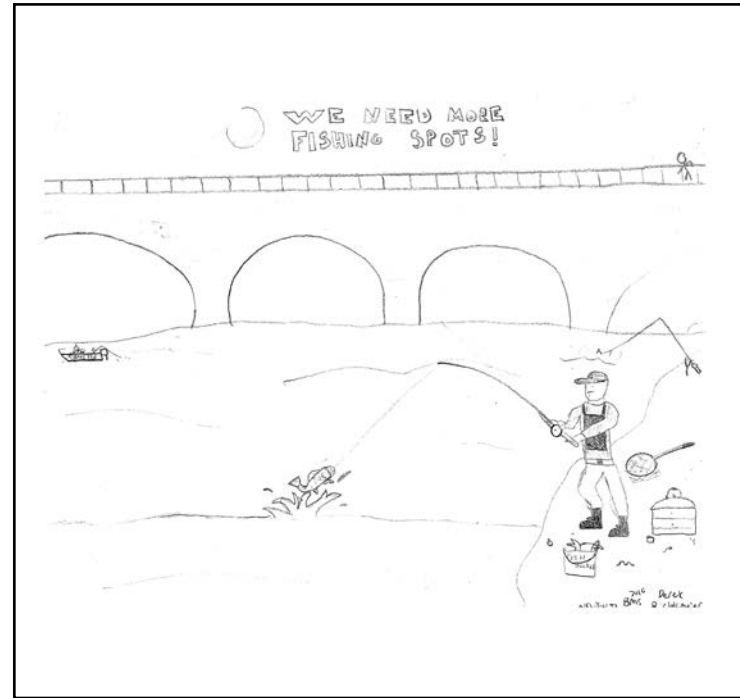
Phase I Stakeholder Scoping School Children Drawings

The 5th Grade Class at Northstar Elementary in Knoxville, IA and the 7th Grade Class at Berg Middle School in Newton, IA were asked to draw a picture of what they enjoy about Lake Red Rock and what they would like to see happen at Lake Red Rock in the future.

Note: Each bulleted entry on the next 4 pages captures the title of the child's drawing and/or primary theme. Over 175 ideas were submitted! A few of the drawings are included so that you have the benefit of seeing the idea exactly as presented.

- Kayak Mini Rivers
- Tubing
- Sweet Spot (Concessions & kayak rentals at a beach)
- Let Nature Grow (Eagle w/eagle cam)
- Tire swing/lake
- Cordova Change (Tower w/cabins)
- More horseback trails & wildlife
- Swim! Bike! Run! The Red Rock Triathlon
- Butterfly Garden
- Under water tunnel
- Rock walls at Red Rock (climbing wall)
- More fishing
- The hunting area
- Combination (nature theme)
- Bird's Eye View (child in nature)
- Perfect Hunting Grounds
- Graceful Prairie (prairie by lake)
- The Walk (trail in nature w/bridge)
- Cordova Tower Grows (new upper observation area at Cordova Tower)
- We Need Something That Can Go Over Red Rock and See the Beautiful trees and water
- (Multiple Tree Houses with rope high wire access between)
- More Campgrounds. More Lake Area. Less Hunting Areas so there is more wildlife to enjoy
- (A sky lift that takes people across the dam)
- White Water Rafting. Red Rock owns the boats, and people have to pay to ride on this awesome ride. Horseback Riding. Red Rock owns the horses and people have to pay to ride the horses on the trails.
- Welcome to Hickory Ridge Summer Camp



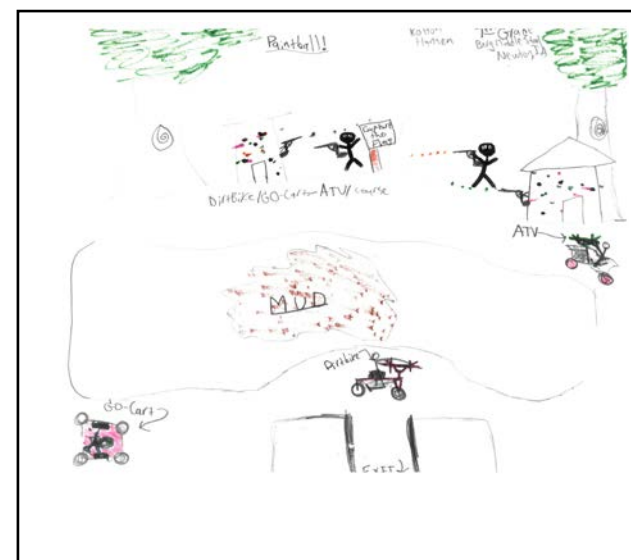
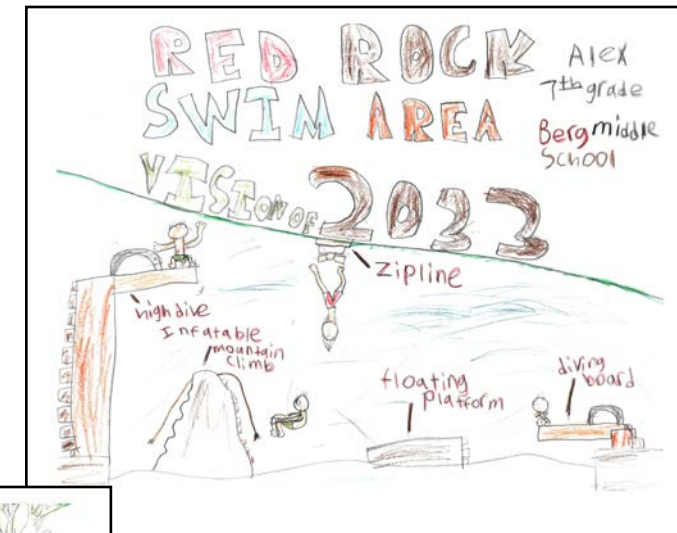
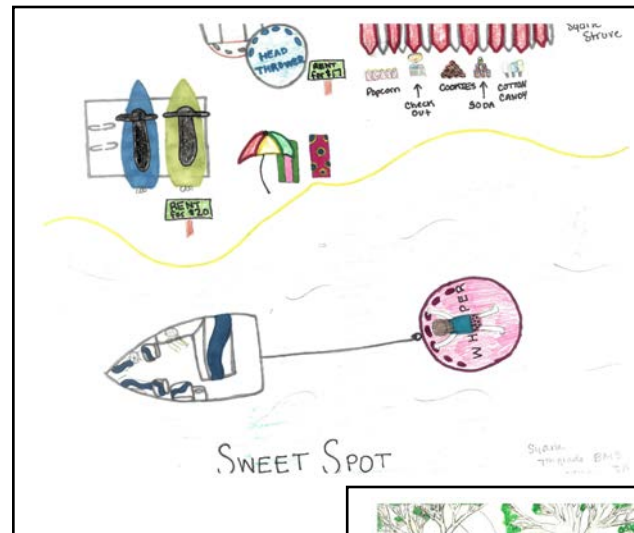


- Fishing
- (Football Field)
- Cordova Tower
- Fishing Streams
- Beach Red Rock
- Cross Dock (Fishing Dock)
- Welcome to Camp Hickory
- Underwater Tunnel Invention
- Red Rock Dam in 2036 (Picnic by lake – peaceful)
- The Zip Line
- Picnic Area (with trail and fishing)
- 2036 Vision – “You could put up a tire swing and that would be fun toy to swing on & to add more fun you could swing off of it & land in the lake!
- The Perfect Day (picnic, tire swing, lake)
- To Have More Flowers
- We Need More Fishing Spots
- Family Resort
- Red Rock Swim Area (high dive, zipline, floating platform, diving board)
- Swim Beach (highly active)
- Underwater Exploration (walkway under lake)
- Jet Ski Rental
- L.R.R. Inn – Hotel or Inn
- Crystal Clear (nature)
- Red Rock Summer Camp. Fun Stuff: Zipline, Roller Coaster, Fishing, Hunting, Basketball
- Red Rock Water Park

- A Museum and a Gift Shop and a Swimming Pool
- A Frog & Butterfly Garden – Tent
- Hours for Using Zipline – Forever. Hours for Using Pool – Forever.
- See Underwater
- (Lots of fish in lake)
- A House
- Red Rock Sky Rider Thing (goes through all of Red Rock as tour & drops you off on top of Cordova Tower)
- Inside View. Whirlpool/Spillway Just Below the Dam
- Tunnel of Terror. Tunnel Under the Wave Pool Near the Dam
- Bald Eagle Museum
- Floating Deck (for Fishing)
- ATV Rental
- Don't Pollute the H2O
- Swimming Area
- Diving Boards at the Beach
- Cordova Tower
- (Boat fishing on lake)
- Nature Walk
- DJ Flying Paper Plane (from Cordova Tower)
- Save Wildlife at Red Rock
- (Zipline, Parasailing, Tubing, Snorkeling, Fishing from Shore, Hot Air Balloon)
- Bungee Jump off Top of Tower! (Cordova)
- Slide Off the Tower (Cordova)
- Year Round Blooming Flower Made Out of Metal. Sculpture of Wildlife.
- Nature Trail. Feed Fish – Money Goes Towards Anything to Help Animals & Plants) (Trail w/bridge & fish feeding station)
- Lakes Hotel
- The Lake and Zip Lining. Swimming Area (zip line across water)
- Cordova Tower
- High Wire (ski lift in nature)
- A Zip Line to Freedom (zip line across water)
- This is a ski lift
- Zipline!
- To be able to not have to look out for sticks when you are boating
- The ski lift
- Red Rock Dam 25 years from NOW. Swing sets, big slides, and a fun house for kids and adults with fresh clean water coming from the Dam. I call this FUN Red Rock
- I think Red Rock Dam should have a zip line and a lot of popcorn and ice cream stands.

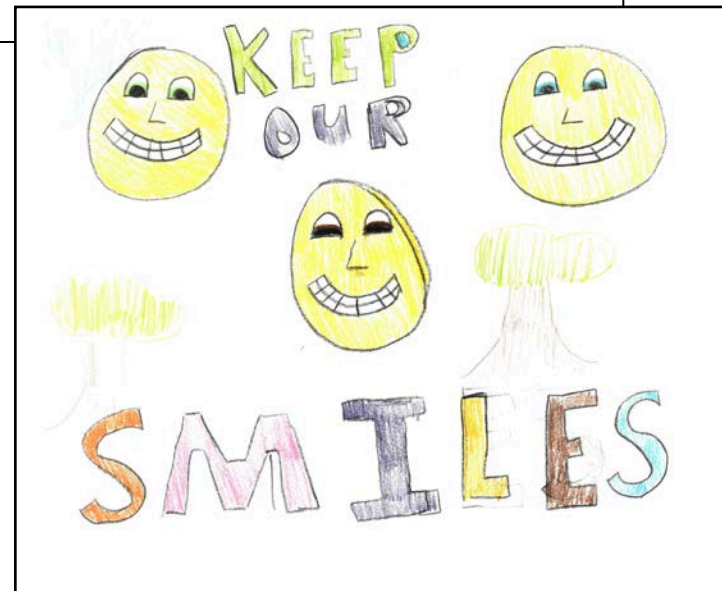


- New Cordova Tower
- Big Slide (off Cordova Tower)
- Underwater Water Slide
- Litter Picker Upper
- Sports Complex
- Red Rock 2036 (Streams just for fishing, Kids forest, Wind turbines, Water generator)
- Floating Deck
- Turning Green (Wind Turbine, Water generator)
- Arcade House
- Aquatic Center
- Campground of Red Rock
- My Lake Red Rock Vision 2036 (trail w/picnic area & lookouts)
- Boxcar Over Lake! (zipline)
- The Small Lake and Zipline
- Swimmers Island (Cabins on an island)
- Nature's Dance
- Fish in Water (dock & fishing boat)
- Tours of Fun. The point of this drawing is to Keep Dam Tours and Fishing. (Speed boat races, docks, boat ramps, wind power)
- Race A Rama. Dirt and Track Racing
- Red Rock Future with Bike Trails in Wooded Areas with Wildlife
- A Day at the Beach
- Fun at the Beach
- Red Rock Vision 20136 (Happy Face, Sailor Fishing)
- Ski lift Ride
- The Loopty Lee (Roller coaster Cordova Tower)
- Blue Ski-Lift Resort (with cabins)
- The Peace! (Trail in nature)
- Cordova Tower
- Vision 20236 (dock)
- A Walkway (High bridge)
- Lake House
- People and Animals Together
- Hands-on Observatory – A place where kids could learn about animal tracks, plants and the stars
- Red Rock Beach
- Sandy Beaches
- Cordova Tower
- Cordova Tower
- Anchor Down (Concession area for boat tours, boat rentals, food)
- My Vision For Red Rock in 2036 (tubing, wildlife)
- Under Water Tour





- Cordova Tower Red Rock Museum
- Gazebo Waters (Gazebo at crossed paths in water)
- Underwater Fishing (Aquarium of fish types)
- New Bass Pro Shop (hotel, arcade, etc)
- Informing the Un-informed (Visitor Center)
- Red Rock Dam Gift Shop. A gift shop where people could get “Rockin” treasures
- Red Rock Softball/Baseball (diamond)
- Public Greenhouse – A place where we can all be green!!
- Green House
- (Bald Eagle)
- Lake Red Rock (activities below dam: zoo, playgrounds, camping, ball diamond)
- Keep Our Smiles



- The Diving Plane (drops people into water)
- Gone Fishing
- Red Rock Fish Frenzy (fish feeding center)
- Tunnel Under Red Rock
- New Beach!! North Overlook Beach.
- Water Rush Flood Day
- Ultimate Frisbee
- (Tenting, wildlife)
- Ninja Competitions (Cordova Tower)
- Red Rock Diving and Aquatic Center
- A Guided Trail for Wildlife Viewing, Teaches People About the Creatures and Plants
- (Cordova Tower with museum)
- Red Rock Paradise (Beach w/kayak rentals)
- Garden Under the Stars (trail with gazebo and flowers)
- Recreation Changes to Red Rock
- (Slide into Lake from trees)
- Science Center
- Super Swirl Water Park
- Vision 2036 (nature)
- The Under Water Glass Tunnel
- Swimming Opportunities
- Bigger Fish.
- (motorcycle on trail)
- Paintball! (dirt bike, go-cart, ATV course)
- Canoe Camping at Lake Red Rock
- New Beach at Red Rock (with concessions)
- Lake Red Rock Zoo
- Red Rock Roller Coaster
- Camp Red Rock (with tire swing)
- Vision of 2036 (boats, camping, fish)
- ATV Track
- Go-cart Track
- Future (nature)
- The Mall (shopping mall)
- Summer Fun (boat rental place)
- Water Park Beach
- Red Rock Park (Fishing store, restaurant, cabins, arcade, go-kart, bumper cars)
- MX and ATV Trails
- Cordova Tower (with eagle)
- Cordova Tower With an Elevator
- The Eco-Friendly Experience (concessions, volleyball, fish, basketball)
- Double Tower
- Rivers
- The Red Rock Park Beach! (water slide)



Input topics to move forward from Phase 1

- Significant concern with sedimentation
- Significant concern with water quality
- **Desire for fisheries improvements**
- Desire to maintain public hunting
- Protect the natural resources
- Maintain natural feel of Lake Red Rock
- Control invasive species
- Maintain current recreation opportunities
- Desire expanded marina & rentals
- Desire expanded food concessions
- **Desire expanded hard trails & connections**
- **Desire expanded archery range**
- **Desire expanded equestrian trails**
- **Desire development of soft trails**
- **Desire development of water trails**
- Value current interpretive opportunities
- Desire expanded interpretive opportunities
- Desire to connect with nature
- Desire access to public land
- Desire reduced habitat fragmentation
- **Desire effective signage & wayfinding**

Note: Yellow highlighted topics were further developed by focus groups

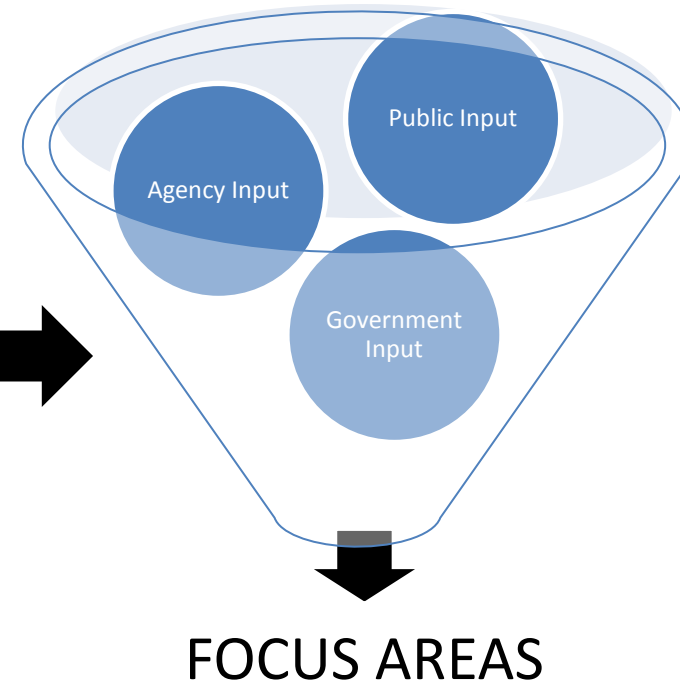
The Master Plan Team received a significant volume of stakeholder input on the future vision for Lake Red Rock and potential threats to their enjoyment and use of the project.

