

CARR CREEK LAKE MASTER PLAN REVISION

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Louisville District
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AGENDA

- Introductions
- Project Background
- What is a Master Plan
- Stakeholder/Public Participation
- Open Forum – Suggestions/Q&A



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MEETING OBJECTIVES

- Inform the public and stakeholders that a master plan revision has started
- Describe the master plan revision process
- Learn what needs, ideas, and concerns stakeholders have about the master plan revision
- Collect your questions and ask for your participation in providing any pertinent information. This information could include:
 - Management Plans
 - Natural and Cultural Resource Data
 - Visitation and Recreation Data
 - Any previous studies completed



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ABOUT CARR CREEK LAKE

The Project is located in the mountainous region of southeastern Kentucky about 16 miles from Hazard and 18 miles from Whitesburg. The dam is located 8.8 miles from the mouth of Carr Fork, a tributary of the North Fork of the Kentucky River.

Settlement of the Carr Fork area began as early as the 1770s when trappers passed through Cumberland Gap and Pound Gap into the Eastern Kentucky Mountains. Settlers came from North Carolina and Virginia with some from what later became West Virginia and Tennessee. Carr Fork is thought to have gotten its name from William Carr, a well-known "Long Hunter," who hunted in the area.

Construction of the dam was completed in December 1975 with impoundment beginning in January 1976.

Visitation averages about seven hundred thousand people per year.

The Louisville District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers designed, built, and operates the project. The project serves as one unit of the comprehensive plan for the Ohio River Basin to reduce the flood stages downstream from the dam. The lake provides water supply storage and operates to increase natural low-flow conditions downstream of the dam in the interest of water quality control. Also, the lake offers boating, fishing, swimming, and other recreational activities to the general public.

More information can be found at: <https://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/Lakes/Carr-Creek-Lake/> or <https://www.facebook.com/CarrCreekLakeUSACE>

