

DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

MARION RESERVOIR COTTONWOOD POINT PUBLIC USE AREA PUBLIC-USE FACILITIES EXPANSION MARION COUNTY, KANSAS



U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
TULSA DISTRICT

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ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT ORGANIZATION

This Environmental Assessment (EA) evaluates the effects of a Section 206 Aquatic Ecosystem Restoration Project to restore aquatic and riparian habitat along the lower Walnut River, Arkansas City, Kansas. This EA will facilitate the decision process regarding the proposed action and alternatives.

- SECTION 1* *INTRODUCTION* provides the authority for the proposed action, summarizes the project purpose, provides relevant background information, and describes the scope of the EA.
- SECTION 2* *ALTERNATIVES* examines alternatives for implementing the proposed action.
- SECTION 3* *PROPOSED ACTION* describes the recommended plan.
- SECTION 4* *AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT* describes the existing environmental and socioeconomic setting.
- SECTION 5* *IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION* identifies the potential environmental and socioeconomic effects of implementing the proposed action and alternatives.
- SECTION 6* *FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCY COORDINATION* provides a listing of individuals and agencies consulted during preparation of the EA.
- SECTION 7* *REFERENCES* provides bibliographical information for cited sources.
- SECTION 8* *APPLICABLE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS AND REGULATIONS* provides a listing of environmental protection statutes and other environmental requirements.
- SECTION 9* *LIST OF PREPARERS* identifies persons who prepared the document and their areas of expertise.
- APPENDICES* *A Coordination/Correspondence*
B Section 404 Permit
C Cultural Resources Coordination
D Public Information/Scoping Workshop
E Public Comments (final EA only)
F Newspaper Public Notice (final EA only)

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**DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT
COTTONWOOD POINT PUBLIC USE AREA EXPANSION
MARION RESERVOIR, MARION COUNTY, KANSAS**

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Authority

This study is being conducted under authority of the 2009 American Recovery and Reinvestment Act. The purpose of the project is to expand the existing day-use and camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point campground at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas (Figure 1.1). This Environmental Assessment (EA) was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, Engineering Regulation (ER) 1105-2-100 *USACE Planning Guidance Notebook*, ER 200-2-2, *Procedures for Implementing NEPA* and the President's Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) Regulations for the Implementation of NEPA.

1.2 Project Purpose and Scope

Presently, the demand for recreation and camping facilities provided at the Cottonwood Point camping area regularly exceeds the current capacity for day-use and overnight R/V and tent camping with water and electrical amenities. Generally, the number of weekend campers turned away from Cottonwood Point each weekend between May and September ranges from ten to seventy-five campers. Expansion of the existing facilities will provide additional camping and day use facilities with water and electrical amenities and allow the Marion Project to meet the public demand for recreational resources and opportunities at the Cottonwood Point camp ground facility.

1.3 Public Scoping

USACE issued a news release on August 12, 2009, announcing a public information workshop with regard to expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. Paid display advertisements were published in the August 12, 2009 weekly editions of the Marion County Record, Hillsboro Free Press, Hillsboro Star-Journal and Peabody Gazette-Bulletin. The Memorandum for Record (MFR), prepared by USACE personnel, of this public scoping meeting is provided in Appendix D.

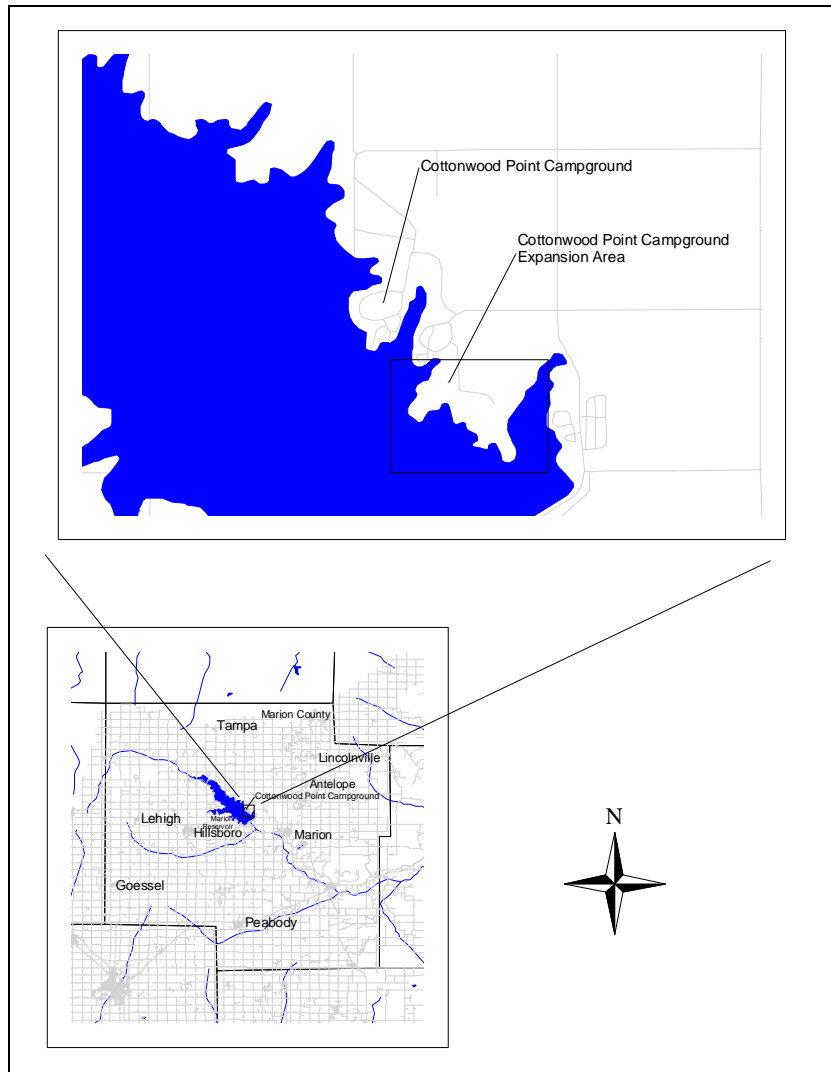


Figure 1.1. Vicinity map of Marion County, Kansas, the Cottonwood Point camping facility and Cottonwood Point expansion area.

2.0 ALTERNATIVES

Alternatives include a No Action plan, which would retain existing conditions; and a Proposed Action plan, which would expand camping and outdoor recreation facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas.

2.1 No Action

The Council on Environmental Quality (CEQ) regulations implementing the provisions of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (NEPA) require Federal agencies to consider a “no action” alternative. These regulations define the “no action” alternative as the continuation of existing conditions and their effects on the environment, without implementation of, or in lieu of, a proposed action. This alternative represents the existing conditions and serves as the baseline against which to compare the effects of the proposed alternative. The “no action” alternative would retain the existing condition and would not result in any project-related environmental impacts or loss of habitat.

Under existing conditions, campers and other recreationists would continue to be turned away from the Cottonwood Point campground when campground occupancy is 100%. During capacity occupancy weekends, campers and recreationists would be limited to day-use only activities at Cottonwood Point and would only have access to primitive camping areas in designated primitive camp grounds or in areas designated for overflow camping. During weekends when events in the surrounding communities result in greater than normal utilization of camping resources, campers would continue to experience substantial competition for existing camping sites.

2.2 Action Alternative

The action alternative is the construction of 71 overnight campsites, 23 day-use sites, 2 restroom facilities with showers, 1 restroom facility with changing room and associated road networks and parking areas within the 93 acre expansion area.

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3.0 PROPOSED ACTION

The proposed action would result in the expansion of existing overnight camping and day-use facilities at the Cottonwood Point PUA. Public use facilities to be include the construction of 71 overnight campsites, 23 day-use sites, 2 restroom facilities with showers, 1 restroom facility with changing room, 1 new oxidation pond complex with two lagoons, and associated road networks and parking areas within the 93 acre expansion area. The road networks, parking areas and camping and day use site areas would result in 8.69 acres of impervious surface being constructed and the oxidation pond complex would require 0.7 acres. An overlay of existing and expanded facilities in the Cottonwood Point PUA is provided in Figure 3.1.

The proposed action would also result in a change of land use in the expansion area from forested and grassland/shrubland to intensively maintained parklands for camping and day use activities. The USFWS Habitat Evaluation Procedure (HEP) was used to assess the loss of habitat units associated with the PUA expansion. HEP data collection locations in the Cottonwood Point PUA are shown in Figure 3.2. HEP results indicate a maximum loss of 17.67 habitat units (HUs) would occur following camping and day use facility expansion into the project area (Table 3.1), assuming 100% development of the project area with intensive mowing and park vegetation maintenance. The expansion area comprises approximately 13 percent of native grassland/shrubland habitat under either direct management by the USACE or leased management for wildlife purposes by Kansas Department of Parks and Wildlife.

