Appendix A: Scoping Report

Nimrod and Blue Mountain Lakes Master Plan Revisions

Scoping Report

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

July 2023

TABLE OF CONTENTS

List of Figures

List of Tables

List of Attachments

List of Acronyms

ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act	FEMA	Federal Emergency Management Agency
AGFC	Arkansas Game and Fish Commission	MP	Master Plan
CEQ	Council on Environmental Quality	NEPA	National Environmental Policy Act
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	OMP	Operational Management Plan
EA	Environmental Assessment	P.L.	Public Law
EIS	Environmental Impact Assessment	R1S	Recreation One Stop
EP	Engineer Pamphlet	SMP	Shoreline Management Plan
ER	Engineer Regulation	URL	uniform resource locator

1 Introduction

1.1 Overview

The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Little Rock District is revising the Nimrod Lake Master Plan (MP) and Blue Mountain Lake (MP). The MP guides the management of the government-owned lands around the shoreline of the lake. The MP affects future management of natural resources and recreational opportunities to ensure the sustainability of both lakes.

The MP is the guidance document that describes how the resources of each lake will be managed in the future and provides the vision for how each lake should look in the future. After the MPs are revised, the Operational Management Plan (OMP) for each lake will be revised to be consistent with the goals identified in the MP.

The current Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MPs were developed nearly 50 years ago, and original estimates of future population and land use do not align with current demographics. The MP revision will re-classify the government lands around the lake based on environmental, recreational, socioeconomic considerations, public input, and an evaluation of past, present, and forecasted trends.

USACE Engineer Regulation (ER) and Engineer Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550 with Change 7 and Change 5, respectively, dated January 30, 2013, establish guidance for developing MPs and OMPs for USACE Civil Works projects. MPs are required for fee-owned lands, in addition to civil works projects, for which USACE has administrative responsibility for management of natural and manmade resources. The primary goals of a MP are to "prescribe an overall land use management plan, resource objectives, and associated design and management concepts" (EP 1130-2-550). MPs are reviewed every 5 years, and minor changes are made through supplements. A MP that has been excessively supplemented, is out-of-date, or does not serve its intended purpose due to changes in the project should be revised.

USACE will be preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to accompany each lake's revised MP in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (as amended), the Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) guidelines (40 Code of Federal Regulations [CFR] Parts 1500-1508), and ER 200-2-2 Procedures for Implementing NEPA. The EAs will evaluate the potential environmental effects of the MP revisions. However, an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) would be prepared if significant environmental effects are identified during preparation of each EA as a result of the MP revisions.

1.2 Purpose and Need for Master Plan

The purpose of the project is to review and revise the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MPs. Both plans strive to balance public use of federal lands and waters with the conservation and protection of natural resources for future generations. Updates of the MPs are needed for the following reasons:

- To ensure accurate land classification and resource protection for future generations.
- To update the plan formats and mapping to modern requirements.
- To better reflect current USACE policies, regulations, budget processes, and business line performance measures.
- Customer uses have remained similar, but trends, recreation equipment (RV size, vessel size, etc.), facility use (amp service, Wi-Fi, etc.), and service demands have shifted since approval of the last master plans in 1975.
- Partners, landowners, and stakeholders are engaged with USACE and seek to increase and sustain benefits provided by the lake.
- To identify issues related to ecosystem stewardship including vegetation and siltation management.

1.3 Project Areas

Nimrod Dam is located in Perry County, Arkansas on the Fourche LaFave River. Construction was completed in 1942. Nimrod Lake was authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 28, 1938. The lake is comprised of 25,339 acres of land and water, with approximately 82 miles of boundary line. The lake provides many recreational opportunities and is a key contributor to a large variety of fish and wildlife habitat.

Blue Mountain Dam is located in Yell County, Arkansas on the Petit Jean River. Construction was completed in 1947. Nimrod Lake was authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 28, 1938. The lake is comprised of 17,266 acres of land and water, with approximately 78 miles of boundary line. The lake provides many recreational opportunities and is a key contributor to a large variety of fish and wildlife habitat.

1.4 Purpose of this Report

The following report summarizes the public participation process for, and the public comments resulting from, the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Revision public scoping comment period. “Scoping” is the process of determining the scope, focus, and content of a NEPA document. For a planning process such as the MP revisions, the scoping process was also used as an opportunity to get input from the public and agencies about the vision for the MP update and the issues that the MP should address where possible.

2 Scoping Process

2.1 Overview

In accordance with NEPA and ER 200-2-2, USACE initiated the environmental compliance and review process for the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP revision projects. EAs will be prepared to identify potential direct, indirect, and cumulative impacts related to implementation of the MPs. The process of determining the scope, focus, and content of a NEPA document is known as “scoping” and this occurs at the start of the process. Scoping is a useful tool to obtain information from the public and governmental agencies in order to help set the parameters of issues to focus on and analyze.

The Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake revised MPs will be prepared as individual, lake-specific documents, each with its own accompanying EA. While revisions will be documented in lake-specific MPs/EAs, public review periods will be held concurrently for both of the projects. Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake are close in proximity and likely see public visitation from similar entities. Tribal Nation and resource agency interests also overlap. To streamline the public involvement process, outreach efforts and public comment opportunities will be advertised and occur simultaneously for both MP revision efforts.

The Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision website was created to be the primary source of information during the scoping period. Website information was provided through various sources, such as notification postcards, news releases, agency scoping letters, and media outreach, for individuals to visit the project website to find out more information about the process to update the Master Plans and to solicit comments for Scoping. As part of the environmental process, a public scoping comment period was open for 45 days between March 16 and April 30, 2023.

In particular, the scoping process was used as an opportunity to obtain input from the public and agencies about the vision for the MPs and the issues that the MPs should address. When individuals visited the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions website, they were encouraged to provide input by completing a comment form that asked for responses to specific questions in addition to soliciting for general comments about the plan and the environmental review. The same set of questions was asked two times, one for Nimrod Lake comments and one for Blue Mountain Lake comments so that commentors could respond for either or both. The questions included:

- How would you like to see Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years?
- What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lakes?
- What about Nimrod Lake/Blue Mountain Lake is most important to you?
- What about Nimrod Lake/Blue Mountain Lake is least important to you?
- Additional comments on the MP revisions or about issues that should be studied?

USACE published notice of the scoping period through an email blast, a direct mail postcard, press releases, flyers, a notice placed on Recreation 1 Stop (R1S) website, and agency notification letters. The postcard notice and email blast were sent to landowners adjacent to USACE-owned lands around the lake, holders of fishing permits purchased in Arkansas whose listed zip code is within seven miles of Nimrod Lake or Blue Mountain Lake, stakeholders, as well as those who held reservations to camp at Nimrod Lake or Blue Mountain Lake campgrounds within the 2022 recreational season. Postcards were sent to individuals for whom a postal address was available; all others received the email blast. Agency coordination letters were sent to potentially interested agencies.

2.2 Agency Scoping

Agencies were invited to participate in the scoping process and to provide input on the vision for the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MPs on issues that should be addressed through the

environmental assessment. A letter (Appendix B) was sent on March 15, 2023, to 21 agencies (Appendix A) providing notification of the upcoming agency scoping comment period and links to the project website where more information could be found.

2.3 Public Scoping

Public scoping is an important element in the process of determining the focus and content of a NEPA document. Scoping helps to identify the range of actions, alternatives, environmental effects, and mitigation measures to be analyzed in depth and helps eliminate from detailed study those issues that are not pertinent to the final decision. Scoping is an effective way to combine and address concerns of the public, agencies, and other interested parties.

Notification of the scoping comment period was completed via several forms of media as described further in this section.

2.3.1 Notification Database

USACE maintains a database of stakeholder groups interested in activities around Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake. In addition, USACE developed a list of adjacent property owners based on the databases maintained by the county assessors of the surrounding counties. USACE also compiled a list of parties who had made campground reservations through the R1S reservation system for camping visits at Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake during the 2022 camping season. Finally, USACE obtained the database of holders of fishing permits purchased in Arkansas whose listed zip code is within seven miles of Nimrod Lake or Blue Mountain Lake. These combined databases included 2,939 email addresses and 6,205 postal addresses, to which notification was sent about the public scoping comment period and website information.

2.3.2 Public Notification Activities

Strategies to engage the public to participate in the MP visioning and environmental review processes included (1) making it easy to participate, (2) providing easy-to-understand information that helps people provide informed scoping comments, and (3) ensuring that stakeholders are aware of the planning process and understand how public input will be used.

2.3.2.1 *Direct Mail Notification*

On March 15, 2023, a total of 6,205 postcards were mailed to adjacent property owners, stakeholders, and holders of fishing permits purchased in Arkansas whose listed zip code is within seven miles of Nimrod Lake or Blue Mountain Lake. The distribution of postcard recipients is illustrated in Figure 2-1 by zip code.

The postcard notification included information on the MP revision process, how to provide comments, the comment period closing date, and the project website address. The direct mail postcard is included in Appendix C.

2.3.2.2 *E-mail Notification*

An e-mail blast was sent on March 16, 2023, to approximately 2,939 email addresses. These emails were sent to stakeholders and those listed on the R1S reservation list for whom valid email addresses were available. The information in the email blast was the same as the

information on the postcard notification.

2.3.2.3 *Project Website*

A project website, https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/, was developed for both MP revision projects. The site includes information about Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake, the MP revision process, interactive maps, a comment form, and information regarding the scoping process. Information on the scoping process included how to submit comments and who to contact for more information. 518 individuals visited the project website between the dates of March 16 and April 30, 2023.