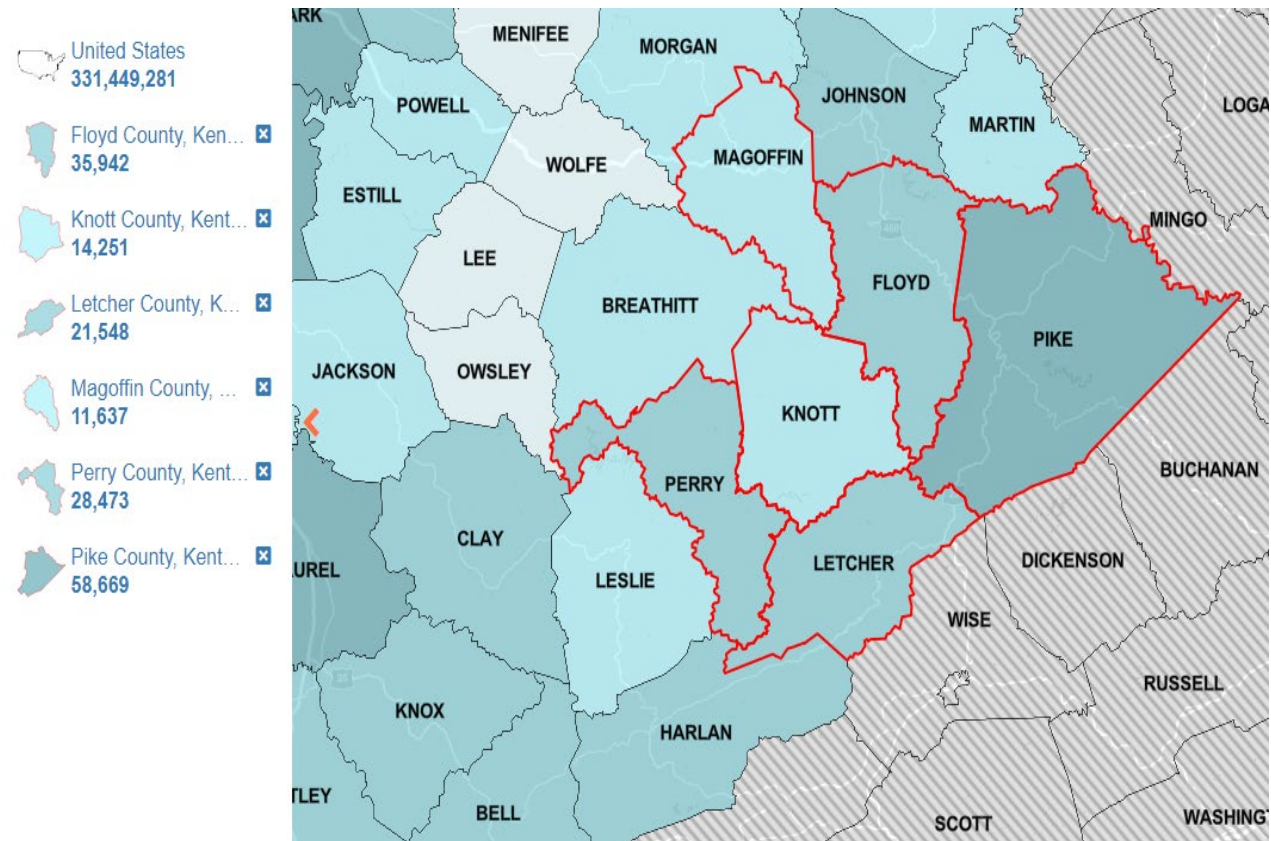


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CARR CREEK CURRENT CONDITIONS

- Increasing Visitation
- Increasing demand on facilities
- High accessibility
- Undersized Recreation Budgets
- Large Recreation Program
- Aging Infrastructure
- Supportive User Groups
- Cooperative Efforts



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CURRENT STATE OF THE PROJECT

USACE Operated

- Class C Visitor Center
- 3 Day Use Areas
- 7 Mile Trail System
- 45 Campsites
- 8 Shelters
- 3 Boat Ramps
- 10 Playgrounds
- 8 Restrooms
- 2 Bathhouses
- 1 Wastewater Treatment Plant

Outgrants

KY Dept. of Parks

- 39 Campsites
- Largest Swimming Beach in KY

KY Department of F&W

- 2880 Acre WMA
- #### Knott County (Red Fox Park)

- 1 Shelter
- 1 Playground

Carr Fork Marina

- Boat and Slip Rentals
- Bait Shop



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WHAT IS A CORPS MASTER PLAN?

The Master Plan is a 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.

- It presents broad, conceptual resource management objectives and land classifications on project lands that are broad and adaptive over time.
- 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
- Reviewed every 5 years; General goal is an effective lifespan of 15- 25 years



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WHAT WILL THE MASTER PLAN REVISION INCLUDE?

- Identify issues, needs, and opportunities
- Provide land classifications and resource management objectives
- Provide for protection of environmentally and culturally sensitive areas
- NEPA documentation will be integrated in the master plan revision
 - 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



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MASTER PLAN GOALS

- The MP establishes **1** Project Vision:
 - 1) Character of Project
- The MP focuses on **2** Corps Missions:
 - 1) Public Outdoor Recreation (REC)
 - 2) Natural Resource Management (NRM)
(environmental stewardship & cultural resource management)
- The MP generates **3** Guiding Products:
 - 1) Land and water classification maps
 - 2) Resource objectives
 - 3) Conceptual resource plan



Flood Control



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MASTER PLAN REVISION TEAM

Accomplished by a team of Corps employees --- with input from other agencies

- Project Manager
- Operations Project Manager
- Planner
- Biologist
- Archaeologist
- Lake Staff
 - Lake Manager
 - Rangers
 - Natural Resource Specialist
- Office Of Counsel
- GIS Team
- Real Estate Specialists
- Public Affairs Specialist



