

RED RIVER OF THE NORTH
PARK RIVER, NORTH DAKOTA

HOMME DAM AND LAKE HOMME

UPDATED MASTER PLAN FOR
RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT

APPENDIX A
PROJECT RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

SECTION I

INTRODUCTION

1-01. Project authorization and purpose. - The Homme Dam project authorization and purpose are contained in the updated master plan dated March 1952.

1-02. Authority. - This Project Resource Management Plan is prepared in accordance with the requirements of ER 1130-2-400 dated 28 May 1971.

1-03. Operational Concept. - The Homme Dam project is dual purpose. The lake level maintained primarily to control spring floods and to supplement low flows in the interest of water supply and pollution abatement downstream.

1-04. Effect of fluctuating lake level.

A. In general, the operation of the reservoir has not been detrimental to recreation during the normal summer season.

B. Approximately 395 acres of land have been acquired in fee for the project and about 8 acres are under easement, making a total of 403 acres available for all purposes. Only that portion of fee land, or about 201 acres, that lies above normal full pool (elevation 1080.0) is considered in the master recreation plan. About 122 acres of the 201 acres are now leased to and managed by local interests. No additional land acquisition for recreational purposes is anticipated.

SECTION II

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF PUBLIC-USE AREAS AND RECREATIONAL OUTGRANTS

2-01. General. - There are three active and operating recreational areas around Lake Homme, which are operated by the Walsh County Park Board. The design and use by all dictates water-oriented activities, providing camping, boat launching, swimming facilities, and picnicking. The Spillway overlook area users pay a fee set by the county for overnight campers only. Brief descriptions of the public-use areas are as follows:

A. Spillway overlook. - This public-use area is located West of Park River approximately two miles. It contains about 18 acres above the top of the conservation pool. Access is by way of State Highway 17 from Park River and 1/4 mile North on access road. Recreational facilities constructed within the area include, one launching ramp, picnic, campgrounds that will accommodate 15 overnight camps, three group picnic shelters, 2 vault toilets, parking area for 75 cars and 1/4 mile of paved roads. Visitation to the area was 30,000 in 1972.

B. West Bay Landing. - This public-use area is located approximately three miles west of Park River. Access is by way of North Dakota State Highway 17, thence 1/2 mile north on access road. It contains approximately 35 acres above the top of conservation pool. Recreational facilities constructed within the area include one, one-lane launching ramp, picnic campgrounds that will accommodate eighteen overnight camps, drinking water, a group picnic shelter, two vault toilet, a parking area for 20 cars, and .5 miles of unpaved road. The visitation to this area was 10,000 in 1972.

C. Walsh Memorial Point. - This public-use area is located approximately four miles west of Park River on a county road. It contains approximately 61 acres above the top of the conservation pool. Access is by way of county road road 1 mile north and 3 miles west of Park River. Recreational facilities constructed within the area include one, one-lane launching ramp, picnic grounds that will accommodate day use visitors, drinking water, change house, one group shelter, swim beach, four vault toilets, parking areas for 10 cars, 1 mile of unpaved road. Visitation in this area was 5,000 in 1972.

SECTION III

O&M COMPOUND FACILITIES

3-01. Maintenance Facilities. - Project facilities for Homme Dam are located at the dam on the left bank side of the reservoir dike. One shop building and the control structure are located in this area.

A. Maintenance Shop. - This multi-purpose 15 x 25' metal building serves for storage and a work shop during maintenance of project. Basic tools are kept on site. All specialized equipment is brought from Baldhill Dam or rented locally.

SECTION IV

STAFFING AND ORGANIZATION

4-01. Staffing and Organization of the Project - Present and Future.-
The organization chart shows the present and projected staffing for the
project. (Exhibit 1).

Park Manager	GS-9
Ranger	GS-7 (Projected)
FC Dam Operator	W-11
Sewage Treatment Operator	W-7
Maintenance Man	W-5 (Projected)
Laborer	W-3

SECTION V

USER FEE AREAS

5-01. Administration of user fee areas.

A. Spillway overlook (leased to Walsh County). - Public-use area is a user fee area and provides the greatest variety of recreational facilities of any recreational area on the project. In addition to minimal facilities, it contains a boat dock, group shelter. During the camping season, the park custodian collects user fees, answers questions, and provides other assistance where possible.

SECTION VI

COOPERATIVE AGENCIES

6-01. General. - Cooperative activities with other agencies include:

A. Walsh County Park Board - One hundred twenty two acres are leased to Walsh County for recreation parks on the project. Development of the parks has been coordinated between the two agencies. The lease includes the use of Government property such as; picnic tables, garbage cans, fire-places, etc. by the county.

