



REVISING THE 2009 ADDICKS AND BARKER RESERVOIRS MASTER PLAN

**Draft Master Plan Document Release
21 January 2026**

**U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Galveston District**



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Purpose

- Announce the availability of the draft Addicks and Barker Reservoirs Master Plan revision and accompanying Environmental Assessment.
- Highlight changes proposed in the revised Master Plan compared to the previous 2009 version.
- The draft Master Plan with Environmental Assessment documents are available for 30-day public comment period beginning January 21, 2026 and closing on February 20, 2026.



Process Followed to Date

- Initial public open house was conducted on August 19, 2024.
- All comments were considered. See Appendix E of the draft Master Plan for comments and Government responses.
- A draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared and is available in the Master Plan Appendix.



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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



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)



Land Classification Definitions

Source: Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550

Land Classification	Definition
Project Operations	Lands required for the dam, spillway, levees, office, maintenance facilities and other areas that are used solely for project operations.
High Density Recreation	Land developed for intensive recreational activities for the visiting public, including day use areas and campground areas for commercial concessions, and quasi-public development.
Multiple Resource Management Lands	Low Density Recreation: Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive public recreational use (e.g., trails, primitive camping, wildlife observation, fishing and hunting).
	Wildlife Management: Lands designated for the stewardship of fish and wildlife resources.
	Vegetative Management: Lands designated for the stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover.
	Inactive and/or Future Recreation Areas: Recreation areas planned for the future or that have been temporarily closed.
Environmentally Sensitive Areas	Areas where scientific, ecological, cultural or aesthetic features have been identified. These areas must be considered by management to ensure they are not adversely impacted.
Mitigation	Lands acquired or designated specifically for offsetting losses associated with development of the project. Lands allocated as separable mitigation lands can only be given this classification.



Water Surface Classifications

Source: Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550

Water Surface Classification	Definition
Open Recreation	Those waters available for year-round or seasonal water-based recreational use.
Restricted	Water areas restricted for project operations, safety, and security purposes.
Designated No-Wake	To protect environmentally sensitive shoreline areas, recreational water access areas from disturbance, and for public safety.
Fish and Wildlife Sanctuary	Annual or seasonal restrictions on areas to protect fish and wildlife species during periods of migration, resting, feeding, nesting, and/or spawning.



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Proposed Changes in Land Classifications for Addicks Reservoir^(1,2)

Prior Land Classifications (2009)	Acres	Proposed Land Classifications (2026)	Acres	Net Difference
Project Operations	1,924	Project Operations (PO)	2,048	124
Recreation Areas	1,595	High Density Recreation (HDR)	1,217	(378)
Multiple Resources Management Lands (MRM)	5,610	Multiple Resource Management Lands (MRML) Vegetative Management (MRML-VM)	9,174	3,564
Future and Inactive Recreation	101	Future or Inactive Recreation (MRML-FOIR)	443	342
Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)	4,317	Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)	665	(3,652)
LAND TOTAL	13,547	LAND TOTAL	13,547	0

(1) 2009 acres are approximate based on digitizing the 2009 land classification map.

(2) Total acreage differences from the 2009 totals to the 2026 totals are due to improvements in measurement technology, deposition/siltation, and erosion. Totals also differ due to rounding while adding parcels.



Proposed Changes in Land Classifications for Barker Reservoir^(1,2)

Prior Land Classifications (2009)	Acres	Proposed Land Classifications (2026)	Acres	Net Difference
Project Operations	2,188	Project Operations (PO)	2,332	144
Recreation Areas	1,363	High Density Recreation (HDR)	1,431	68
Multiple Resources Management Lands (MRM)	5,655	Multiple Resource Management Lands (MRML) Vegetative Management (MRML-VM)	8,390	2,735
Future and Inactive Recreation	336	Future or Inactive Recreation (MRML-FOIR)	0	(336)
Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)	2,910	Environmentally Sensitive Area (ESA)	299	(2,611)
LAND TOTAL	12,452	LAND TOTAL	12,452	0

(1) 2009 acres are approximate based on digitizing the 2009 land classification map.

(2) Total fee acreage differences from the 2009 totals to the 2026 totals are due to improvements in measurement technology, deposition/siltation, and erosion. Totals also differ due to rounding while adding parcels.



Management Goals & Resource Objectives

- Goals and objectives were developed during the revision process specific to the following categories:
 - Recreation
 - Natural Resource Management
 - Visitor Information, Education, and Outreach
 - General Management
 - Cultural Resources Management
- A complete description of the revised goals and objectives can be found in Chapter 3 of the draft Master Plan revision.