This broad input was then put into topics that were similar in context as shown on the table to the left. Some topics were not able to move forward in the Master Planning process due to:

- Conflict with public law
- Topic is not within the scope of the Master Plan (reservoir water regulation is planned & managed through the reservoir regulation manual)
- Conflict with resource objectives

Topics that had broad support and feasibility were funneled and led to development of three Focus Areas—*Sustainable Environment*, *A Natural Place to Play*, and *Connections*—under which goals and concepts were further explored and refined in Phase 2 and Phase 3.

Public Input That Had Broad Support and Feasibility, Along with Government and Agency Input, Were Funneled into Three Focus Areas



Sustainable Environment

A Natural Place to Play

Connections



Phase 1 Stakeholder Scoping

Purpose: To gain a broad prospective on potential future benefits from Lake Red Rock Project environmental and recreation missions



Phase 2: Focus Groups

Purpose: To develop alternatives for primary concepts identified during stakeholder scoping



Phase 3: Draft Goals Review

Purpose: To gain public input on draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts



Phase 4: Final Review

Purpose: To gain public input on final draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts

The objective of Phase 2 of the stakeholder involvement process was to further develop the concepts that were carried forward from Phase 1.

For concepts where focus groups were not utilized, input was gathered from a variety of sources and concepts more fully developed by the Master Plan Team. All concepts are detailed in Chapter 3 of the Master Plan.

In the discussion of Phase 2 of stakeholder involvement you will see: the charters for each of the focus groups; their initial thoughts on development of the concept; the alternatives they considered; pro's/con's associated with each alternative; and the Master Plan Team's selection of the recommended alternative for that concept.

Sustainable Environment

Focus Group Established for: Fisheries

A Natural Place to Play

**Focus Groups Established for: Hard Trails
Archery
Soft Trails
Equestrian Trails
Water Trails**

Connections

Focus Group Established for: Wayfinding



Phase 2 Focus Groups Fisheries

Healthy Environment

Focus Group Established for: Fisheries

CONCEPT PLANNING CHARTER Fish Rearing Ponds – Lake Red Rock

Team Mission & Purpose Statement:
Create a concept plan for improving fishing at Lake Red Rock. This team will specifically look at options to add fish rearing ponds to the lake. This information will be used in development of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan (2013-2038).
Expected Results & Objectives: Describes the specific tasks, deliverables, and outputs for which the team will be held accountable during project period
Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm and/or expand on initial master plan meeting feedback to understand what the desired addition of fish ponds would look like, what it entail to set up and why it should be developed • Focus on fish rearing ponds • Develop two or three options on quantity, location of ponds and type of fish • List out reasoning behind recommendations and any potential issues • List out benefits of each option
Considerations: Project constraints, budget, technological challenges, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All recommendations will go out for public review • If the group wants to brainstorm other fish improvements (structure, access...) they will be noted but not in the scope of this project • Initial and ongoing operation and maintenance costs • Associated amenities • Utilities required • Limit environmental impacts • Minimize user conflicts
Sponsor(s): Defines who the team is accountable to and receives direction from Sherri Duey – Manager, Lake Red Rock (Corps of Engineers)
Team Members Who is accountable for this effort The focus group team had 6 members representing: IDNR fisheries, Marion County Conservation Board, Red Rock Lake Association and area fisheries clubs.
Communication Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet monthly at Corps of Engineers office starting in January • Send minutes to stakeholders after each meeting (include master planning committee) • Final recommendations will be part of master plan for the public to offer feedback
Project Milestones: Approximate dates for key project events 1) Recommendations completed by May 1, 2012

Revision Log:
Change

Initiator - Jamie 12/14/11

The CPC team identified the following considerations and comments reference fish rearing ponds:

- Fish rearing ponds significantly help survival rate of fry. Fry have a 1% survival rate when directly stocked in the reservoir. This jumps to 30% when reared to 2” prior to stocking
- Rearing ponds significantly improve game fishing due to drastic jump in survivability of fish stocked (200,000 fry raised to fingerling in rearing ponds would make a big difference. If stocked 100,000 per acre – 30,000 survive)
- May be able to raise two different species in each pond per year (in two batches)
- Volunteers would be very helpful in raising the fry in the pond(s)
- The ideal rearing pond
 - Close to the lake to free flow the fish to stock; within a couple hundred yards
 - Needs to hold water for 6 to 8 weeks then drain
 - Can fill via watershed runoff
 - 10+ acres of ponds (can do 10 ponds that are 1 acre each or one large pond)
 - Depth range of 3 to 8 feet
 - Close enough to road to get access to supply fish and fee
 - Can transport fish from pond to stocking sites if not free flowing





The CPC team for fish rearing ponds identified the following four “A-Priority Ponds”. Shown are the pro’s and con’s the CPC discussed for each site.

1. Knoxville Pond

Pros:

- Good access, good size, could use for fall vegetation, good access to lake

Cons

- Currently only 1.8’ deep, multiple questions on how to increase depth

2. Roberts Creek (road to RC causeway)

Pros:

- Good access, could use for fall vegetation, attached to Robert’s Creek

Cons

- Multiple questions on potential size of pond

3. Wallashuck Ponds

Pros:

- Good access, out of flood pool, no longer utilized as sewage lagoon

Cons

- Smaller size, no natural watershed

4. East of S-71, roadside bay

Pros:

- Good access, large size, close to lake

Cons

- Low elevation, no major roadwork planned that project could tie with

Additionally the CPC team evaluated 4 additional ponds considered “B-Priority Ponds”; 5 additional ponds considered “C-Priority Ponds” and 2 additional ponds considered “D-Priority Ponds”.

The Corps Master Plan Team then Evaluated the Focus Group’s Proposed Alternatives and Determined a Recommended Alternative for Fish Rearing Ponds.

Evaluation comments of overall concept:

- Stocking success at Red Rock is limited by habitat. Expert fisheries opinion is that raising the fry to fingerling significantly increases chance of survival.
- There is value in testing a pond to determine success with this strategy.

The Corps Master Plan Team considered three alternatives for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Designate locations for development of 10 acres of fish rearing ponds
3. Develop the Wallashuck sewage lagoon for a fish rearing pond and determine if and what other locations based on lessons learned

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE FOR THIS CONCEPT

3. Develop the Wallashuck sewage lagoon for a fish rearing pond and determine if and what other locations based on lessons learned

- Controlled test site due to limited watershed
- Fry raised at this site can be transported for release at multiple points around the lake

ALTERNATIVES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT

1. No Change

- Change is recommended based on concept evaluation

2. Designate locations for development of 10 acres of fish rearing ponds

- Untested strategy. Lessons learned at one location can be applied in selection of additional sites.



Phase 2 Focus Groups – Hard Trails

A Natural Place to Play

Focus Groups Established for: **Hard Trails**
Archery
Soft Trails
Equestrian Trails
Water Trails

CONCEPT PLANNING CHARTER Expanded Recreation Trails – Lake Red Rock

Team Mission & Purpose Statement: This team will create a concept plan for an expanded recreation trail system at the lake. This information will be used in development of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan (2013-2038).
Expected Results & Objectives: Describes the specific tasks, deliverables, and outputs for which the team will be held accountable during project period
Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm and/or expand on initial master plan meeting feedback to understand what the desired expansion of the bike trail system would look like, what amenities are necessary and why it should be developed • Develop two or three options for expansion of the current paved trail system • Identify key connection points • List out reasoning behind recommendations and any potential issues • List out benefits of each option
Considerations: Project constraints, budget, technological challenges, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All recommendations will go out for public input • Initial and ongoing operation and maintenance costs • Parking, trailheads and associated amenities • Utilities • Minimize user conflicts • Limit environmental inputs
Sponsor(s): Defines who the team is accountable to and receives direction from Sherri Duey – Manager, Lake Red Rock (Corps of Engineers)
Team Members: Who is accountable for this effort The focus group team had 9 members representing: individual trail users; area bike clubs; local government; bike related business owners; and non-profits supporting biking
Communication Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet monthly at Corps of Engineers office starting in January • Send minutes to stakeholders after each meeting (include master planning committee) • Final recommendations will be part of master plan for the public to offer feedback
Project Milestones: Approximate dates for key project events 1) Recommendations completed by May 1, 2012

Revision Log:
Change

Initiator – Jamie Date: 12/20/11

Primary Concept: Expanding Hard Surfaced Trail System

Expansion of the Red Rock trails was a strong theme of initial Master Plan input. The current paved trail is approximately 15 miles long and extends to Pella, but is isolated from area trail systems. Expansion of the trail would allow linkage to the Central Iowa Trail and several other major trail systems.

At the Bike Trails Focus Group meeting in January, February and March of 2012 they discussed the following development ideas and considerations.

- Priority to finish Volksweg Trail to Cordova
- Priority to improve information at trailheads and signage along Volksweg Trail
- Looped trails are ideal
- Connection trail to Knoxville is a priority
- Marina could be a great hub for bikers – trail to the new location and offer food/beverage
- Need to understand trail development plans of surrounding towns and determine potential connection points on public land at Lake Red Rock





Focus Group Proposed Connection Points on Public Ground:

- Ivan’s – potential for connection from SE as well as Knoxville. Group discussed that a trailhead won’t work at this area and proposed an area north-west of Ivan’s
- Corner of T-15 and Jewell Drive – potential if a trail came across from Whitebreast or if Ivan’s wasn’t an option from Knoxville
- Connection at Whitebreast along S-71
- Hwy 14 and G28 intersection – potential on both sides
- G40 and Hwy 14 intersection – future from Indianola
- Public lands along shoulders of the roads
- Addition of a bike lane over the dam and over mile long bridge
- Hunter’s Ridge to the current trail – small area of connection
- Connection trail to the marina and north overlook beach
- Connection between Whitebreast and the dam

Focus Group Identified Area Community Trail Development Efforts/Plans:

- **Trail from Knoxville to Lake Red Rock**
- City of Monroe crossing Hwy 163 and extending trail to Prairie City
- City of Ottumwa
- Mahaska Heritage Trail
- American Gothic Regional Trail
- Ottumwa Trails System
- Honey Creek State Park Trails

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION: The 1976 Master Plan includes a concept for a hard surface trail that makes a complete loop around Lake Red Rock crossing the Mile Long Bridge. The proposed Master Plan does not include a concept for a hard surface loop trail along the south side of Lake Red Rock. Instead it envisions a hard surface trail constructed primarily along existing roadways extending from Knoxville and connecting near the Ivan’s Area. The other leg of the loop is envisioned extending from Knoxville and crossing the mile long bridge primarily along Highway 14 and connecting to Monroe and the Central Iowa Trail Network. This changed concept from the 1976 Master Plan is driven by potential high construction costs in flood prone areas and conflict with lands designated as ESA’s.

The Corps Master Plan Team then evaluated the recommendations of the Hard Surfaced Trails Focus Group. The focus groups priorities were to complete the Volksweg Trail and connect to other trail systems to create linkage.

The Corps Master Plan Team Evaluation Comments:

- There is value in completion of the Volksweg Trail to Highway 14. Engineering Plans and vegetation clearing to construction limits have already been completion in preparation for construction of the Volksweg Trail to Cordova Park
- There is value in planning potential connection points on Red Rock lands for area trail system linkage. These will be noted in the Master Plan.

The Corps Master Plan Team considered three alternatives for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Complete Volksweg Trail to Cordova
3. Complete Volksweg Trail to Hwy 14 allowing linkage to the Central Iowa Trail Network

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE FOR THIS CONCEPT:

3. Complete Volksweg Trail to Hwy 14 allowing linkage to the Central Iowa Trail Network
 - Compatible use
 - Links multiple recreation areas along the north side of Lake Red Rock, area housing development and Pella
 - Numerous staging areas and other amenities already available in adjacent recreation areas
 - Allows user to access multiple resource types along the trail to include woodlands and prairies

ALTERNATIVES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT:

1. No Change
 - Change is recommended based on concept evaluation
2. Complete Volksweg Trail to Cordova
 - Completion beyond Cordova to Hwy 14 is recommended to allow linkage to the Central Iowa Trail Network



Phase 2 Focus Groups - Archery

A Natural Place to Play

Focus Group Established for:	Hard Trails
	Archery
	Soft Trails
	Equestrian Trails
	Water Trails

The Hickory Ridge Bowhunters have an approximate 30 year history of maintaining an archery range on the north side of Lake Red Rock at Robert's Creek.

Their group approached us during the initial stakeholder input process and requested to relocate the current archery range. Reasons for the request include:

- Portions of the current range are subject to flooding
- The Volksweg Trail extension is planned to go through a portion of the range
- Inadequate parking and amenities for larger state/regional shooting events
- Amenities at current location are at the end of their useful life and the group would rather invest in replacing them at a new location.

Primary Concept: Relocate and Develop a Regional Archery Range

Their group wanted to relocate to an area that is already designated no hunting so as to not remove land from hunting for area development.

The group proposed the Elk Rock West Area as the new range location.

Pros:

- This picnic area which was managed by the Iowa Department of Natural Resources (IDNR), was currently closed due to lack of IDNR resources for maintenance
- This area contains a picnic shelter and entrance road
- Single entrance into area which is beneficial to user safety
- Adequate area for parking and other amenity development
- Area is not subject to flooding
- Trees and natural ravines are conducive to safe target lanes

Cons

- Utilities not functioning (but available nearby)

The Corps Master Plan Team then evaluated the request to relocate the existing archery range.

