ADDICKS AND BARKER MASTER PLAN REVISION

Public Involvement Presentation July 10, 2024

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PURPOSE OF THE PRESENTATION

- Inform the public and stakeholders that a master plan revision has started
- **Define** a master plan
- Describe the master plan revision process
- Provide instructions on how to participate in the revision process
- Encourage participation
- Provide links to documents

The Corps defines a Master Plan as...

"The strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all project recreational, natural and cultural resources throughout the life of the water resource development project."



PRESENTATION TOPICS

- What is a Master Plan?
- Why do a revision?
- What is the revision process?
- What about the current (2009) Master Plan?
- What about NEPA compliance?
- What is NOT part of a Master Plan?
- What is changing in the Master Plan?
- How can I participate?
- Who can I talk to about the plan?
- When will the Master Plan be completed?





WHAT IS A MASTER PLAN?

2009 MASTER PLAN ADDICKS AND BARKER RESERVOIRS BUFFALO BAYOU AND TRIBUTARIES FORT BEND AND HARRIS COUNTIES, TEXAS



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, GALVESTON DISTRICT GALVESTON, TEXAS AUGUST 2009

- The Master Plan (MP) is a **25-year comprehensive land use management guide** for recreational, natural, and cultural resources
- Adheres to Federal laws to preserve, conserve, restore, maintain, manage, and develop project lands, waters, and associated resources, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for environmental stewardship and outdoor recreation
- Provides land classifications and resource management objectives that are broad and adaptive over time
- Requires and encourages public involvement

See Engineering Regulation (ER) and Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550 for regulations and policy guidance related to the MP



WHY DO A REVISION?

- The current master plan is out of date and is no longer compliant with existing regulations
- Changes in environmental, cultural, social, and recreational conditions have occurred since the current master plan was approved
- Re-examine land classification due to these substantial changes
- The master plan provides long-term goals and consistent management objectives to guide balanced management of resources and public recreation





WHAT IS THE REVISION PROCESS?



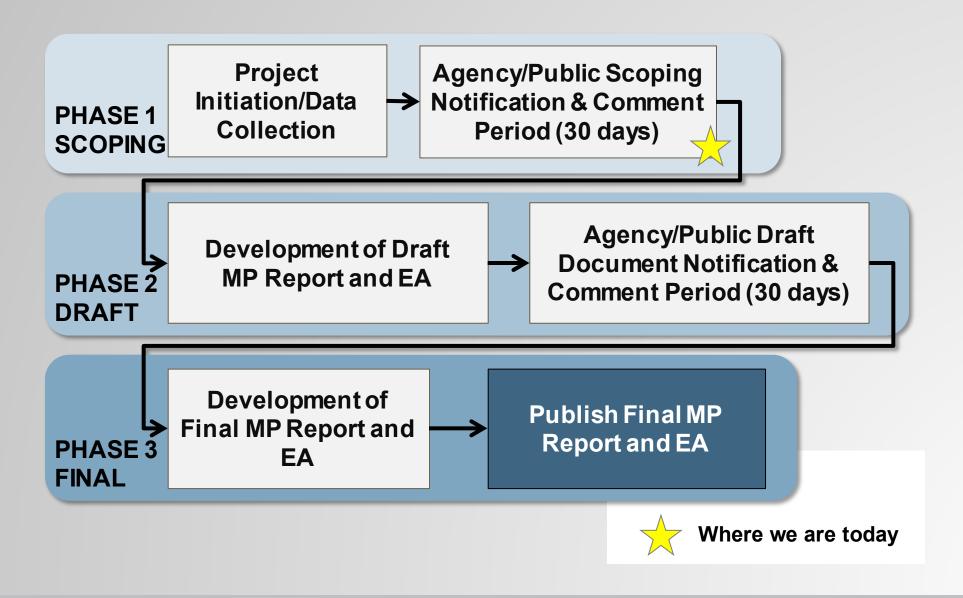
The process is a cover-to-cover **review and revision of the entire plan** and is accomplished by:

- A team of Corps employees including Operations, Real Estate, Master Planning, and Environmental Compliance subject matter experts
- Receive input from and collaboration with partners, neighbors, stakeholders, elected officials, resource agencies, and the public
- A thorough review and update of land classifications
- Developing appropriate NEPA compliance documents



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WHERE ARE WE IN THE REVISION PROCESS?