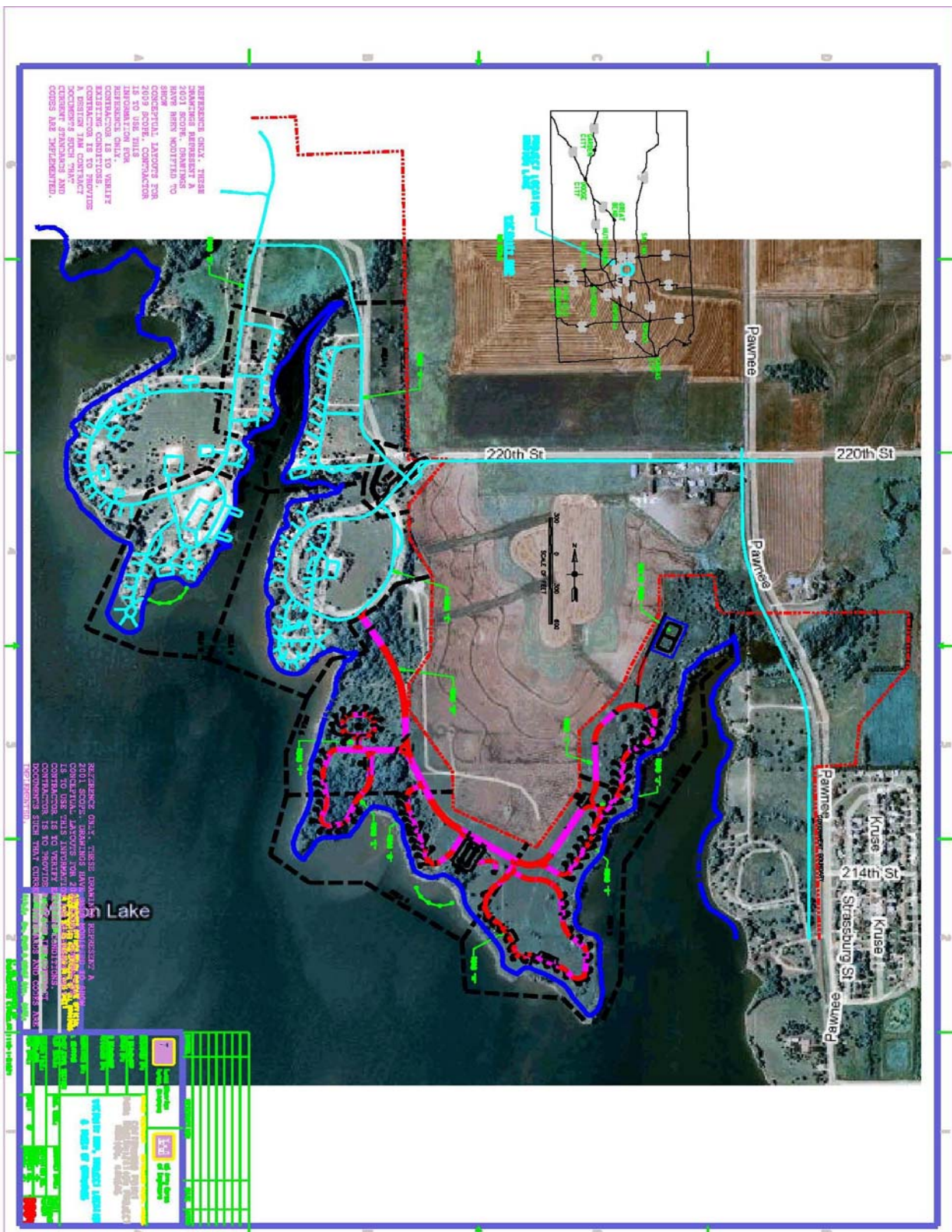


Figure 3.1. Overlay of the existing and expanded public use facilities at the Cottonwood Point PUA, Marion Reservoir, Kansas.



Figure 3.2. HEP site locations within the existing and expansion area of the Cottonwood Point PUA, Marion Reservoir, Kansas.

Table 3.1
Calculation of HSIs and HUs for without- and with-project conditions

Habitat	Species	Project Area	Acres	Without-Project Conditions		With-Project Conditions		HU Gain or (Loss)
				HSI	HUs	HSI	HUs	
Upland Hardwood/Grassland/Shrubland	Fox Squirrel	Cottonwood Point PUA	93	0.12	11.16	0.11	10.23	(0.93)
	Eastern Cottontail Rabbit	Cottonwood Point PUA	93	0.78	72.54	0.32	29.76	(43.71)
	Osprey	Cottonwood Point PUA	93	0.28	26.04	0.05	4.65	(21.39)
	Brown Thrasher	Cottonwood Point PUA	93	0.05	4.65	0.00	0.00	(4.65)
	Field Sparrow	Cottonwood Point PUA	93	0.2	18.6	0.0	0.00	(18.6)
	Average			0.29	26.60	0.10	8.93	(17.67)

4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

4.1 Location

The project is located in Marion County in central Kansas. The project area encompasses an area 93 acres south of and adjacent to the existing Cottonwood Point Public Use Area at Marion Reservoir (Figure 4.1).



Figure 4.1. Soil types present at the Cottonwood Point Public Use Area.

4.2 Climate

As described in Horsch and McFall (1983), Marion County has the continental climate typical of the interior of a large land mass in the middle latitudes. Warm summer temperatures last for about 6 months every year with transition seasons of spring and fall relatively short. Precipitation is heaviest from May through September, with a large part of it occurring from late evening or nighttime thunderstorms. The winter average temperature is 33.2 degrees F and the average daily minimum temperature is 21.6 degrees F. The lowest recorded temperature, -29 degrees F, occurred at Marion on February 12, 1899. The summer average temperature is 78.0 degrees F and the average daily maximum temperature is 90.7 degrees F. The highest recorded temperature, 115 degrees F, occurred at Florence on July 13 and 14, 1954.

Total annual precipitation is 32.85 inches. Of this, 23.77 inches (72%) usually falls in April through September. The average seasonal snowfall is 18.3 inches. The greatest snow depth at any one time was 54.8 inches. The sun shines 75 percent of the time possible in summer and 61 percent in winter. The prevailing wind is from the south with an average wind speed of 12.5 miles per hour. The highest wind speeds usually occur in March and April.

Tornados and severe thunderstorms strike occasionally in Marion County. These storms are usually local in extent and of short duration. Hail falls during the warmer part of the year and usually infrequent and localized.

4.3 Current Social and Economic Conditions

4.3.1 Population

The 2008 U.S. Census of Population and Housing indicate that 12,100 persons live in Marion County. There are approximately 5,882 housing units in Marion County, of which 968 housing units are in Marion, 1209 in Hillsboro and 602 in Peabody. These three cities make up the closest population to the Marion Reservoir camping facilities. The population of Marion County decreased by approximately six percent between the years 1990 and 2008. Two towns closest to Marion Reservoir also experienced a slight decrease in population. Hillsboro's population decreased from 2704 to 2638 person (-2%). Marion's population decreased from 1,906 to 1,880 (-1%). During that same time-frame the State of Kansas experienced a population increase of approximately thirteen percent. The decline in population can be attributed to diminishing industrial employment opportunities in this area of the state, resulting in people moving away from more rural areas and in to the larger cities and metropolitan areas. The county of Marion lost 56 industrial jobs according to County Business Patterns from 2006 to 2007. <http://censtats.census.gov/cgi-bin/cbpnaic/cbpsect.pl> Table 1 shows the population counts for Marion, Hillsboro, Peabody, Marion County, and the State of Kansas.

Table 4.1
Area Population
Marion, Kansas
1990-2008

	1990	2000	2008	Total Change	%
Peabody	1,349	1,384	1,203	-146	-11%
Marion	1,906	2,110	1,880	-26	-1%
Hillsboro	2,704	2,854	2,638	-66	-2%
Marion County	12,888	13,361	12,100	-788	-6%
State Of Kansas	2,477,574	2,688,418	2,802,134	324,560	13%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population; 2000 Decennial Census, 1990 Decennial Census and US Census Bureau Population Estimates Program.

The population of Hillsboro is slightly younger than that of Marion County based on median age. The populations of Marion and Peabody are similar to Marion County as a whole with respect to median ages. All three cities' median ages are higher than that of the State of Kansas. The median age of the State of Kansas is 35.2 years, while Marion County's median age is 41 years. Approximately 26% of Marion's population is age 65 years and older, which is higher than that of Marion County (21%) and the State of Kansas (13%). Hillsboro has a higher percentage of residents' age 18 years and younger (79%) than Marion County (75.2%). Marion County with 75.2% percent of their population 18 and younger compares well with Marion at 74.5% and Peabody at 75.4%. The State of Kansas (73.5%) has the lowest percent of people 18 years and younger. This can be attributed to an average of 7% of person's under age 5 for the State of Kansas.

Throughout the state of Kansas, including Marion County, Hillsboro, Marion and Peabody, the population is primarily white. In Marion, 98.8% of the population is white; Marion County 98.9%; and State of Kansas 97.9%. The second most populous race by percentage is Black or African America for the State of Kansas. Native American is the next most populous for the city and County of Marion. Table 2 shows a breakdown of the population by age and race.

4.3.2 Employment and Education

The 2000 Census Data provides insight into employment for The City of Marion, Hillsboro and Peabody for the year 1999. The total employed labor force for Marion in 1999 was 898 persons and 2.0% of the civilian labor force (an additional 31 persons) reported being unemployed. Unemployment in Hillsboro and Peabody was 2.5% and 0.7% respectively. These rates vary around the mean of Marion County (1.8%) and are considerably lower overall than the State of Kansas (2.8%).

The primary industry of employment was health care and social services, where 35% of the employed population worked. Following with 26% of the population was in retail

trade. Table 3 shows a detailed breakdown of the labor force by industry.

Table 4.2
Population Comparison
Marion, Marion County and State of Kansas
2008

	Marion	Hillsboro	Peabody	Marion County	Kansas
Population	1,880	2,638	1,203	12,100	2,802,134
Median Age	41.7	38.2	42.2	41	35.2
Percentage 65 years and older	26.60%	23.30%	22%	21.10%	13.3%
Percentage 18 years and older	74.50%	79.60%	75.40%	75.20%	73.5%
Race					
White	97.60%	97.50%	95.80%	97.10%	86.10%
Black or African American	0.50%	0.40%	1.50%	0.50%	5.70%
American Indian	0.80%	0.40%	0.40%	0.60%	0.90%
Two or more Races	N/A	0.9%	1.9%	N/A	2.1%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population; US Census Bureau Population Estimates Program.

Table 4.3
Employment By Industry
Marion County, Kansas
2008

Industry	Number	Percent
Wholesale trade	157	9%
Retail trade	466	26%
Information	43	2%
Professional, scientific, & technical services	100	5%
Administrative & support & waste management & remediation service	22	1%
Health care & social assistance	644	35%
Accommodation & food services	319	17%
Other services (except public administration)	76	4%

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population.