The Corps Master Plan Team Evaluation Comments:

- There is value in relocation of the archery range and expansion of associated amenities
- Archery activity has been established at Lake Red Rock for nearly 30 years and the Hickory Ridge Bowhunters have proved to have a responsible and passionate user group
- The trends in sport archery support relocation and expansion
- There are limited opportunities for archery shooting on public lands in Iowa

The Corps Master Plan Team considered two alternatives for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Allow Archery Range Relocation and Expansion

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE FOR THIS CONCEPT:

2. Relocate Archery Range to Elk Rock West and Allow Expansion

- Compatible use for lands designated as resource or recreation low intensity
- Areas available that are suitable to parking and other amenity development
- Ideal footprint and vegetation type for this activity
- Strong partnership potential

ALTERNATIVE NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT:

1. No Change

- Change is recommended based on concept evaluation



Phase 2 Focus Groups – Soft Trails

A Natural Place to Play

Focus Group Established for: **Hard Trails**
Archery
Soft Trails
Equestrian Trails
Water Trails

CONCEPT PLANNING CHARTER Soft Trails – Lake Red Rock

Team Mission & Purpose Statement: Create a concept plan for soft trails at Lake Red Rock. This team will create options for potential mountain bike trails. This information will be used in development of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan (2013-2038).
Expected Results & Objectives: Describes the specific tasks, deliverables, and outputs for which the team will be held accountable during project period Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm and/or expand on initial master plan meeting feedback to understand what the desired mountain bike trail would look like, what amenities are necessary and why it should be developed • Develop two or three options on location • Enough detail on development plan to understand feasibility (type of trail, parking, trailheads...) • List out reasoning behind recommendations and any potential issues • List out benefits of each option
Considerations: Project constraints, budget, technological challenges, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All recommendations will go out for public input • Detailed design is not in the scope • Initial and ongoing operation and maintenance costs • Parking, access and connections • Minimize user conflicts • Limit environmental impacts
Sponsor(s): Defines who the team is accountable to and receives direction from Sherrri Duey –Manager, Lake Red Rock (Corps of Engineers)
Team Members Who is accountable for this effort The focus group team had 8 members representing: local soft trail enthusiasts, regional soft trail associations, and Red Rock Lake Association.
Communication Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet monthly at Corps of Engineers office starting in January • Send minutes to stakeholders after each meeting (include master planning committee) • Final recommendations will be part of master plan for the public to offer feedback
Project Milestones: Approximate dates for key project events 1) Recommendations completed by May 1, 2012

Revision Log:
Change

Initiator - Jamie Date: 12/20/11

Primary Concept: Creating a Regional Soft Trail System

The closest soft trail dedicated to and maintained for mountain bike use is approximately 40 miles from Lake Red Rock. The desire for development of mountain bike trails at Lake Red Rock was mentioned frequently during Master Plan input. Many mountain bike riders have an interest in creating a trail system that provides longer, more challenging rides for local and regional riders.

At the Soft Trails Focus Group’s first meeting on January 10, 2012 they discussed the following development ideas and considerations.

- There are lots of examples of economic impact to areas that create destination trails
- 30 miles of trails would be a destination – can be a handful of small trails 5, 8, 15 miles that connect or are in an area
- Most trails are two way trails
- Loops that connect are better than one long trail
- Gateway trail is good for area and 10-15 miles; destination is 30 miles and will attract people from other states
- Old roads work as good connectors
- Trail signage and making level of difficulty is important
- Want pump tracks – rolling hills to work on skills
- Challenge if built below flood pool
- Horses do not mix well with mountain bikes

The Soft Trails Focus Group met several times to develop potential alternatives and identify the pros and cons identified with each area.





The Soft Trail Focus Group Identified Seven Potential Soft Trail Development Areas

	Multiple Locations Off the Volksweg Trail	Roberts Creek Area	South Arm of Whitebreast Creek Up to Highway 14	Whitebreast to South Overlook	Peninsula to the West of the Mile Long Bridge (northside) off 76 th Ave	Area off Highway 92 (northwest of Knoxville – Area West of 92 nd Ave)	Land West of the Mile Long Bridge
PROs	<p>Close to residential developments to use</p> <p>Close to campgrounds for visitors to stay</p> <p>Get more mileage for less in that the paved system is already created</p> <p>Have some elevation change at spots (wetland complex, North Overlook and Hempstead road)</p> <p>Established parking</p> <p>Toilets and Water in Area</p> <p>Shorter destination for beginners and less experienced riders</p>	<p>Toilets and water in the area, but may need some at the trailhead</p> <p>Close to campgrounds and cabins for visitors to stay</p> <p>Potential to connect to Volksweg when it is extended to Cordova</p> <p>Some established parking at a shelter (low use today)</p> <p>Shorter destination for beginners and less experienced riders</p>	Variation in elevations	<p>Variation in elevations</p> <p>Land that seems to have potential and has limited use</p> <p>Would add to the current south shore amenities</p> <p>Potential to connect Whitebreast to the current Volksweg Trail</p>	<p>Can fit the most mileage for rider/wakers in this area</p> <p>Could create a nice scenic view at the end of the trail loop by the water</p> <p>Lot of options for design and trail system</p> <p>Area would allow for the most continuous soft rail system</p>	<p>Has the potential to connect to the city of Knoxville</p> <p>Large area of land</p>	<p>Large area of land</p> <p>Potential to connect to other cities and eventually Des Moines</p>
CONs	<p>Greater signage challenge due to many connection points off the Volksweg Trail</p> <p>Mixed views on using paved trail as connector for the soft trails</p> <p>Creates additional intersections on the Volksweg Trail</p>	<p>Potential for increased traffic through the campground</p> <p>Mixing of user groups</p>	<p>More costly option to construct due to crossings, access and maintenance</p> <p>Many low areas increase risk of flooding</p> <p>Land base not very large compared to other areas</p> <p>Group ruled this area out due to very little public land, greater flooding and numerous crossings needed</p>	<p>More costly option to construct due to crossings, access and maintenance</p> <p>Limited use due to flooding</p> <p>No public access without trail through entire area</p>	<p>Need to create parking spot</p> <p>Not as easy to bike to a campground (opportunities for primitive camping?)</p> <p>Currently no toilet and water services</p>	<p>More costly option to construct due to crossings, access and maintenance</p> <p>Limited use due to flooding</p> <p>Group ruled this area out due to very low elevation and frequency of flooding</p>	<p>More costly option to construct due to crossings, access and maintenance</p> <p>Limited use due to flooding</p> <p>Currently no toilet or water services</p> <p>Group ruled this area out due to not having enough land above elevation 783 making it subject to flooding.</p>



The Corps Master Plan Team then evaluated the recommendations of the Soft Trails Focus Group and determined a recommended alternative for soft trail development.

The Corps Master Plan Team Evaluation Comments:

- There is value in development of this resource based recreation opportunity
- The trends in mountain bike riding support development
- There are limited opportunities for trail riding on public lands in Iowa and specifically the Lake Red Rock Area

The Corps Master Plan Team considered five alternatives which included the four remaining alternatives after the Soft Trails Focus Group narrowed their alternatives from seven to four and an alternative of No Change for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Develop Soft Trails at Multiple Locations Along the Volksweg Trail
3. Develop Robert's Creek Area
4. Whitebreast to South Overlook
5. Expand Equestrian Trail off 76th Ave. Peninsula

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES FOR THIS CONCEPT:

2. Develop Soft Trails at Multiple Locations Along Volksweg Trail

Several locations that the focus group identified as potential along the Volksweg Trail were not moved forward with the recommended alternative for this concept. In most cases this was due to ESA designation or other conflict concerns. The two areas that are recommended for development as a soft trails system include the North Overlook Picnic Area and South Tailwater with use of the Volksweg Trail as a connection between these two areas.

- Utilizes existing Volksweg Trail as a connector
- Compatible use for lands designated as resource or recreation low intensity
- Provides several miles of soft trails that will benefit families; beginner riders and experienced riders looking for a short ride close to home
- These areas include land that can be developed as challenge areas for the trail system
- Large area for parking lot and staging area is available for development at the South Tailwater Wetland Complex
- Strong partnership potential

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVES (continued):

4. Whitebreast to South Overlook

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION: There was considerable discussion among the focus group and input received from stakeholders that demonstrated desire for a regional scope soft trail system. Due to lack of formal history with this type of trail system at Lake Red Rock and lack of time to adequately scope a potential route a regional scope trail will not be defined in the Master Plan. However, once the initial soft trail developments are successful, the Master Plan Team is favorable to allowing development of soft trails along the south side of Lake Red Rock with potential connection to the South Tailwater and the City of Knoxville.

ALTERNATIVES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT:

1. No Change

- Change is recommended based on concept evaluation

3. Develop Robert's Creek Area

- Determined that a large portion of this area will be designated an Environmental Sensitive Area (ESA) and that development of a soft trail is incompatible. This ESA is especially sensitive due to its large size.

5. Expand Equestrian Trail off 76th Ave. Peninsula

- Determined that this area will be designated an ESA and that development of an equestrian trail is incompatible. This ESA is especially sensitive due to its large relatively unfragmented state.



Focus Group 2 – Equestrian Trails

A Natural Place to Play

Focus Group Established for:

- Hard Trails
- Archery
- Soft Trails
- Equestrian Trails
- Water Trails

CONCEPT PLANNING CHARTER Expanded Horse Trails – Lake Red Rock

Team Mission & Purpose Statement: Create a concept plan to expand the horse trail system at the lake. This information will be used in development of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan (2013-2038).
Expected Results & Objectives: Describes the specific tasks, deliverables, and outputs for which the team will be held accountable during project period
Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Confirm and/or expand on initial master plan meeting feedback to understand what the desired expansion of the horse trail system would look like, what amenities are necessary and why it should be developed Develop two or three options for expansion of the horse trail system Identify key connection points List out reasoning behind recommendations and any potential issues List out benefits of each option
Considerations: Project constraints, budget, technological challenges, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> All recommendations will go out for public input Detailed design is not in the scope Initial and ongoing operation and maintenance costs Parking, trailheads, and access Minimize user conflicts Limit environmental impacts
Sponsor(s): Defines who the team is accountable to and receives direction from Sherri Duey –Manager, Lake Red Rock (Corps of Engineers)
Team Members Who is accountable for this effort The focus group team had 7 members representing: IDNR, individual trail users and Friends of Elk Rock Association.
Communication Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Meet as needed at Corps of Engineers office Send minutes to stakeholders after each meeting (include master planning committee) Final recommendations will be part of master plan for the public to offer feedback
Project Milestones: Approximate dates for key project events 1) Recommendations completed by June 1, 2012

Initiated
Dated: 4/26/12

Primary Concept: Creating a Regional Equestrian Trail

The current 13 mile equestrian trail system at Elk Rock State Park represents one of the few facilities in Iowa dedicated to horseback riders. Many horseback riders have an interest in expanded trails to make Elk Rock a regional destination and to create a trail system that provides longer, more challenging rides for local and regional riders.

At the Equestrian Trails Focus Group’s first meeting on April 26, 2012 they discussed the following development ideas and considerations.

- Would like to see 30 to 40 miles of trail for a regional draw and in a loop if possible
- Adding more trails in the current area would impact the environment
- Nice if trail can be along water’s edge
- More boomers are riding horse buggies
- Trail needs to be wide enough to get a 4-wheeler to someone for emergencies
- Current horse campground associated with trail is full when weather is nice
- Recent Elk Rock boat ramp has impacted equestrian camping area
- New camping area could start with primitive camp area (grassy field, porta-toilet, drinking water, approximately 20 sites and hitching posts)
- Economic impact per visit for horse trail users is significant





The equestrian trail focus group identified two potential trail expansion areas. They are south of Elk Rock State Park along Whitebreast Creek and a peninsula of land west of Highway 14 that is currently managed as a wildlife area. Following are the pros and cons associated with those two areas the group identified at their May 17, 2012 meeting.

Expand South Along Whitebreast Creek

Pros:

- Can get quite a few miles
- Ties into current trail that has nice camping facilities
- Extends with current trails
- Better trail system for buggies
- Already have a trailhead off Highway 14

Cons

- Lower elevation which is an impact for campground development near Highway 92
- Challenge to cross Highway 14
- Less trees so hot riding when sun is out
- More potential for flooding and driftwood over trails
- Need to develop watering holes every 5-10 miles

Expand on Peninsula to West of Mile Long Bridge (Access via 76th Avenue)

Pros:

- Nice riding – beautiful area
- Large area to ride
- Destination ride that will pull people over from Elk Rock for the day

Cons

- Currently no utilities
- More gravel road (not a big deal)
- Further distance to respond if an emergency (currently a road in the area but further from ranger station)
- Need to develop trailhead and parking lot
- Need to develop watering holes every 5 to 10 miles

The focus group also discussed its desires for the campgrounds to be modern full hook-up; however they could start as primitive. It also discussed the need for picnic tables and hitching posts.

The Corps Master Plan Team then Evaluated the Focus Group’s Proposed Alternatives and Determined a Recommended Alternative for Equestrian Trail Expansion:

Evaluation comments of overall concept:

- There is value in expansion of this resource based recreation opportunity
- Equestrian activity has been established in South Elk Rock for years and has proved to have a responsible and passionate user group
- The trends in horse ownership and trail riding support expansion
- There are limited opportunities for trail riding on public lands in Iowa

The Corps Master Plan Team considered three alternatives for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Expand Equestrian Trail Along Whitebreast Creek and Develop New Campground at South End
3. Expand Equestrian Trail off 76th Ave. Peninsula

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE FOR THIS CONCEPT:

2. Expand Equestrian Trail Along Whitebreast Creek and Develop New Campground at South End

- Trail expansion along Whitebreast Creek will connect with existing trail in South Elk Rock with potential for a trail of regional scope
- Trail will be able to utilize some segments of the old Whitebreast Bike Trail
- Compatible use for lands designated as resource or recreation low intensity
- Trail will not be developed on lands designated as ESAs
- Potential for new campground development and staging on the south end of the trail system to provide amenities that match regional scope of trail
- Strong partnership potential

ALTERNATIVES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT:

1. No Change

- Change is recommended based on concept evaluation

3. Expand Equestrian Trail off 76th Ave. Peninsula

- Determined that this area will be designated an ESA and that development of an equestrian trail is incompatible. This ESA is especially sensitive due to its large relatively unfragmented state.



Focus Group 2 – Water Trails

A Natural Place to Play

Focus Group Established for:	Hard Trails Archery Soft Trails Equestrian Trails Water Trails
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Lake Red Rock currently has a 37-mile long water trail designated as a National Water Trail by the National Park Service. There are eight trail access points at Lake Red Rock. Additionally, the first paddle-in campground in the State of Iowa is managed by the Corps and supports the water trail.

There were numerous public comments supporting water trails during Phase 1 scoping. Additionally there was desire for water trail amenities. A focus group was not convened during Phase 2; however paddling enthusiasts expressed interest in a portage around the Red Rock Dam and more paddle-in campsites.

In spring and summer of 2013, a group of paddling enthusiasts helped to identify possible locations for additional paddle-in campsites. The general location for a portage around the Red Rock Dam had been established during Phase I scoping.

The paddling group primarily looked at possible paddle-in campsites around Lake Red Rock. It identified sites that were distributed around the main body of the lake with criteria for approximately one hour of paddling from one site to another.

The group avoided recommending sites in the northwest corner of the lake where the Des Moines River enters because of the quality of the shoreline and shallowness of the lake at that location. It also tried to avoid sites that were environmentally sensitive areas. The group felt that some of the spots were nicer than others but all offered the possibility of a quality camping experience. In all, the group proposed 18 sites for Corps evaluation.

The Corps Master Plan Team considered three alternatives for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Plan for 2 additional paddle-in campsite locations on southside of Lake Red Rock and a portage around the Red Rock Dam.
3. Plan for 18 paddle-in campsite locations at Lake Red Rock and a portage around the Red Rock Dam

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE FOR THIS CONCEPT:

2. Plan for 2 additional paddle-in campsite locations on southside of Lake Red Rock and a portage around the Red Rock Dam.

- These 2 areas offer viable amenities along the water trail. These sites were recommended because of : shoreline access; resources; elevation and distance from other paddle-in campsites

IMPORTANT CLARIFICATION: As water trail usage grows and demand for paddle-in campsites grow, it is anticipated and possible to accommodate these sites within existing recreation areas not specifically designated in this alternative.

ALTERNATIVES NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT:

1. No Change

- Change is recommended based on concept evaluation

3. Plan for 18 paddle-in campsite locations at Lake Red Rock and a portage around the Red Rock Dam

- Many of the locations were not recommended based on: poor shoreline access, sensitive environmental resources, user conflicts, inundation issues.