2.3.2.4 *Other Notification Activities*

To maximize the coverage of the outreach effort for the scoping period, a media release was sent to local media outlets using the Southwestern Division, Little Rock District, Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Media distribution list on March 10, 2023. The Little Rock District Public Affairs office also posted notifications of the scoping comment period and associated pertinent data on Facebook. A copy of the press release and Facebook post are located in Appendix C, and copies of the media coverage are located in Appendix G. A scoping notification was also placed on each lake's R1S website during the scoping comment period. A screen shot and verbiage of this notification is available in Appendix C.

2.3.2.5 *Website Statistics*

Due to the loss of the ability to utilize short URLs, USACE was not able to obtain metrics on the source of the hits which would allow USACE to evaluate the effectiveness of each notification method. However, 518 people visited the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP webpage during the scoping period. A breakdown of the number of views for each page is listed below.

- Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Home Page: 518
- Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Documents: 141
- Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Why Update the MP: 122
- Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Comment Form: 271

2.4 Comments Received

The public scoping comment period was held from March 16 to April 30, 2023, which provided a 45-day comment period. All interested people were provided opportunities to submit comments on the public website comment form as well as via email, fax, or mail.

In total, 22 comments (letters, emails, comment cards, or oral comments) from members of the public were received. Seven individuals provided comments pertaining to the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan revision, and 15 individuals provided comments pertaining to the Nimrod Lake Master Plan revision. Three comment submittals from agencies were received by the end of the comment period and pertained to both revisions. Copies of all the public comments submitted during the comment period are included in Appendix E. Copies of agency submittals are included in Appendix F.

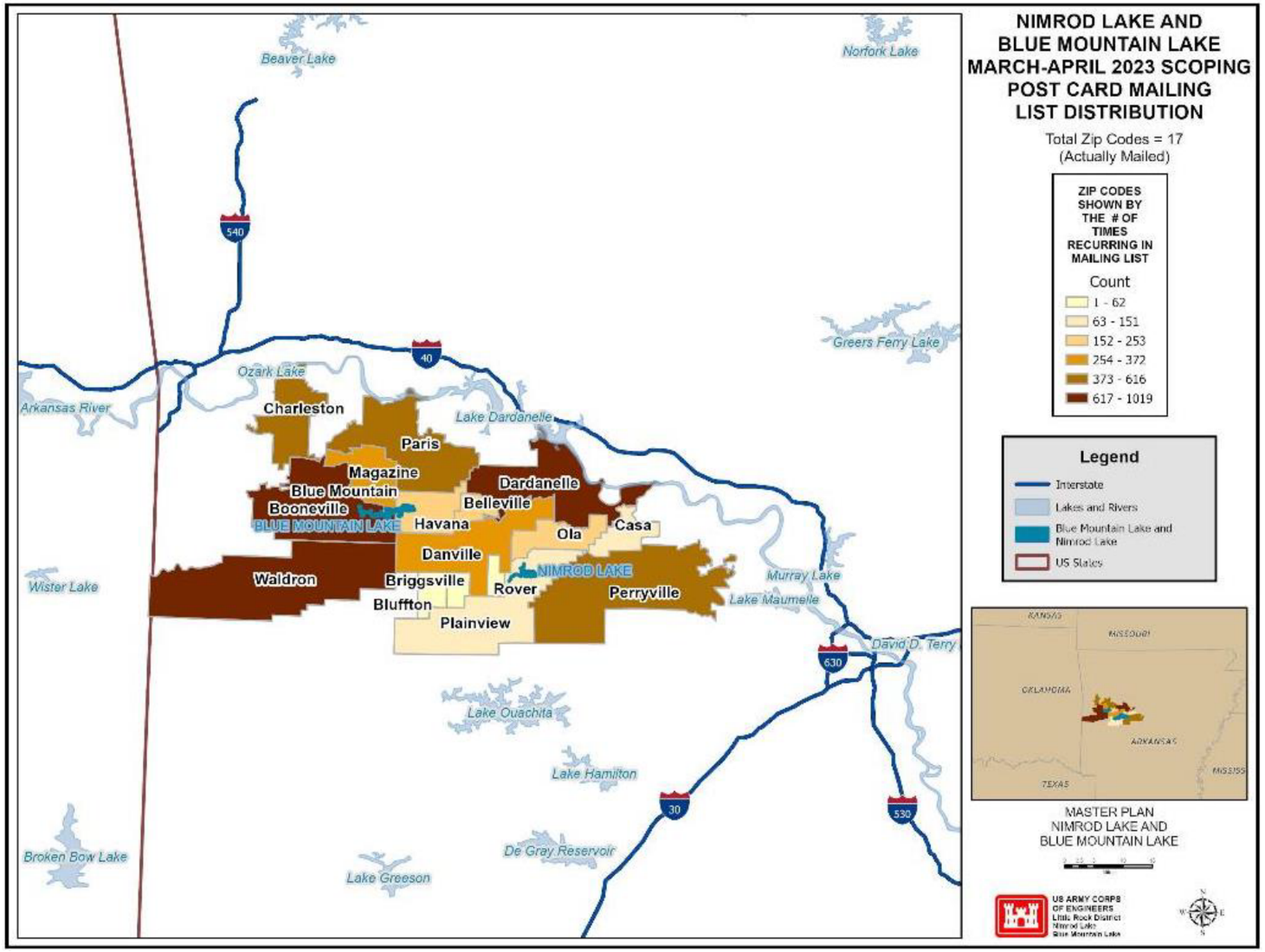


Figure 2-1. Distribution of Postcard Notification by Zip Code

3 Summary of Scoping Comments

3.1 Introduction

USACE accepted comments on the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MPs throughout the entire scoping period from March 16 through April 30, 2023. Agencies, members of the public, and other interested parties submitted 24 letters, e-mails, and comment cards during this period. The summary table (Table 3-1) provides a tally of the topics discussed in the comments.

It should be noted that the combined numbers of comments listed in the following subsections and the summary table will be greater than the total number of comment submissions because most individuals discussed multiple topics in their submission. Topics covered in the comments included general comments about the plan and the environmental review as well as answers to the following questions:

- How would you like to see Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years?
- What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lakes?
- What about Nimrod Lake/Blue Mountain Lake is most important to you?
- What about Nimrod Lake/Blue Mountain Lake is least important to you?
- Additional comments on the MP revisions or about issues that should be studied?

This section contains a summary of comments received during the scoping period. The actual comments may be found in Appendices E and F.

3.2 Summary of Comments

All comments submitted by members of the public or stakeholder organizations were reviewed and categorized. The full text of each comment is included in Appendices E (public comments) and F (agency comments).

Tables 3-1 and 3-2 provide a summary of the comments received during the scoping comment period. While this table does not include every comment received, it provides a general summary of the topics most frequently submitted during the comment period. A more detailed overview of comments follows in Sections 3.3 through 3.9. Several comments were not related to the plan or the environmental review, and these are included in the summary of additional comments in Section 3.7.

Table 3-1. Nimrod Lake Summary of Comments Received

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years?	
▪ Campgrounds/Camping (5) ▪ Increase Multi-Use Trails (5) ▪ Improve/Maintain/Re-Open Recreation Areas (4) ▪ Specific Requests (4) ▪ Additional Recreation Uses (2) ▪ Add WiFi or Internet (2) ▪ Lake Elevation Changes (1)	▪ No Changes (Same as Today/Preserved) (1) ▪ Clean Water/Quality (1) ▪ Improve Fishing/Habitat/Species (1) ▪ More Patrolling/Enforcement (1) ▪ More Shoreline/Erosion Protection (1) ▪ Additional Marinas (1) ▪ Increased Development (1) ▪ More Restaurants/Services (1)
What Changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?	
▪ Campground/Facility Improvements/Re-open (6) ▪ Additional Bike/ATV Trails (3) ▪ Accessibility – Shoreline (2) ▪ More Development (2) ▪ Increase Tourism (2)	▪ More Restaurants/Services (1) ▪ Increased Parking (1) ▪ More Controlled Burning- Parks (1) ▪ Fishing (1) ▪ Additional Marinas (1)
What is most important to you?	
▪ Camping (4) ▪ Fishing (3) ▪ More Recreational Uses (3) ▪ Adding WiFi/Internet (2) ▪ Quality of Recreation Experience (1)	▪ Public accessibility Ramps/ Campgrounds (1) ▪ Boating (1) ▪ Improve Access to Lake/Shoreline (1) ▪ Natural Beauty/Pristine/ Peaceful (1)
What is Least Important to you?	
▪ Camping/Campgrounds (1)	▪ Flood Control (1)
Additional Comments	
▪ Reopen Closed Areas (2) ▪ Encourage Development (2) ▪ More Access Points (1) ▪ More Trails (1)	▪ Move Facilities to Higher Elevations to Reduce Flood Impacts (1) ▪ Specific Request (1)

Table 3-2. Blue Mountain Lake Summary of Comments Received

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years?	
▪ Additional Recreational Uses (2) ▪ Campgrounds/Camping (2) ▪ Improve/Maintain/Re-Open Recreation Areas (2)	▪ Improve Fishing/Habitat/Species (1) ▪ Additional Marinas/Docks (1) ▪ Specific Request (1)
What Changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?	
▪ Facility Improvements/Re-Open (3) ▪ Fishing (2) ▪ Additional Recreational Uses (1)	▪ Controlled Burning-Parks (1) ▪ Add boat Docks (1)
What is most important to you?	
▪ Camping (3) ▪ Fishing (1) ▪ Natural Beauty/Pristine/ Peaceful (1)	▪ Recreational Uses (1) ▪ Quality of Recreation Experience (1) ▪ Flood Control (1)
What is Least Important to you?	
▪ Wildlife/Fisheries (1)	▪ Flood Control (1)
Additional Comments	
▪ Reopen Closed Areas (1)	▪ Specific Request (1)

3.3 Comments Related to Questions 1 and 2

3.3.1 How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years, and what changes would you like to see at the lake?

The most frequent response to Questions 1and 2 were that people want to see open and improved recreation areas and more trails on Nimrod Lake over the next 20 years (Table 3-1). Six respondents specifically mentioned making additional improvements, performing more maintenance, or re-opening existing recreation areas and five commented on items directly related to camping or campgrounds. Five respondents indicated that they would like to see more trails which included ATV, bike, and hiking. Four commentors made special requests for improvements to specific recreation areas or to their area of the lake. Two respondents were in favor of each of the following: additional recreational uses, internet availability, more accessibility to the shoreline, more development, and increased tourism. Multiple other topics received one comment each. It is important to note lake elevation concern is not within the scope of the Master Plan but instead is within the intent of the Water Control Plan. This scoping report will not address water/lake levels, nor will the MP or accompanying EA.