Approximately 549 persons age 3 and older are reported as participating in education for Marion County. Elementary school has the largest population with almost 300 students. Table 4 shows the breakdown of students broken down by type of school enrollment.

Of the 1387 persons in Marion County age 25 years and over, 85.6% are high school

graduates, with 48.7% of those graduates going to at least some level of college or professional school.

Table 4.4
Population Age 3 and over enrolled in school
Marion County
2008

Grades	Enrollment	Percent
Population 3 years and over enrolled in school	549	100
Nursery school, preschool	48	8.7
Kindergarten	19	3.5
Elementary: grade 1 to 4	162	29.5
Elementary: grade 5 to 8	127	23.1
High school: grade 9 to 12	106	19.3
College, undergraduate	87	15.8

Source: U.S. Bureau of the Census, 2000 Census of Population

4.3.3 Income

The 1999 median household income for The City of Marion was \$32,125 compared to \$34,500 for Marion County and \$40,624 for the State of Kansas. In 1999, 9.6% of the 822 households in The City of Marion had an annual income of less than \$10,000, in Hillsboro it was 10.3% of 1,089 households and in Peabody 15.7% of 554. Female full-time, year-round workers earn significantly less than male full-time, year-round workers, \$17,783 for women versus \$24,484 for men. Additionally, 5.3% of families report living in poverty in the City of Marion. Census reported 4.8% living in poverty in Marion County. This is compared to 11.9% poverty for the State of Kansas.

4.3.4 Social Ecology

City of Marion has areas with a mix of industrial, commercial, and residential land uses. Surrounding areas also support heavy agriculture. An estimated 968 housing units are located in Marion, 602 in Peabody and 1,209 in Hillsboro. There are 5,882 housing units for the entire county who could prospectively have easy access to Marion Reservoir and the recreational areas surrounding the reservoir. The degradation of the environment has only a minimal negative impact on habitat, as well as aesthetic and related quality of life for residents and visitors to the region.

4.4 Executive Order 12989

Executive Order 12989 requires each Federal agency to make environmental justice part of its mission by identifying and addressing, as appropriate, disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of its programs, policies, and activities on

minority populations and low-income populations.

Under NEPA, the identification of a disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effect on a low-income population, minority population, or Indian tribe does not preclude a proposed agency action from going forward, nor does it necessarily compel a conclusion that a proposed action is environmentally unsatisfactory. Rather, the identification of such an effect serves to heighten agency attention to alternatives (including alternative sites), mitigation strategies, monitoring needs, and preferences expressed by the affected community or population.

Low-income populations in an affected area are identified with the annual statistical poverty thresholds from the Bureau of the Census Reports on Income and Poverty. In identifying low-income populations, agencies may consider as a community either a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or a set of individuals (such as migrant workers or Native Americans), where either type of group experiences common conditions of environmental exposure or effect.

Minorities are comprised of individual(s) who are members of the following population groups: American Indian or Alaskan Native; Asian or Pacific Islander; Black, not of Hispanic origin; or Hispanic.

Minority populations are identified where either: (a) the minority populations of the affected area exceeds 50 percent or (b) the minority population percentage of the affected area is meaningfully greater than the minority population percentage in the general population or other appropriate unit of geographic analysis. In identifying minority communities, agencies may consider as a community either a group of individuals living in geographic proximity to one another, or a geographically dispersed/transient set of individuals (such as migrant workers or Native American), where either type of group experiences common conditions of environmental exposure or effect. The selection of the appropriate unit of geographic analysis may be a governing body's jurisdiction, a neighborhood, census tract, or other similar unit that is to be chosen so as to not artificially dilute or inflate the affected minority percentage, as calculated by aggregating all minority persons, meets one of the above-stated thresholds.

Disproportionately high and adverse human health effects: When determining whether human health effects are disproportionately high and adverse, agencies are to consider the following three factors to the extent practicable: (a) Whether the health effects, which may be measured in risks and rates, are significant or above generally accepted norms. Adverse health effects may include bodily impairment, infirmity, illness, or death; and (b) Whether the risk or rate of hazard exposure by a minority population, low-income population, or Indian tribe to an environmental hazard is significant and appreciably exceeds or is likely to appreciably exceed the risk or rate to the general population or other appropriate comparison group; and (c) Whether health effects occur in a minority population, low-income population, or Indian tribe affected by cumulative or multiple adverse exposures from environmental hazards.

Disproportionately high and adverse environmental effects: When determining whether environmental effects are disproportionately high and adverse, agencies are to consider the following three factors to the extent practicable: (a) Whether there is or will be an impact on the natural or physical environment that significantly and adversely affects a minority population, low-income population, or Indian tribe. Such effects may include ecological, cultural, human health, economic, or social impacts on minority communities, low-income communities, or Indian tribes when those impacts are interrelated to impacts on the natural or physical environment; and (b) Whether environmental effects are significant and are or may be having an adverse impact on minority populations, low-income populations, or Indian tribes that appreciably exceeds or is likely to appreciably exceed those on the general population or other appropriate comparison group; and (c) Whether the environmental effects occur or would occur in a minority population, low-income population, or Indian tribe affected by cumulative or multiple adverse exposure from environmental hazards.

4.5 Executive Order 13045

On 21 April 1997, President Clinton issued Executive Order 13045 (EO 13045), Protection of Children From Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks, which notes that children often suffer disproportionately from environmental health and safety risks, due in part to a child's size and maturing bodily systems. The executive order defines environmental health and safety risks as risks to health or to safety that are attributable to products or substances that the child is likely to come in contact with or ingest (such as the air we breathe, the food we eat, the water we drink or use for recreations, the soil we live on, and the products we use or are exposed to). Executive Order 13045 requires Federal agencies, to the extent permitted by law and mission, to identify and assess environmental health and safety risks that may affect children disproportionately. The Order further requires Federal agencies to ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address these disproportionate risks. Executive Order 13045 is addressed in this NEPA document to examine the effects this action will have on children.

4.6 Natural Resources

4.6.1 Terrestrial

Two-thirds of Marion County is drained by the Cottonwood River and its tributaries. The southern parts of the county are drained by Middle Emma Creek, East Emma Creek, Sand Creek, and Turkey Creek. The northern part of the county is drained by Turkey Creek, Lyon Creek and several intermittent streams.

Marion Reservoir is located in the Central Loess Plains Land Resource Area along the eastern edge of central Kansas (Horsch and McFall 1983) in the central mixed-grass prairie as described by the USFWS (2008) within the Flint Hills ecoregion of Kansas.

The project area is primarily tallgrass prairie comprised of big bluestem, little bluestem, switchgrass, Indiangrass, sideoats grama and tall dropseed. Wooded areas within the project area are composed of willow, cottonwood, black walnut, Osage orange, green ash, bur oak, and eastern red cedar.

4.6.2 Soils

Soil is the most abundant and one of the most important natural resources in Marion County. The project area consists primarily of three soil types (Table 4.x and Figure 4.1) each comprising between 27 percent and 40 percent of the area. These soils include Clime silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent slopes; Clime silty clay loam, 3 to 7 percent slopes; and Irwin silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent.

The Clime silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent, is a moderately deep, gently sloping, well drained soil present on upland ridgetops and side slopes. Permeability in this soil is slow and runoff is medium and available water capacity is moderate. Nearly all of the acreage of this soil type in Marion County is used for cultivated crops and is well suited to wheat, grain sorghum, soybeans, and alfalfa. Erosion is a hazard when this soil is under cultivation. Use of generally accepted best management practices for soil conservation is useful in reducing soil erosion.

The Clime silty clay loam, 3 to 7 percent, is a moderately deep, moderately sloping, well drained soil present on the side slopes of uplands. Permeability in this soil is slow and available water capacity is moderate with rapid runoff. This soil is poorly suited to cultivated crops and is best suited to range, however approximately 75% of the acreage with this soil type in Marion County is used for cultivated crops. Cultivated crops grown on this soil type include wheat, grain sorghum and alfalfa. The remaining 25 percent is used for rangeland. Predominate native vegetation for this soil type includes little bluestem, big bluestem and sideoats grama. Erosion is a hazard when this soil is under cultivation. Use of generally accepted best management practices for soil conservation is useful in reducing soil erosion.

The Irwin silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent, is a deep, gently sloping, moderately well drained soil present on broad ridgetops and side slopes. Permeability in this soil is very slow and available water capacity is high. Nearly all of the acreage of this soil type is used for cultivated crops in Marion County. This soil is well suited to wheat, grain sorghum and soybeans. Erosion is a hazard when this soil is under cultivation. Use of generally accepted best management practices for soil conservation is useful in reducing soil erosion.

Table 4.5

Marion Reservoir, Cottonwood Point Public Use Area Soil Types

Map Unit Symbol	Map Unit Name	Acres	Percent of Total
4540	Clime silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent	38.3	38.9
4555	Clime silty clay loam, 3 to 7 percent	30.8	31.2
4671	Irwin silty clay loam, 1 to 3 percent	26.7	27.1
Total		98.6	97.2

4.6.3 Prime Farmland

Soil that is prime or unique farmland as defined in the Farmland Protection Policy Act is classified as prime farmland. According to the U.S. Department of Agriculture, it is soil that is best suited for producing food, feed, forage, fiber and oilseed crops.

4.6.4 Wild and Scenic Rivers

There are no streams within the project area that are classified as wild and scenic pursuant to the Federal Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, Public Law 90-542.