SECTION VII

LAW ENFORCEMENT ARRANGEMENTS AND PROCEDURES

7-01. General. - Federal lands are considered by many persons within law enforcement agencies and within the general public to be areas that lie outside the jurisdiction of State and local enforcement agencies. Despite repeated assurances that their powers are valid on these properties, many enforcement agents feel a reluctance to move into this unfamiliar territory.

A. Jurisdiction and authority. - Federal property lines present no barriers to any agency in either jurisdiction or authority. Federal lands lying within city limits are under the jurisdiction of the laws of that city. Federal lands lying within a county are under the jurisdiction of the laws of that county. Federal lands lying within the boundaries of a state are under the jurisdiction of the laws of that state. Enforcement agents for these political entities have both the authority and the duty to enforce, on Federal lands, those laws for which their agency is responsible.

B. Agencies.

1. Federal.- There have been no instances within recent years that required the assistance of any Federal enforcement agency.

2. State.

A. North Dakota Game and Fish Commission. - Enforcement agents of the Commission enforce State laws pertaining to fishing, hunting, boating, and pollution, but have no authority to enforce Federal regulations that are not paralleled by a State law. One agent is regularly assigned to the lake along with his other duties throughout the county. This force is much too small to effectively protect the visitors to the lake from those who would dispoil the land and water and who would violate the rights of others.

3. County. - The entire Lake Homme project lies within Walsh County in North Dakota. The burden of enforcing state and county laws on Federal properties within this county has fallen on the local sheriff. They have generally been cooperative but due to lack of manpower to effectively patrol these lake areas and in particular the public-use areas, most of these people seem to be uncertain of their authority on Federal lands. The park custodian has been deputized by the local sheriff for more effective control of the parks.

SECTION VIII

SAFETY

8-01. Safety - Visitors and Employees. - The Park Board is supplied with pertinent handouts and displays for billboards.

A. Visitors.

1. Signs.

a. Traffic. - All public-use roads are checked for warning and control signs which have been installed or ordered.

b. Camping information. - Each public-use area site has signs giving information regulating the use of camping, picnicking, and, included for the safety of the public, regulations for firearms, explosives, gasoline and oil storage, sanitation, unleashed pets, noise levels, and vehicles.

c. Boating. - Located on bulletin boards are informative signs on proper use and loading of boats. Annual "Safe Boating Week" information is also displayed.

2. Preventive measures in area to be visited.

a. Public-use areas. - The area and all items of facilities have the safety of visitors in mind, with the dead limbs cut out, all picnic tables and benches are finished with a smooth edge so as not to scratch bare arms or legs. Loose rocks are picked up, grass and weeds are kept cut, deep ditches are filled in, floors are kept clean to reduce slipping, doors and frames are sanded smoothly, trash is picked up and hauled off to prevent flies and fire hazards.

B. Employees.

1. Care of the injured. - Responsibility of Walsh County Park Board at Park River.

8-02. Project safety plan. - A project safety plan, Appendix E to the Master Plan, covers safety in greater detail.

SECTION IX

CONCESSIONAIRE ACTIVITIES

9-01. General. - Operated by Walsh County Park Board.

A. Adequacy of location, area and service. - A comparative visitation listing of nearby recreational areas can serve to indicate the degree of correctness of a questionable location choice. Visitation statistics by the particular recreational area on a year-to-year basis, as well as stall space waiting lists, comparative boat rentals to date and the observations of park rangers, all serve to determine the adequacy of concession location and area. Visitor requests and complaints are taken into account in the question of adequacy of service.

B. Safety features. - All concessionaires are inspected periodically to insure that local laws and regulations relative to sanitation and public safety are being observed.

C. Concessionaire activities. - Service provided the general public. This concession caters to the using public and provides for them live and artificial bait and other tackle, prepackaged food and drinks.

SECTION X

ENCROACHMENTS

10-01. General. - Homme Dam Project has no plots available to the public. The land acquisition policy for Homme Dam has contributed significantly to the fact that the project has experienced relatively few encroachments. Finding and reporting encroachments is the responsibility of all employees on the project. Encroachments are reported as expeditiously as possible to facilitate handling. The Reservoir Manager informs the person who performed the act of the suspected encroachment. This is done by personal contact (not phone) or in writing. A memorandum for record is prepared if contact is in person and a file is established on the matter if the suspect was informed by letter. The suspected encroachment is also reported to appropriate elements in the District Office.