3.3.2 How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years, and what changes would you like to see at the lake?

The most frequent responses to Questions 1 and 2 were recreation based and that people want to see open and improved recreation areas on Blue Mountain Lake over the next 20 years (Table 3-2). Three respondents wanted to see recreation facilities re-opened and/or additional improvements made within. Three also indicated the desire for improved fishery management and additional recreational uses. Two comments were made in relation to adding boat docks/marinas. Other comments made were related to controlled burning in the parks and a specific request.

3.4 Comments Related to Question 3

3.4.1 What about Nimrod Lake is most important to you?

The top response to what is most important about the lake was camping at Nimrod Lake (Table 3-1). A total of 4 respondents indicated this interest. The next most common responses to this question were fishing and adding additional recreational uses with three respondents indicating these as priorities. Of the comments, there were two respondents who indicated that internet access was most important to them.

3.4.2 What about Blue Mountain Lake is most important to you?

The top response to what is most important about the lake was camping at Blue Mountain Lake (Table 3-1). There were also responses of fishing, maintaining natural beauty, flood control, quality of recreation experiences, and other recreational uses.

3.5 Comments Related to Question 4

3.5.1 What about Nimrod Lake is least important to you?

The only responses to what is least important about the lake included camping/ campgrounds and flood control with one response each (Table 3-1). It is important to note that this question received fewer responses than any other question on the comment form.

3.5.2 What about Blue Mountain Lake is least important to you?

The only responses to what is least important about the lake included wildlife and fisheries and flood control with one response each (Table 3-2). It is important to note that this question received fewer responses than any other question on the comment form.

3.6 Comments Related to Question 5 (Additional Comments)

This portion of the comment card asked for additional comments on the Master Plan Revisions or about issues that should be studied. This allowed for various comments other than those derived from Questions 1, 2, 3, or 4, but most in these cases were closely related.

3.6.1 Nimrod Lake

The two most common responses in this section include suggestions to reopen previously closed areas (two comments) and two comments encouraging more development. The number of times

a comment was raised by a different respondent is noted in parenthesis.

- Reopen Closed Areas (2)
- Encourage Development (2)
- More Access Points
- More Trails
- Move Facilities to Higher Elevations to Reduce Flood Impacts
- Specific Request

3.6.2 Blue Mountain Lake

The only two additional comments related to Blue Mountain Lake were as follows:

- Reopen Closed Areas
- Specific Request

3.7 Agency Comments

Three agencies submitted comments during the scoping period. The official agency letters and emails are included in Appendix F. Agencies that commented during the comment period included:

- National Park Service (NPS), Midwest Regional Office
- Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) – Region 6
- Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC)

Agency comments provided during the scoping process discussed general topics to be considered during the update process. FEMA requested to continue to be informed throughout the update process and indicated their interest in reviewing a draft document before it goes out for final review and approval.

Agency comments are summarized in this section. The full text of the agency comments is available in Appendix F. Comments not covered in earlier sections or regarding specific areas of the lake include:

- Ensure coordination with local floodplain administrators and gather the proper floodplain permits prior to work. (FEMA)
- NPS simply stated that it had determined that our area of impact was not in the proximity of any NPS unit or related area.)
- AGFC would support to adhering to both the existing rule curves for crappie and largemouth bass on both lakes.
- AGFC would like to maintain the ability to conduct ten-foot management drawdowns, in the fall, on both lakes.

- AGFC would like to explore the possibility of constructing courtesy piers for boating at Waveland Park on Blue Mountain and Anderson Branch on Nimrod.
- AGFC would like to discuss the possibility of deepening the one mile stretch from the entrance of the Petit Jean River to Persimmon Point on Blue Mountain Lake.
- AGFC recommends reducing the High Density Recreation footprint around Ashley Creek, Hise Hill, Lick Creek, Outlet Park, Quarry Bluff, and Waveland to Low Density Recreation or Wildlife Management.
- AGFC suggests that agricultural lease agreements be prohibited in Low Density or Wildlife Management land class areas.
- AGFC recommends that motorized vehicle use be restricted to designated roads on Nimrod Wildlife Management Area.

4 Next Steps: Master Plan Revision Process

The purpose of scoping is to provide an opportunity for agencies and the public to comment on the purpose and need, the range of alternatives proposed for analysis, and to help the project proponent identify issues that should be evaluated in the NEPA document. USACE also used the public scoping process as an opportunity to gain feedback from the public regarding the scope of the MP revisions.

4.1 Next Steps

The five questions were designed to help USACE elicit input not only on elements of the NEPA process but also on topics of interest to the public and agencies that may be revised or updated in the revised MPs. USACE will continue to work closely with the public, agencies, and stakeholder groups to address issues identified through scoping as the draft MPs are developed and evaluated. An EA will be prepared to evaluate potential impacts from changes in both MPs, however, an EIS would be prepared if significant environmental effects are identified during preparation of the EA as a result of the MP revisions. The draft MPs and EAs will be made available for review and comment. It is anticipated that this public review will occur in the summer of 2024.

Individual responses to comments provided during scoping are not developed; rather, the draft MP revisions that will be provided for review and comment will address comments received in a global manner. Where consistent with the purpose of a MP and where possible under the planning mechanisms available for a MP, USACE will incorporate the feedback and suggestions provided through the scoping comments.

4.2 Comments Related to Questions 1 and 2

4.2.1 Nimrod Lake

Question 1 "*How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years?*" and question 2 "*What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?*" provides direction to USACE on the MP vision and on issues of concern to lake users and stakeholders that should be evaluated through

the NEPA process. A focus on recreation area improvements, opening closed areas, and developing more trails on Nimrod Lake ranked highly among the concerns raised in response to this two-part question. These topics of concern will be addressed in the draft MP revision, and potential impacts to these resource categories will be evaluated in the NEPA document.

4.2.2 Blue Mountain Lake

Question 1 "*How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years?*" and question 2 "*What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?*" provides direction to USACE on the MP vision and on issues of concern to lake users and stakeholders that should be evaluated through the NEPA process. A focus on recreation area improvements, opening closed areas, camping, and developing more trails on Blue Mountain Lake ranked highly among the concerns raised in response to this two-part question. These topics of concern will be addressed in the draft MP revision, and potential impacts to these resource categories will be evaluated in the NEPA document.

4.3 Comments Related to Questions 3 and 4

4.3.1 Nimrod Lake

Question 3 "*What about Nimrod Lake is most important to you?"* and Question 4 "*What is least important to you?"* invited respondents to prioritize issues, features, or qualities of the lake experience that were important. This question provides insight both into issues that should be addressed in the MP revision and that should be evaluated in the NEPA document. Top concerns were related to camping, fishing, and adding additional recreational uses. The only concerns related to what was least important were minimal and included camping and flood control.

4.3.2 Blue Mountain Lake

Question 3 "*What about Blue Mountain Lake is most important to you?"* and Question 4 "*What is least important to you?"* invited respondents to prioritize issues, features, or qualities of the lake experience that were important. This question provides insight both into issues that should be addressed in the MP revision and that should be evaluated in the NEPA document. The top concern was related to camping. The only concerns related to what was least important were minimal and included fisheries and wildlife and flood control.

4.4 Comments Related to Question 5

4.4.1 Nimrod Lake

Question 5 "*Additional comments on the Master Plan revision or about issues that should be studied?*" helps USACE identify additional priorities for action, whether through the MP revision or other means. It is important to note that much of the input on the comment cards were provided within the first two question blocks on the online comment form. Reopening closed recreation areas and encouraging development was the leading focus of input that was provided in this section. More trails, more access points, and moving facilities to higher elevations were topics people would like to be taken into consideration.

4.4.2 Blue Mountain Lake

Question 5 "*Additional comments on the Master Plan revision or about issues that should be studied?*" helps USACE identify additional priorities for action, whether through the MP revision or other means. It is important to note that much of the input on the comment cards were provided within the first two question blocks on the online comment form. Input that was provided in this section was very minimal and consisted only of a request to reopen closed recreation areas and a site-specific request. These were the only topics people wanted to be taken into consideration.