4.6.5 Water Quality

The USACE has characterized Marion Reservoir as hyper-eutrophic based upon epilimnetic phosphorus concentrations (USACE 1999). The USACE has also identified the general water quality at Marion Reservoir as having the following areas of concern: 1) low surface oxygen levels in Durham Cove; 2) high nutrient concentrations and potential shift to a higher abundance of blue-green algae; and 3) elevated mercury levels in the water column (USACE 1999). In 2004, the Kansas Department of Health and Environment issued the Neosho River Basin Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) for the Marion Reservoir watershed (KDHE 2004). In the 2004 TMDL, KDHE identified eutrophication as the primary cause of water body impairment for the 204 square-mile Marion Reservoir watershed and classified the reservoir as fully eutrophic reporting elevated total phosphorus concentrations within the watershed. The TMDL for the Marion Reservoir watershed recommend a target goal to reduce total phosphorus loading by 75% and reduce the total phosphorus concentrations by 52% between 2007 and 2011.

Beginning in 2003, substantial cyanobacterial (blue-green algae) blooms have been experienced annually within Marion Reservoir. These blooms have been characterized as harmful algae blooms (HABs) by the USACE based upon guidelines published by the National Oceanographic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA), the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and World Health Organization (WHO). The dominant blue-green algae during bloom periods include *Microcystis* spp., *Anabaena*

spp., *Aphanizomenon* spp., and *Cylindrospermopsis raciborskii*. During bloom events, algal densities (number of cells per milliliter) present at the Cottonwood Point PUA and swim beach have occasionally exceeded the WHO guidance level of 100,000 cells per milliliter (moderate risk of adverse health effects) (WHO 1999) resulting in the posting of on-site risk advisories and the closure of public swimming facilities within the PUA (high risk of adverse health effects).

The dominant blue-green algae present during bloom conditions are known to have the ability to produce anatoxin-a, which is a neurotoxin affecting the nervous system, microcystin, which is a hepatotoxin affecting the liver, and cylindrospermopsin, which has been classified as both a neurotoxin and hepatotoxin. While data is limited, the USACE has identified the presence of the microcystin toxin during blooms in 2005. Additionally, in July 2007 the illness and death of multiple dogs was reported to the USACE and KDHE. The results of an autopsy performed on one of these dogs, an adult Bassett Hound, reported that “due to the clinical history, exposure of multiple animals, and water analysis, blue-green algae toxicosis would appear to be the likely cause of death in this dog”. Marion Reservoir is listed on the current (2006) State of Kansas 303(d) list of impaired waters for eutrophication as a Category 4 waterbody.

4.6.6 Fish and Wildlife

4.6.6.1 Fish

Marion Reservoir has an excellent reputation for fishing within the region. The primary sport fish species include walleye, white bass, channel catfish, white crappie, largemouth bass, bluegill, flathead catfish, and bullhead catfish. Several species of rough fish are common to the reservoir as well and the Kansas Department of Parks and Wildlife instituted a commercial harvest of common carp and largemouth buffalo in 2009.

4.6.6.2 Amphibians and Reptiles

Species of amphibian and reptile present in the project area are typical of the Flint Hills ecoregion and includes terrestrial and aquatic snakes, turtles, lizards, frogs, toads, skinks and salamanders. A complete species account for Marion County can be obtained from the Kansas Herpetofaunal Atlas at:
http://webcat.fhsu.edu/ksfauna/herps/index.asp?page=species&list=county&county_id=1495.

4.6.6.3 Birds

Bird species present in the project area are typical of the Flint Hills ecoregion and includes geese, ducks, quail, herons, harriers, hawks, owls, doves, kingfishers, woodpeckers, cuckoos, chickadees, titmouse, shrike, starling, jays and crows, sparrows, cowbird, cardinal, junco, swallows, warblers and finches. A complete species account and checklist of birds for Marion County can be obtained from the Kansas Ornithological Society at: <http://ksbirds.org/checklist/Marion.pdf>.

4.6.6.4 Mammals

Species of mammal present in the project area are typical of the Flint Hills ecoregion and includes white-tailed deer, cottontail rabbit, squirrel, coyote, raccoon, bobcat, possum, muskrat, striped skunk, bats and beaver. A complete species account of the mammals in Kansas can be obtained from the American Society of Mammalogists at: <http://www.mammalsociety.org/statelists/ksmammals.html>.

4.6.7 Executive Order 13112

On February 3, 1999, President Clinton issued Executive Order 13112 (EO 13112), Invasive Species, which notes that invasive species annually cause significant economic, ecological, and alien species whose introduction does or is likely to cause economic and environmental harm or harm to human health. EO 13112 requires Federal agencies to not authorize, fund, or carry out actions that it believes are likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States; and that all feasible and prudent measure to minimize risk or harm will be taken in conjunction with the actions. EO 13112 is addressed in this NEPA document to incorporate measure that will prevent the inadvertent spread of exotic and invasive species. These preventive measures are described in Section 5.5.

4.6.8 Executive Order 13186

On January 10, 2001, President Clinton issued Executive Order 13186 (EO 13186), Responsibility of Federal Agencies to Protect Migratory Birds, which notes that migratory bird conventions impose substantive obligations on the United States for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats. EO 13186 requires, in part, Federal agencies to integrate conservation principles, measures, and practices into agency activities and prevent or abate the pollution or detrimental alteration of the Environment for the benefit of migratory birds, as practicable.

4.7 Threatened and Endangered Species

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS) identified two Federally threatened and endangered species with possible distributions in Marion County, Kansas. Threatened species which may occur in Marion County include the Neosho madtom (*Nocturus placidus*). Endangered species which may occur in Marion County include the Topeka shiner (*Notropis topeka*). No candidate species for inclusion on the federally threatened and endangered species list where been identified as being present in Marion County by the USFWS.

Neosho madtom

The Neosho madtom is a federally listed threatened species of catfish that occupies gravel bars and smaller areas of gravel in rivers of the Neosho Basin (USFWS 1991). The current distribution of the Neosho madtom includes the Neosho River from Commerce, OK to extreme southeastern Morris County, KS; the Cottonwood River from its Neosho River confluence to central Chase County, KS; and the Spring River from its Neosho River confluence to western Jasper County, MO (NSRA 1995).

Topeka shiner

The Topeka shiner is a federally listed endangered species that occupies riffles and pools moderately clear, small, upland pools with substrates ranging from sand, gravel, rubble and bedrock (Pflieger 1997). The current distribution of the Topeka shiner in Kansas includes scattered locations in parts of the Arkansas River Basin, the Kansas River Basin, and in upper tributaries of the Neosho River Basin (Minckley and Cross 1959).

4.8 Cultural Resources

Archaeological investigations in the vicinity of Marion Reservoir began as early as 1879 with the amateur excavation of earthen mounds and rock cairns located south of Marion by Edwin Curtiss (Malone and Rohn 1981). In 1959, Waldo Wedel summarized archaeological excavations within the Marion County vicinity during the late 1870's indicating that the collections of Edwin Curtiss and others reported by Putnam (in Wedel 1959) suggests the earthen mounds were most likely middens associated with the late prehistoric Great Bend Aspect. The rock cairns identified by Curtiss suggest a type of feature associated with the Plains Woodland period and could be a western extension of the Hopewell Complex (Wedel 1959 in Malone and Rohn 1981).

The Marion Archaeological District is listed on the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) and contains a concentration of 26 known archeological sites clustering around the north, south, and west margins of present-day Marion Reservoir within the floodplain and contiguous low terraces of the Cottonwood River and its tributaries (Malone and Rohn 1981). As it is currently defined, however, the District does not include any portion of federal land at Marion Reservoir.

Archaeological investigations conducted specifically on federal land at Marion Reservoir began in 1979 when the Kansas State Historical Society identified three archaeological sites. In 1981, Malone and Rohn recorded three archaeological sites at Marion Reservoir in addition to the three previously identified in 1979 by the Kansas State Historical Society. These six archaeological sites recorded to date on federal land at Marion Reservoir have been determined to be not eligible for the National Register. The latest archaeological investigations, conducted in 2006 (Hokanson and Farello), focused on an investigation of the Cottonwood Point Public Use Area and a proposed expansion area to the south along the shoreline. No archaeological sites or isolated artifact occurrences were recorded.

4.9 Air Quality

The Clean Air Act of 1970, as amended, requires the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA) to establish national standards for air pollutants anticipated to harm human health. Pollutants in this category include: total suspended particulate, lead, sulfur dioxide, carbon monoxide, ozone and nitrogen dioxide. Primary standards were established to protect the public with an adequate safety margin.

The air quality of any region is controlled primarily by the magnitude and distribution of pollutant emissions and the regional climate. The transportation of pollutants from specific source areas is often times augmented by local topography and meteorology. As with many areas throughout the Great Plains, relatively level topography characteristic of Kansas allows for uninhibited circulation of air pollutants. The State of Kansas ranks high in the nation in average daily wind speed and the average annual wind speed in the Wichita region is approximately 12.2 miles per hour (NOAA 2008).

The Kansas Bureau of Air, 2006-2007 Air Quality Report does not contain site-specific air quality data for the Marion County, Kansas and Marion Reservoir area. However, air quality results for most pollutants were recorded at Park City and Wichita, Kansas 42 and 46 miles, respectively, to the south-southwest of Marion Reservoir. For the purposes of this study, when considering the close proximity of the Marion Reservoir and the Peck City and Wichita areas, the general topography of the region, and the primary direction of the State's wind flow, the Park City and Wichita data are considered to be the best available representation of air quality for the Marion Reservoir area. Complete results of the 2006-2007 Kansas Air Quality Report are available at http://www.kdheks.gov/bar/download/06-07_Air_Quality_Report.pdf. In general, data collected by the KDHE, Bureau of Air indicated good air quality for the south-central and central Kansas regions and all measured parameters were below the National Ambient Air Quality Standards (KDHE 2008).

4.10 Hazardous, Toxic and Radiological Waste

Potential for discovery of hazardous material during construction of the Cottonwood Point Public PUA expansion was evaluated through examination of historic and current land use, review of environmental databases, interviews with local regulatory personnel and visual observations. Avoidance of HTRW during construction is desirable in order to minimize project delays, remediation costs, and environmental damage.