Phase 2 Focus Groups - Wayfinding

Connections

Focus Group Established for: Wayfinding

CONCEPT PLANNING CHARTER Wayfinding – Lake Red Rock

Team Mission & Purpose Statement: Create a concept plan for wayfinding at Lake Red Rock. This information will be used in development of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan (2013-2038).
Expected Results & Objectives: Describes the specific tasks, deliverables, and outputs for which the team will be held accountable during project period Goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Confirm and/or expand on initial master plan meeting feedback to understand what the desired wayfinding would look like, what signs are necessary and why it should be developed • Create awareness that the lake is close by • Improve navigation – getting off at the correct place • Determine key areas of interest, corridors or districts to improve visitor experience • Develop communication hubs/points • Determine location and what the signs say
Considerations: Project constraints, budget, technological challenges, etc. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Link our results to area promotional groups • Minimize sign pollution
Sponsor(s): Defines who the team is accountable to and receives direction from Sherrri Duey –Manager, Lake Red Rock (Corps of Engineers)
Team Members Who is accountable for this effort The focus group team had 4 members who represented local and county recreation and tourism interests.
Communication Plan: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Meet monthly at Corps of Engineers office starting in December • Send minutes to stakeholders after each meeting (include master planning committee) • Final recommendations will be part of master plan for the public to offer feedback
Project Milestones: Approximate dates for key project events 1) Recommendations completed by May 1, 2012

Revision Log:
Change

Initiator - Jamie Date: 12/5/11

The CPC team identified the following objectives to improve wayfinding:

- Consistency of navigation signs
- Determine proper placement per traffic flow patterns
- Identify key areas of interest
- Develop print and electronic navigation materials to integrate wayfinding

After careful consideration of other community wayfinding systems the team recommended and developed a concept for a wayfinding system based on districting.

The Corps Master Plan Team considered two alternatives for this concept:

1. No Change
2. Implement wayfinding districting concept

RECOMMENDED ALTERNATIVE FOR THIS CONCEPT:

2. Implement wayfinding districting concept

- This concept best meets the needs as identified during scoping and by the CPC team

ALTERNATIVE NOT RECOMMENDED FOR THIS CONCEPT:

1. No Change

- Change is recommended based on concept evaluation



Fisheries Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Not Recommended 2. Designate locations for development of 10 acres of fish rearing ponds
- Recommended** 3. Develop the Wallashuck sewage lagoon for a fish rearing pond and determine if and what other locations based on lessons learned

Hard Trail Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Not Recommended 2. Complete Volksweg Trail to Cordova
- Recommended** 3. Complete Volksweg Trail to Hwy 14 allowing linkage to the Central Iowa Trail Network

Archery Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Recommended** 2. Relocate and Expand Archery Range at Elk Rock West

Soft Trail Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Recommended (with Clarification)** 2. Multiple Locations off the Volksweg Trail
- Not Recommended 3. Robert's Creek Area
- Recommended (with Clarification)** 4. Whitebreast to South Overlook
- Not Recommended 5. Peninsula to West of Mile Long Bridge (northside) off 76th Ave.

Equestrian Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

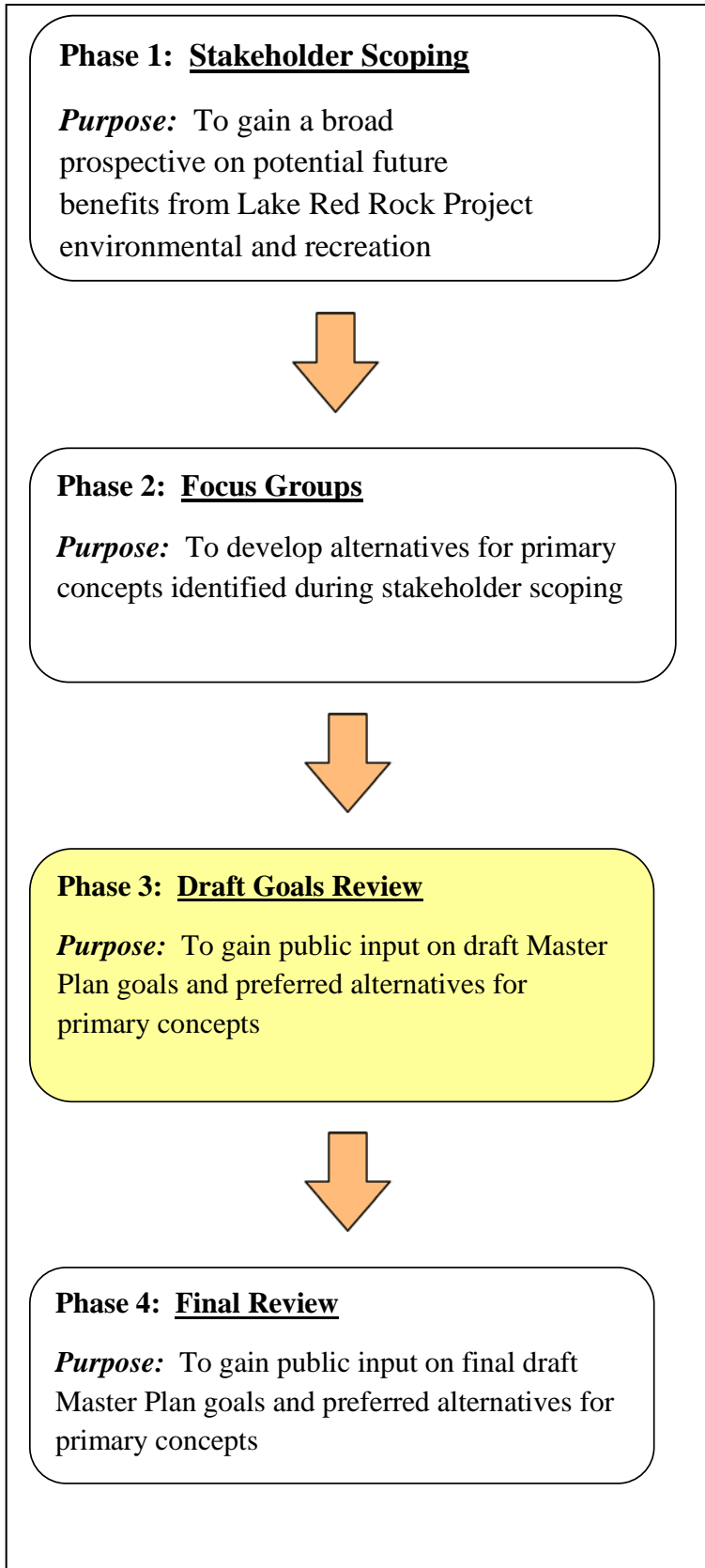
- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Recommended** 2. Expand Equestrian Trail South Along Whitebreast Creek and Develop New Campground at South End
- Not Recommended 3. Expand Equestrian Trail at 76th Ave. Peninsula

Water Trail Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Recommended** 2. Plan for two additional paddle-in campsite locations on southside Lake Red Rock and a portage around the Red Rock Dam.
- Not Recommended 3. Plan for 18 paddle-in campsite locations at Lake Red Rock and a portage around the Red Rock Dam

Wayfinding Alternatives Considered for This Concept:

- Not Recommended 1. No Change
- Recommended** 2. Implement wayfinding districting concept



The objective of Phase 3 of the stakeholder involvement process was to allow opportunity for public review of the draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts.

To maximize opportunity for public review and discussion of the concepts with the Corps Master Plan team two public open houses were held in the neighboring communities of Knoxville and Pella. The open houses were well advertised via direct postcards; e-mail and area press releases. Additionally, the draft plan was available for review and comment on the Lake Red Rock website.

Posters were displayed at the open houses that showed the proposed Master Plan focus areas, goals; and concepts that had been developed as a Result of efforts in Phase 1 and Phase 2. Posters showed alternatives that had been considered for many of the concepts, along with notation of the Corps recommended alternative for that concept.

The open houses were attended by 88 individuals representing a broad range of stakeholders. Overall the comments were extremely positive and in agreement with the concepts and ideas presented. Many comments complimented the quality of the open houses and overall planning efforts.



US Army Corps of Engineers®
Rock Island District

You are invited to view concepts that will shape the next 25 years of environmental stewardship and recreation at Lake Red Rock!

View and give individual comment anytime during the following open houses:

Tue., December 11, 2012 12:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. National Sprint Car Hall of Fame & Museum One Sprint Capital Place Knoxville, IA 50138	Wed., December 12, 2012 9:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. Central College 812 University Graham Annex Building Pella, IA 50219
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To preview Red Rock Master Plan concepts go to:
www.lakeredrock.org or www.redrocklakeassociation.org.

For more information call Junifer Kruse at 641-828-7522 ext. 6441 or email junifer.k.kruse@usace.army.mil.

Sample of Postcard Advertising Public Open Houses



Newspaper Article reporting on the Open House



Red Rock Master Plan Focus Area - Healthy Environment

Red Rock has the largest contiguous public land base in the state of Iowa at approximately 35,000 Acres; and an additional 15,250 acres of water creating the largest lake in Iowa.

These healthy environment goals will work towards ensuring public land continues to be an important and healthy part of Iowa's natural resources.



- Goals:
- Protect threatened landscapes
 - Manage environmentally sensitive areas (ESAs) for native sustainable resources
 - Eliminate invasive species within ESAs & Important Environmental Units
 - Improve Reservoir Water Quality and Fisheries
 - Maintain 95% of current public hunting acreage. Total hunting acreage at Red Rock is 44,507.

Red Rock Master Plan Focus Area - A Natural Place to Play

Public Comment has told us that people value the natural state of Lake Red Rock

- Goals:
- Maintain and expand existing water based recreation opportunities to meet public desire within carrying capacity
 - Develop low consumptive active resource based recreation opportunities
 - Develop unique recreation opportunities that encourage respectful connection to the environment

Red Rock Master Plan Focus Area - Connections

Connecting the environment, connecting people, and connecting people to the environment

- Goals:
- Reduce habitat fragmentation
 - Develop trail connections to area communities
 - Develop effective wayfinding
 - Create interpretive opportunities that connect people to the environment and encourage play in nature
 - Protect/enhance access to public lands

The title of this focus area was later changed to *Sustainable Environment*. The poster above showing the proposed goals for this focus area was displayed at the Master Plan Review open houses.

Each goal had accompanying presentation boards to explain the goal and/or concept.

Presentation boards were on display for:

- Protect Threatened Landscapes
- Mangle Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs) for native sustainable resources (later changed to "Restore Environmentally Sensitive Areas to pre-settlement landscapes)
- Eliminate invasive species within ESAs & Important Environmental Units
- Improve Reservoir Water Quality and Fisheries (later changed to "Improve Fisheries")
- Maintain 95% of current public hunting acres

Additional concepts were presented under each recreation goal.

Presentation boards were on display for:

- Maintain and expand existing water based recreation opportunities to meet public desire within carrying capacity
 - Bike Trails
 - Marina Development
- Develop low consumptive active resource based recreation opportunities (later changed to "Develop low impact, active resource based recreation opportunities")
 - Archery Range
 - Soft Trail
 - Horse Trails
 - Water Trails
- Develop unique recreation opportunities that encourage respectful connection to the environment
 - Cordova Project

Additional concepts were presented for some of the connections goals.

Presentation boards were on display for:

- Reduce habitat fragmentation
- Develop trail connections to area communities
- Develop effective wayfinding
- Create interpretive opportunities that connect people to the environment and encourage play in nature
 - Playscapes
 - Watchable Wildlife
- Protect/enhance access to public lands

Phase 3 Draft Goals Review – Public and Agency Comment

Following are comments received from stakeholders who attended the Open Houses. Also included are letters and/or e-mail received from agencies who reviewed the draft goals and provided comments:

- I feel that the number of camping spots that are reserved are too many.
- I'd like to see a ramp on the south side of the river so you could portage boats from the rock rd put-in site on the south side of the dam near the visitor center and just use the road to the south river side and put in.
- It is good to be working on removal of invasive species. I imagine it is difficult work. Proceed slowly on development - leave some areas natural. I am concerned by the sedimentation - silt that has entered the lake in the past and will continue - hopefully at a much slower rate. I heard yesterday that Lake Red Rock has an expected life of 60 more years. I haven't seen any proposals of what happens when the water becomes shallow and the water level can't be raised. I guess it is a balance between function and recreation.
- I especially appreciate expanding bike trails to communities and prairie expansion.
- Wayfinding Signage will be of great benefit. The Expansion of the North Overlook Nature trail as well as the South tail water wetland complex may have safety issues if it is intended for both hiking and biking. The existing bike trail works for both hiking and biking 1) because it is wide enough 2) there is generally sufficient vision area ahead of you 3) the trail is hard surfaced which provides stability for both hikers and bikers. Consider doing segment 2 first to see how it goes and leave the natural area of segment 1 alone. There needs to be increased understanding of how you can hunt in the public hunting area of Red Rock possibly an orientation class each year.
- I appreciate the Corps sharing the future vision. Having multiple use of the area is right on. Leveraging more trails, use by bicycles, horses, archery would provide improved value for all. Good thoughts and appreciated. Some additional thoughts 1) more needs to be done to open up timber areas, most are overgrown and not walkable. Prairie grass areas need to be more regularly burned. A plan is needed for this. 2) Water quality is an ongoing challenge. What can be done with this, again a plan? 3) Improving the fishery and waterfowl habitat would be a logical extension. Can fish structure be added? Can the sensitive flood plains be planted in some manner? Thanks
- I use Lake Red Rock for running, biking, swimming, and kayaking so would love to see improvements made in those areas. It would be nice to have more bathrooms available all year round and drinking fountains. I was not aware of the Kayak trails...I'll have to check them out. Would love to see expansion of the trails and to connect to surrounding communities.

- Work on education and elimination of invasives. Establish more native prairie and oak savanna habitat.
- The long range goals are really an extension of the existing goals with a few modifications. We applaud the efforts to meet the desires of the public. The difficult task is to balance the desires of the public with sustainable natural resource management. I especially like the inclusion of a learning center. Education of the public is key to sustainability. I recommend GPS coordinates on key recreation and natural resource areas along with the signage.
- Very good information. Interesting to see planned improvements. Information on plants and natural habitats. A lot of information to digest. Improvement to actual docks - docks are ok; however, need some type of padding to protect boat from steel frame of dock.
- More Campgrounds, really like the archery proposal.
- New Archery Range Area would be great. Maintain or increase public hunting areas. Hoping marina area develops quickly, lots of money spent and not being used.
- Gained a better idea of timeline Red Rock is a hidden gem for recreation and can continue to draw people to this part of Iowa. Look forward to the coming 25 years.
- Gained a better idea of timelines for projects, staff was very knowledgeable
- Red Rock is a hidden gem for recreation and can continue to draw people to this part of Iowa. Look forward to the coming 25 years.
- Very good display, very factual, great support and questions answered.
- I am not a big user at Red Rock water facilities but enjoy the bike trail and hiking. Pleased that such good planning has been done. Pella is blessed to have such a wonderful asset. Thanks.
- The expansion of the bike trail system is an area of interest to allow communities surrounding the lake to improve on the local economic development potential. With improved community economic development, will only improve and increase visitation to Lake Red Rock. I believe as a seasoned recreational boater that society it looking for a destination place. I visit the Lake of the Ozarks twice annually. As my family and I enjoy the social aspect of boating, recreation, and entertainment. I am looking forward to increased focus on recreation in this project. I was impressed with all the staffing on hand to assist!
- Good ideas.
- Keep working on the invasive species, autumn olive. Try to tie into the Neal Smith NWR. Don't forget hunting and sailing.
- Seem to be a well thought out plan to develop the area. I want to see it used as much as possible. Need to do something to slow down silt deposits. Tile water doesn't contribute large amounts at one time but is steady. It is clean water after filtering through the soil. Bike trails will be controversial along Hwy 14.






