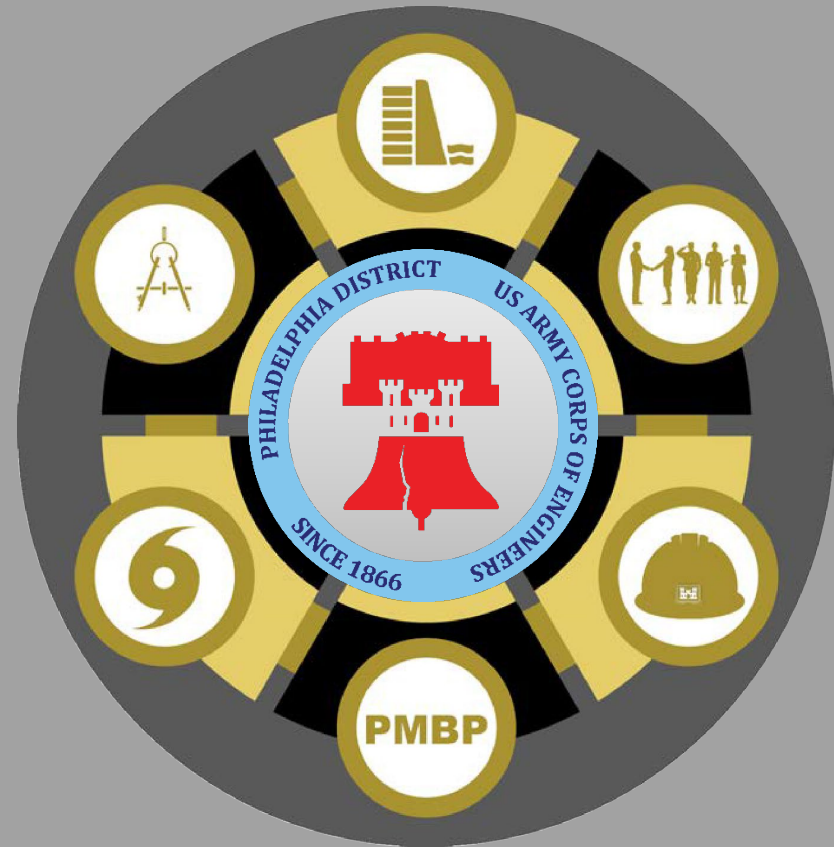


REVISING THE 1975 BLUE MARSH LAKE MASTER PLAN

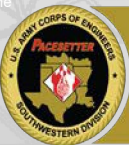


Public Workshop

23 March 2023

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Philadelphia District

File Name



MISSION / PEOPLE / TEAMWORK



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WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

- The purpose of a master plan is to establish guidelines for comprehensive management and development of all recreational, natural and cultural resources
- Main focus is stewardship of natural and cultural resources and provision of quality outdoor recreation facilities and opportunities
- Proposed effective life of a Master Plan is 25 years
- Recreational use of the water surface is addressed



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ADDITIONAL KEY POINTS

Key sections of the Master Plan Revision include

- Resource management objectives
- Revised land use classifications
- Conceptual management plan for each land classification

Potential outcomes could be

- Designation of lands for utility corridors, environmentally sensitive areas...

Protection of environmentally sensitive areas is given priority



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WHAT MASTER PLANS ARE NOT

Master Plans **do not** address in detail the technical aspects of:

- Regional water quality
- Water management for flood risk management
- Water supply or water level management
- Shoreline management (Including boat docks, mowing, or other permits)



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WHAT ABOUT DROUGHT/FLOOD?

- Master Plans cannot change how water in the lake is managed, this is addressed in a separate Water Control Plan
- Natural resources and recreation management must be implemented within the constraints of the primary missions of flood risk management and water supply



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WHY REVISE THE MASTER PLAN?

- Revision is needed to incorporate any changes in Public Law
- Current Master Plan is dated June 1975 and has exceeded its useful life. The way the Lake is managed today is different from the vision set forth in the 1975 plan
- Need to re-examine Land Classifications
- The Master Plan must be revised to address current and projected future growth in the region



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WHAT REVISION CAN YOU PROPOSE?

- Re-examine the classification of all project lands
- Re-examine the classification of all project water surface
- Resource Management Objectives
- Recreation Management Objectives



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NATIONAL ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT

- The MP Revision process includes compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969.
- Purpose of NEPA is to:
 - Ensure federal agencies give proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking a federal action.
 - Involve the Public (scoping) in the decision-making process.
 - Document the process by which agencies make informed decisions.
- NEPA Scoping Process:
 - Opportunity for Public comments and questions on the potential impacts of proposed federal actions.
 - Includes comments by other federal, State, and local governments, and American Indian Tribal Nations.



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NEPA Includes:

- Public exchange of information related to problems to be solved, issues to be addressed, and potential alternatives.
- Identification and evaluation of a broad range of alternatives.
- Identification and quantification of potential impacts.
- Screening of non-relevant issues from analysis.
- Documentation of analysis and coordination through preparation of NEPA documents, such as an Environmental Assessment (EA) or an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS).
- Federal, State, and Public review of NEPA documents.



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What Types of Comments Can You Submit under NEPA?

- NEPA requests your input on the proposed revision of the Blue Marsh Lake Master Plan and the potential environmental impacts of that action.
- Broadly, covers any aspect of the natural and human environment.
- Some examples of comment categories might include:
 - Recreation availability and access;
 - Fish & wildlife habitat;
 - Public access to federal land;
 - Economic impacts;
 - Cultural resources; or
 - Water and air quality.



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NEPA RESOURCES

Available on NEPAnet: <http://www.NEPA.gov>

NEPAnet Includes:

- A Citizen's Guide to NEPA – Having Your Voice Heard
- Council on Environmental Quality Regulations for Implementing NEPA (40 CFR Parts 1500-1508)



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THE MASTER PLAN REVISION PROCESS



Where we are today



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How can you participate?

Review the below documents at website:

www.nap.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Blue-Marsh-Lake/Blue-Marsh-Lake-Master-Plan/

- Public Meeting PowerPoint
- Existing Blue Marsh Lake Master Plan
- Existing Blue Marsh Lake Land Classification Map
- USACE Master Planning Policies and Procedures

Submit a comment with your input on the proposed MP revision.



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Blue Marsh Lake Master Plan Revision Comments

SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS:

- Using comment forms available at this Public Meeting
- Visit the website and complete the comment box for submittal via email.
- By mail: Scott Sunderland, Park Manager, 1268 Palisades Drive, Leesport, PA 19533
- By email: PDPA-NAP@usace.army.mil



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