Project lands are comprised of a mix of recreational public use facilities owned and managed by the USACE and undeveloped uplands bounded by Marion Reservoir to the south, east and west and agricultural lands to the north. Oil wells and tank batteries are present on private agricultural lands immediately adjacent to the north USACE property boundary however no evidence of well purging or tank battery leakage was observed during a site visit on August 18, 2009. As such, these lands have not been subject to industrial development or other land use activities with associated potential for

significant contamination. Additionally, lands in close proximity to the project area share similar land use classifications or are comprised of residential land uses and have a low potential for contaminate transport to the project area. Accordingly, there is no reason to believe that environmental media in the project area have been significantly contaminated by past or current land practices or by releases from adjoining properties.

A search of environmental databases revealed no documented areas of contamination near the project location. A search of the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Information System (CERCLIS) database revealed the presence of one CERCLIS-listed site in Marion County, Kansas. The CERCLIS-listed facility was the Canada Former USDA/CCC Grain Bin Site located 0.5 miles south of U.S. Highway 56, 3 miles west of Marion on 190th Road, approximately 2.3 miles south of the project area. Twenty-seven sites listed on the Enforcement and Compliance History Online (ECHO) hazardous waste program database were noted in Marion County. Of these, eight are located in Hillsboro, one is located in Durham and the remaining sites are located outside the Marion Reservoir watershed in Marion, Peabody, Goessel, Florence and Burns.

Finally, a site visit was conducted on 18 August 2009 that included a search for visual evidence of potential HTRW-related problems. This involved walking the project area as well as visual reconnaissance of surrounding areas. Areas of soil staining, evidence of unusual vegetative distress, drums of containerized waste, unusual topography (mounds or depressions), or other visual evidence of potential contamination were not noted at any location within the proposed project area, however the potential for encountering these materials does exist.

5.0 IMPACTS OF THE PROPOSED ACTION

A summary of the environmental and social impacts is presented in Table 5.1, Impact Assessment Matrix.

5.1 Social and Economic Impacts

5.1.1 Future without-Project Impacts

5.1.1.1 Population

Due to current economic conditions, it is expected that the population of Marion County and City of Marion will continue to decline, while the overall population of Kansas will continue to increase. The median age of the population will increase as the younger population leaves for educational purposes and in search of employment. The racial make-up will remain similar to its current composition.

5.1.1.2 Employment and Education

The trend of outsourcing manufacturing jobs will continue, which will cause a reduction in the available jobs in Marion County. Also, as the population continues to decline, it is estimated that fewer education jobs will be available. However, public and social services will continue to be needed and utilized.

5.1.1.3 Income

The median household income for the City of Marion (32,125), Hillsboro (32,736) and Peabody (29,792) will remain lower than Marion County and the State of Kansas. The income gap between men and women will probably remain the same and the poverty level will remain in the 15% range.

5.1.1.4 Social Ecology

Without the proposed project, aesthetic and related quality of life will remain unchanged or could decrease for the target population of campers and recreators. The demand for recreation and camping amenities would continue to exceed the capacity of existing recreation and camping facilities and the quality of the recreation experience will continue to decline for those without adequate camping areas. The campground expansion area would continue to provide an area for public hunting adjacent to the Cottonwood Point Campground.

**Table 5.1
Impact Assessment Matrix**

Name of Parameter	Magnitude of Probable Impact						
	Increasing Beneficial Impact			No Appreciable Effect	Increasing Adverse Impact		
	Significant	Substantial	Minor		Minor	Substantial	Significant
A. Social Effects							
1. Noise Levels				x			
2. Aesthetic Values					x		
3. Recreational Opportunities	x						
4. Transportation				x			
5. Public Health and Safety				x			
6. Community Cohesion (Sense of Unity)			x				
7. Community Growth and Development			x				
8. Business and Home Relocations				x			
9. Existing/Potential Land Use						x	
10. Controversy				x			
B. Economic Effects							
1. Property Values				x			
2. Tax Revenues			x				
3. Public Facilities and Services		x					
4. Regional Growth				x			
5. Employment				x			
6. Business Activity			x				
7. Farmland/Food Supply				x			
8. Flooding Effects				x			
C. Natural Resource Effects							
1. Air Quality				x			
2. Terrestrial Habitat					x		
3. Wetlands				x			
4. Aquatic Habitat				x			
5. Habitat Diversity and Interspersion						x	
6. Biological Productivity						x	
7. Surface Water Quality				x			
8. Water Supply				x			
9. Groundwater				x			
10. Soils				x			
11. Threatened and Endangered Species				x			
D. Cultural Resources							
1. Historic Architectural Values				x			
2. Pre-Historic & Historic Archeological Values				x			

5.1.2 Future with-Project Social and Economic Conditions

5.1.2.1 Population

The recommended plan will have little to no impact on the population inhabiting Marion County.

5.1.2.2 Employment and Education

The proposed project will create some temporary jobs in the region during construction. However, no long term impacts to employment will result.

5.1.2.3 Income

Income levels in Marion County will not be impacted by the proposed project.

5.1.2.4 Social Ecology

Expanded public camping facilities will provide additional camping and day use sites for the camping community. The existing camping facility at Cottonwood Point has been operating at 100% capacity during the weekends from May through September and gate attendants report turning approximately 10-75 campers away each weekend. The expanded facilities will be adequate to accommodate an additional 71 overnight campers. The project area is currently zoned for recreation and is open to public hunting. Following project completion, public hunting will be prohibited within the 93 acre project area.

5.2 Executive Order 12898

Executive Order 12898 requires federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects of federal programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. Federal agencies are directed to ensure that federal programs or activities do not result, either directly or indirectly, in discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin. Federal agencies are required to provide opportunities for input in the NEPA process from affected communities and to evaluate significant and adverse environmental effects of proposed federal actions on minority or low income communities during the preparation of federal environmental documents. The proposed project was evaluated in accordance with E.O. 12898.

5.3 Executive Order 13045

Executive Order 13045 requires that federal agencies make it a high priority to identify and assess environmental health risks and safety risks that may disproportionately affect

children. Federal agencies are directed to ensure that its policies, programs, activities, and standards address disproportionate risks to children that result from environmental health and safety risks. The proposed project was evaluated in accordance with E.O. 13045. The review conducted indicates, at present, a low to moderate environmental health risk to children due to the presence of blue-green algae at cellular densities high enough to merit administrative action (WHO 1999) and capable of producing neurotoxins (nerve toxins) and hepatotoxins (liver toxins). Symptoms experienced due to acute exposure to neurotoxins could possibly include muscle cramps, twitching, paralysis, cardiac or respiratory failure, death in animals (WHO 1999, NOAA 2009). It is recommended that information regarding possible adverse health effects related to primary and secondary water contact be posted at public use facilities within the Cottonwood Point PUA and at public swimming facilities.

5.4 Natural Resources

5.4.1 Terrestrial

The proposed project would result in the net loss of 17.67 Habitat Units within the Cottonwood Point PUA and limit activities to those related to camping and angling. Habitat losses would not result in the loss of critical habitat for threatened or endangered species or other species of concern.

5.4.2 Prime Farmland

PENDING COMPLETION OF COORDINATION

5.4.3 Wetlands and Water Quality Permits

In order to minimize or eliminate the temporary impacts to water quality during the construction of the PUA camping and day-use facilities measures would be taken to reduce the impact of soil disturbing activities within the project area (i.e. stormwater construction permits and appropriate protective measures). A stormwater management plan would be required during construction of improvements.

The PUA expansion project area is located in T19S, R3E, S22. This section has been delineated by the KDHE (KDHE 2005) as a sensitive groundwater area with regard to implementing the provisions of the Municipal, Commercial, and Industrial Wastewater Lagoon requirements set forth in Kansas State regulatory requirements.

SECTION 404 PERMIT REQUIREMENTS PENDING COMPLETION OF COORDINATION

5.4.4 Fish and Wildlife

Activities associated with construction would temporarily displace existing aquatic and riparian wildlife. Aquatic wildlife would be expected to return upon completion of the project. The expansion of the PUA may benefit some wildlife species and adversely impact others. Foraging species may benefit from increased food availability provided by clearing of the underbrush. However, neotropical bird species that utilize grassland, grass-shrublands and riparian woodlands could be adversely impacted. As with any construction project, some species will be displaced.

5.5 Executive Order 13112

Species of exotic or invasive plants and animals have the potential to be transported into or out of the PUA expansion area by the equipment to be used by the contractor. Executive Order 13112 requires Federal agencies to not authorize, fund, or carry out actions that it believes are likely to cause or promote the introduction or spread of invasive species in the United States; and that all feasible and prudent measures to minimize risk or harm will be taken in conjunction with the actions. The potential exists at this project for the transport of species covered under this Executive Order.

The introduction and spread of exotic and invasive species is a major concern with the use of heavy equipment for this project. Therefore, the contract specifications for this project will include the following condition. All equipment brought on site will be thoroughly washed to remove dirt, seeds, and plant parts. Any equipment that has been in any body of water within 30 days of its arrival at the work site will be thoroughly cleaned with hot water (hotter than 40° C or 104°F) and dried for a minimum of five days before being used at this project site. In addition, before transporting equipment from the project site all visible mud, plants, and fish/animals will be removed, all water will be eliminated, and the equipment will be thoroughly cleaned. Anything that had come in contact with water at this or other construction sites will be cleaned and dried following the above procedure.

5.6 Executive Order 13186

The potential impacts of the PUA expansion to migratory birds have been evaluated. The change in land use from tall-grass prairie and upland woodlands could impact the USACE ability to protect migratory birds from deleterious impacts. According to information contained in the document Partners in Flight, Bird Conservation Plan for The Osage Plains (Physiographic Area 33, American Bird Conservancy, Version 1.0, October 2000), the physiographic area of the PUA expansion consists of grasslands, grass-shrublands and riparian woodlands.

