
LAKE SHELBYVILLE MASTER PLAN

KASKASKIA RIVER WATERSHED SHELBYVILLE ILLINOIS

CHAPTER 3 – MANAGEMENT GOALS AND RESOURCE OBJECTIVES

The purpose of this section is to define a series of resource use objectives for Lake Shelbyville. Resource use objectives are statements specific to Lake Shelbyville that describe the selected options for resource use, development, and management as determined through study and analysis of regional needs, resource capabilities and potentials, and public desires. As defined, resource use objectives provide general guidance and direction for the use, development, and management of project resources. Site specific resource use objectives include development and management measures.

As stated in Chapter 1, the authorized purposes of Lake Shelbyville are flood risk management on the Kaskaskia and Mississippi Rivers, navigation releases for the Kaskaskia River, domestic and industrial water supply, water quality control, fish and wildlife conservation, and recreation. Certain project purposes by nature can be conflicting. For example, under certain conditions, the lake's flood control purpose can conflict with other project purposes such as recreation and fish and wildlife management. Determining management goals sets the overall vision for the future path of development. These goals can be summarized as:

- Protect the lake's natural and cultural resources
- Identify visitor needs and provide quality facilities
- Engage in partnerships that promote the lake regionally and leverage resources to provide a quality outdoor recreation experience
- Provide educational opportunities that encourage the visitor to respect the environment and safely use the project
- Maintain and build upon local, regional and statewide connections that will link Lake Shelbyville to the community

The development of sound resource use objectives should assist in minimizing conflicts between project purposes through compromises that do not seriously detract from achievement of any or all project purposes. Resource use objectives based on project purposes at Lake Shelbyville are identified and discussed in the following paragraphs.

The general resource use objectives, applicable to the project as a whole are presented below. They are formulated so as to provide general guidance and direction to the overall management and development of Lake Shelbyville resources. These objectives give a general guide to Lake Shelbyville operations. A more detailed description and outline of operation is listed in the OMP. The objectives are grouped into three categories: Project Operations, Recreation, and Environmental Stewardship. Additional information that supports these objectives can be found in Chapter 5, Resource Plan.

3.1. PROJECT OPERATIONS

- Ensure that quality administration and management of all project lands, waters and other associated man-made and natural resources is consistent and thorough and all project administrative and management decisions/actions will adhere to all applicable laws, regulations, polices, and agreements.
- Partner with existing and potential concessions to provide quality, viable recreation opportunities. These will include both lodging and marina type services.
- Provide public use areas and facilities that are safe and environmentally sound.
- Partner with other agencies, groups, organizations and individuals to:
 - Accomplish resource use objectives.
 - Use all available opportunities to maximize efficiency in operations and funding.
 - Periodically review and improve management practices.
 - Effectively utilize the lands and its natural resources.
 - Manage the public land and create a safe and enjoyable environment.
 - Make facility improvements that optimize the visitor experience.

3.2. RECREATION

- As funds become available, renovate and upgrade recreation areas to improve the available facilities and to reduce maintenance costs.
- Identify and undertake the modifications necessary to make facilities accessible to all user groups as mandated by Uniform Federal Accessibility Standards (UFAS), Americans with Disabilities Design Guidelines (ADDG), and new recreation standards.
- Maintain and improve camping facilities to redistribute use, meet public demand, reduce operation and maintenance costs, and generate revenues for future operation and maintenance of recreation facilities.

- Accommodate increasing water and land-based day-use activities in a manner compatible with other site activities while maintaining the integrity of the project's natural resources.
- Reduce operation and maintenance costs by raising facilities to minimize inundation during high water events.
- Improve high water access where applicable by expanding facilities where appropriate.
- The Interpretive Services and Outreach Program (ISOP) encompasses Public Affairs, Public Safety, Education / Events, Outreach, Interpretive Efforts, Marketing Efforts, and Visitor Center Operations. Maximize public contact by utilizing all available methods.
- Collaborate to leverage resources through partnerships, stakeholders, community members, volunteers, and the project's cooperating association.
- Improve the lake's website to provide visitors with current, relevant information.
- Provide online interactive opportunities for visitors and potential visitors.

3.3. ENVIRONMENTAL STEWARDSHIP

- Continue to monitor resources to ensure protection against fire, overuse, erosion, insect, and disease infestation. This includes control of non-native pests. Take corrective actions when warranted.
- Encourage optimal utilization by the greatest number of wildlife species through manipulation, management, and protection of diverse habitats through methods such as succession control such as prescribed fire, native warm season grass plantings, wildlife plantings, timber stand improvements, and exotic plant control.
- Continue to monitor and maintain the vegetative conditions of trees for their scenic, recreational, wildlife, and monetary values.
- Manage existing prairie stands, re-establish native warm season grasses and forbs where warranted and manage timber stands through prescribed fire.
- Re-establish and maintain high quality wetlands to improve water quality and to provide habitat for wetland dwelling species.

- Partner with the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) in the maintenance and enhancement of a high quality fishery as a perpetual resource. Provide additional support to the Illinois Natural History Survey (INHS) for continued sampling and research.
- Control and stabilize land and shoreline erosion. Follow guidance from the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan that shows areas that will be impacted over the next 30 years.
- Update Shoreline Erosion Management Plan to reflect shoreline changes that have occurred over the 25 years and were not identified in the original plan.
- Conduct sedimentation survey to reflect current conditions and present a clearer picture of storage capabilities.
- Identify, evaluate, and preserve significant archaeological and historical sites through yearly monitoring and protection as needed.
- Support partners' efforts to encourage upstream landowners to participate in sediment reduction practices in order to improve water quality.