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WHAT IS THE REVISION PROCESS? LAND CLASSIFICATIONS

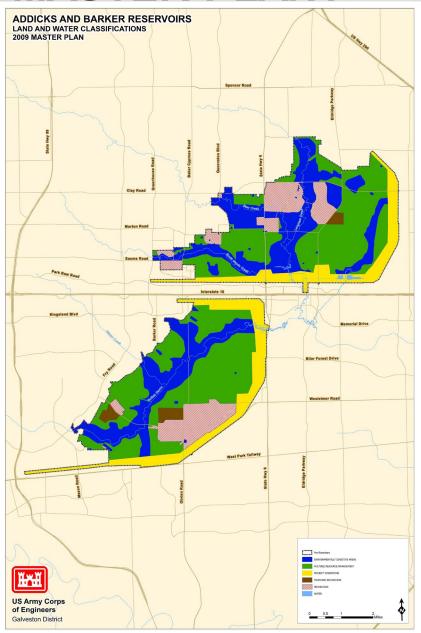
Source: Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550

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.



WHAT IS IN THE CURRENT MASTER PLAN?

- The most recent **approved** Master Plan was in **2009** with land classifications.
- The Master Plan and map can be **downloaded from the website** at the link provided.
- The plan includes a site history and description, natural and cultural resources, and **factors affecting management** in 2009.





WHAT ABOUT NEPA COMPLIANCE? THE ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

Purpose of NEPA is to:

- Ensure federal agencies give proper consideration to the environmental and cultural resources prior to undertaking a federal action
- Involve the Public and stakeholders in the decisionmaking process
- Document the process by which agencies make informed decisions

NEPA **Process**:

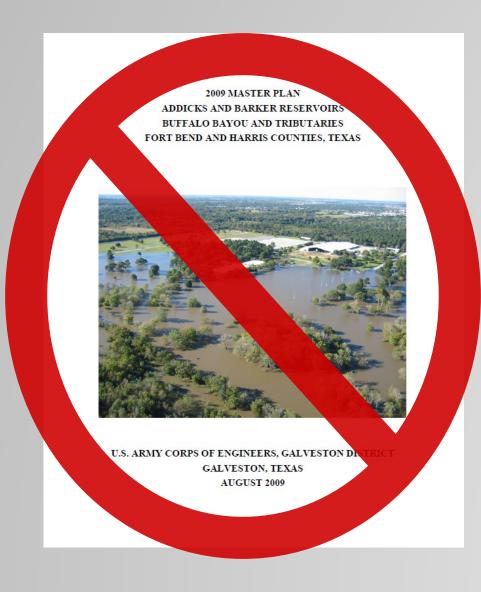
- Opportunity for **public comments and questions** on the potential impacts of proposed federal actions
- Includes comments from other federal, state, and local governments, and Tribal Nations





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WHAT IS NOT PART OF A MASTER PLAN?