In grasslands, the breeding bird species that appear to be increasing consist of the Cattle Egret and Ring-necked Pheasant, while declining species consist of the Northern Harrier, Swainson's Hawk, Greater Prairie-Chicken, Horned Lark, Grasshopper Sparrow and Eastern Meadowlark. With or without the PUA expansion, this trend is expected to continue.

In grass-shrublands, the breeding bird species that appear to be increasing consist of the Bewick's Wren and Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, while declining species consist of the Western Kingbird, Eastern Kingbird, Scissor-tailed Flycatcher, Loggerhead Shrike, Bell's Vireo, Brown Thrasher and Lark Sparrow. With or without the PUA expansion, this trend is expected to continue.

In riparian woodlands, the breeding bird species that appear to be increasing consist of the Red-shouldered Hawk, Eastern Phoebe, White-eyed Vireo, Cliff Swallow, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Indigo Bunting and Ruby-throated Hummingbird. The breeding bird species that appear to be decreasing consist of the Green Heron, Black-billed Cuckoo, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Bell's Vireo (willow thickets), Yellow-breasted Chat, Orchard Oriole, Baltimore Oriole, Black-capped Chickadee and Bullock's Oriole. With or without the PUA expansion, this trend is expected to continue.

5.7 Threatened and Endangered Species

There are no federally listed threatened and endangered species which would be impacted by the expansion of the Cottonwood Point PUA.

5.8 Cultural Resources

PENDING COMPLETION OF COORDINATION

5.9 Air Quality

Air quality within the area would not be negatively impacted as a result of this project. There would be minor temporary air emissions during the construction phase of the project; this would not likely adversely affect the air quality. This area is currently in attainment with the Clean Air Act (as amended).

5.10 Hazardous, Toxic and Radiological Waste

Based on the findings of the HTRW survey discussed in Section 4.10, the potential for discovery and significant problems related to HTRW during project construction or operation is believed to be low.

5.11 Noise

Noise levels are anticipated to increase substantially during construction but will return to baseline levels once construction is complete. There is anticipated to be only a slight permanent increase in noise as a result of this project.

6.0 FEDERAL, STATE, AND LOCAL AGENCY COORDINATION

The Draft Environmental Assessment (EA) was coordinated with the following agencies having legislative and administrative responsibilities for environmental protection. A copy of the correspondence from the agencies that provided comments and planning assistance for preparation of the draft EA are in the appendices. The mailing list for the 30-day public review period for this draft EA is in Appendix A.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Kansas Water Office
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Kansas State Historic Preservation Officer
Marion County Sanitation/Environmental Health Department

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8.0 APPLICABLE ENVIRONMENTAL LAWS

Table 8.1
Relationship of Plans to Federal Environmental Protection Statutes and Other Environmental Requirements

Policies	Compliance of Alternatives
Archeological and Historic Preservation Act, 1974, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 469, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Clean Air Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 7609, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Clean Water Act, 1977, as amended (Federal Water Pollution Control Act, 33 U.S.C. 1251, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Endangered Species Act, 1973, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1531, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Federal Water Project Recreation Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 460-1-12, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 661, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Land and Water Conservation Fund Act, 1965, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 4601, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
National Historic Preservation Act, 1966, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 470a, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
National Environmental Policy Act, as amended, 42 U.S.C. 4321, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act, 1990, 25 U.S.C. 3001-13, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Rivers and Harbors Act, 33 U.S.C. 401, <u>et seq.</u>	N/A
Watershed Protection and Flood Prevention Act, 16 U.S.C. 1001, <u>et seq.</u>	N/A
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended, 16 U.S.C. 1271, <u>et seq.</u>	N/A
Water Resources Planning Act, 1965	N/A
Floodplain Management (E.O. 11988)	All plans in full compliance
Protection of Wetlands (E.O. 11990)	All plans in full compliance
Environmental Justice (E.O. 12898)	All plans in full compliance
Protection of Children (E.O. 13045)	All plans in full compliance
Invasive Species (E.O. 13112)	All plans in full compliance
Protection of Migratory Birds (E.O. 13186)	All plans in full compliance
Farmland Protection Policy Act, 7 U.S.C. 4201, <u>et seq.</u>	All plans in full compliance
Protection of Children From Environmental Health Risks and Safety Risks (E.O. 13045)	All plans in full compliance

Note: Full compliance - Having met all requirements of the statutes, Executive Orders, or other environmental requirements for the current stage of planning.

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9.0 LIST OF PREPARERS

This EA has been prepared to assess the impacts of the Cottonwood Point PUA expansion at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The following personnel contributed to the preparation of this document.

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APPENDIX A
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203 North Third Street
Marion, KS 66861

Ms. Mary Olson
Mayor, Marion City Council
203 North Third Street
Marion, KS 66861

Marion City Library
101 Library Street
Marion, KS 66861

Ms. Delores Dalke
Mayor, Hillsboro City Council
118 E. Grand
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Mr. Bob Watson
Councilman, Hillsboro City Council
118 E. Grand
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Mr. Bryon McCarty
Councilman, Hillsboro City Council
118 E. Grand
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Mr. Kevin Suderman
Councilman, Hillsboro City Council
118 E. Grand
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Mr. Shelby Dirks
Councilman, Hillsboro City Council
118 E. Grand
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Hillsboro Public Library
120 E. Grand
Hillsboro, KS 67063-1544

Peabody Township Library
214 N. Walnut Street
Peabody, KS 66866

Mr. Larry Larson
Mayor, Peabody Township Council
300 N. Walnut Street
Peabody, KS 66866

Mr. Tom Schmidt
Councilman, Peabody Township Council
300 N. Walnut Street
Peabody, KS 66866

Mr. Stephen Rose
Councilman, Peabody Township Council
300 N. Walnut Street
Peabody, KS 66866

Mr. Leslie LaFoy
Councilman, Peabody Township Council
300 N. Walnut Street
Peabody, KS 66866

Ms. Pam Lamborn
Councilman, Peabody Township Council
300 N. Walnut Street
Peabody, KS 66866

Mark and Jackie Hawk
1722 213th
Marion, KS 66861

Dean and Sandi Paterson
PO Box 13
Hillsboro, KS 67063

Bill and Ilene Tracy
706 NE 4th Avenue
Aledo, IL 61231

Mr. Dave Hett
1212 E. Main
Marion, KS 66861



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Mr. Mike LeValley
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2609 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502

Dear Mr. LeValley:

This is in regard to the Operations and Maintenance Program at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Tulsa District is currently assessing the impact of expanding the camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Kansas. This action would impact 93 acres of USACE owned and managed real property along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. This effort is being conducted under the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009. In accordance with Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the Tulsa District is requesting an official list of Federally listed threatened or endangered species which might be affected by the proposed action.

Pertinent information and a description of the proposed action are enclosed herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Mr. Mike LeValley
U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
2609 Anderson Avenue
Manhattan, KS 66502

Dear Mr. LeValley:

This is to inform you that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to assess impacts related to the expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The study is being conducted under authority of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

The recommended plan would impact 93 acres of USACE owned land along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. Currently the impacted area is managed by the USACE for hunting.

We are currently preparing documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and would appreciate comments from your agency concerning this Federal action. A more detailed design drawing and maps are provided herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Mr. Tracy Streeter
Kansas Water Office
Office of the Director
901 S. Kansas Avenue
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Mr. Streeter:

This is to inform you that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to assess impacts related to the expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The study is being conducted under authority of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

The recommended plan would impact 93 acres of USACE owned land along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. Currently the impacted area is managed by the USACE for hunting.

We are currently preparing documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and would appreciate comments from your agency concerning this Federal action. A more detailed design drawing and maps are provided herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure

A-7



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Mr. Roderick L. Bremby
Kansas Department of Health and Environment
Office of the Secretary
1000 SW Jackson
Topeka, KS 66612

Dear Secretary Bremby:

This is to inform you that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to assess impacts related to the expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The study is being conducted under authority of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

The recommended plan would impact 93 acres of USACE owned land along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. Currently the impacted area is managed by the USACE for hunting.

We are currently preparing documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and would appreciate comments from your agency concerning this Federal action. A more detailed design drawing and maps are provided herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Mr. Mike Hayden
Kansas Department of Wildlife and Parks
Office of the Secretary
1020 S. Kansas, Rm 200
Topeka, KS 66612-1327

Dear Secretary Haden:

This is to inform you that the United States Army Corps of Engineers Tulsa District will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to assess impacts related to the expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The study is being conducted under authority of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

The recommended plan would impact 93 acres of USACE owned land along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. Currently the impacted area is managed by the USACE for hunting.

We are currently preparing documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and would appreciate comments from your agency concerning this Federal action. A more detailed design drawing and maps are provided herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Mr. Eric C. Banks
State Conservationist
Kansas Natural Resources Conservation Service
760 South Broadway
Salina, KS 67401

Dear Mr. Banks:

This is to inform you that the Tulsa District will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to assess impacts related to the expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The study is being conducted under authority of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

The recommended plan would impact 93 acres of USACE owned land along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. Currently the impacted area is managed by the USACE for hunting.

We are currently preparing documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and would appreciate comments from your agency concerning this Federal action. A more detailed design drawing and maps are provided herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure



REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 13, 2009

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Ms. Bobbi Strait
Marion County Sanitation/
Environmental Health Department
Office of the Director
230 E. Main Street
Marion, KS 66861

Dear Ms. Strait:

This is to inform you that the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Tulsa District will be preparing an Environmental Assessment to assess impacts related to the expansion of camping facilities at the Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas. The study is being conducted under authority of the American Reinvestment and Recovery Act of 2009.

The recommended plan would impact 93 acres of USACE owned land along the shoreline immediately south of existing camping facilities. Currently the impacted area is managed by the USACE for hunting.