Appendix A
Agencies and Organizations Notified of Scoping

Agency List

- Arkansas Department of Energy and Environment, Assistant to the Director
- Arkansas Department of Health, Director of Engineering
- Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, Director, Office of Outdoor Recreation
- Arkansas Department of Parks, Heritage and Tourism, Secretary & State Preservation Officer
- Arkansas Forestry Commission, State Forester
- Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Chief, Environmental Coordination Division
- Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Stream Habitat Coordinator
- Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, Director
- Arkansas Game and Fish Commission, General Counsel
- Arkansas Historic Preservation Program, Secretary and State Preservation Officer
- Arkansas Natural Heritage Commission, Arkansas Heritage Director
- Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Manager, Water Resources Management Section
- Arkansas Natural Resources Commission, Director
- Arkansas State Highway and Transportation Department, Director
- Department of Finance & Administration, Arkansas State Clearing House
- FEMA, Region VI, Regional Administrator
- Logan County Judge
- Mount Magazine State Park
- National Park Service, Midwest Region, Regional Director
- State Highway Department (District 4)
- State Highway Department (District 8)
- U.S. Department of Agriculture, State Conservationist, Natural Resources Conservation Service
- U.S. Department of the Interior, Regional Environmental Officer, Office of Environmental Policy and Compliance
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 6, NEPA Reviewer, Office of Planning & Coordination
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Law Enforcement Officer, Arkansas Field Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Deputy Field Supervisor, Arkansas Field Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Refuge Manager, Holla Bend Wildlife Refuge
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Biologist, Arkansas Field Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Arkansas Field Office, Delta Sub-Office

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Field Supervisor, Arkansas Field Office
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Senior Fish and Wildlife Biologist, Arkansas Field Office
- U.S. Geological Survey
- Yell County Judge

Tribal Governments

- Alabama-Quassarte Tribal Town, Town King
- Caddo Nation of Oklahoma, Chairman
- Cherokee Nation, Principal Chief
- The Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma, Chief
- Delaware Nation, President
- The Muscogee (Creek) Nation, Principal Chief
- The Osage Nation, Principal Chief
- Quapaw Nation, Chairman

Appendix B
Agency Notification

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS
POST OFFICE BOX 867
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-0867
www.swl.usace.army.mil/

March 15, 2023

PUBLIC NOTICE

SCOPING COMMENT PERIOD FOR THE NIMROD LAKE AND BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE MASTER PLAN REVISIONS
LOGAN, YELL, AND PERRY COUNTIES, ARKANSAS

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Little Rock District, is revising the Blue Mountain Lake and Nimrod Lake Master Plans, which were last modified in 1975. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (P.L. 91-190), a NEPA document to disclose potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared. Your agency is invited to provide comments and input to assist USACE with the development of the Master Plans and associated NEPA document. In an effort to incorporate everyone's concerns, scoping comments are requested between March 16, 2023 – April 30, 2023. This input will help define the needed revisions to the draft, scheduled for public review in the summer of 2024. To view existing documents and provide comments and suggestions for the Master Plan revisions, we invite you to visit the following website:

https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

The Master Plan guides the management of government-owned and leased lands around the lake. Decisions about land use classifications in the Master Plans may affect future management of natural resources and recreational opportunities.

The revisions aim to bring the Master Plans into compliance with current USACE policies and regulations, identify usage trends and customer needs, and balance recreational uses with natural resource management. Updates to the plans are expected to reflect current and anticipated development around the lakes and to take advantage of current technologies. The revision process will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, recreational opportunities, economics, land use, cultural and historic resources, aesthetics, and public health and safety.

The USACE has identified your agency as one that may be interested in these projects. Revisions to the Master Plans may have important implications for surrounding residential communities, businesses, parks, and natural areas. As a result, USACE is requesting your input and the agency's expertise to assist in the development of updated Master Plans and the preparation of the accompanying NEPA document as required by NEPA and the USACE Engineer Regulation 200-2-2, Procedures for Implementing NEPA.

Comments may be submitted via mail or email with attention to: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Recreation and Natural Resources Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203; Fax: (501) 324-6230; Email: CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil. Written comments must be postmarked, emailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by **April 30, 2023**.

If you have any technical questions regarding this invitation or documents, please contact Tyler Mays, Project Manager, at (501) 324-5657 or via email at the following address: John.T.Mays@usace.army.mil. For any environmental resources questions or general concerns, please contact Elizabeth Knapp, Biologist, at (817) 946-6055 or via email at Elizabeth.J.Knapp@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Brandon Wadlington

Brandon Wadlington
Chief, NEPA & Natural Resources Section
Regional Planning & Environmental Center

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, LITTLE ROCK DISTRICT
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 867
LITTLE ROCK, ARKANSAS 72203-0867

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF:

March 15, 2023

Natural Resources Management Section
Operations Division

Honorable Bobby Gonzalez, Chairman
Caddo Nation of Oklahoma
Attention: Jonathan M. Rohrer
Tribal Historic Preservation Officer
Post Office Box 487
Binger, Oklahoma 73009

Dear Chairman Bobby Gonzalez:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Little Rock District, is revising the Blue Mountain Lake and Nimrod Lake Master Plans, which were last revised in 1975. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) Environmental Assessments (EAs) of potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared. Your government is invited to provide comments and input to assist USACE with development of the Master Plans and the preparation of their associated EAs under NEPA. In an effort to incorporate everyone's concerns, scoping comments are requested between March 16, 2023 – April 30, 2023. This input will help define the needed revisions to the draft plans and EAs, which are scheduled for public review in the summer of 2024. To view existing documents and provide comments/suggestions for the Master Plan revisions, we invite you to visit the following website:

https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

The Master Plan guides the management of government-owned and leased lands around the lake. Decisions about land use classifications in the Master Plan may affect future management of natural resources and recreational opportunities.

The purpose of the revisions is to bring the Master Plans into compliance with current USACE policies and regulations, identify usage trends and customer needs, and balance recreational uses with natural resource management. Updates to the plans are expected to reflect current and anticipated development around the lakes and to take advantage of current technologies. The planning process will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, recreational opportunities, economics, land use, cultural and historic resources, aesthetics, and public health and safety.

Your government has been identified by the USACE as one that may have an interest in this project. Revisions to the Master Plans may have important implications for surrounding residential communities, businesses, parks, and natural areas. As a result, USACE is requesting your input and agency's expertise to assist in the development of the revised Master Plans and the preparation of the Environmental Assessments as required by NEPA and the USACE Engineer Regulation ER 200-2-2 "Procedures for Implementing NEPA".

Comments may be submitted via mail, fax, or email with attention to: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Recreation and Natural Resources Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203; Fax: (501) 324-6230; Email: CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil. Written comments must be postmarked, e-mailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by **April 30th, 2023**.

If you have any technical questions regarding this invitation or documents, please contact Tyler Mays, Project Manager, at (501) 324-5657 or via email at John.T.Mays@usace.army.mil. For any cultural resources questions or general concerns, please feel free to contact me at (501) 324-5752 or at Allen.D.Wilson@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Allen D. Wilson
Tribal Liaison
USACE, Little Rock District

Enclosure

Appendix C
Notification Materials

Direct Mail Postcard, Email Blast, Press Release, Flyer,
Facebook Post, R1S Notification

Direct Mail Postcard

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions

US Army Corps of Engineers®
Little Rock District

PUBLIC SCOPING NOTIFICATION

The US Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District, is concurrently revising the Nimrod Lake Master Plan and the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan. A Master Plan guides the classification and management of public lands around the lake and influences future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), an Environmental Assessment of potential impacts of both draft plans will also be prepared.

We invite you to visit our website, provided below, to find out information about the process to revise both the Nimrod Lake Master Plan and the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan. If you have questions regarding the Master Plan Revisions, there are voicemail and email options provided on the website.

For current information and to submit comments. Please visit our website:

https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

YOUR COMMENT IS IMPORTANT TO US!

Your input will help define the draft Nimrod Lake Master Plan and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions scheduled for draft public review in 2024.

Comments must be submitted by April 30th, 2023

BUILDING STRONG

US Army Corps of Engineers®
Little Rock District

P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, AR 72203

We want to hear from You!

Scan the QR Code below for more information regarding the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions and How to Comment!

YOUR COMMENT IS IMPORTANT TO US!

Email Blast

NIMROD LAKE AND BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE MASTER PLAN REVISIONS SCOPING NOTIFICATION:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District, is revising the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans. The Master Plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), Environmental Assessments of potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared.

"Scoping" is the process of determining the scope, focus, and content of master plan revision documents. For a planning process such as the Master Plan revision, the scoping process is used as an opportunity to gain input from the public and resource agencies about the vision for the Master Plan revision and the issues that the Master Plan should address where possible.

We invite you to visit our website, address below, to learn the details of the Master Plan revision process. Your input will help define the draft Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans, scheduled for public review in 2024. If you have questions regarding the Master Plan Revisions, additional information can be obtained via voicemail and email through our website. You will be able to provide comments through the website.

We want to hear from you! Please visit our website:
https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Written comments must be postmarked, e-mailed, faxed, or otherwise submitted by **April 30, 2023.**

Comments may be submitted via the website above, mail, fax, or email with attention to:
Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner
Recreation and Natural Resources Section
USACE, Little Rock District
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, AR 72203
Fax: (501) 324-6230
Email: CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

AUTHORITY: ER 1130-2-406, and the laws and regulations referenced therein.
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To provide a means for the maximum practicable public participation in Master Plan formulation, preparation and subsequent revisions, through the use of public meetings, group workshops, open houses or other public involvement.
ROUTINE USE(S): **Information you provide will be available for public review** or may be disclosed to members of the Department of Defense or other Government agencies who have a need for the information in performance of their official duties, and where use of such information is compatible with the purpose for which the information is collected.
DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to furnish the requested information may prevent the Agency from being able to direct meeting notices or provide additional information to commenters.

