

RAYSTOWN LAKE MASTER PLAN REVISION

Stakeholder Update: September 2019

Project Team Update

We'd like to announce Tara Whitsel as the Raystown Lake Master Plan Revision's new Project Manager. Avis Kennedy, the USACE rehired annuitant who previously led Raystown's Master Plan Revision effort, will be retiring this October. Avis will remain a member of the team until her official retirement in October to ensure a smooth transition of duties to Tara. This transition of Project Manager duties will be seamless and will not impact the Plan's schedule.



Tara Whitsel
Project Manager

Tara may be a very familiar face to many of you as she's been a Park Ranger and biologist at Raystown Lake for over 16 years. She has been extremely active in both the recreation and environmental stewardship programs at Raystown and has worked with many partners such as the Huntingdon County Visitors Bureau, the Friends of Raystown Lake and the Pennsylvania Striped Bass Association. Tara has been an integral member of the Master Plan Revision team since the beginning of the project, and is fully equipped and ready to take on this new position.

Previous Public Involvement

On February 8, 2018 the team kicked-off the revision process by hosting a stakeholder meeting with government leaders and those who have an official partnership with Raystown Lake. We hosted this meeting to explain the forthcoming process and what to expect during the revision of the Plan. In April 2018, we hosted two public meetings, one in Huntingdon and one in Saxton, to explain the master plan process, gain extremely valuable feedback from the public, and collect official comments. In August 2018, we hosted an Open House Weekend to again provide information, host discussions and answer questions. Official comments were collected until September 30, 2018.

DRAFT MASTER PLAN PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

What was done with the comments from the first official comment period?

The sentiments and suggestions conveyed within these comments are being taken into consideration, along with information obtained from existing and new information such as the biological studies and the Boating Carrying Capacity Study. Any comment submitted within the official comment period will be included in both the draft and final master plans.

How will I be able to submit an official comment on the draft Master Plan?

Comments can be submitted at any time during the official draft comment period through our website, by mail or email or during the public forum.

How long will I have to make an official comment on the draft Master Plan?

We will have an extended comment period for the draft master plan that will give the public 45 calendar days to submit feedback beginning the day the draft is publicly released. While anyone can submit feedback before or after this time period, it will not be included for official evaluation within the Master Plan.

Will the draft Master Plan be available in print for me to read?

We will make the draft Plan available in libraries near Raystown Lake in physical form for those without computer access. Specific locations will be posted to the project website upon publication of the draft Master Plan.

Will there be a public forum to provide feedback?

Yes, more details on when and how this forum will be held will be released closer to the release of the draft Master Plan. Information given to the public during this forum will be posted to the project website for those who cannot attend. Questions can always be emailed to RaystownMPRevision@usace.army.mil at any time.

What will be done with my draft Master Plan comments?

After the draft public comment period closes, the team will review these new comments, examine how they impact the draft plan, and will evaluate for any revisions. Once all USACE reviewers have signed off on the draft Master Plan, the team will then seek Baltimore District Commander approval for the final Raystown Lake Master Plan. The finalization of the plan will be announced to stakeholders, public and media, as well as posted to the project website.

CURRENT STATUS:

The draft Master Plan is currently undergoing meticulous USACE review to ensure accuracy and consistency throughout the plan before its public release late this fall. We'll continue to send you detailed Master Plan updates throughout the fall to make sure everyone is ready and informed for the draft release.

QUESTIONS:

Questions and comments can be sent to RaystownMPRevision@usace.army.mil

Updates and info can be found at:
www.nab.usace.army.mil/raystown-master-plan-revision/



US Army Corps
of Engineers®