



News Release

**U.S. Army Corps
of Engineers
St. Paul District**

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Public Affairs

Shannon Bauer 651.290.5108 (o) 612-840-9453 (c) Shannon.l.bauer@usace.army.mil

Mark Davidson 651.290.5201 (o) 651.261-6769 (c) mark.d.davidson@usace.army.mil

**March 22, 2002
Release # PA-2002-035**

Corps of Engineers seeks public input

SAINT PAUL, MINN. – Local landowners interested in the Headwaters U.S. Army Corps of Engineers reservoirs, non-Corps reservoirs and the Mississippi River watershed in general are invited to join lake forum groups now being formed by USACE to evaluate its operating plans in the area.

The input received from these forum groups will be included in the Corps' Reservoir Operating Plan Evaluation study, which is going to look at flood-control, environmental concerns, water quality, water supply, tribal trust, recreation, navigation, hydropower and other water issues. The Corps hopes to provide the optimum benefit to the many interests affected by the operation of these dams.

Each reservoir, including Lake Winnibigoshish, Leech Lake, Pokegama Lake, Big Sandy Lake, Cross Lake and Gull Lake, as well as Lake Bemdiji/Stump Lake, the entire Cass Lake chain and Prairie Lake, will have its own lake forum group. These groups will begin meeting this summer.

To join in the discussions and receive future mailings regarding these lake forum groups and/or the Corps' Reservoir Operating Plan Evaluation study, please contact Edward McNally at 651-290-5387, or 800-290-5847, Ext. 5387. McNally can also be reached via email at: Edward.L.Mcnally@mvp02.usace.army.mil. For background and additional information on Headwaters-area current reservoir operations, contact the USACE Headwaters project office in Grand Rapids, Minn., at 218-327-4027.

The Army Corps of Engineers, St. Paul District, serves the American public in the areas of environmental enhancement, navigation, flood damage reduction, wetlands regulation, recreation sites and disaster response. It contributes around \$142 million to the local economy. The more than 750 employees work at more than 40 sites in five upper-Midwest states. For more information, see www.mvp.usace.army.mil.