

FINAL
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Lead Agency: Little Rock District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Title: Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Greers Ferry Lake Shoreline Management Plan

Designation: Final EIS

Proposed Action: Implement a revision of the Greers Ferry Lake Shoreline Management Plan to replace the 1994 Shoreline Management Plan

Affected Jurisdiction: Greers Ferry Lake, Arkansas, and the counties that contribute to the lake's watershed: Van Buren, Cleburne, Searcy, Stone, Conway, Jackson, and Pope.

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Abstract: The purpose of this Final EIS is to evaluate the impacts of the proposed implementation of a revised Shoreline Management Plan (SMP) for Greers Ferry Lake, as modified from the 1994 SMP. The proposed SMP would adhere to US Army Corps of Engineers policy and Title 36 of the Code of Federal Regulations, Section 327.30, Shoreline Management on Civil Works Projects. The SMP finally adopted will include shoreline management elements that have been identified through the scoping process to be relevant to shoreline management at Greers Ferry Lake and of general concern to stakeholders. Key elements under consideration for revision include zoning of limited development areas, vegetation modification, provisions for grandfathered docks, and restrictions on boats with sleeping quarters and/or marine sanitation devices. These elements are combined in differing formulations to develop the alternatives considered in this analysis. The EIS carries forward for detailed analysis six alternatives or combinations of shoreline management elements: Alternative 1, the No Action Alternative, would continue shoreline management under the 1994 SMP; Alternative 2 would allow rezoning of from 7 percent to 8 percent of the shoreline for limited development and approve existing rezoning requests that meet 80 percent of the Corps rezoning criteria; Alternative 3, No Growth, would not allow rezoning through either existing or future rezoning requests; Alternative 4 would allow rezoning of from 7 percent to 7.5 percent of the shoreline for limited development and approve existing rezoning requests that meet 90 percent of the Corps rezoning criteria; Alternative 5, Maximum Modification, would increase shoreline areas zoned for limited development from 7 percent to 33 percent; and Alternative 6, the Revised Preferred Alternative, would increase the shoreline zoned for limited development from 7 to 7.6 percent, and approve 41 existing rezoning requests that meet 90 percent of the Corps rezoning criteria and 15 existing rezoning requests that meet 80 percent of the Corps rezoning criteria but which scored less than 90 percent.

Only the Maximum Modification alternative would be expected to result in significant adverse environmental impacts. Implementation of any of the alternatives would be accompanied by appropriate measures to mitigate adverse effects.

Review Comment Deadline: Comments must be received by June 14, 2002.