Stakeholders

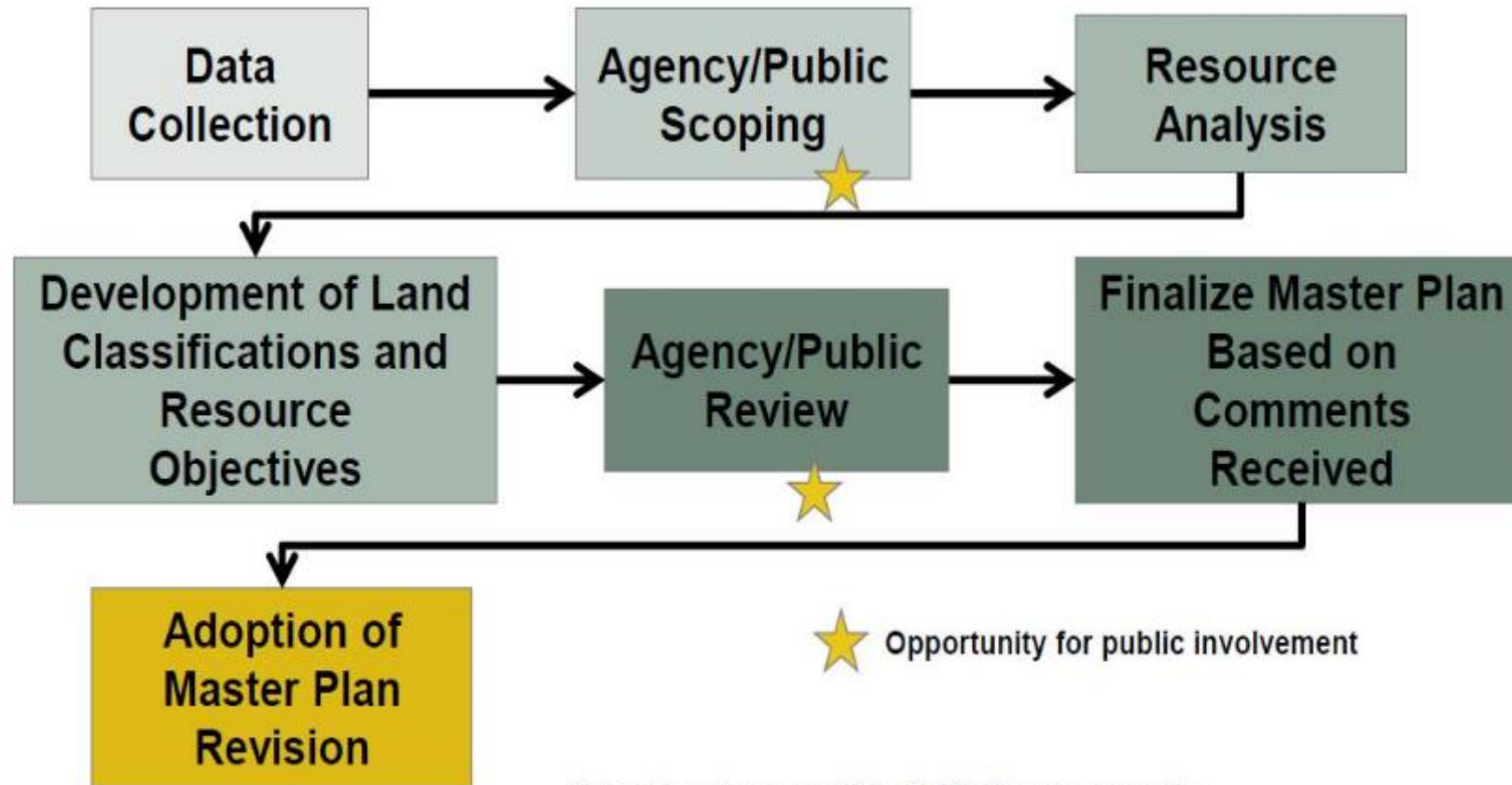
General Public



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MASTER PLANNING PROCESS



Note: Development of the NEPA Document works best if developed parallel to the development of the Master Plan Document



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LAND AND WATER CLASSIFICATIONS

- Project Operations
- High Density Recreation
- Mitigation
- Environmentally Sensitive Areas
- Multiple Resource Managed Lands
 - Low Density Recreation
 - Wildlife Management
 - Vegetative Management
 - Future/inactive Recreation
- Water Surface

