



Raystown Lake Draft Master Plan Overview



LAND CLASSIFICATIONS DEFINED

Project Operations: Lands required and used solely for operations of the project.

High Density Recreation: Lands developed for intensive recreation activities for the visiting public (campgrounds, marinas, picnic areas, boat launches, concession areas, etc.).

Mitigation: Lands acquired specifically to offset the losses associated with development of the project.

Environmentally Sensitive Areas: Areas where scientific, ecological, cultural or aesthetic features have been identified. Typically, limited or no development for public use is allowed in these areas.

Multiple Resource Management Lands: This classification is divided into four sub-categories. Typically, these classifications support only passive, non-intrusive uses with very limited facilities or infrastructure.

- **Low Density Recreation:** Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive recreation (primitive camping, fishing, hunting, trails, wildlife viewing, etc.).
- **Wildlife Management:** Lands designated for stewardship and wildlife resources.
- **Vegetative Management:** Lands designated for stewardship of forest, prairie and other vegetative cover.
- **Future or Inactive Recreation Areas:** Areas with site characteristics compatible with potential future recreational development or recreation areas that are closed.

QUESTIONS



www.nab.usace.army.mil/Raystown-Master-Plan-Revision



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“This draft plan is an accumulation of a tremendous amount of hard work by the USACE team and our partners, stakeholders and members of the public.”

-COL John Litz

USACE Baltimore District Commander

THREE MAJOR COMPONENTS

A critical component of the revision was the involvement of the public and stakeholders to ensure environmentally sustainable and responsive future management actions. Two significant study efforts were also initiated and conducted to obtain the necessary information to guide revision decisions and future management of Raystown: the Biological Inventory and the Boating Carrying Capacity Study.

Boating Carrying Capacity Study

This study found that Raystown Lake is currently at capacity/exceeding boating capacity. Raystown Lake's current peak boating use is 5.7 acres per boat, which is well beyond the recommended standard of 10-20 acres per boat. The study used the Water and Land Recreation Opportunity Spectrum (WALROS) methodology developed by the Bureau of Reclamation.

Outcome: The draft Plan proposes no additional boating access to the lake (no dry storage, floating slips, etc.) and proposes no new parking or slips for current boating areas.

Biological Inventory

USACE's Engineering Research and Development Center (ERDC), Environmental Laboratory conducted the Biological Inventory, which included surveys and mapping of shale barren communities along with bat, aquatic insects and mussels surveys.

Outcome: These studies were necessary to determine the existence of special status species populations occurring on project lands as well as determine if significant changes in existing populations have occurred. The results of this inventory assisted in the identification and mapping of environmentally sensitive areas.

Public Input

Nearly 1,000 comments were submitted and analyzed. Slightly over half of input received was focused on the Hawn's Bridge area. Nearly 3 out of every 4 comments opposed the reclassification of this area as high density recreation. Other comments submitted requested specific recreation improvements in other areas of the lake. Comments were collected via email, mail and through a website submission form.

Outcome: The input showed that a majority of the Raystown Lake community desires the Hawn's Bridge area to be classified under a land classification that supports passive or low-density recreation. Comments suggesting specific recreation improvements are included when possible as part of the master plan or within the operational management plan when appropriate.

HAWN'S BRIDGE PENINSULA

Outcome: Land Use Classifications for the Hawn's Bridge Peninsula area are divided into 4 land parcels (4013, 5305, 5205 & 5206) each with the following land and sub-land classifications in the draft Plan; **4013 - environmentally sensitive, 5305 - vegetative management, 5205 - wildlife management and 5206 - wildlife management.** Application of the evaluation criteria used for all land classifications throughout Raystown Lake did not support a classification of high-density recreation in the Hawn's Bridge area. While public interest is not a vote, of those who did comment on this area, a ratio of 3:1 opposed any sort of reclassification for development or high density recreation. Although interest in the reclassification of the Hawn's Bridge area did receive support for economic development and additional recreation opportunities, it was not supported by a number of other criteria including the results of the boating study and biological inventories.

MORE HIGHLIGHTS

Susquehannock Campground

Recommended future actions include construction of playground facilities, a multi-use trail expansion, modernization of facilities, correction of traffic flow concerns, campsite renovations and provision of waterborne sanitary facilities.

Seven Points Recreation Area

Recommended future actions include expanded biking opportunities, development of a fishing pier, non-motorized launch, picnic areas, fitness/wellness trails, and boat cleaning stations.

Corbin's Bridge River Access

Identified as a future recreation area with recommended future actions to provide an access road and soft launching access to the lake.

Nancy's Boat-to-Shore Campground

Recommended future actions include expansion of facilities including campsites and sanitary facilities.

Weaver's Bridge Access

Identified as a future recreation area with recommended future actions to provide parking, improved shoreline access, non-motorized launching access and low-impact picnicking.

Land Classifications by Acres