We are currently preparing documentation for compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 and would appreciate comments from your agency concerning this Federal action. A more detailed design drawing and maps are provided herein. If you have any questions or require additional information, please contact Dr. Tony Clyde at 918-669-7556 or tony.clyde@usace.army.mil.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosure



Mark Parkinson, Governor
Roderick L. Bremby, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT

www.kdheks.gov

Division of Environment

Comments by: KDHE

Transmittal Date: September 4, 2009

This form provides notification and the opportunity for your agency to review and comments on this proposed project as required by Executive Order 12372. Review Agency, please complete Parts II and III as appropriate and return to contact person listed below. Your prompt response will be appreciated.

RETURN TO: Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch
Department Of The Army
United States Army Corps Of Engineers, Tulsa, District
1645 South 101 East Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

PART I REVIEW AGENCIES/COMMISSION

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Aging | <input type="checkbox"/> Education | <input type="checkbox"/> State Forester |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Agriculture | <input type="checkbox"/> Geological Survey, KS | <input type="checkbox"/> Transportation |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Biological Survey | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Health & Environment | <input type="checkbox"/> Water Office, KS |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Conservation Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Historical Society | <input type="checkbox"/> Wildlife & Parks |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corporation Commission | <input type="checkbox"/> Social & Rehabilitation | <input type="checkbox"/> Commerce |

PART II AGENCY REVIEW COMMENTS

COMMENTS: (Attach additional sheet if necessary) Re: Expansion of camping facilities at Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion County, Kansas
Please see the enclosed information submitted by Don Carlson, Bureau of Water.

PART III RECOMMENDED ACTION COMMENTS

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Clearance of the project should be granted. | <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance of the project should not be delayed but the Applicant should (in the final application) address and clarify the question or concerns indicated above. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance of the project should not be granted. | |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clearance of the project should be delayed until the issues or questions above have been clarified. | <input type="checkbox"/> Request the opportunity to review final application prior to submission to the federal funding agency. |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Request a State Process Recommendation in concurrence with the above comments. | |

DIVISIONS/ AGENCY/ COMMISSION

Reviewer's Name: John W. Mitchell Date: September 4, 2009

Organization: John W. Mitchell, Director, Division of Environment
Kansas Department of Health & Environment

CURTIS STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1000 SW JACKSON ST., STE. 400, TOPEKA, KS 66612-1367
Voice 785-296-1535 Fax 785-296-8464



Mark Parkinson, Governor
Roderick L. Breiby, Secretary

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH
AND ENVIRONMENT

www.kdheks.gov

Division of Environment

September 4, 2009

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch
Department Of The Army
United States Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District
1645 South 101 East Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609

Re: Expansion of camping facilities at Cottonwood Point camping area at Marion County, KS

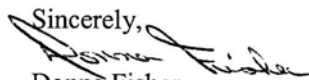
Dear Mr. Nolen:

Mr. Don Carlson, Bureau of Water has offered the following comments.

I have no objection to the proposal but offer the following comment for review and consideration.:

Any construction activity which disturbs one acre or more is required to file a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permit application for stormwater runoff resulting from construction activities. The project owner (party responsible for the project) must obtain authorization from KDHE to discharge stormwater runoff associated with construction activities prior to commencing construction. The Kansas construction stormwater general permit, a Notice of Intent (application form), a frequently asked questions file and supplemental materials are on-line on the KDHE Stormwater Program webpage at www.kdhe.state.ks.us/stormwater. Answers to questions regarding or additional information concerning construction stormwater permitting requirements can be obtained by calling (785) 296-5549.

Wastewater generated by the facility which is not directed to a City sanitary sewer may require the issuance of a State Water Pollution Control Permit. To obtain information regarding the need for a permit or to obtain the appropriate application forms, please contact rod Geisler at (785) 296-5527.

Sincerely,

Donna Fisher
Division of Environment
Director's Office

DC/df

CURTIS STATE OFFICE BUILDING, 1000 SW JACKSON ST., STE. 400, TOPEKA, KS 66612-1367

Voice 785-296-1535 Fax 785-296-8464

A-13

APPENDIX B
SECTION 404 PERMIT

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APPENDIX C
CULTURAL RESOURCES COORDINATION



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
UNITED STATES ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101 EAST AVENUE
TULSA OK 74128-4609

August 28, 2009

REPLY TO
ATTENTION OF

Planning and Environmental Division
Environmental Analysis and Compliance Branch

Ms. Jennie Chinn
State Historic Preservation Officer
Historic Preservation Office
Kansas State Historical Society
6425 SW 6th Avenue
Topeka, KS 66615-1099

Dear Ms. Chinn:

The purpose of this letter is to initiate consultation under Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (as amended) for the proposed expansion of Cottonwood Point Public Use Area at Marion Lake, Marion County, Kansas. Cottonwood Point is a multi-use camping and recreation area on the east shore of the reservoir. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District proposes to expand the existing Public Use Area (PUA) to the south and east, installing campgrounds, roads, playgrounds, restrooms, dump stations, electric and water lines, and a new sewage lagoon (see enclosed preliminary design layout).

Cottonwood Point and the proposed PUA expansion area were investigated for cultural resources in 2004 by engineering-environmental Management (e²M), Inc. This work was conducted as part of archaeological surveys of multiple recreation areas at lakes in Oklahoma and Kansas. The enclosed 2006 report of those investigations discusses the methods employed by e²M. No cultural resources were identified within either the existing Cottonwood Point PUA or the proposed PUA expansion area.

Because no cultural resources were identified, we have made a determination of "no historic properties identified" for this project. Please review the enclosed report for adequacy and please comment our determination of "no historic properties identified." If you have any questions, please contact Mr. Ken Shingleton at 918-669-7661.

Sincerely,

Stephen L. Nolen
Chief, Environmental Analysis
and Compliance Branch

Enclosures

C-2

APPENDIX D
PUBLIC INFORMATION/SCOPING WORKSHOP

MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD

Subject: Public Information / Scoping Workshop, Cottonwood Point Public Use Area (PUA) expansion, Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas.

1. Workshop Purpose. August 18 (6:00 PM – 8:00 PM) the Tulsa District hosted public information / scoping workshop at the Marion City Building. The purpose of the workshop was to inform the public about the expansion of the Cottonwood Point PUA. The issues, questions, and concerns are to be incorporated into the environmental documentation that is associated with evaluating the PUA expansion. The workshop was part of the scoping process as defined under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

2. Participation and Public Notification. The Tulsa District designed and hosted the workshop in a semi-structured format, with information tables and information sheets. Corps representatives were present at the workshop to answer questions and receive comments. The workshop had three information tables: a project overview table, describing the study area and opportunities, providing general information on the PUA expansion; a table describing environmental issues and the NEPA process and public involvement providing information on the availability of information and ways the public is involved in the environmental documentation; and a table with design specifications of the PUA expansion and the public-use facilities it will provide. A list of Corps personnel attending the workshop is attached (Attachment 1).

The Tulsa District placed paid legal advertisements in the August 12 editions of the Marion County Record, Hillsboro Free Press, Hillsboro Star-Journal and Peabody Gazette-Bulletin. The advertisements announced the workshop and the comment period for the NEPA scoping process. A copy of the advertisement is attached (Attachment 2).

3. Attendees. A list of persons attending the workshop is attached (Attachment 3). The list will not be included in any public document to insure privacy. This list of names will be added to the mailing list for future NEPA public involvement activities, with the exception of persons who indicated on the sign in sheet that they were not interested in being a part of the mailing list. The list represents those who signed in at the welcome table. Approximately 22 persons attended the workshop.

4. Issues Raised. Those attending the workshop questioned several aspects of the project. No one submitted a written comment at the time of the workshop, however attendees did take comment forms in the event they wished to submit written comments at a later date. The following summarized those issues raised at the workshop:

- a. Many attendees commented on the time-frame for construction of the expansion area.

- b. Most attendees expressed support for the PUA expansion.
- c. One attendee commented on the need for an gated emergency exit road that would be used to evacuate the area slated for expansion in the event of an emergency (e.g. tornado, wild-fire).

Tony Clyde, Ph.D.
Limnologist
CESWT-PE-E

3 Attachments: (1) List of USACE Personnel Attending; (2) Display Materials and Media; (3) List of Workshop Attendees.

Attachment 1
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District
Personnel Attending
Cottonwood Point PUA expansion, Marion Reservoir, Marion County, Kansas
August 18, 2009
Public Workshop

Tony Clyde, Ph.D., CESWT-PE-E
David Sconyers, CESWT-EC-C
Shawn Painter, CESWT-EC-C
Amanda Peters, CESWT-OD-NR
Alan Peters, CESWT-OD-KC-M
Neal Whitaker, CESWT-OD-KC-M
Terry Lyons, CESWT-OD-K
Traci Robb, CESWT-OD-KC-M
Rick Sellers, CESWT-OD-KC

Attachment 2
Workshop Display, Media

WELCOME TO TONIGHT'S WORKSHOP

Cottonwood Point Campground Expansion

Public Information Workshop

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers,
Tulsa District

18 August 2009, Marion County
Building, Marion, KS



US Army Corps of Engineers
BUILDING STRONG®



Overview



BUILDING STRONG®

Study Background

- Authorized by the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009
- 100% Federal funding for ARRA projects



BUILDING STRONG®

Study Area Description

- Project is located in Marion County, Kansas
- Proposed site is located on USACE owned and managed property adjacent to the Cottonwood Point campground



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Objectives

- General Federal Objective
 - ▶ Manage and conserve our natural resources, consistent with the USACE Environmental Operating Principles, while providing quality outdoor recreation experiences to serve the needs of present and future
- Study Objectives
 - ▶ Identify and quantify the social and economic impacts related to the Cottonwood Point campground expansion



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The poster features the US Army Corps of Engineers logo and the title "ENVIRONMENTAL OPERATING PRINCIPLES". Below the title is the slogan "One Corps Serving The Army and the Nation" and a URL: "Further information is available at: <http://www.usace.army.mil>". The poster lists six principles, each with a corresponding image and a brief description:

- 1** **Stive to achieve Environmental Sustainability.** An environment maintained in a healthy, diverse, and sustainable condition is necessary to support life. *Image: Environmental Sustainable Planning Plan for Lake Mead.*
- 2** **Recognize the interdependence of life and the physical environment.** Proactively consider environmental consequences of Corps programs and act accordingly in all appropriate circumstances. *Image: Wetlands at Salinas River, Lake and River.*
- 3** **Seek balance and synergy among human development activities and natural systems** by designing economic and environmental solutions that support and reinforce one another. *Image: Endangered Planning Project, American National Wildlife Refuge, Lake.*
- 4** **Continue to accept corporate responsibility and accountability under the law for activities and decisions under our control that impact human health and welfare and the continued viability of natural systems.** *Image: Planning a new water management plan.*
- 5** **Seek ways and means to assess and mitigate cumulative impacts to the environment, being systems approaches to the full life cycle of our processes and work.** *Image: Listening to the public at Lake National through meeting.*
- 6** **Build and share an integrated scientific, economic and social knowledge base that supports a greater understanding of the environment and impacts of our work.** *Image: Research on water in Bangladesh.*

At the bottom, it says "Corps life support research and development in the San Joaquin".