- Facility design details
- Details of daily project administration
- Technical aspects of:
 - Water management for flood risk management
 - Regional water quality
 - Dam Operations
 - Water Releases
 - Dam Safety
- Management of Flowage Easement lands

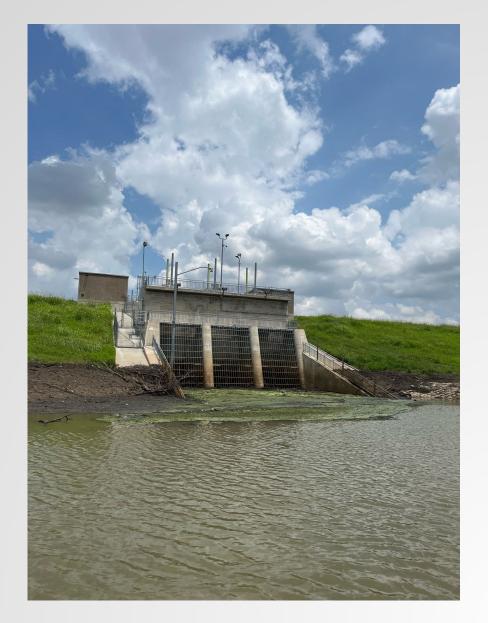
See Engineering Regulation (ER) and Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550 for regulations and policy guidance related to the MP



WHAT IS CHANGING OR PROPOSED IN THE MP?

At this point in the revision process there are no proposed changes

- The Corps is **requesting written comments for RECOMMENDED changes** to the existing master plan
- **Possible Changes** to the Revised Master Plan Could Include:
- Change Land Classification
- Change Resource Goals and Objectives
- Create Utility Corridors





HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

Submit written comments!

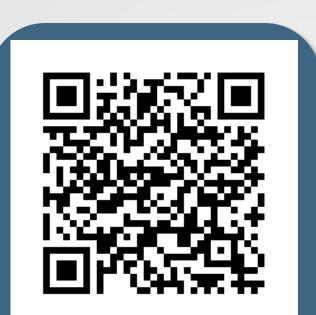
Review all documents available on the USACE website:

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

Documents available on the website include:

- Previous Master Plan
- Project map
- Comment form
- Copy of this presentation

Spread the word by telling your colleagues, friends, and neighbors to participate



SCAN QR CODE

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HOW CAN I PARTICIPATE?

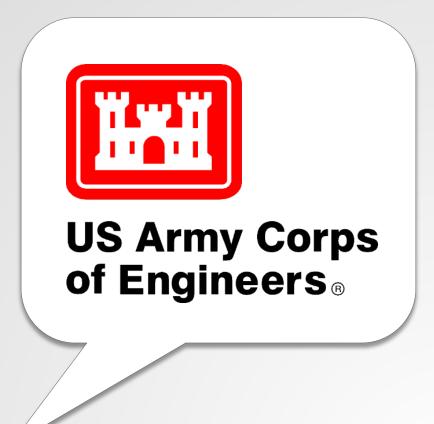
- Comments will be accepted <u>only in writing</u>, some of the methods for submitting a comment include:
- You may **download the comment form** provided on the website, fill it out electronically, and email it to the Corps
- Or you may print the comment form provided on the website, fill it out by hand, and mail it to the Corps at the address on the comment form
- Or you may write a comment or send an email without using the comment form, and mail or email it to the Corps at the address provided on the website
- Comments are due by close of business on <u>August 09, 2024</u>



WHO CAN I TALK TO ABOUT THE PLAN?

Talk to anyone from the USACE at the meeting to answer your questions.

- Call the Addicks and Barker Office at: 281-752-2600
- Email us your questions or comments at: ceswg-addicksandbarkermp@usace.army.mil





WHEN WILL THE FINAL MP BE COMPLETED?

- The Master Plan typically take **18-24 months** to complete
- Projected milestones/schedule

Milestones	Schedule
Public Notification for Scoping	July 10, 2024 (today)
Public Comment Period (30 days)	July 10 – August 09, 2024
Draft Master Plan/EA Public Notification	July 2025 (projected)
Public Comment Period (30 days)	August 2025 (projected)
Final Master Plan/EA Approved	April 2026 (projected)



Thank you for viewing this presentation and participating in the master plan revision process for Addicks and Barker.

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

Email: ceswg-addicksandbarkermp@usace.army.mil

Mail:

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