Press Release

NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS BUILDING STRONG®

Release No: 16-23
Release: Immediately
March 10, 2023

Contact: Public Affairs, 501-324-5551
Ceswl-pa@usace.army.mil
Media After Hours: 501-563-6835

USACE seeks public input on revised Master Plans for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. -- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is revising the master plans and associated environmental assessments for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake.

The master plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, environmental assessments of potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared.

This initial phase is known as scoping and is the process of determining the scope, focus and content of the master plan revision documents. USACE uses this scoping phase as an opportunity to gain input from the public and resource agencies about the vision for the master plan revision and the issues that the master plans should address where possible.

USACE invites the public and interested resource agencies to visit our website to learn details of the revision process. Your input will help define the draft Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plans scheduled for public review in 2024. You can submit questions about the revision process through voicemail, e-mail or online.

--MORE--

The public comment period for the scoping period is open from March 16 through April 30. Comments can be mailed to the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Natural Resources Management Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203, faxed to 501-324-6230 or e-mailed to CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil.

Comments must be received by April 30. For an online fillable comment card and to learn more about the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plan revisions visit www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/.

--30--

Flyer

US Army Corps of Engineers®
Little Rock District

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions

We want to hear from you!

We invite you to explore our website to find out more information about the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan revisions and to submit your comments.

Please visit the website below or scan the QR Code

https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Your input will help define the draft Master Plans and Environmental Assessments scheduled for public review in the Summer of 2024.

The Master Plan guides the management of government-owned and leased lands around the lakes. Decisions about land use classifications in the Master Plan may affect future management of natural resources and recreational opportunities.

Your input is important to us!

Comments must be submitted by April 30th to:

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner,

Recreation and Natural Resources Section,

USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203

Fax: (501) 324-6230,

Email: CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil

Facebook Post

Little Rock District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Published by Erin Ulloa · March 15 ·

USACE seeks public input on revised Master Plans for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is revising the master plans and associated environmental assessments for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake.

The master plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, environmental assessments of potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared.

This initial phase is known as scoping and is the process of determining the scope, focus and content of the master plan revision documents. USACE uses this scoping phase as an opportunity to gain input from the public and resource agencies about the vision for the master plan revision and the issues that the master plans should address where possible.

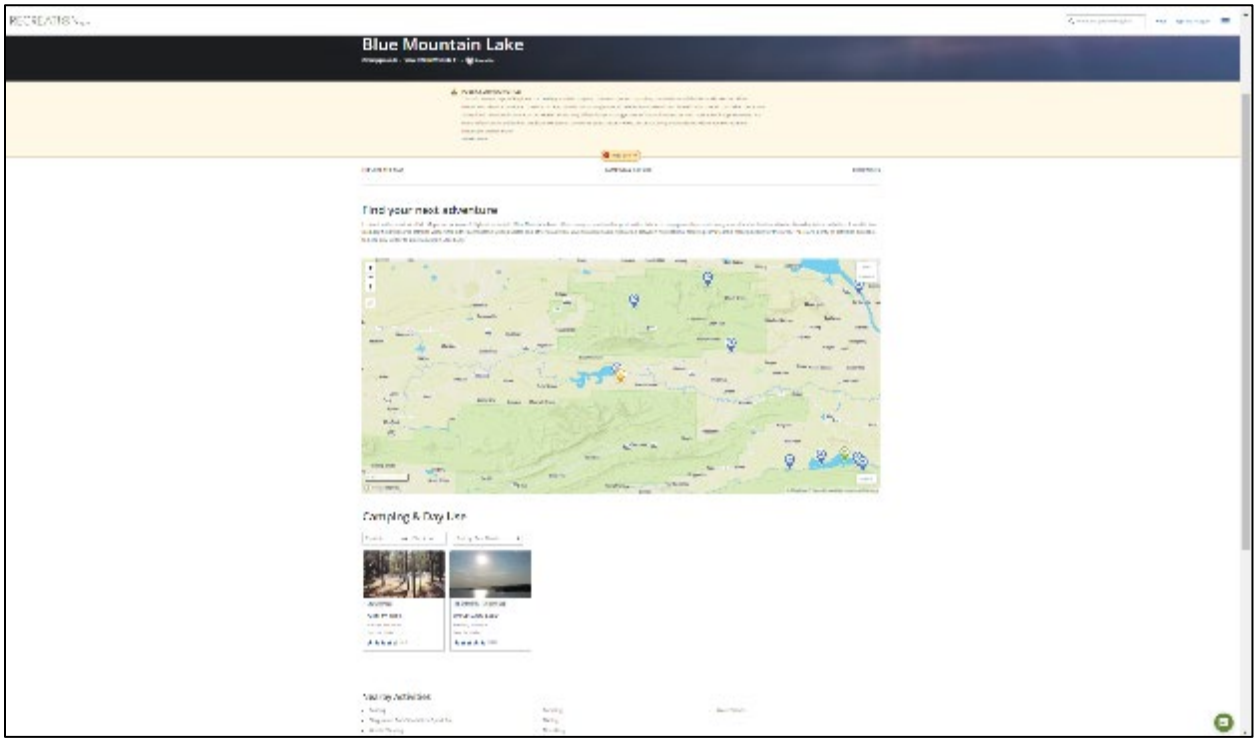
USACE invites the public and interested resource agencies to visit our website to learn details of the revision process. Your input will help define the draft Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plans scheduled for public review in 2024. You can submit questions about the revision process through voicemail, e-mail or online.

The public comment period for the scoping period is open from March 16 through April 30. Comments can be mailed to the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Natural Resources Management Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203, faxed to 501-324-6230 or e-mailed to CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil.

Comments must be received by April 30. For an online fillable comment card and to learn more about the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plan revisions visit http://www.swl.usace.army.mil/.../Nimrod-Blue-Mountain.../.

R1S Notification

Screenshot:



Verbiage:

PUBLIC SCOPING NOTICE:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is holding a public scoping comment period regarding the revisions of the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans. The Master Plan guides the management of government-owned and leased lands around the lakes. Decisions about land use classifications in the Master Plans may affect future management of natural resources and recreational opportunities. For more information and to find out how to submit comments go to: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Appendix D
Scoping Materials

Fact Sheet, Comment Card

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Little Rock District, is concurrently revising the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans. A master plan guides the management of the government-owned and leased lands around the lake. The Master plan affects future management of natural resources and recreational opportunities to ensure the sustainability of Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake.

This is your opportunity to let the Corps know how you would like the lake to be managed for the future.

The planning process will include an analysis of potential effects on the natural and social environment, including fish and wildlife, recreational opportunities, economics, land use, cultural and historic resources, aesthetics, and public health and safety.

What is a master plan?

A master plan is the guidance document that describes how the resources of the lake will be managed in the future and provides the vision for how the lake should look in the future. After the master plan is revised, the operational management plan would be revised to be consistent with the goals identified in the master plan.

Development of the revised master plan will include consideration of:

- Regional and ecosystem needs
- Public interests and desires

The Master Plan revision main objectives are:

- Conserve the resources of the lake within the current policies and guidelines of the Corps of Engineers
- Accommodate current and projected use patterns with maximum efficiency
- Identify and protect cultural and natural resources
- Attract maximum participation by the general public and agencies

About Nimrod Lake

Nimrod Dam is located in Perry County, Arkansas on the Fourche LaFave River. Construction was completed in 1942. Nimrod Lake was authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 28, 1938. The lake is comprised of 25,339 acres of land and water, with approximately 82 miles of boundary line. The lake provides many recreational opportunities and is a key contributor to a large variety of fish and wildlife habitat.

About Blue Mountain Lake

Blue Mountain Dam is located in Yell County, Arkansas on the Petit Jean River. Construction was completed in 1947. Nimrod Lake was authorized by the Flood Control Act of June 28, 1938. The lake is comprised of 17,266 acres of land and water, with approximately 78 miles of boundary line. The lake provides many recreational opportunities and is a key contributor to a large variety of fish and wildlife habitat.

US Army Corps of Engineers
Little Rock District

For More Information Visit Our Website at:
https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Why Update the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans?

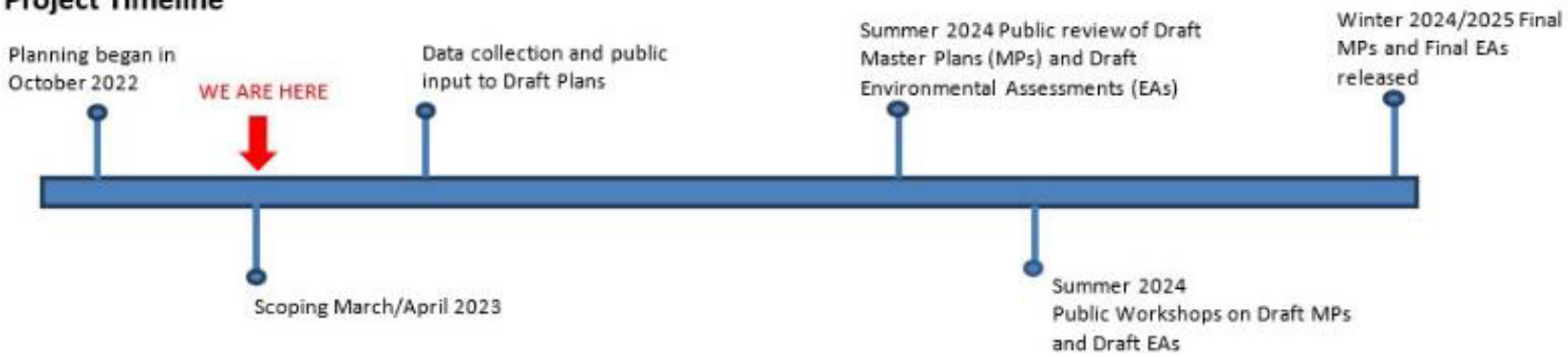
The current Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans were developed almost 50 years ago and are outdated. The master plan revisions will classify the government lands around the lakes based on environmental and socioeconomic considerations, public input, and an evaluation of past, present, and forecasted trends.