BUILDING STRONG®

Alternatives

- Compare alternatives to “No Action”
- Construction of 71 overnight campsites, 23 day use sites, 2 restroom facilities with showers and 1 restroom facility with changing room within the 93 acre expansion area



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Environmental Considerations



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Environmental Elements

- Soils, climate, water, air quality
- Water and land resources
- Flora and fauna (plants and animals)
 - ▶ Threatened and endangered species
- Sensitive lands and water resources
- Economic and social resources
- Cultural resources



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Potential Impacts

- Impacts of no action – continue to turn away visitors from existing camping facilities
 - ▶ Loss of recreational opportunities locally
 - ▶ Loss of economic opportunities locally



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Potential Impacts

- Other issues may be identified during the study, from:
 - ▶ Local landowners, residents, stakeholders
 - ▶ Study team
 - ▶ Agency input
 - Federal, state, city, county, and local
 - ▶ Other public input
 - Workshops, written comments, mail, e-mail, phone calls



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National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)



BUILDING STRONG®

National Environmental Policy Act

- Public exchange of information
 - ▶ Problems, issues, potential alternatives
- Discuss the value of alternatives
- Identify potential impacts
- Include public comments
- Federal, state, and local review
- Document the NEPA coordination process



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Scoping

- Required by The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)
 - ▶ Participation with other agencies and the public
- Purpose: Solicit comments and questions on project alternatives and impacts
- Conducted throughout the documentation process



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Scoping Process

- Identifying potential impacts/issues
- Includes
 - ▶ Participation of federal, state, local agencies, Native American tribes, interested parties
 - ▶ Determination of potential impacts/issues
 - ▶ Identification of non-significant issues or those issues covered by prior review



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Public Involvement



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Public Notices

- Federal, state, local, tribal entities and public notified of scoping period
- Additional notices will be made for:
 - ▶ Comments on draft documents
 - ▶ Additional public meetings, if needed



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Workshops

- Overall purpose: **Listening and Informing**
- Initiation of the scoping process under the National Environmental Policy Act (identification of objectives)
- Encourage public involvement throughout the planning process (two-way communication)



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Mailing List

- List to keep people informed
 - ▶ It will **NOT** be used for any other purpose
- Sign-in sheet at welcome table will be used for the mailing list **ONLY**
- If you **do not** want to be included on the mailing list, please **check the “NO” box**



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Questions and Comments

- Your views are important
- Comment or question forms available here, or...
- Take a sheet home and complete it at your convenience
- Postage-paid envelopes available at this table



BUILDING STRONG®

More Information?

- Call or Write Anytime! (See Any Representative Here)
- Contact the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District
 - ▶ Stephen L. Nolen (CESWT-PE-E)
 - 1645 S. 101st East Ave., Tulsa, OK 74128
 - 918-669-7236
 - Stephen.L.Nolen@usace.army.mil



BUILDING STRONG®

THANK YOU!!!

Your participation is essential!



BUILDING STRONG®

APPENDIX E
PUBLIC COMMENTS (FINAL EA ONLY)

APPENDIX F
NEWSPAPER PUBLIC NOTICES

Information provided to the USACE during the scoping process:

1. Inclusion of an alternate gated exit road for evacuation of the PUA expansion area during emergencies (e.g. tornados, fires).



AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

The Hillsboro Free Press, a free newspaper, printed in the state Kansas, and published in and of general circulation in Marion County, Kansas, and that said newspaper is not a trade, religious or fraternal publication.

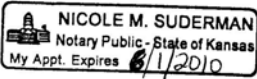
Advertiser: U.S. Army Corp of Engineers Size: 1 column x 6 inches
Insertion Date: 8/12/09 Cost: \$60.00
Consecutive Insertion Date: N/A

Before me, a Notary Public, personally appeared

Joel Klaassen Publisher
Name (please print) Title
Signature

Kansas
State of
Marion
County of

Sworn to and subscribed before me this
12th day of August, 2009
Nicole M. Suderman
Notary Signature
Commission expires:



PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOP AND SCOPING PROCESS as related to the Marion Reservoir Cottonwood Point Campground Expansion Marion County, Kansas
The National Environmental Policy Act
On Tuesday, August 18, 2009, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host a public workshop to provide information to the public about the Cottonwood Point Campground Expansion at Marion Reservoir and to solicit comments and questions. The workshop will be an open house format with no set or formal presentation. Interested persons may arrive anytime between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., visit information tables, discuss the study with Corps personnel, make comments and ask questions. The workshop will be held at the following location and time:
August 18, 2009
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Marion City Building
203 North Third Street Marion, Kansas
Scoping Process
The workshop is part of efforts by the Corps to inform the public about the Cottonwood Point Campground expansion. The purpose of the

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF KANSAS, MARION COUNTY, ss:

Susan E. Berg, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is the General Manager of Hoch Publishing Company Inc., dba Peabody Gazette-Bulletin, a weekly newspaper printed in the State of Kansas, and published in and of general circulation in Marion County, Kansas, with a general paid circulation on a weekly basis in Marion County, Kansas, and that said newspaper is not a trade, religious or fraternal publication.

Said newspaper is a weekly newspaper published at least 50 times a year; has been so published continuously and uninterruptedly in said county and state for a period of more than five years prior to the first publication of said notice; and has been admitted at the post office of Peabody in said County as second class matter.

That th attached notice is a true copy thereof and was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper for 1 consecutive weeks, the first publication thereof being made as aforesaid on the

12th day of August, 2009

with subsequent publications being made

Susan E Berg

Subscribed and sworn to before me this

12th day of August, 2009

Jean M. Stuchlik
Notary Public, Marion County, Kansas

My appointment expires: 11-20-12

PUBLICATION FEE: \$158.00

(Seal)



(First published in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas, Aug. 12, 2009)1t

PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT WORKSHOP AND SCOPING PROCESS
as related to the

Marion Reservoir Cottonwood Point Campground Expansion
Marion County, Kansas
in compliance with
The National Environmental Policy Act

On Tuesday, August 18, 2009, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will host a public workshop to provide information to the public about the Cottonwood Point Campground Expansion at Marion Reservoir and to solicit comments and questions. The workshop will be an open house format with no set or formal presentation. Interested persons may arrive anytime between 6:00 p.m. and 8:00 p.m., visit information tables, discuss the study with Corps personnel, make comments and ask questions. The workshop will be held at the following location and time:

August 18, 2009
6:00 p.m. to 8:00 p.m.
Marion City Building
203 North Third Street
Marion, Kansas
Scoping Process

The workshop is part of efforts by the Corps to inform the public about the Cottonwood Point Campground expansion. The purpose of the study is to identify concerns and needs relating to public use facilities within the Cottonwood Point Campground area. This public workshop is in compliance with the National Environmental Policy Act. As part of the scoping process, the Corps of Engineers requests that the public, interested parties, Federal, State and local agencies take part in the planning process. Comments and questions can be forwarded to:

Mr. Stephen Nolen
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District
ATTN: CESWT-PE-E
1645 S. 101st East Avenue
Tulsa, OK 74128-4609
Phone: 918-669-7660
Stephen.L.Nolen@usace.army.mil

46x

AFFIDAVIT OF PUBLICATION

STATE OF KANSAS, MARION COUNTY, ss:

Susan E. Berg, being first duly sworn, deposes and says: That she is the General Manager of Hoch Publishing Company Inc., dba Hillsboro Star-Journal, a weekly newspaper printed in the State of Kansas, and published in and of general circulation in Marion County, Kansas, with a general paid circulation on a weekly basis in Marion County, Kansas, and that said newspaper is not a trade, religious or fraternal publication.

Said newspaper is a weekly newspaper published at least 50 times a year; has been so published continuously and uninterruptedly in said county and state for a period of more than five years prior to the first publication of said notice; and has been admitted at the post office of Hillsboro in said County as second class matter.

That the attached notice is a true copy thereof and was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper for 1 consecutive weeks, the first publication thereof being made as aforesaid on the

12th day of August, 2009

with subsequent publications being made on the following dates

Subscribed and sworn to before this

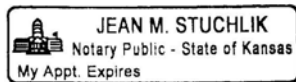
12th day of August, 2009

Jean M. Stuchlik
Notary Public, Marion County, Kansas

My appointment expires 11-20-12

PUBLICATION FEE: \$ 158.00

(Seal)



(First published in the Marion County Record, Marion, Kansas, Aug., 12, 2009)1t
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Said newspaper is a weekly newspaper published at least 50 times a year; has been so published continuously and uninterruptedly in said county and state for a period of more than five years prior to the first publication of said notice; and has been admitted at the post office of Marion in said County as second class matter.

That the attached notice is a true copy thereof and was published in the regular and entire issue of said newspaper for 1 consecutive weeks, the first publication thereof being made as aforesaid on the

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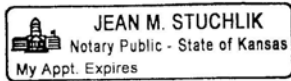
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