- Interested in connecting a bike trail from Red Rock to Monroe.
- Let's try to put permanent seeding on some of the flood pool area. Permanent seeding should be better than renting out for cropland that is detrimental to the water quality in the lake.
- Would like to see an off leash dog park near the campgrounds and trails, beneficial to dogs and people socialization.
- I know this meeting is not on the subject of raising the lake pool! But from what I can see there is no doubt in my mind it will happen. Between silt filling the lake and all the added attractions for people to use for recreation there is no reason in my mind it will raise. I see what this does to my fellow neighbors as they run their farms.
- Do not want level raised for these projects. I am a land owner on easement ground and really unhappy with the above normal flooding on crop ground. I think this is a step to raising permanent pool on the lake.
- I still think this is a back way to raising the pool level. It also has caused problems where as you can't run tile on the farm because no to go. Ditches are all full and fill tile. Leave it where it's at for flood control like originally built for.
- A lot of hard issues to balance. This seems like a well thought out all encompassing plan. Love the water access for kayaks. Would not mind seeing more sandy launch areas (like Elk Rock) around the lake. Love the opportunity to view wildlife from the water and trails. Love the expanded horse trails. Will it be possible to get to the water on horseback? A ride in swim beach with picnic tables and hitching rails would be awesome. Thanks for doing this event.
- Great photos and plans.
- Great concepts and I like the 3 focus areas. In my opinion, the focus area of "A Natural Place to Play" is most important to the region. Enhancing recreation and interpretive programs and infrastructure is critical to building the region as the tourist destination in Iowa. Also, I would like to see a self-interpretive trail at the lake incorporating wetland, water and/or other activities. We could place nice signs which educate recreators on the wildlife around/near/on the lake.
- Great work! Good history going in. Comprehensive. Community focused.
- I think the idea and concept is very good. Hope to see it all come to be.
- Would like to see additional paddle in/paddle out campsites for paddlers. Not accessible from land. Thank you.
- Great ideas. I particularly like new trails also would like to work for paddle in campsites.
- Plans both north and south side of lake are great. Like archery, equestrian, biking trails are good. Fishery on south side of lake?
- Very informative some good ideas and future plans. History section by year was very good.

- I like that it is about nature. Let's make sure it stays about that and not development, and use a lot of common sense. Let's not make the mistake of letting special interest groups dictate what happens around the lake.
- I like the majority of the concepts. I do however; still have concerns about HOW things will be accomplished. Question: How flexible will the draft version of the plan be? If I see a major issue can the draft be changed or is it a major undertaking to make a change? I do agree with keeping it in as natural a state as possible. I would like to be notified if raising the permanent pool is ever brought up.
- Proposed horse camp by Knoxville needs to eventually be updated to a full fledge modern campground with 50 amp and full hook up available.
- I feel ESA areas should not limit further trail development around the lake. A trail that makes a complete loop will bring many tourists and we should not limit our opportunities. I don't see anything in this update that allows a business, for profit or non-profit to lease ground to run a business. I am interested in a tree park with zip lines and would need to lease ground in order to do this.
- Enjoyed! Good thoughts. Agree with your plans.
- If volunteer opportunities exist to help with invasive species eradication or trail building please contact us. My husband, myself and 3 boys are willing to help and I think it's important for my children to learn to give back.
- We would like to see more hiking and biking dirt trails around the lake.
- Everyone has different preferences on recreation, but I have serious concerns as a taxpayer regarding the amount of funds spent on the bike trail system and what could be expanded. The \$/foot cost us, number of users would seem outrageous. \$700,000 for a bridge to nowhere! Also, I don't know how much money was spent on the marina area improvements, but to spend it without a marina operations seems ludicrous - cart before the horse! Keep improving fishery - doing well!
- Good plans and ideas, but flood control is priority so recreation is not going to be great.
- Horse Trails - Campground proposed needs to include plans to be a full service campground someday = water, electric, sewer, etc. Look into trails west of proposed campground.
- Looks good. Let's keep expanding the bike trails.
- Cordova Learning Center - great idea, will help in education about other areas of Lake land use. Have user fees been discussed for some of the projects?
- FINISH THE BIKE PATH. Continue all recreation planning. Mountain bike paths, horse trails, water trails, Frisbee golf course made 18 holes. Work on reducing siltation. Educate people on invasive species and try to get more voluntary help eliminating them.



US Army Corps of Engineers – Lake Red Rock Project
1105 North Hwy T-15
Knoxville, IA 50138

invitation and the opportunity to comment on the *Lake Red Rock Master Plan*. Please don't hesitate to contact me at any time if I can answer any questions related to my comments or if you would like to further explore partnership opportunities with the NWTF as you begin plan implementation over the next 25 years.

Yours in Conservation,

Jared W. McJunkin – CWB®
19475 HWY 99, Blaine, KS 66549
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jmciunkin@nwtf.net

To whom it may concern,

My name is Jared McJunkin, Conservation Field Supervisor – Western Region for the National Wild Turkey Federation, and I am currently serving as the NWTF's regional biologist for Iowa as we are working to fill this vacancy. I am writing in response to your invitation to view and comment on the *Lake Red Rock Master Plan*. While I regret I will not be able to attend one of the public meetings, I would like to offer some written input, which I have provided below. I have visited the project website and reviewed the components provided for the *Lake Red Rock Master Plan*. I offer the following points of input for future discussions and planning.

First, I commend your staff on the plan with regard to your attention to conservation needs such as combating invasive species, your ESA approach, and your efforts to reduce habitat fragmentation at the lake. I also appreciate your plans to introduce visitors to the natural world and to possibly implement a new archery range. As you may be aware, the NWTF is a strong supporter of shooting sports, including archery, and we welcome discussions with your staff on partnership opportunities regarding the new archery range and would also ask if you might consider a gun range. The closest public gun range is 45 minutes away and even a simple gun range would be a great user benefit. Your commitment to improve public access and to maintain 95% of the current public hunting access is commendable and should certainly be appreciated by the sportsmen of Iowa.

I would offer the question, and perhaps this has been covered in previous meetings and plans, of why you plan to only maintain 95% and not 100% of the current public hunting acres available? Is the 95% level due to your future recreational development plans? Seasonal opportunities could still exist on recreational trails, such as horse or bike trails, as they could be closed during open hunting seasons or just some portions of trails. Loss of hunting access, or a place to go, is one of the most cited reasons that hunters abandon the tradition. The Iowa NWTF State Chapter is committed to improving hunting access and preventing any net-loss in public hunting acres, so any clarification on this would be appreciated. Are there additional opportunities to improve access to the lake, such as rebuilding old, abandoned dirt roads, etc. that could also be discussed?

One small semantic point that I would offer was the use of "preserve" within the document where I believe "conserve" would be more appropriate. As you know, these words are not interchangeable and wise-use conservation should be promoted whenever possible.

In summary, the concept materials that I reviewed related to the *Lake Red Rock Master Plan* look good and it appears your staff have dedicated significant time putting this plan together. The NWTF appreciates your efforts to improve public access and conserve current hunting acres at 95%, but ask that you strive for 100%, if at all possible. Please consider the NWTF as a potential partner for your future efforts at the lake, including habitat conservation projects (invasive removal, timber stand improvement, and grassland management), the new archery range and any efforts to secure or improve hunter access to Lake Red Rock. We appreciate the

Jared W. McJunkin – Conservation Field Supervisor – West
19475 HWY 99 Blaine, KS
785.396.4552 - jmciunkin@nwtf.net

Following is a response from United States Fish and Wildlife Service

-----Original Message-----
From: Duyvejonck, Jon [mailto:jon_duyvejonck@fws.gov]
Sent: Friday, March 01, 2013 3:22 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: Re: FW: Lake Red Rock Master Plan - Initial Coordination Letter (UNCLASSIFIED)

Wendy,
I reviewed the information you sent regarding the revision of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan. You do have the correct list of endangered species for Marion County. The Service has no further comments to offer at this time.



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Rock Island District



STATE OF IOWA

TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CHUCK GIPP, DIRECTOR

March 27, 2013

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Attn: Wendy Frohlich, Environmental Compliance Branch
P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

RE: Environmental Review for Natural Resources
Lake Red Rock Master Plan Update
Marion County

Dear Ms. Frohlich,

Thank you for inviting Department comment on the Lake Red Rock Master Plan Revision. The Department has no specific comments at this time. The Department has actively participated in previous updates to the Lake Red Rock Master Plan and continues to be involved through local coordination. Specifically, local Department staff has commented on the following:

- Erosion control at Elk Rock to address potential threats to staff residence;
- Erosion/sedimentation impacts on fish habitat in the bay areas of the reservoir;
- Fisheries management concerns related to the tailrace:
 - Transport of non-native fish (e.g., Bighead and Silver carp) to the reservoir or other waterbodies;
 - Water quality issue related to the tailrace such as fish kills by gas bubble disease due to super saturation of total dissolved gases (total gas pressure) when water is released by tainter gates;
- Conservation measures for protected State-listed species (e.g., Lake sturgeon, a State-Endangered fish) has been snagged by anglers in the tailrace);
- Reservoir management of game fish species (e.g., fish out-migration)
- Construction of fish rearing ponds adjacent to the reservoir to augment Fisheries management stocking efforts.

The Department supports continued coordination with the Department Fisheries Biologist in charge of the area. You may reach Ben Dodd at (515) 432-2823.

In addition, the Water Trails Section of the Rivers Program would like to continue to provide input for future improvements and long term goals for the recreational users. John Wenck, Water Trails Coordinator for the Department, may be contacted at (515) 281-8085.

The Department is available to conduct detailed Threatened and Endangered species reviews of individual projects once specific details become available. In order to complete an environmental review request, the Department requires a narrative which describes the proposed project and current land use details, a

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PHONE 515-281-5918 FAX 515-281-6794 www.iowadnr.gov

legal description (Section, Township, Range) of the project area, a map and/or aerial photo which includes the proposed project and preliminary construction plan sets. For further information, please visit our website at

<http://www.iowadnr.gov/Environment/ThreatenedEndangered/EnvironmentalReviews.aspx>.

If you have questions about this letter or require further information, please contact me at (515) 281-8967.

Sincerely,

Kelly Poole
Environmental Specialist
Conservation and Recreation Division

FILE COPY: Kelly Poole
Tracking Number: 8361

CC: John Wenck, Iowa DNR (email)
Ben Dodd, Iowa DNR (email)



TERRY E. BRANSTAD, GOVERNOR
KIM REYNOLDS, LT. GOVERNOR

STATE OF IOWA

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES
CHUCK GIPP, DIRECTOR

January 24, 2013

Wendy Frohlich, Biologist
Environmental Compliance Branch
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers –
REPDN PD-C Rock Island District,
Clock Tower Bldg.
PO Box 2004, Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

Dear Wendy:

This letter is intended to express that Iowa DNR's water trails program strongly encourages a new master plan for the Lake Red Rock Project and that we would like to be considered important stakeholders in any future Master Planning process. Because of the existing state designated water trail on the lake, we encourage you to examine criteria developed through careful planning at the statewide level.

Much has changed. With the lake's accelerated sedimentation, we realize conservation-oriented partners are more important than ever, and we have found paddlesports enthusiasts to be natural allies for wild spaces, erosion prevention, and scenic protection. Outdoor Industry Association states that paddling is the fastest growing outdoor recreational activity in the country for the 6th straight year. Stand-up paddleboarding will likely create a new set of user interactions and demands. The Red Rock Water Trail is a highly valuable trail in the Iowa DNR water trails system because of the diversity it provides on several levels. The shoreline of red sandstone cliffs is a major draw, and unique in Iowa. It is one of only three DNR designated water trails on a lake, and one of only a handful of destinations in Iowa for sea kayak enthusiasts. With additional primitive paddlecraft campsites, it has the potential for being a place where scout groups and others can prepare for Boundary Waters excursions, much like it currently is used to prepare sea kayak enthusiasts for Lake Superior.

Iowa DNR's "2010 Statewide Plan for Water Trails" and the related manual "Developing Water Trails in Iowa" provide priority and process that can inform portions of master planning. As a result you can expect a strong level of engagement from Iowa DNR's water trails program. Because the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers signed on as the central water trail manager for the Red Rock Water Trail, we encourage focus to be applied to the water trail in the Master Planning process. Iowa DNR would be interested in exploring in greater depth with the Corps how water recreational management and land use demands are changing over time, and what types of changes are compatible with other drivers in the planning process.

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A conservation example would be a review of particular portions of the lake and an exploration of whether desired Water Trail Experience Types (Chapter 2) could benefit from partnering in land conservation in the lake corridor. As demonstrated by the recent Hickory Ridge project, partners can emerge. Limited future fee title acquisitions could be identified that would solve particular viewshed, soil erosion, or habitat connectivity issues. This method helps develop target goals while cultivating partnerships to accomplish those goals in tandem.

We have received many positive comments from paddlers about the Hickory Ridge paddle-in campsites. We are also aware of the desire for additional paddlecraft campsites on Red Rock. The DNR supports the interest within the paddling community for small, primitive campsites strategically placed about the lake for multi-day travel.

Management needs for the future also warrant further planning. These may include ways to reduce user conflicts and new safety protocols, educational program focus for maximum benefit, and potential development of reservation and / or permitting systems for disperse camping or remote campsites.

Respectfully,

John Wenck
Water Trails Coordinator
Iowa Department of Natural Resources



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Agency and Public Coordination

APPENDIX B

Red Rock
Project

Master Plan
2015



Phase 1: Stakeholder Scoping

Purpose: To gain a broad prospective on potential future benefits from Lake Red Rock Project environmental and recreation



Phase 2: Focus Groups

Purpose: To develop alternatives for primary concepts identified during stakeholder scoping



Phase 3: Draft Goals Review

Purpose: To gain public input on draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts



Phase 4: Final Review

Purpose: To gain public input on final draft Master Plan goals and preferred alternatives for primary concepts

The objective of Phase 4 of the stakeholder involvement process is to allow opportunity for final public review of the proposed Master Plan.

Work on incorporating comments from Phase 3 and further refinement of the Draft Master Plan was slowed due to the retirements of long-term management staff and competing project interests.

The *Draft Final Lake Red Rock Master Plan with Environmental Assessment* was distributed to interested agencies, organizations, and individuals for an opportunity to make comment. The public review period was March 27, 2015 to April 27, 2015. A press release announcing the opportunity for final review and comment was issued on March 26, 2015. This final comment period provides the public and agencies an opportunity to make comment before the Finding of No Significant Impact statement is signed by the District Engineer. The *Final Lake Red Rock Master Plan with Environmental Assessment* incorporated, as appropriate, review comments received on the *Draft Final Lake Red Rock Master Plan* from the public, organizations, and representatives of local, state and Federal agencies.

The following pages below include the press release, stakeholder letter, summarization of comments with Corps responses, and public comments in their entirety.



News Release

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

March 26, 2015
Release No: FY15-03-07
Contact: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District
Operations Project Manager Brett Call (641)828-7522, Brett.E.Call@usace.army.mil

Corps Taking Public Comment on Draft Lake Red Rock Master Plan and Environmental Assessment

KNOXVILLE, Iowa – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District, asks the public to provide comment on the FINAL DRAFT of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan and Environmental Assessment. The master plan, which was last updated in 1976, conceptually establishes and guides the development, administration, maintenance, preservation, enhancement, and management of all natural, cultural, and recreational resources of a Corps of Engineers water resource project.

The Environmental Assessment presents an assessment of the potential impacts of alternatives and recommends a preferred alternative. The preferred alternative is for the Rock Island District to adopt and implement the revised Lake Red Rock Master Plan. The draft Environmental Assessment includes a draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) for the preferred alternative.

Those interested in reviewing the final draft of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan and Environmental Assessment can find these documents at: <http://www.mvr.usace.army.mil/Missions/Recreation/LakeRedRockMasterPlan.aspx>.

For a paper copy or CD of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan and Environmental Assessment, contact Wendy Frohlich at (309) 794-5573 or by email at wendy.m.frohlich@usace.army.mil. Copies will also be available at the Lake Red Rock Project Office.

Comments regarding the Master Plan and Environmental Assessment will be taken through April 27. Comments can be e-mailed, phoned or mailed to:

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
Attention: Wendy Frohlich, Biologist
Clock Tower Building
P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004
(309) 794-5573
wendy.m.frohlich@usace.army.mil

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APPENDIX B
Agency and Public Coordination

Red Rock
Project

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2015



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REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

CEMVR-RPEDN

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - PO BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

March 27, 2015

SEE DOCUMENT DISTRIBUTION LIST

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District (District) has enclosed a CD of the revised Lake Red Rock Master Plan (Master Plan) titled *Lake Red Rock Master Plan, Des Moines River Watershed, Johnston, Iowa*, dated March 2015 with Environmental Assessment (EA) included as Appendix A. The District is interested in your review and comments regarding this plan. The District will finalize the EA after comments are received and a Statement of Findings is prepared.

The District proposes to adopt and implement the revised Lake Red Rock Master Plan, replacing the outdated 1976 Master Plan. The revised Master Plan applies changes to the land classifications and makes recommendations for future management of both recreation and natural resources.