Lands may be classified into one of these categories:

- **Project Operations**: lands required for the dam, spillway, offices, and other areas used solely for the operation of the reservoir.
- **High Density Recreation**: lands acquired and designated for use as parks or other areas for intensive recreational activities by the visiting public.
- **Environmentally Sensitive Areas**: lands designated for areas where scientific, ecological, cultural, or aesthetic features have been identified. These areas are managed to protect environmental resources.
- **Multiple Resource Management Lands**: This classification allows for the designation of a predominant use with the understanding that other compatible uses may also occur on these lands; these additional uses may include:
    - **Low Density Recreation**: lands classified for use for activities such as hiking trails, primitive camping, limited lake access points, and other similar activities by the visiting public.
    - **Wildlife Management**: lands allocated as habitat for fish and wildlife and are generally open for hunting and fishing.
    - **Future/Inactive Recreation Areas**: Lands intended for recreation, but which were never developed or have been closed.
    - **Vegetative Management**: Lands designated for stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover.
- **Water Surface:** For those projects that administer a surface water zoning program, this will be included in the Master plan revision process.
    - **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 migrations, resting, feeding, nesting, and/or spawning.
    - **Open Recreation**: Those waters available for year-round or seasonal water-based recreational use.

These land and water classifications are established in the master plan and will guide future updates to the operation management plan, which implements the master plan.

Project Timeline



Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions and Environmental Assessments Comment Form

US Army Corps of Engineers
Little Rock District

Please use this form to provide comments and suggestions about how you would like to see the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans revised, and provide comments on the issues that should be studied before a decision is made on the Master Plans revisions. **Comments must be submitted before April 30, 2023**, to USACE at the addresses below.

(Optional Information)

Name/Organization: _____

Address: _____

_____

E-mail: _____ **Phone:** _____

NIMROD LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

What about Nimrod Lake is most and least important to you? _____

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you? _____

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____
_____

Comments may be submitted via mail, fax, email, or the project website with attention to: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Recreation and Natural Resources Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Fax: (501) 324-6230, **Email:** CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil

Website: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Written comments must be postmarked, e-mailed, faxed, or otherwise **submitted by April 30, 2023**.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

AUTHORITY: ER 1130-2-406, and the laws and regulations referenced therein.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To provide a means for the maximum practicable public participation in Master Plan formulation, preparation, and subsequent revisions, through the use of public meetings, group workshops, open houses or other public involvement.

ROUTINE USE(S): Information you provide will be available for public review or may be disclosed to members of the Department of Defense or other Government agencies who have a need for the information in performance of their official duties, and where use of such information is compatible with the purpose for which the information is collected.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to furnish the requested information may prevent the Agency from being able to direct meeting notices or provide additional information to commenters.

Postage Required

_____

_____

_____

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner
Recreation and Natural Resources Section
Little Rock District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, AR 72203

----------**Fold Here**----------

Tape ends before mailing

Appendix E
Public Scoping Comments

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Saturday, March 18, 2023 10:19:26 AM

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	I would like to see county line campground reopened. I grew up camping at this spot and would love to experience that with my family. We normally camp at Quarry Cove or Carter Cove. Also bring back the trail system for ATV and UTV use. There's no where to experience this in the area without driving hours away to Mount Magazine. Mena or Ozark-St Francis forest. Living in Perry County this would be such an asset to the beautiful area and Nimrod Lake.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Again the closing of County Line Camp ground hurts the area. More camping will bring more visitors to this beautiful area. Also the lack of trails around the lake. Not everyone can hike due to physical limitations. ATV and UTV access would be very essential for the area to explore its surroundings and beauty of this hidden gem in the state. Lastly bring back the tours of Nimrod Dam. Loved this experience growing up and would love to make new memories with my family.
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Thank you for all you do. It doesn't go unnoticed.

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 0a7d2114-3992-416f-ab64-f8a1b4888d59
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 64.127.134.3

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Sunday, March 19, 2023 10:24:56 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	Bigger and better parking lot at the Millwood GTR south boat ramp. It can be crowded. Past due time of draining lake and re doing structures and ramps. Open back up County Line camping area from March 1st to December 1st. Have fisherman's and deer hunters looking for camp grounds all year long. Wouldn't hurt to open back up yearly boat ramp membership tags to collect money for ramp maintenance. Better job to keep lake clean for summer time lake fun also.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Most important is crappie is main part of the lakes tradition. It has great skinning stations.
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: f81d0237-da43-4128-9e85-56d4e004a089
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 2606:25c0:801d:ff96:7def:ca4d:eb6d:d697

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date:	Thursday, March 16, 2023 12:12:28 PM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	Add another bathroom/shower room, more walking trails
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Camp hosts are very important& updating older camp sites. We enjoy Quarry Cove hosts Bobbie & Weston Bradley. Also Bonnie & Mike at River Road. Least important would be adding more camp sites.
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	

you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: fa1b30bf-37c8-4242-92e8-e0008d0f0522
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 137.239.224.149

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:50:29 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	I would like to see Nimrod Lake providing more recreational opportunities for locals and visitors and having a larger, positive impact on the local economy. Trails would be great additions, particularly for hiking and bicycling to connect the Lake's recreation areas and provide landside recreational opportunities. Would like to see greater interpretive efforts at the lake - from markers to Ranger-led programs at the recreation areas during the season. Ideally interpretation could focus on the project itself - why, how, it's history - but also the natural and cultural history of the local area. With the location of the Lake and it's proximity to Central Arkansas and Northwest Arkansas, the demand for outdoor recreation opportunities on and off water will only continue to grow. Looking 20 years out, I would like to see all of the Recreation Areas open for usage and the addition of commercial leases within the project to allow development of a marina and lakeside resort with lodging, dining, and other amenities lake visitors would expect and need to better fully utilize the lake.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Most important - clean, well-maintained recreation areas for use by local residents and visitors alike. Lease important - N/A
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake	The idea of commercial lease(s) should be explored to allow further growth and development of the lake as a resource for

Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	visitors by adding additional amenities and activities needed and expected by lake visitors.

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: b6ee4ed8-b2bf-44ab-90f7-f58c588e9ba5
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 72.47.105.53

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 5:14:57 PM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	Open the some of the parks along hwy 60 . These were family favorites over the years .
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Nice lake and nice fishing just need more parks open to the public . And mow the parks more for campers
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	

you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 83b0a6b8-2087-4364-a18b-7df80bef86df
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 206.84.87.35

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Nimrod / Blue Mountain Master Plan Revision
Date:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 6:44:18 PM

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	[redacted]
Phone:	[redacted]

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	1. Burn off all campsites in February. 2. Make all campsites 30 and 50 amps. 3. Make some or all campsites full hookups . 4. Fix the dump stations so you can flush the tanks with a water hose. 5. Make the dump stations more accessible so when you leave the campsite it'll be on the right side leaving out.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Camping and Fishing: Most Holding the water back too long: Least
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Why don't you rework County Line Park?

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake	

in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	Same as Nimrod comments.
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	Same as Nimrod comments.
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Same as Nimrod comments!

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: ac3ae379-a398-4a5f-8099-eec03e08357f
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 206.84.86.232

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:51:59 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	The Nimrod dam was built for flood control. That being the primary purpose and it created the lake. There are several structures and campgrounds in disrepair. I believe there needs to be a elevation study done and campgrounds , bathrooms , shower houses, primitive camping areas built above a high water mark. There are several areas within the plan that are basically abandoned much of the winter.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Most- would be recreational and history behind the lake. Least- areas that stay under water and parks that are closed due to high water.
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Elevation around recreational areas and parks.

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: dcb5b8b0-6995-4091-93d1-616b1610ccfa
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 2606:25c0:800b:ff19:e1d1:940f:7006:cf8d

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 9:44:32 AM

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	[redacted]
Phone:	[redacted]

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	1. I would like to see more fishing piers, fixed the one at Anderson Branch, maybe place one at County Line after reopening County Line Park, a fishing pier at Sunlight Bay would be nice as well. 2. Please reopen County Line Park.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	There is nothing I can think of at the moment that is the most or least important issue.
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	It would be nice to have more access points from the highway to other lake shores that are not accessible by vehicles.

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What	

changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: c0325d5d-c9de-495c-8024-64c227122692
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 206.84.87.165

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:50:35 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	[redacted]
Phone:	[redacted]

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	I think having designated road/trails for recreation should be considered. During hunting seasons and summer recreation the bottoms get destroyed. There are already gates in place, utilization of those roads to make a motorized vehicle use map would keep individuals on those said roads.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	I think having designated road/trails for recreation should be considered. During hunting seasons and summer recreation the bottoms get destroyed. There are already gates in place, utilization of those roads to make a motorized vehicle use map would keep individuals on those said roads.