10-02. Permanent encroachments. - Permanent type encroachments such as houses, fences, construction, are made known to the person encroaching by project forces and are reported to the District Office in sufficient detail that a resolution can be effected. This referral is made known to the person encroaching and he is directed to vacate Government property until an investigation and decision has been completed.

SECTION XI

IN-SERVICE TRAINING PROGRAM AT PROJECT

11-01. Directed from Baldhill Dam. General. - Education is a continuing process at Corps projects. Organized training programs in public and employee safety, public relations, communications and firefighting techniques are conducted by resource managers or supervisory rangers. Updating of current techniques, philosophy, policy, rules and regulations of this area as well as conservation practices are conducted.

SECTION XII

VISITOR EDUCATION AND INTREPRETATION

12-01. Interpretive program. - An interpretive program serves to inform and educate the public about the purpose and operation of the project and the historical and natural features of the area. By increasing public understanding and appreciation of the project, it is hoped to increase public cooperation in preservation and enhancement of the area.

12-02. Facilities. - The signs at Homme Dam are a real asset to the park and recreation system. They are attractive and appropriate. A portion of the public relations image of Homme Dam recreational system is expressed in the type of signs displayed. A wide variety of signs are displayed for visitor education. Another form of visitor education is the Homme Lake maps made and distributed by the Walsh County Park Board.

SECTION XIII

POLLUTION CONTROL

13-01. Pollution control. - Control of air and water pollution is based on Executive Order No. 11507 on Prevention, Control and Abatement of Air and Water Pollution. Executive Order, dated 23 December 1970, on Administration of Refuse Act Permit Program deals with solid waste disposal.

A. Solid waste disposal. - Open pit burning of solid wastes has been eliminated as a means of disposal. Solid waste is disposed at approved off site landfills.

B. Air pollution control. - Potential producers of air pollution located off the project are under surveillance by the resource manager and his aides. Should such producers cause an aesthetic, health, or safety hazard, they are reported to the District Engineer. On-project pollution due to burning of solid waste has been eliminated by Corps order.

C. Water pollution. - Surveillance of major sources of water pollution, sewage and domestic wastes, use of chemical pesticides and fertilizers is maintained as indicated in ER 1165-2-116. Outgrants are subject to periodic compliance inspections with regard to pollution possibilities. The District Engineer controls waste discharges from project land into reservoir waters and cooperates in controlling waste discharges outside of Federal lands which pollute federally-owned or controlled property. Pollution incidents are reported to the District Engineer for reference to the appropriate agency. Any future requests for use of shoreline lands will include information on sewage disposal facilities, health and safety measures to be provided by parties requesting the outgrant.

D. Noise pollution control. - Excessive noise is kept to a minimum to enhance enjoyment of the visiting public. The operation or use of audio or noise producing equipment, boats, or vehicles to annoy or endanger persons on the project is prohibited. Retention of trees and undergrowths is emphasized as it produces a partial sound barrier within recreational areas. Quiet hours are posted and maintained from 10:00 p.m. until 6:00 a.m. in recreational fee areas.

E. Visual pollution control. - Unauthorized signs, abandoned boats, floating facilities, buildings or the like which encroach on Government property or any unsightly development or encroachment which contrasts with the surrounding area, is a form of visual pollution. Such "visual pollutants" are the opposite of the natural environment. On Corps land or land subject to Corps influence, steps will be taken to preserve natural characteristics of the land, water and shoreline.

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SECTION XIV

PEST CONTROL PROGRAM

14-01. Target pests. - Mosquito control surveys and programs are of importance in the healthy functioning of a Corps project. The maintaining of proper sanitation by all concessionaires, lease holders, and cleanup contractors serves to control flies, and rats, both prominent disease vectors. Reservoir managers and rangers carry out mosquito, fly, wasp, and rat control measures as needed in accordance with District procedures and guidelines.

14-02. Procedures for control. - Mowing of weeds and grasses eliminate reproductive areas. The introduction of purple martins to reduce mosquito prevalence has made a contribution to this program. Fly control in toilets and picnic shelters is achieved by spraying ceilings and walls of structures.

SECTION XV

RECREATIONAL AREA ROADS

15-01. General. - All work is accomplished by the Walsh County Park Board with prior approval of the Corps of Engineers.

SECTION XVI

SHORELINE IMPROVEMENT PERMITS

16-01. General. - All work is accomplished by the Walsh County Park Board with prior approval of the Corps of Engineers.