The EA seeks to evaluate resources in the project area for potential impacts that may be caused by the adoption and implementation of the proposed Master Plan revision. Implementing the revised Master Plan will provide up-to-date guidance for responsible stewardship of resources at Lake Red Rock to benefit present and future generations. This EA determined that there would be no significant impacts and that no mitigating actions or permits would be required by adoption and implementation of the revised Master Plan.

Should you have any questions or comments concerning the EA, please inform us no later than 30 days from the date of this letter. Comments may be furnished to Mrs. Wendy Frohlich of our Environmental Compliance Branch, (309) 794-5573, in writing to our address above, ATTN: Regional Planning and Environmental Division North (Wendy Frohlich), or e-mail: wendy.m.frohlich@usace.army.mil.

The EA includes a draft Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI). If the District does not receive comments during the review period, or the comments received do not change the decision of no significant impact resulting from this action, the District Engineer will sign the FONSI.

Sincerely,

Kenneth A. Barr
Chief, Environmental Planning Branch RPEDN

Enclosure

Red Rock Master Plan and EA Distribution List

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APPENDIX B
Agency and Public Coordination

Red Rock
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APPENDIX B

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Summarization of Comments with Corps Response

1. Mr. Troy VandeKamp provided comments in an e-mail dated March 30, 2015. Mr. VandeKamp suggested that more recreation development take place on the other side of the lake with concern that the currently developed side has begun to get crowded.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest. The primary development planned for the north side of Lake Red Rock is: completion of the paved Volksweg Trail to Cordova, development of remaining components of the Cordova Project and development of the marina concession area further within the existing marina cove. A significant quantity of input received during the Master Plan process emphasized development or expansion of soft adventure opportunities such as: horseback trails; mountain bike or soft trails; canoe/kayak water trails; natural playscapes, interpretive activities; and amenities associated with these opportunities. Significant development and expansion of these opportunities is planned for the south side of Lake Red Rock.
2. Mr. David Oliver provided comments in an e-mail dated March 30, 2015. Mr. Oliver provided his strong support in success for implementing the revised Lake Red Rock Master Plan.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest and support.
3. Mrs. Lynn Slykhuis requested a copy of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan in an e-mail dated March 30, 2015.
Corps Response: A printed copy of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan was sent.
4. Mr. Rod Braun provided comments in an e-mail dated April 1, 2015. Mr. Braun expressed concern that high bacteria levels have been increasing each year at Lake Red Rock. Mr. Braun commented that he would have liked to have seen recommendations for keeping gulls off the beaches and adding more on how to improve water quality at the lake in the Master Plan.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest. The Corps shares concern with beach closures due to high bacteria levels. We will continue to investigate cause(s) and take steps as possible to reduce impact to recreation. Likewise the Corps shares concern with Des Moines River water quality. While not directly addressed within the scope of the Master Plan, the Corps will continue to collaborate with other agencies to improve water quality.
5. Mr. Dan Higginbottom, Archaeologist with the State Historic Preservation Office, provided several comments concerning issues in meeting obligations of the National Historic Preservation Act and conflicting language between the Red Rock Master Plan and NEPA compliance.
Corps Response: Full response located in the Red Rock Master Plan Appendix B Agency and Public Coordination, page 62. The Rock Island District would like to thank the State Historical Preservation Office for their timely response and review. The Master Plan identifies conceptual types and levels of activities, many of the comments addressed the need for an enhanced cultural resources component to the Master Plan including an updated Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP). An update to the HPMP is a separate matter that is critical to the Operations and Management of the Red Rock project and will be pursued under the cultural resources funding element. The District will consult on an individual basis for each undertaking as it becomes funded and in accordance with its obligations under 36 CFR 800.2-.6. Therefore, wording in the Environmental Assessment Table EA-9 has been changed from full compliance to partial compliance. The Rock Island District will seek information from all tribes in order to update the archeological site and survey database which serves as one of the foundations for management decisions.
6. Mrs. Marcia Hibbard provided comment in support of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan in an e-mail dated April 8, 2015.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest and support.
7. Mr. Matthew McCulla provided comments in an e-mail dated April 20, 2015. Mr. McCulla expressed gratitude for what the Corps does, excitement for continued focus and support of bike trail expansions in the area.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest and support.
8. Mr. John Doershuk, State Archaeologist with the University of Iowa in an e-mail dated April 21, 2015 reiterated Mr. Dan Higginbottom's comments and also provided several other comments. These comments stated concern on impacts of erosion on archaeological deposits, use of a dated citation, potential archeological impacts on future recommendation of expanding the Volksweg trail, and in general how the Corps intends on managing archaeological and cultural resources at Lake Red Rock.
Corps Response: Full response located in the Red Rock Master Plan Appendix B Agency and Public Coordination, page 62; also see response to the State Historic Preservation Office, number 5 above. The Master Plan identifies conceptual types and levels of activities, the District will consult on an individual basis for each undertaking as it becomes funded and in accordance with its obligations under 36 CFR 800.2-.6. The Rock Island District will seek information from all tribes in order to update the archeological site and survey database. It is the District's intent to treat all traditional cultural properties as Environmentally Sensitive Areas.
9. Mr. and Mrs. Wyma provided comments in an e-mail dated April 22, 2015. Mr. and Mrs. Wyma would like to request that addition of a children's playground at Ivan's Campground. They feel this addition would not only benefit campers but also bike trail users.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest. Development of specific amenities within developed recreation areas are identified in more detailed management plans rather than the Master Plan which is a long range visioning plan. Under current management plans the Ivan's playground will not be replaced. New playgrounds have or will soon be installed in South Tailwater Day Use Area and Howell Station Campground which directly connect to Ivan's Campground via a paved trail.
10. Mr. Kraig McPeck, field supervisor for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Rock Island Field Office, provided support via letter dated April 27, 2015 of the Corps efforts to balance the needs of public recreation with fish and wildlife resources, which includes the addition of Environmentally Sensitive Areas and invasive species control. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service concurs that the Master Plan is not likely to adversely affect any listed species that may occur on Corps managed lands at Lake Red Rock.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest and thank you for your support, the Corps will continue to work closely with the USFWS.
11. Mr. Todd Gosselink with the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Red Rock Unit provided comments in a letter dated April 27, 2015. Mr. Gosselink supports the Corps revision of the Red Rock Master Plan. Specifically the proposed management of Environmentally Sensitive Areas, invasive species control, and maintaining public hunting acreage.
Corps Response: We agree that a larger overview map identifying managing agencies on lands extending out from Lake Red Rock would be useful for future partnering in regards to landscape level goals. Thank you for the support, the Corps will continue to work closely with the IA DNR not only for maintaining hunting opportunities but also other environmental stewardship endeavors.





12. Mr. David DeGeus with the Nature Conservancy provided several comments in an e-mail dated April 27, 2015. Mr. DeGeus expressed concerns included: use of the term “woodland” in describing management of areas rather than “savanna”; need for more detailed approach to managing areas for grassland birds, Monarch butterflies, and pollinators; more emphasis on returning historical ecological processes (fire, mowing, grazing) to the landscape; need for more detail regarding the ongoing sedimentation issues, and multiple use opportunities for soft trails.
Corps Response: We appreciate and have noted your interest and input into the Master Plan. The Corps is mindful of the mischaracterization of woodland vs. savanna by original land surveyors and plans call for restoration of savanna that would have been historically present by means supported by Corps policy. Environmental stewardship plans address vegetative management for habitats used by grassland birds and invertebrates. We agree with your comments regarding invasives and the need to returning historical ecological processes to the landscape. The master plan included the section on sedimentation and water quality to help raise awareness of the problems, however, contribution of much of the sediment and water quality issues originate off of Corps land. The Corps will continue to coordinate and work with The Nature Conservancy.
13. Mr. James Breckenridge, President of the Red Rock Lake Association provided support of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan via letter dated April 30, 2015. Comments included maintaining continued partnership opportunities and supporting conservation and resource management efforts.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest and thank you for your support, the Corps will continue to value our partnership and work closely with the Red Rock Lake Association.
14. Mr. Steven Edwards, Executive Director for the Marion County Conservation Board provided support of the Lake Red Rock Master Plan via letter dated April 30, 2015. Mr. Edwards thanked the Corps for considerable time and effort invested in coordination with managing agency during the master planning efforts which provides a framework for future improvements at the lake.
Corps Response: We appreciate your interest and thank you for your continued support; the Corps values our partnership and will continue to work closely with the Marion County Conservation Board.
15. Mr. Larry Shepard, NEPA Analyst with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency agreed with the Corps Finding of No Significant Impact and provided several comments which provide suggestions for future master planning efforts via letter dated April 30, 2015. The EPA supports the Corps efforts to identify and include Environmentally Sensitive areas as a land classification within the project. The majority of concerns expressed by the EPA were in regards to including more quantitative and specific objectives with measures and metrics in future master plans in order to gage success of future management recommendations. Adaptive management through a monitoring program would help measure progress towards the goals identified in the Master Plan.
Corps Response: We appreciate your thorough review of the draft Lake Red Rock Master Plan. We concur that metrics associated with Master Plan goals are critical to guide prioritization of project resources and provide accountability. Following completion of the Master Plan visioning document, the Corps will prepare recreation and environmental Operational Management Plan's (OMP's) that include quantitative objectives, measures and metrics against which to establish progress toward goals. The Corps concurs with the need for a comprehensive monitoring program. We have discussed various methods of monitoring that are within our resource capabilities and plan to describe and implement monitoring through our OMP.

Full Comments (15) and Corps Response Letter(1)



-----Original Message-----

From: Vande Kamp, Troy [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 9:59 AM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lake Red Rock Master Plan

My only suggestion would be to begin to develop the other side of the lake as well using trails to connect to White Breast Recreation Area, the Visitor's Center, and possibly even Elk Rock State Park, (even though it is a different entity) or even developing new camping areas on that side of the Lake (there are housing developments, along the lake, but little to no Cop of Engineer projects) as currently, that side of the lake is under-developed (seems all development \$\$\$'s are spent on the other shore of the Lake and it is getting "crowded").

Troy VandeKamp
[REDACTED]
Pella, IA 50219

From: Oliver, David J [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 12:01 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lake Red Rock Master Plan

Dear Ms. Frohlich:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Lake Red Rock master plan. I attended some of the meetings that the Corp had organized to gather input from local lake users. I was very excited about the expanded recreational opportunities that were being proposed including bike paths, new paddle-in campsites, and expanded conservation efforts. In support of these activities I have worked with the local paddling and primitive camping enthusiasts to survey the lake and recommend potential new campsites, get national water trail designation for the Lake Red Rock water trail, and organize an annual cleanup for high use areas around the lake.

The final draft of the LRR master plan seems to have all of the most exciting recommendations incorporated and in my opinion presents an excellent view of what the lake and its environs can become - a truly marvelous resource for the citizens of Iowa and the U.S.

Thank you for your efforts and I give you my strongest support in success in implementing this impressive vision.

Sincerely,
David Oliver

David J. Oliver
Professor of Biology
Department of Genetics, Development and Cell Biology
Iowa State University
Ames, IA 50011

-----Original Message-----

From: Lynn Slykhuis [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, March 30, 2015 6:05 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Master plan red rock

Please mail me a copy of the master plan. The download won't open.

Lynn Slykhuis
[REDACTED]

Thank you

From: Rod Braun [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 31, 2015 2:52 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lake Red Rock Master Plan Comments

Hi Wendy,

I spent some time over the weekend skimming through the report. I was quite impressed with all of the data. The only thing I didn't see, and perhaps I missed it, was much focus on improving water quality.

I have been windsurfing from North Overlook Beach for about 10 years and it seemed that each year there were more warnings posted for high bacteria levels. But, I did not have any good data until I learned about the reports on the website "Des Moines River Water Quality Network." I compared the mean bacteria levels for all readings in 2008-09 to 2012-13 and found that the mean bacteria levels increased 5.44 times in just the four-year period. I had an email exchange with Donna Lutz at ISU and she suggested that the large number of gulls "camping" on the beach at night was probably the largest contributor to the high E. coli levels. I also had a lengthy conversation with Perry T. at Lake Red Rock ACE Office and he made the same point. The only thing that doesn't make sense to me is that there have been lots of gulls spending the night at North Overlook Beach for as long as I have lived in Pella (28 years). And, if the gulls are truly the source of the bacteria, why not a creative way to keep them off the beach for one season to test the hypothesis?

I'm concerned that the increasing bacteria levels are going to scare people from water sports at LRR. Many people that decline my offers to teach them windsurfing believe the water is not safe.

Regards,

Rod Braun
[REDACTED]



From: Higginbottom, Daniel [DCA] [mailto:Daniel.Higginbottom@iowa.gov]
Sent: Monday, April 06, 2015 1:01 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Cc: Ross, James S MVR; Jones, Doug [DCA]; King, Steve [DCA]; Christian, Ralph [DCA]; Andre, Sara [DCA]; Suzanne Buffalo; Buffalo, Jonathan; John-Doershuk@uiowa.edu; Lance Foster; jeddins@achp.gov; Gourley, Kathy [DCA]
Subject: [EXTERNAL] 150300129-COE-Polk, Marion, Warren-Red Rock Reservoir Revised Master Plan

April 6, 2015

150300129-COE-Polk, Marion, Warren-Red Rock Reservoir Revised Master Plan

Dear Ms. Frohlich,

We have received the Corps' March 27, 2015 letter and attached CD containing the Draft Master Plan of the Lake Red Rock Project. We provide the following response in accordance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 *et seq.*) and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800 (revised, effective August 5, 2004).

Upon completion of a cursory review of the draft Master Plan (DMP), we offer the following comments and observations regarding its implications on the management and preservation of historic properties:

- The DMP seeks to revise and update Red Rock's current master plan, developed and implemented in 1976, in order to bring facility use and management more into line with current laws and regulations and the present needs of managers and users. Section 110 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) also requires federal agencies to develop Historic Property Management Plans (HPMP) that outline standards and procedures for inventorying, evaluating and managing historic properties under their stewardship. The Corps should take this opportunity to make concurrent revisions to its existing HPMP for Red Rock Reservoir, which was developed in 1996 and did not take into account the perspectives of vested third-party interests, the Native American tribes in particular. Moreover, the present archaeological inventory for Red Rock Reservoir is largely based on a series of reconnaissance-level archaeological surveys conducted in the late 1960s and 1970s that did not always utilize best-recommended procedures for the identification, delineation, and evaluation of archaeological/historic properties. The NHPA and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800 have undergone several amendments since 1996 limiting the effectiveness the current HPMP. It should be revised so that it is consistent with the DMP and current with NHPA and 36 CFR Part 800.
- In our opinion, the DMP and draft Environmental Assessment (EA) pays 'short-shrift' to cultural resources and their management under the preferred alternative. The EA lists Cultural Resources as one category scrutinized in detail as part of the MP process, yet it is not reflected as such in the DMP or EA. Furthermore, the information provided does not adequately support the Corps' conclusion that the adoption and implementation of the master plan would have "no effect" on inventoried and un-identified cultural resources. In fact, the EA presents conflicting assessments of effects upon cultural resources in Table EA-7, which cites 'no impacts' with a contradictory footnote "No Adverse impacts Anticipated" and then in Section 4.1.11 where a finding of "no historic properties" is presented.