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	

you like to see at the lake?
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 7a1f4220-14d6-44ab-ad1a-45a6a6c22be8
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 98.159.72.176

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Friday, March 17, 2023 12:39:13 PM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	[redacted]
Phone:	[redacted]

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	1. I would very much like to see camping and bike or atv trails added to our side of the lake, to enhance the usage of our national forest. 2. Power is very close along with fiber optics from first electric coop. 3. More rangers for our national forest to prevent dog hunters hunting the roads during deer season
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	1. Most important is keeping the forest natural as is but not clear cutting to the point it rapes the land. 2. Least important is keeping the area somewhat primitive and ensure no marina goes in place. 3. Black top part of brush creek road to camping locations This is all suggestions for improvements off of Brush Creek Road on back side of Lake nimrod
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	To re-open parks that have been shut-down in the past

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	n/a
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	n/a
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	n/a

---
HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 37687d5f-67de-4139-9522-4edb838caa61
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 98.159.74.249

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Nimrod / Blue Mountain Master Plan Revision
Date:	Wednesday, March 22, 2023 12:08:04 PM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	County Line Park has been closed, open all parks. The road going to Hail Fork next to Rover should be opened up on both roads. The limbs scratches vehicles going through there. Nimrod Lake has cost a lot of revenue because of the tourists not being able to access the lake. During the 60's, we could fish from the bank, Erison is so bad, six-to-eight-foot banks prohibit fishing from the banks. My e-mail doesn't work, Miscroft says my computer is too old--
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	Skiing is very selective, got to pick the places. Took a lot of farmlands out of production for haying etc. The lake is an economical disaster for the valley.
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to	

see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	Boat docks, generated more income and employed more people.
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 334e29e0-3ecf-4069-9670-1e61a71eebcb
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 98.159.74.127

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 9:45:00 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	[redacted]
Phone:	[redacted]

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	n/a
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	n/a
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	n/a

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	I would like to see better flood mitigation regulation. The property I own roughly 30 miles downstream is now being

you like to see at the lake?	consistently flooded several times each year.
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	N/A
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Flooding has increased on my property downstream in the past 10 years. I understand weather patterns are to blame, but the open fields staying under water for 3-4 weeks each spring/summer has had a negative impact on our abilities to keep the property maintained and to use the land for any other purposes.

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: d06d7ac4-9017-46a1-97ce-e3b6505352ed
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 98.159.79.12

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:50:33 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	

you like to see at the lake?	
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	Flood control is imperative.
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Recently, the USGS stage station on Dutch Creek was moved significantly further upstream. Has the hydrograph for the impact of Dutch Creek been revisited to evaluate this move on the accuracy of information available to the USACE for discharge timing from the dam during rainfall events? In considering environmental impacts of dam operation, has there been a concerted effort to evaluate long term high flow discharges from the dam on downstream bank stability? On our land, we have lost many trees into the river on outside curve embankments due to undercutting. This undercutting is impacted by the flow elevation. I understand certain limitations within a flood control management plan, but I see no mention of these environmental impacts within the previous Master Plan. Landowner property losses as well as environmental degradation certainly fall within the scope of a NEPA document. Are there any proposed changes to the flood control operational plan that will have a detrimental effect on downstream landowners and streambank stability?

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: e59995a5-9bca-4e21-8e37-a2b37f305a00
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 98.159.65.172

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:50:28 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	[redacted]
Phone:	[redacted]

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	Like to see limit on crappie change to 15 daily with 11 in. Length limit.

you like to see at the lake?	
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	Maintenance and preservation of campground and to limit number of reservable campsites so it is more fair to the younger campers who don't have option to reserve due to work schedules and kids in sporting activities.
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Study how many sites sit empty because of reservation made and no shows

---
HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: ac2cfffa-3f6b-4f8d-83b1-97cf22376b23
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 2600:387:f:918::b

From: noreply@dma.mil
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date: Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:50:26 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	[redacted]
Address:	[redacted]
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	I'm not familiar with this lake. Just it look's wonderful when I go through there.
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	Have more picnic areas for parties! Have it where rangers doing nature walks and exploring things. Put up an area for senior citizen to get out and do things! More area to camp. Have it

you like to see at the lake?	where you can plan more events to bring money in for the camp grounds. More activities there when you have campers.
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	The most is having a good time at a beautiful lake. I had my wedding there 2019 and I loved it. The least is the not having an area for all the deer to explore through.
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	Hope this will make it be a better place.

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 8682a038-6058-48a5-9861-240f29605554
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 2600:100b:b02a:9f01:8cd4:4892:3409:bacf

From:	noreply@dma.mil
To:	CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject:	Public Comment Submission for Norfork Lake Master Plan Revision
Date:	Tuesday, March 21, 2023 10:50:50 AM

CAUTION: Your email client may display clickable links. The data in this email is provided without modification, as the user entered it. Before you click or use any link provided in this email, please confirm the authenticity of the link.

Name / Organization:	
Address:	AL US
E-Mail:	
Phone:	

Nimrod Lake Comments

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would you like to see at the lake?	
What about Nimrod Lake is MOST and LEAST important to you?	
Do you have any additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

Blue Mountain Lake Comments

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes - if any - would	Improve camping sites to include sewer. Would love to see improvements to other activities such as a disc golf course. Improve crappie fish habitat by adding fish condos. New

you like to see at the lake?	bathrooms with hot showers.
What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?	Most important is great campsites and improved bathrooms/shower facilities.
Do you have any additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision - or about issues that should be studied?	

HTTP_CMS_CLIENT_IP:
HTTP_X_ARR_LOG_ID: 8bf7cde3-f950-4446-9689-9477e1981333
HTTP_ORIGIN: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil
HTTP_TRUE_CLIENT_IP: 2600:100b:b12e:b0b2:3c95:86f9:ac1d:cbbf

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions and Environmental Assessments Comment Form

US Army Corps of Engineers
Little Rock District

Please use this form to provide comments and suggestions about how you would like to see the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans revised, and provide comments on the issues that should be studied before a decision is made on the Master Plans revisions. **Comments must be submitted before April 30, 2023**, to USACE at the addresses below.

(Optional Information)
Name/Organization: [redacted]
Address: [redacted]
E-mail: [redacted] **Phone:** [redacted]

NIMROD LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

WIFI
Boat Trail to River

What about Nimrod Lake is most and least important to you?

WIFI for Safety during bad weather

Additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?

Additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

Comments may be submitted via mail, fax, email, or the project website with attention to: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Recreation and Natural Resources Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203.
Fax: (501) 324-6230, **Email:** CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil
Website: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/
Written comments must be postmarked, e-mailed, faxed, or otherwise **submitted by April 30, 2023.**

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

AUTHORITY: ER 1130-2-406, and the laws and regulations referenced therein.
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To provide a means for the maximum practicable public participation in Master Plan formulation, preparation, and subsequent revisions, through the use of public meetings, group workshops, open houses or other public involvement.
ROUTINE USE(S): **Information you provide will be available for public review** or may be disclosed to members of the Department of Defense or other Government agencies who have a need for the information in performance of their official duties, and where use of such information is compatible with the purpose for which the information is collected.
DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to furnish the requested information may prevent the Agency from being able to direct meeting notices or provide additional information to commenters.

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions and Environmental Assessments Comment Form

US Army Corps of Engineers®
Little Rock District

Please use this form to provide comments and suggestions about how you would like to see the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans revised, and provide comments on the issues that should be studied before a decision is made on the Master Plans revisions. **Comments must be submitted before April 30, 2023,** to USACE at the addresses below.

(Optional Informati[redacted]
Name/Organizatio[redacted]
Address[redacted]

E-mail: _____ Phone: [redacted]

NIMROD LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

MORE INTEREST
PLACE SERVICE

What about Nimrod Lake is most and least important to you?

Additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?

Additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

Comments may be submitted via mail, fax, email, or the project website with attention to: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Recreation and Natural Resources Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Fax: (501) 324-6230, **Email:** CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil

Website: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Written comments must be postmarked, e-mailed, faxed, or otherwise **submitted by April 30, 2023.**

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

AUTHORITY: ER 1130-2-406, and the laws and regulations referenced therein.
PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To provide a means for the maximum practicable public participation in Master Plan formulation, preparation, and subsequent revisions, through the use of public meetings, group workshops, open houses or other public involvement.
ROUTINE USE(S): **Information you provide will be available for public review** or may be disclosed to members of the Department of Defense or other Government agencies who have a need for the information in performance of their official duties, and where use of such information is compatible with the purpose for which the information is collected.
DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to furnish the requested information may prevent the Agency from being able to direct meeting notices or provide additional information to commenters.

Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions and Environmental Assessments Comment Form

US Army Corps of Engineers
Little Rock District

Please use this form to provide comments and suggestions about how you would like to see the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plans revised, and provide comments on the issues that should be studied before a decision is made on the Master Plans revisions. **Comments must be submitted before April 30, 2023**, to USACE at the addresses below.

(Optional Information)
Name/Organ[redacted]
Address: [redacted]

E-mail [redacted] Phone: [redacted]

NIMROD LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Nimrod Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

Everything is good

What about Nimrod Lake is most and least important to you?

Additional comments on the Nimrod Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

BLUE MOUNTAIN LAKE COMMENTS

How would you like to see Blue Mountain Lake in 20 years? What changes, if any, would you like to see at the lake?

What about Blue Mountain Lake is most and least important to you?

Additional comments on the Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revision or about issues that should be studied.

Comments may be submitted via mail, fax, email, or the project website with attention to: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Recreation and Natural Resources Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203.

Fax: (501) 324-6230, **Email:** CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil

Website: https://www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/

Written comments must be postmarked, e-mailed, faxed, or otherwise **submitted by April 30, 2023**.