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National Environmental Policy Act

- The Master Plan 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



NEPA Resources

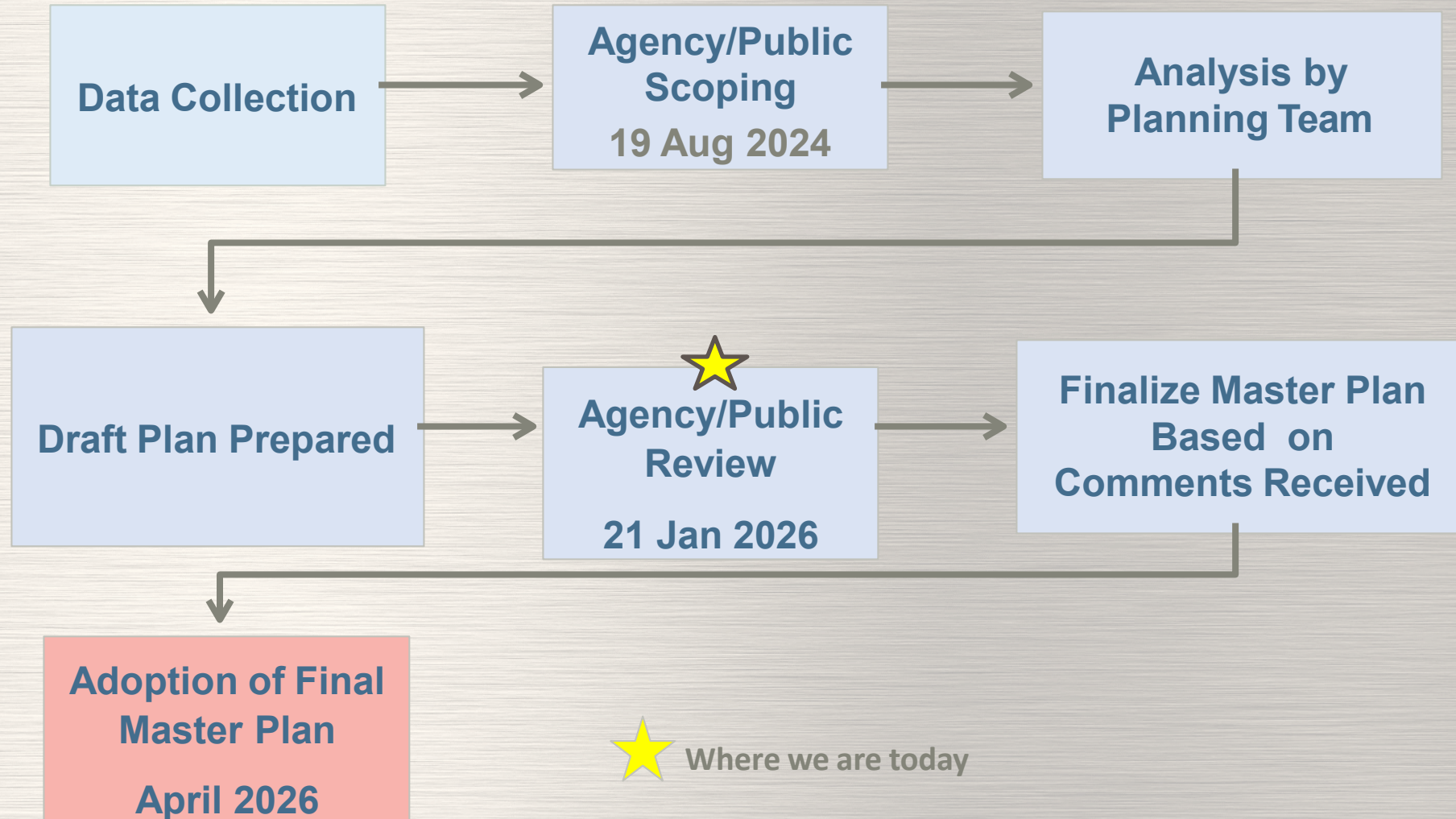
Available on NEPAnet: <http://www.NEPA.gov>

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)



The Master Plan Revision Process



★ Where we are today





How Can You Participate?

Review the below documents at website:

<https://www.swg.usace.army.mil/Projects/Addicks-and-Barker-Master-Plan/>

- Draft Master Plan Document Release PowerPoint
- Draft Addicks and Barker Reservoirs Master Plan
- Draft Addicks and Barker Reservoirs Land Classification Map
- Comment Form

Submit a comment with your input on the proposed Master Plan revision.



Addicks and Barker Reservoirs Master Plan Revision Comments

HOW TO SUBMIT YOUR COMMENTS:

- Send an email, letter or use the comment form available on the website and either mail or email to USACE. All three methods are acceptable.
- By mail: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
David Mackintosh
1011 Highway 6 South
Suite 101
Houston, TX 77077
- By email: ceswg-addicksandbarkermp@usace.army.mil



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