- Section 4.1.11 of the EA States that "While the corps is assured that no historic properties would be affected by the preferred alternative, if any undocumented cultural resources are identified or encountered, the Corps would discontinue activities and resume coordination with the consulting parties to identify the significance of the historic property and determine potential effects." First, the conclusion that no historic properties would be affected is presumptive given the outdated status of Red Rock's HPMP and inventory, the inadequacies of the original survey work with regard to addressing present management needs and regulatory purposes, and the absence the Native American perspective and expertise, particularly with regard to known and unidentified traditional cultural properties (TCP's). Next, the statement describes a scenario in which unidentified cultural resources are encountered *after* the commencement of the undertaking and adverse effects have already occurred. What the document fails to do is described what *proactive* measures would be taken to investigate for the presence *prior* to the undertaking, which is the stated purpose of the current planning document. Relying and acting upon outdated - and in some instances inaccurate information, is not consistent with the present planning effort.
- Without a clear explanation of how the Corps intends to meet its obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) cannot serve as a concurrent documents for the purposes of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and NHPA. 36 CFR Part 800.8 (a)(3) notes that an "agency official should ensure that preparation of an environmental assessment (EA) and finding of no significant impact includes appropriate scoping, identification of historic properties, assessment of effects upon them, and consultation leading to resolution of any adverse effects." In our consulting opinion, this has not yet been completed and the current document offers no guidance under which to proceed. Apart from very generalized references and statements, the Corps has not established how it intends to address its obligations under 36 CFR Part 800. 2-.6. With long-range planning documents this is typically accomplished through the execution of alternative procedures as allowed under 36CFR Part 800. 14.

We have conducted this review according to our responsibilities defined by Federal law pertaining to the Section 106 process. The responsible Federal agency does not have to follow our recommendations to comply with the Section 106 process. It remains the responsible Federal agency's decision on whether or not to proceed without the SHPO's concurrence.

Thank you for providing our office with the opportunity to review and comment.

Sincerely,
Dan Higginbottom, Archaeologist



IOWA DEPARTMENT OF CULTURAL AFFAIRS
State Historic Preservation Office
600 East Locust Street | Des Moines, Iowa 50319



-----Original Message-----

From: Al & Marcia Hibbard [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, April 08, 2015 12:47 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: Re: [EXTERNAL] Lake Redrock MasterPlan (UNCLASSIFIED)

Looks like a great plan, thanks.

Marcia Hibbard

From: Matthew R McCulla [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, April 17, 2015 3:11 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lake Red Rock

Wendy,
Thank you for the post card and allowing me the opportunity to view the master plan for Lake Red Rock. I think there are a lot of exciting proposals. I personally would love to see the Volksweg trail expanded from its current trailhead ending point by Roberts Creek, expanded to Cordova and then up HWY 14 to Des Moines. I think the biking community continues to expand in the Des Moines and surrounding areas and more access to trails would bring people this way to Lake Red Rock and all it has to offer.

I also would love to see more of a social environment in the Marina area. Restaurant, bar, music and possibly a membership club could all do well in this area if done properly. Thank you for all you are doing and if there are ways to continue to expand these endeavors please let me know.

Matthew R. McCulla, CFP®



-----Original Message-----

From: Doershuk, John F [mailto:john-doershuk@uiowa.edu]
Sent: Tuesday, April 21, 2015 10:28 AM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Cc: Ross, James S MVR; Jones, Doug [DCA]; King, Steve [DCA]; Christian, Ralph [DCA]; Andre, Sara [DCA]; Suzanne Buffalo; Buffalo, Jonathan; Lance Foster; jeddins@achp.gov; Gourley, Kathy [DCA]; Higginbottom, Daniel [DCA]; Noldner, Lara

Subject: [EXTERNAL] RE: 150300129-COE-Polk, Marion, Warren-Red Rock Reservoir Revised Master Plan

Wendy:

Thank you for providing the opportunity to review the Draft Master Plan of the Lake Red Rock Project. The Office of the State Archaeologist offers the following comments.

First, we wish to reinforce the importance of the comments provided by the State Historic Preservation Office (e-mail by Dan Higginbottom April 6, 2015). We won't clog everyone's e-mail by repeating Dan's observations in total, but will reiterate:

1. "[T]he Corps should take this opportunity to make concurrent revisions to its existing HPMP for Red Rock Reservoir, which was developed in 1996 and did not take into account the perspectives of vested third-party interests, the Native American tribes in particular. Moreover, the present archaeological inventory for Red Rock Reservoir is largely based on a series of reconnaissance-level archaeological surveys conducted in the late 1960s and 1970s that did not always utilize best-recommended procedures for the identification, delineation, and evaluation of archaeological/historic properties."
2. "[T]he DMP and draft Environmental Assessment (EA) pays 'short-shrift' to cultural resources and their management under the preferred alternative. The EA lists Cultural Resources as one category scrutinized in detail as part of the MP process, yet it is not reflected as such in the DMP or EA. Furthermore, the information provided does not adequately support the Corps' conclusion that the adoption and implementation of the master plan would have "no effect" on inventoried and unidentified cultural resources."
3. "[T]he conclusion that no historic properties would be affected is presumptive given the outdated status of Red Rock's HPMP and inventory, the inadequacies of the original survey work with regard to addressing present management needs and regulatory purposes, and the absence the Native American perspective and expertise, particularly with regard to known and unidentified traditional cultural properties (TCP's). Next, the statement describes a scenario in which unidentified cultural resources are encountered after the commencement of the undertaking and adverse effects have already occurred. What the document fails to do is described what proactive measures would be taken to investigate for the presence prior to the undertaking, which is the stated purpose of the current planning document."
4. "Without a clear explanation of how the Corps intends to meet its obligations under the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA), the EA and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) cannot serve as a concurrent documents for the purposes of compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and NHPA."

More specific comments we can offer include:

- On the Chapter 2 introduction page, in the list of sections (2.1 ...) the list stops at 2.14 thereby leaving off 2.15 through 2.19. This was noticed as 2.16 is the primary section on cultural resources.
- Section 2.5 discusses shoreline erosion, which is without doubt among the most likely causes of adverse effects to known and unknown archaeological deposits at Lake Red Rock, but there is no discussion or indication that erosion may be impacting sites or what will be done to manage the situation. I (John Doershuk) had the opportunity to visit with Lake Red Rock personnel last November about a recent discovery of an eroding mammoth or mastodon skeleton from the lake shoreline; it is currently unknown if artifacts are associated with this skeleton. If so, this may prove the best preserved context for the earliest known association of humans and Pleistocene mega-fauna yet discovered in Iowa.
- Section 2.16 is badly outdated and very generic with the most recent citation from 1998. Even more telling, Alex 1980 has long since been replaced by Alex 2000 as the "go-to" reference for Iowa archaeology. Benn and Rogers 1985 publication is valuable to cite but not as a "recent synthesis"!
- Section 3.8 and page 25 of the EA reference 378 previously recorded archaeological sites within the Lake Red Rock management area, and points the reader to Chapter 2 (the above outdated and generic cultural overview) for additional detail—yet next to no substantive information about management of these resources is available in this planning document.
- During preliminary investigation of ArcMap and the I-sitesPro database regarding areas of proposed trail extensions and visitor facilities, a previously documented mound group (13MA7) was identified that could potentially be impacted by the extension of the Volksweg trail. Given the presence of constructed mounds, which were commonly used by Native Americans for burial of their deceased, and the large number of other archaeological sites surrounding Lake Red Rock, it is advised that site searches be performed prior to any proposed undertakings. It is also advised that language to this effect be added to the Master Plan in order to ensure the Corps' continuing recognition of the presence of archaeological sites surrounding Lake Red Rock, and to ensure avoidance of known burial sites.

*Apart from very generalized references and statements, the Corps has not established how it intends to address its obligations under 36 CFR Part 800. 2-.6.

Sincerely,
John Doershuk Lara Noldner
State Archaeologist Bioarchaeology Program Director

Office of the State Archaeologist (OSA)
The University of Iowa
archaeology.uiowa.edu <<http://www.uiowa.edu/~osa/>>
OSA: a UI research center since 1959
S

-----Original Message-----

From: Roger & Gayle Wyma [mailto:]
Sent: Wednesday, April 22, 2015 12:32 PM
To: Frohlich, Wendy M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Lake Red Rock master plan

Hello Wendy,

We read with interest a recent article regarding an invitation for comments from the public regarding development of the Lake Red Rock area. For over 38 years we have lived just a mile from the Red Rock Dam, near Ivan's Campground.

We would like to request the addition of a children's playground in Ivan's Campground. For many years there was a nice wooden playground in this campground. The playground was removed after the flood of 1993 and has never been replaced. The playground was enjoyed by many families during the camping season and it was used year-round by the many families who reside near Ivan's Campground. Since Ivan's Campground is located at the end of the bike trail, this playground made a great stop for families who were biking on the trail, to allow their children to stop and play before they headed back on the bike trail.

Thank you for considering this request.

Roger & Gayle Wyma
[REDACTED]



IN REPLY REFER
TO: FWS/RIFO

United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE
Rock Island Field Office
1511 47th Avenue
Moline, Illinois 61265
Phone: (309) 757-5800 Fax: (309) 757-5807



April 27, 2015

Colonel Mark J. Deschenes
District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Rock Island District
Attn: Wendy Frolich RPEDN
Clock Tower Building, P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, Illinois 61204-2004

Dear Colonel Deschenes:

Thank you for the opportunity to review the Red Rock Master Plan and Environmental Assessment (EA) dated March 27, 2015. Given the high recreational demand at Red Rock, we commend your efforts to balance the needs of public recreation with fish and wildlife resources. We also support the revised land classification system to include Ecologically Sensitive Areas (ESA). This, along with an emphasis on controlling invasive species should lead to better fish and wildlife resources on project lands.

With respect to the six proposed/endangered species listed in the EA, I concur that the proposed plan is not likely to adversely affect any listed species that may occur on Red Rock managed lands. We understand that any future actions potentially affecting habitat for these species will be addressed on an individual basis.

Please contact us if we can be of further support in your Master Plan efforts. This letter provides comments under the authority of and in accordance with provisions of the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 U.S.C. 661 et seq.); and the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended. Questions concerning this letter should be directed to Mr. Jon Duyvejonck (telephone 309.757-5800, ext. 207).

Sincerely,

Kraig McPeek
Field Supervisor

cc: IADNR (Poole)

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US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District

Agency and Public Coordination

APPENDIX B

Red Rock
Project

Master Plan
2015



27 April 2015

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Red Rock Island District
Attn: Wendy Frohlich, Biologist
P.O. Box 2004
Rock Island, IL 61204-2004

Dear Ms. Frohlich,

I am writing to support the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers revision of the Master Plan for Lake Red Rock. As a major management partner for Lake Rock (managing 28,878 acres of the over 50,00 acres), we feel it is a necessity for us to provide input and be supportive of the Master Plan for Lake Red Rock Project. We appreciate the opportunity to provide comments on the Master Plan, and hope they will be considered as the Plan moves forward.

This detailed Master Plan addresses several aspects of the management of the Lake Red Rock Project, on both the USACE managed portion of the Project and the IDNR managed portion of the Project. We appreciate the very detailed analysis and information regarding the Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESAs). This detailed information is critical for managers to be aware of to help focus management efforts in these identified areas to maintain their integrity and improve the areas to prevent further degradation. The ESA sites on the DNR managed portion of the Project will be a focus for the Red Rock Wildlife Unit to insure the future quality of both flora and fauna in the ESAs. With tight budgets, it also helps identify the areas that are critical in restoring and preserving.

Invasive plant species are a major concern within the Project, and identifying this in the Master Plan is critical to habitat management. Invasive species control is a battle that will take multiple agency effort to control. With the creation of the ESAs, efforts can be focused in these areas for invasive species control to help maintain the quality of the ESA plant communities.

A major focus on the IDNR managed areas is for hunting, and we appreciate the goal of maintaining 95% of current public hunting acreage, and really appreciate that 100% of areas will be attempted to remain open for hunting as noted at the bottom. Hunting demand remains strong the Lake Red Rock, especially with its close proximity to the largest metropolitan area in Iowa, Des Moines.

We encourage the USACE to examine any current areas that are not open to hunting as potential areas that could be opened for hunting where other land use conflicts would be

minimal. We also would encourage the USACE to include more information in the Master Plan regarding the hunting use in the area, as well as noting it as a major recreation use of the Project throughout the Master Plan. We would be willing to work with you on providing this data, and other details to demonstrate this valuable and heavily used activity at Lake Red Rock. According to the U.S. Wildlife Service, Iowa had 253,000 individuals that participated in various hunting activities in 2011, spending over 400 million in hunting related expenditures. Lake Red Rock is the largest continuous tract of public land in Iowa, and many hunters rely on public land for a place to hunt.

The detailed maps are outstanding, and very helpful when examining the Master Plan. A suggestion on some of the maps would be to include the IDNR owned areas that are adjacent to the USACE lands. An example of this would be in the South River corridor of the Project. Including the IDNR owned lands in the map would be helpful in addressing fragmentation concerns and adjacent agency landowners in helping identify partnering together for common goals on the landscape.

We appreciate your willingness to allow us to provide input in this process, and hope to continue as a partner in the management of the Lake Red Rock Project in the future.

Sincerely,

Todd Gosselink
Wildlife Biologist, Red Rock Unit
Iowa Department of Natural Resources
1105 N HWY T15
Knoxville, IA 50138
todd.gosselink@dnr.iowa.gov

cc: Angi Bruce, IDNR Wildlife Management Supervisor
Scott Peterson, IDNR Central District Wildlife Supervisor

-----Original Message-----

From: David DeGeus [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, April 27, 2015 4:03 PM
To: Thostenson, Perry M MVR
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Re: New master plan (UNCLASSIFIED)

Perry:

Thanks for the heads up on the plan. Overall I think it looks like a really good plan. It incorporates many of the public's highest priorities and I like the fact that you are paying special attention to Red Rock's natural areas.

I did not have time to read the entire plan word for word but did have a few observations/suggestions that I would like to pass along.

1) I noted that the plan often referred to the Andreas Atlas when describing historical vegetation. Since you are using historical vegetation as something of a guide for future restoration I think it is important note that what the Andreas Atlas and the original land surveyors notes describe as "woodland" is actually what we now call "savanna". Numerous researchers have noted this and I think this fact should be called out in the plan, otherwise future managers may misinterpret the term "woodland" to mean forest. Nearly all of the "woodland" found at Lake Red Rock at the time of settlement would have been open enough to contain under stories of grass and herbaceous plants. It's highly unlikely that any of the woodlands present would have been closed canopy "forests" that you see today. If you are working to restore wooded ESA's I think the end goal for nearly all should be some form of savanna. The leaf litter under stories of the non-native closed canopy woodlands present today provide little habitat for wildlife, cause excessive gully erosion, and smother native plant communities.

2) I would like to have seen some mention of the need to manage habitats for grassland birds, pollinators and other grassland wildlife as they are among the most imperiled species on North America. There is a Corps/NABCI mandate to mandate for grassland birds and I did not see this mentioned anywhere. I realize that managing vegetation helps but in some cases extra steps are needed. For instance, the Monarch butterfly is in serious trouble and vegetation management alone is unlikely to bring back the common milkweeds they depend on. Extra steps to introduce certain needs of grassland wildlife should also be considered in this Master Plan.

3) I was happy to see the focus on invasive removal but would like to have seen a similar emphasis on returning historical ecological processes to the landscape. In the Master Plan there was very little discussion of the role that fire and grazing played in maintaining the historical vegetation of the area. I realize that its difficult to reintroduce these but some attempt should be made to at least mimic these major influences on the landscape through mowing, brush cutting and occasional burning (beyond what is suggested for invasives). There are several references to frequent fire in the Marion County History book as well as in other regional histories of the area - I was disappointed not to see this major process mentioned more prominently in the plan. Fire and grazing were essential to the maintenance of the plant communities you are working to maintain. Cutting invasives is a start but a mowing and burning program must be maintained at a large scale to sustain the plant and animal communities of the Corp lands, otherwise it will return to the highly undesirable closed canopy forest found today.

4) I was extremely disappointed to read that this Master Plan would not be covering solutions to the sedimentation problem. I realize that land management on the Corps land would have minimal influence on sedimentation but think its completely irresponsible for the Corps to fail to address it in the Master Plan. Just a few rock grade control structures on the channelized southern tributaries of the reservoir would likely greatly increase the life of the lake, and prolong many of the water based recreational activities addressed in the Master Plan. Excessive sedimentation directly effects everything that goes on in the lake and should have been addressed in the Master Plan. Corps experts at ERDC have perfected the techniques needed to eliminate

headcutting and serious erosion on channelized streams and these methods should have been deployed at Red Rock decades ago.