PRIVACY ACT STATEMENT INSTRUCTIONS

AUTHORITY: ER 1130-2-406, and the laws and regulations referenced therein.

PRINCIPAL PURPOSE(S): To provide a means for the maximum practicable public participation in Master Plan formulation, preparation, and subsequent revisions, through the use of public meetings, group workshops, open houses or other public involvement.

ROUTINE USE(S): Information you provide will be available for public review or may be disclosed to members of the Department of Defense or other Government agencies who have a need for the information in performance of their official duties, and where use of such information is compatible with the purpose for which the information is collected.

DISCLOSURE: Voluntary; however, failure to furnish the requested information may prevent the Agency from being able to direct meeting notices or provide additional information to commenters.

From: [redacted]
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions
Date: Sunday, March 19, 2023 2:51:08 PM

Good evening, I have questions about commenting on the website as in what it's actually for … also if comments can be replied to. I have questions about what's actually going on and want to know if the comment platform will allow reply's to those questions.

Kind regards, [redacted]

Sent from my iPhone

Appendix F
Agency Scoping Comments

U.S. Department of Homeland Security
FEMA Region 6
800 N. Loop 288
Denton, TX 76209

FEMA

Mr. Brandon Wadlington
Chief, NEPA &Natural Resources Section
Regional Planning & Environmental Center
Natural Resources Management Section
USACE, Little Rock District
PO Box 867
Little Rock, AR 72203

RE: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions

Dear Mr. Wadlington,

We acknowledge receipt of your request for review/environmental consultation in reference to the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions.

☐ We have no comments to offer.

☒ We offer the following comments:

We would request that the community Floodplain Administrator be contacted for the review and possible permit requirements for this project. If federally funded, we would request the project maintain compliance with EO11988 & EO 11990.

The Community Floodplain Administrator for your project contact information is listed below:

Logan County, AR	Yell County	Perry County
Tobi Miller	Jeff Gilkey	Harold Hill
OEM Coordinator	OEM Coordinator	Floodplain Coordinator
205 East Maple Street	P.O. Box 1186	P.O. Box 358
Paris, AR 72855	Danville, AR 72833	Perryville, AR 72126
loganoem31@magtel.com	yellcooem@arkwest.com	perrycityhall@windstream.net
(479) 963– 3218	(479) 495 – 0036	(501) 889 - 3228

REVIEWER:
Loukisha Williams
Floodplain Management and Insurance Branch
Mitigation Division
(940) 383-7228

DATE: 04/04/2023

From: MWRO Compliance, NPS
To: CESWL-Nimrod Blue Mountain MP Revision
Subject: [Non-DoD Source] Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner
Date: Friday, April 14, 2023 8:04:31 AM
Attachments: City of Piedmont.pdf

Good day,

The National Park Service Midwest Regional Office (MWRO) has reviewed the correspondence concerning the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP and has determined that this project is not in the proximity of any National Park Service unit or related area.

To determine if a project is near or could potentially impact access to a unit of the National Park System, please see the following map (zoom in to project location): Find a Park (U.S. National Park Service) (nps.gov).

A list of units and designated related areas of the National Park Service can be found here: National Park System Units and Related Areas (nps.gov)

The NPS also administers the National Natural Landmarks Program in coordination with other federal agencies and private entities. A map of these locations can be found here: National Natural Landmarks Directory (nps.gov)

In order to facilitate timely responses, the National Park Service Midwest Regional Office (MWRO) is requesting electronic correspondence as much as practicable.

If possible, please send future project coordination inquiries and notices to the following email: **mwro_compliance@nps.gov**

Thank you for your assistance in helping to expedite the review and coordination process.

Regards,

MWRO Compliance Team
Midwest Region (Interior Regions 3/4/5)
mwro_compliance@nps.gov

Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Oct 20, 2023

Michael Love
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Little Rock District
P.O. Box 867
Little Rock, AR 72203

Re: Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions

Mr. Love,

Staff with the Arkansas Game and Fish Commission (AGFC) have reviewed the documents for the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake Master Plan Revisions and offer the following comments:

- Robust populations of crappie and Largemouth Bass have been produced under the current rule curve for both Nimrod and Blue Mountain Lakes. AGFC would support adhering to both of the existing rule curves.
- AGFC would like to maintain the ability to conduct ten foot management drawdowns, in the fall, on both Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake when determined to be appropriate, with no more than one drawdown being completed on an individual lake during a ten year period. AGFC would coordinate drawdowns with the Corps of Engineers project manager well in advance.
- AGFC would like to explore the possibility of constructing courtesy piers for boating at Waveland (Blue Mountain Lake) and Anderson Branch (Nimrod Lake).
- AGFC would like to discuss with the Corps the possibility of deepening the one mile stretch from the entrance of the Petit Jean River to Persimmon Point on Blue Mountain Lake.
- AGFC recommends reducing the footprint of the High Density Recreation Land classification to Ashley Creek, Hise Hill, Lick Creek, Outlet Park, Quarry Bluff, and Waveland to Low Density Recreation or Wildlife Management Area where appropriate.
- AGFC suggests that agricultural lease agreements (i.e. hay cutting) be prohibited in Low Density or Wildlife Management designated land class areas
- AGFC recommends that motorized vehicle use be restricted to designated roads on Nimrod Wildlife Management Area

While it was brought to our attention that our attempt to submit comments before the April 30, 2023 deadline was unsuccessful, we appreciate the opportunity to provide our comments now. If you have any questions or need additional information please contact me, Jennifer Sheehan, at 501-680-0319 or jennifer.sheehan@agfc.ar.gov.

2 Natural Resources Drive, Little Rock, AR 72205
833-345-0325 | 501-207-0326 | agfc.com

Sincerely,

Jennifer Elise Sheehan
Chief, Environmental Coordination Division
Arkansas Game and Fish Commission

Appendix G
Media Coverage

US Army Corps of Engineers seeks public input on revised Master Plans for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake

March 14, 2023, 8:12 am, Outdoor News

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is revising the master plans and associated environmental assessments for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake.

The master plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and **may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management**. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, environmental assessments of the potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared.

This initial phase is known as scoping and is the process of determining the scope, focus, and content of the master plan revision documents. USACE uses this scoping phase as an opportunity to gain input from the public and resource agencies about the vision for the master plan revision and the issues that the master plans should address where possible.

USACE invites the public and interested resource agencies to visit our website to learn details of the revision process. Your input will help define the draft Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plans scheduled for public review in 2024. You can submit questions about the revision process through voicemail, e-mail, or online.

The public comment period for the scoping period is open from March 16 through April 30. Comments can be mailed to the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Natural Resources Management Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203, faxed to 501-324-6230 or e-mailed to **CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil**.

Comments must be received by April 30. For an online fillable comment card and to learn more about the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plan revisions visit **www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/**

See also Man Sentenced for Illegally Guiding Hikers at Buffalo National River ›


The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is revising the master plans and associated environmental assessments for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake. The master plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. The initial phase is known as scoping and is the process of determining the scope, focus and content of the master plan revision documents. The Corps uses this
Public input sought on Nimrod Lake master plan
KVOM 101.7FM
The Voice Of Morrilton
LISTEN LIVE
App Store
Google Play
HOME
NEWS & SPORTS HEADLINES
OBITUARIES
WEATHER
LOCAL EVENTS
TRADING TIME
KVOM HISTORY
STAFF
ADVERTISING
PODCASTS
Serving Morrilton Since 1952
Public input sought on Nimrod Lake master plan
Little Rock District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Public input sought on Nimrod Lake master plan
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is revising the master plans and associated environmental assessments for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake. The master plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. The initial phase is known as scoping and is the process of determining the scope, focus and content of the master plan revision documents. The Corps uses this scoping phase as an opportunity to gain input from the public and resource agencies about the vision for the master plan revision and the issues that the master plans should address where possible. The public comment period for the scoping period is open from March 16th through April 30th

Perry County Petit Jean Country Headlight
Publication Date: 03/15/2023 Page Number: 002
Title: Corps seeks input on Lake Nimrod master plan
Author:
Size : 21 Inches Sq Perryville,AR Circulation: 1766
Keywords: Corps of Engineers -- Corps of Engineers AND Little Rock

Corps seeks input on Lake Nimrod master plan

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is revising the master plans and associated environmental assessments for Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake.

The master plan guides the classification and management of government-owned or leased lands around the lakes and may affect future recreational opportunities and natural resource management. Pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act, environmental assessments of potential impacts of the draft plans will also be prepared.

This initial phase is known as scoping and is the process of determining the scope, focus and content of the master plan revision documents. USACE uses this scoping phase as an opportunity to gain input from the public and resource agencies about the vision for the master plan revision and the issues that the master plans should address where possible.

USACE invites the public and interested resource agencies to visit our website to learn details of the revision process. Your input will help define the draft Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plans scheduled for public review in 2024. You can submit questions about the revision process through voicemail, e-mail or online.

The public comment period for the scoping period is open from March 16 through April 30. Comments can be mailed to the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake MP Planner, Natural Resources Management Section, USACE, Little Rock District, P.O. Box 867, Little Rock, AR 72203, faxed to (501) 324-6230 or e-mailed to **CESWL-Nimrod_BlueMountainMPRevision@usace.army.mil.**

Comments must be received by April 30. For an online fillable comment card and to learn more about the Nimrod Lake and Blue Mountain Lake master plan revisions visit **www.swl.usace.army.mil/Missions/Planning/Nimrod-Blue-Mountain-Master-Plan/**