Land Classification – a subset of project land based on how the land will be managed (in general, can be periodically changed through formal revision to reflect changing policy, public needs, or to meet mission requirements)



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RESOURCE OBJECTIVES

- Clearly written statements that set forth measurable and attainable management activities that support the stated goals of the MP
- Must be consistent with authorized project purposes, Federal laws, directives, regional needs, resource capabilities, and expressed public interests
- They should also take recreational and natural resources carrying capacity into account as well as State Comprehensive Outdoor Recreation Plans (SCORP). These objectives must maximize project benefits, meet public needs, and foster environmental sustainability.



EP 1130-2-550



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RESOURCE PLAN

- Management area name and/or number
- Land Classification and justification
- Management agency
- Location/Acreage
- Maps of areas
- Description and use
- Resource objectives
- Development needs
- Special Considerations

The Resource Plan describes conceptually how the project will be managed.



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WHAT IS NOT PART OF A MASTER PLAN?

- 1) Focus on facility design details or details of daily project administration.
- 2) Address water level management and flood control as a separate manual is used to regulate water storage and discharge.
- 3) Plan or approve changes to the management of allowable private activities as set forth in ER 1130-2-406 (docks and vegetation modification).
- 4) Technical aspects of:
 - Water management for flood risk management
 - Regional water quality
 - Water supply
 - Shoreline management
 - Water level management



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WHY ARE WE REVISING CARR CREEK LAKE'S MASTER PLAN NOW?

The current Master Plan was written in 1974.



Because the master plan is 47 years old, the plan includes little information on cultural resources, invasive species, endangered species, wildlife habitat value, jurisdictional wetlands, and other environmental features that have become critically important following the passage of landmark legislation such as the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act.

Changes in social and recreational conditions have occurred since the master plan was approved. The revision will re-examine land classifications due to these substantial changes.

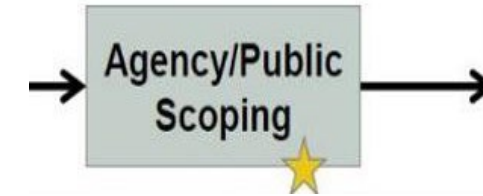
This update is stewardship driven and seeks to balance recreational development and use with the goal of conservation of natural and cultural resources.



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ISSUES, NEEDS AND OPPORTUNITIES



- When you visit, what activities do you participate in at the project site(s)?
- Are there additional facilities or improvements that would enhance a visitor's experience?
- Are there additional communication or informational materials that would enhance a visitor's experience?
- Do you have any specific concerns when visiting project sites? What locations?
- Are there any opportunities to improve fish and wildlife habitat at the project site?

NEXT STEPS

- The master plan process typically takes 18-24 months to complete. The remaining tasks will be completed in 12 months.

Milestone	Schedule
Public Comment Period	18 October – 18 November 2021
Resource Plan Complete	February 2022
Draft Regional Master Plan/EA Public Notification	April 2022
Public Comment Period (30 days)	May 2022
Final Master Plan / Execution of Finding of No Significant Impact	September 2022



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OPTIONS TO SUBMIT COMMENTS:

- 1) Email: CarrCreek.masterplan@usace.army.mil
- 2) Mail to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
843 Sassafras Creek Road
Sassafras, KY 41759-8806
- 3) Interactive Lake Map:
<https://qrgo.page.link/igTRf>




<https://www.lrl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Civil-Works/Recreation/Lake-Master-Plan-Updates/Carr-Creek-Lake-Master-Plan-Update/>