5) In the discussion on soft trails I think that a full list of possible uses of soft trails should be noted. For instance, mountain bike trails could easily be groomed int the winter to provide opportunities for cross country skiing.

Thanks for the opportunity to comment.

Thanks for your input!

Dave De Geus
The Nature Conservancy
Associate Director, Agriculture and Watersheds
North America Water
[REDACTED]



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Rock Island District

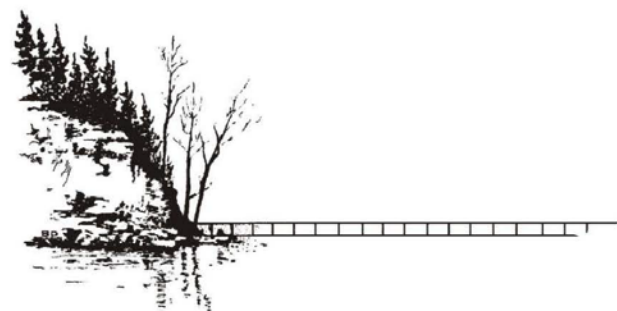
APPENDIX B
Agency and Public Coordination

Red Rock
Project

Master Plan
2015



US Army Corps
of Engineers®
Rock Island District



Red Rock Lake Association

PO Box 292
Pella, IA 50219
www.RedRockLakeAssociation.org

April 30, 2015

The Red Rock Lake Association (RRLA) is invested in the future the Lake Red Rock Area. Having an opportunity to review the master plan is much appreciated and also acts as a springboard for renewed excitement and efforts to improve upon the lake area.

Since 1969, this group has worked in concert with the Corp, and we want to continue to be a partner supporting the Corp and focusing on the wellbeing of the Lake Red Rock Area. As a group, we support the recently updated master plan and appreciate the effort which saw to its development.

Conservation and resource management continue to maintain high levels of priority for both the Corp and the RRLA. Joint efforts such as fish rearing ponds and public education regarding issues with runoff and silt have proven as successful endeavors.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with the Army Corps of Engineers to assist in the enduring success and stability of Lake Red Rock.

Respectfully submitted,

James Breckenridge

President | Red Rock Lake Association



Marion County Conservation Board

214 EAST MAIN STREET
4TH FLOOR, COURTHOUSE
KNOXVILLE, IOWA 50138
PHONE (641) 828-2213

April 30, 2015

Dear Sir,

The Marion County Conservation Board would like to take this opportunity to thank the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers for including managing agencies at Lake Red Rock in developing its new Master Plan.

Considerable time and resources were invested in the development of this comprehensive master plan to make it the best it could be, both from a natural resources perspective, as well as the various stakeholders' interests.

We are proud to be a part of this new plan which sets the framework for future development and improvements at the lake.

Regards,

Steven B. Edwards
Executive Director
Marion County Conservation Board
214 East Main, 4th Floor Courthouse
Knoxville, Iowa 50138



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
REGION 7
 11201 Renner Boulevard
 Lenexa, Kansas 66219

APR 30 2015

Ms. Wendy Frohlich
 Environmental Compliance Branch
 Regional Planning and Environmental Division
 Department of the Army
 Rock Island District, Corps of Engineers
 Clock Tower Building
 P.O. Box 2004
 Rock Island, Illinois 61204

Dear Ms. Frohlich:

I have reviewed the draft Environmental Assessment supporting the revised Master Plan for the Lake Red Rocks Project, located on the Des Moines River in Marion County, southeast of Des Moines, Iowa. Although originally authorized for flood control in the 1938 Flood Control Act, the Project's contemporary authorized purposes include, in addition to flood control, recreational use and the management of fish and wildlife resources (WRDA, 1976). Approximately 50,000 acres was acquired for the reservoir and surrounding lands. The 15,240 lake surface acres constitutes Iowa's largest lake and the Project is the largest contiguous piece of public land in the State.

Initially developed in 1968, this second revised Master Plan would replace the 1976 revision of the Master Plan which focused on the initial construction of recreation areas. Reflecting a change in the Corps' "objectives for management", this revision focuses on managing Lake Red Rock Project resources for a sustainable environment, maintaining traditional recreation areas, developing new recreation opportunities and establishing natural and human connections. Fundamental to this change in Project management focus, the Master Plan applies changes to the Project's land classifications to include the addition of two layers of sensitive area classifications, i.e., Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Important Natural Resource Areas. The Master Plan also includes general recommendations for future management actions for each of the focus areas. The Master Plan also identifies three primary threats to its vision: sedimentation; invasive species; and poor water quality.

The Master Plan is a land use management document and does not address water management operations, management of associated water management facilities or shoreline management. Designed to be conceptual, more detailed management actions implementing the Master Plan would be included in the Project's Operational Management Plans.

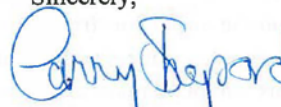


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In general, the revised Master Plan constitutes an improvement in management focus and prioritization over the existing Master Plan. EPA particularly supports the addition of both Environmentally Sensitive Areas and Important Natural Resource Areas as allowable land classifications within the Project. Measures taken under the Master Plan to protect and sustain these critical resources are an important component of continuing and evolving Project management. Our comments reflect, however, our recommendation that the Master Plan include more quantitative and specific objectives, measures and metrics to evaluate compliance with this important goal. We encourage the Corps to develop such objectives, measures and metrics in future revisions to this Master Plan and in associated implementation documents as a means of supporting an adaptive management approach for this Project. We also encourage the Corps to develop and implement a monitoring program linked to Master Plan goals and objectives.

After reviewing both the draft EA and the revised Lake Red Rock Master Plan, we agree with the District's draft Finding of No Significant Impact. However, we would appreciate your review of the enclosed comments regarding the content of the Master Plan and the draft EA. As the draft EA states that water management policies affecting management of the Project are contained within the Des Moines River Master Manual, EPA would appreciate information regarding planned future revisions to the Master Manual and the opportunity to review the proposed revisions and supporting NEPA documentation when they become available for agency review. We would also appreciate the opportunity to review future revisions to the Project's Shoreline Management Plan and associated NEPA compliance documentation.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the draft EA supporting the Lake Red Rock Master Plan. If you have any questions regarding these comments, please contact me at 913-551-7441 or shepard.larry@epa.gov.

Sincerely,

 Larry Shepard
 NEPA Analyst

Enclosure



US Army Corps of Engineers
 Rock Island District

APPENDIX B
Agency and Public Coordination

Red Rock Project
Master Plan 2015



Lake Red Rock Master Plan

The revised Master Plan includes three Primary Focus Areas with goals listed within each. Although the document references objectives, none are specifically identified. Within each goal, a narrative generally describes management actions which might be undertaken to support the goals. Specific actions which might be undertaken by the Corps to achieve specified goals are left to Operational Management Plans. The Master Plan should, however, contain specific objectives, measures and metrics by which the Corps, its partner agencies and the public could determine whether those management actions, included within Operational Management Plans, are successfully achieving listed goals or improving conditions within the Project or which might instead require modification. We recognize that goal-specific management actions are more appropriate to these OMPs, but goals, objectives and targets are necessary to the Master Plan.

Within the Sustainable Environment focus area, the detailed descriptions of Environmentally Sensitive Areas and associated management actions provide important specificity to the goals of protecting threatened landscapes and restoring those ESAs. The narratives describing each ESA and ESA-specific needs and challenges are excellent. However, goals addressing invasive species and fisheries are either vague or likely unachievable, i.e., improve fisheries, eliminate invasives. Numeric targets appropriate to each goal would meaningfully define successful management through OMPs. The goal addressing public hunting acreage does include a quantitative measure or objective against which to judge management success, i.e., maintain 95% of current acreage.

Within the Natural Place to Play focus area, the three goals lack any quantitative measures to determine success or improvement, e.g., increasing the number of boat ramps, increasing the number of boat slips, reducing the number of algal blooms, reducing the number of beach closings due to bacteria or other causes, increasing path or trail mileage.

Within the Connections focus area, the five goals similarly lack quantitative measures of management success. The goal of reducing habitat fragmentation really requires firm quantitative objectives and metrics to measure successful management. For this goal, the text describing it is vague and without meaningful content. The remaining goals all represent some form of community connection and education and these goals could be quantified with measures of increased access, project completion and program development.

Although many of the specific actions which the Corps or its partners might undertake in support of the focus areas and its goals would be described in subsequent Operational Management Plans, this does not preclude identifying objectives, measures and metrics in the Master Plan which would help the Corps, its partners and the public determine whether those specific management actions are successfully improving Project conditions and achieving goals.

A comprehensive monitoring program is an important component of an adaptive management approach to natural resources management. The Master Plan does not identify a monitoring program for the Project. In order to measure progress towards goals identified under each focus area, the Master Plan should include, as an objective, the development of a monitoring program specifically linked to each goal and informing quantitative objectives designed to describe achievement of each goal.

Environmental Assessment

Purpose and Need

Figure EA-2 is helpful to understanding the relationship between the Master Plan and the Project's Operational Management Plans. It would also be helpful if the EA identified examples of "specific action tasks" undertaken to achieve individual "goals" or "objectives" specific to each focus area within the Master Plan.

Range of Alternatives

The NEPA process would have been better supported if the Corps had carried forward through the alternatives assessment more than one 'action' alternative. The Corps had eliminated from detailed analysis two alternatives focusing on either resource protection or recreation. Since the 'no action' alternative would default to on-going management of project resources using the existing 1976 Management Plan, an array of 'action' alternatives could have included at least one more version of a revised Master Plan incorporating the same multi-purpose components of the preferred alternative with differing 'slants' on resource usage. In principle, a detailed assessment of management alternatives which includes only a 'no action' and one 'action' alternative could be viewed as a less than comprehensive evaluation of management options and outcomes. Section 2.0 states that "only one action alternative... would meet the purpose, need, and objectives of the master planning process." We disagree that the assessment of any federal project could have but one alternative that meets project purpose and need or addresses management objectives. A more robust range of alternatives, beyond one 'action' and a 'no action' alternative would better serve the spirit of NEPA and the intent of Council of Environmental Quality regulations and guidance.

Although Section 2.0 references "Resource Objectives" identified in the Master Plan, Chapter 3, it is not clear what those objectives include. Chapter 3 identifies the three "Primary Focus Areas" and the specifically identified "goals" under each Focus Area. These goals are also listed on pages EA-14 and EA-15 of the draft EA, but are described as "recommendations." Nowhere within Chapter 3 of the Master Plan are objectives specifically identified. Text supporting each "goal" might contain the referenced "objectives", but, typically, objectives are of a more quantitative and measurable nature. Most of the text supporting the goals is qualitative or narrative. As mentioned in our comments on the Master Plan itself, the Master Plan would be improved if it contained specific, quantitative objectives, measures and metrics against which to establish progress or management success. Coupled with a monitoring program, the use of measurable objectives supports an adaptive management approach.

Figure EA-5 and Tables EA-1 and EA-2 are very useful to understanding the Master Plan's use of land allocation and land classification and support a comparison of effects associated with the existing and the revised Master Plans.



Section 3.6 would better support implementation of the invasive species “goal” within the “Sustainable Environment” focus area if it characterized the status of each of the 42 management units regarding infestation by invasive species, especially with regard to ESAs and Important Natural Resource Areas within those units. This would provide a quantitative measure of two additional “goals” under this focus area (protect threatened landscapes and restore ESAs) and a means of prioritizing management actions under this “goal.” As both the Master Plan and the draft EA recognize, invasive species constitute one of the most serious threats to Project resources.

Despite both the revised Master Plan (Chapter 8, Summary of Recommendations, Section 8.8) and the draft EA (Section 4.1) identifying sedimentation and water quality, most likely nutrients, as two of the “primary threat[s] to this vision” (Master Plan) and “the greatest drivers of impacts on environmental resources in the Lake Red Rock area” (draft EA), Section 3.0 does not include any assessment of these impacts, the present status of the Project with regard to these impacts or a characterization of whether or how these “threats” would or would not affect achievement of the goals and objectives of the revised Master Plan. The significance of this issue is further underscored within Chapter 2 which identifies a 2014 blue green algal bloom as the “worst bloom in project history.” Clearly, these issues affect Project fisheries and recreational use by the public.

Environmental Consequences

In the event that there are jurisdictional Waters and/or Wetlands of the United States affected by any proposed future action under an Operational Management Plan implementing provisions of this Master Plan, we recommend that any mitigation should occur in the same HUC 8 or smaller watershed within the Project area. We advise avoiding and minimizing impacts to wetlands and streams, particularly within ESAs as much as possible before moving towards determining the amount of compensatory mitigation that is required.



US Army Corps
of Engineers ®
Rock Island District



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS – ROCK ISLAND DISTRICT
CLOCK TOWER BUILDING - PO BOX 2004
ROCK ISLAND, ILLINOIS 61204-2004

May 4, 2015

Regional Planning and Environmental
Division North (RPEDN)

SEE DISTRIBUTION LIST

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Rock Island District (District) has received two e-mails commenting on the Draft Master Plan (DMP) for the Lake Red Rock Project regarding compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) of 1966 (16 U.S.C. 470 et seq.) and its implementing regulations 36 CFR Part 800 (revised, effective August 5, 2004). The District would like to thank the State Historical Society of Iowa (R&C#: 150300129, Enclosure 1) and the Office of the State Archaeologist (Enclosure 2) for their timely response and review of the DMP and supporting Environmental Assessment (EA).

The DMP provides the direction for project development and use as well as guidance for appropriate enhancement, protection, and conservation of the natural, cultural, and man-made resources at Lake Red Rock. Further, it identifies conceptual types and levels of activities, not designs, project sites, or estimated costs. With that in mind, many of the comments addressed the need for an enhanced cultural resources component to the DMP including an updated Historic Properties Management Plan (HPMP). Although the HPMP document was completed in 1996, the archeological site and survey database are updated regularly and serve as one of the foundations for management decisions. While it is understood that the references used in the DMP and the HPMP are somewhat dated, it is the District's opinion that the general overview provided in the DMP and EA is still sound and appropriate for this level of assessment. An update to the HPMP is a separate matter that is critical to the Operations and Management of the Red Rock project and will be pursued under the cultural resources funding element.

Several comments address the absence of any discussion of process regarding proactive measures the District would take with individual undertakings and compliance with the NHPA. Language to that effect has been added to the DMP and EA and states that the District will consult on an individual basis for each undertaking as it becomes funded and in accordance with its obligations under 36 CFR 800.2-.6. This, of course, is true whether or not the individual project is categorically excluded from National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) documentation. This will be clarified in the final document.

Finally, both sets of comments identify a lack of Native American input and consideration of traditional cultural properties as a concern in developing the DMP. The District is therefore seeking information from all tribes regarding their concerns with issues relating to this DMP's potential effects on both known and unidentified traditional cultural properties (TCP) and, particularly, the tribes' concerns with identifying properties that may be of religious and cultural significance to them and may be eligible for the National Register of Historic Places [36 CFR 800.4(a)(3-4)]. Concerns about confidentiality [36 CFR 800.11(c)] regarding locations of

-2-

properties can be addressed under Section 304 of the NHPA which provides withholding from public disclosure the location of properties under several circumstances, including in cases where it would cause a significant invasion of privacy, impede the use of a traditional religious site by practitioners, endanger the site, etc. It is the District's intent to treat all TCPs as Environmentally Sensitive Areas (ESA) on the attached maps (Enclosure 3).

The District has identified the consulting parties for this undertaking as set out in 36 CFR 800.2 and invites them by copy of this letter to participate in the Section 106 process (See Distribution List). Please provide information regarding TCP location as it pertains to existing ESA locations so that we can update our ESA maps and enhance the management of our property.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please call Mr. Jim Ross of our Environmental Compliance Section at 309/794-5540, or you may e-mail Mr. Ross at james.s.ross@usace.army.mil or write to our address, ATTN: Environmental Compliance Section (Jim Ross).

Sincerely,

ORIGINAL SIGNED BY

Kenneth A. Barr
Chief, Environmental Planning Branch RPEDN

3 Enclosures (all on CD)

APPENDIX B
Agency and Public Coordination

Red Rock
Project

Master Plan
2015



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