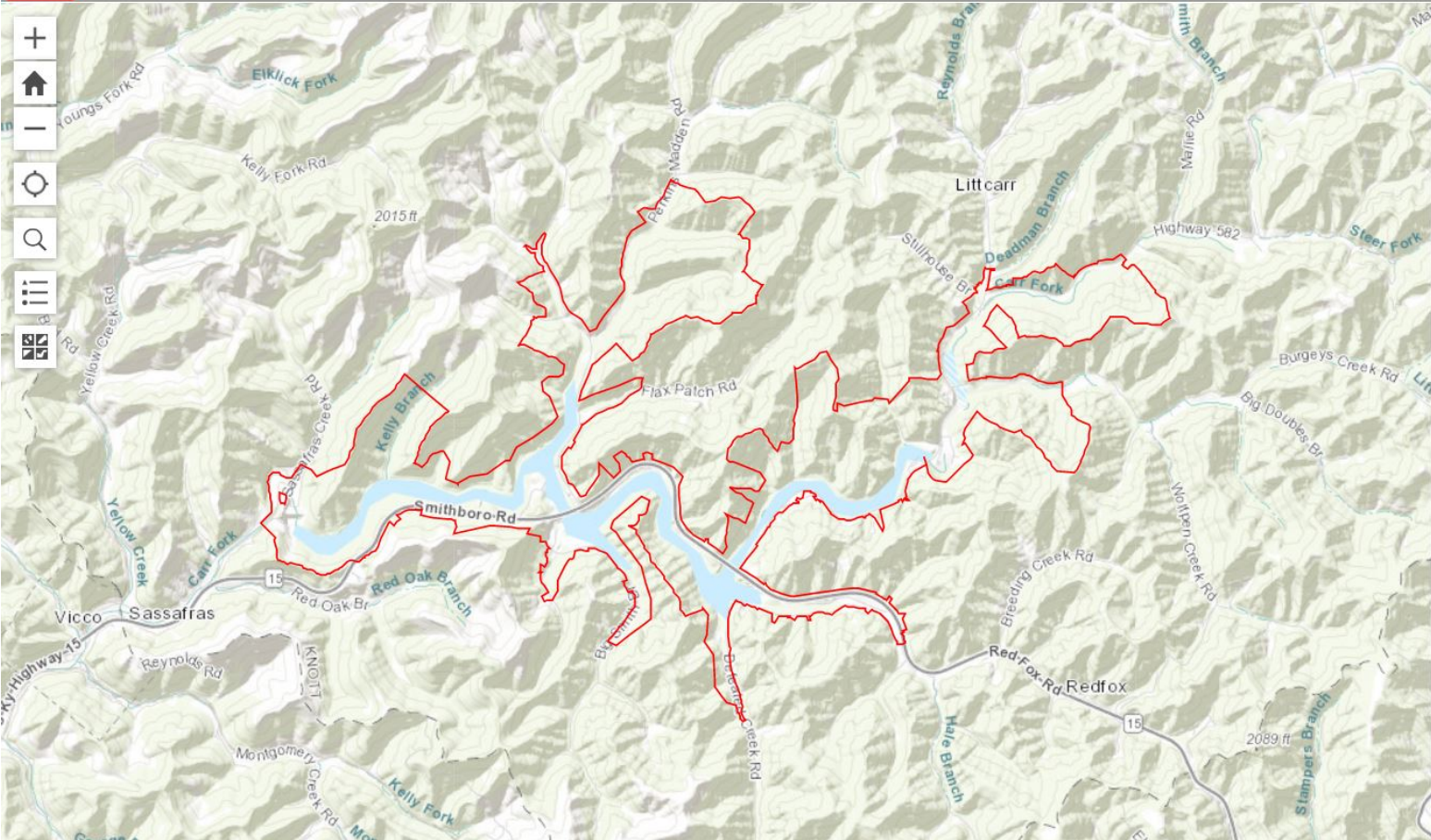
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INTERACTIVE LAKE MAP




Carr Creek Lake - Public Comment Tool







1. Recreation Comment




2. Environmental Comment



3. Safety / Emergency Management Comment



4. Cultural / Historical Resources Comment



5. Other Comment

<https://qrgo.page.link/igTRf>



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QUESTIONS/COMMENTS?



Your Participation is Important!



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GOALS OF PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

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- Inform the public that a master plan revision has started
- Describe the master plan revision process
- Establish and maintain channels of communication
- Identify public's interests and concerns
- Give consideration to public views throughout the process
- Provide information about process and decision making
- NEPA Scoping Process
 - Opportunity for public/agency 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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