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# LAKE SHELBYVILLE MASTER PLAN

## KASKASKIA RIVER WATERSHED SHELBYVILLE ILLINOIS

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### CHAPTER 5 – RESOURCE PLAN

#### 5.1. MANAGEMENT BY CLASSIFICATION AND JUSTIFICATION

Recreational development has generally proceeded as described in the original Master Plan. An analysis of the resources and use classifications of all lake lands and waters has been made with the objective to classify lands that provide an integration of appropriate land and water uses into a balanced plan. Land classifications are depicted on Plates 4 through 10.

##### 5.1.1. Resource Objectives

General resource objectives are described in Chapter 3. These objectives cover operations, recreation and environmental lands mentioned below. Site specific objectives, if any, are described within each area.

##### 5.1.2. Acreages

TABLE 1  
LAND CLASSIFICATION ACREAGES

Land Classification	Acres	Total Acres
<b>Project Operations</b>		126
<b>High Density Recreation</b>		4,435
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>		414
<b>Multiple Resource Areas</b>		18,509
Low Density Recreation	2,983	
Wildlife Area	6,286	
Vegetative Management	9,240	
<b>Water Surface</b>		11,100
Restricted	27	
No Wake	810	
Open Water	10,069	
Fish & Wildlife Sanctuary (seasonal, fall only)	194	
<b>Easement</b>		6,239
Operations	2	
Flowage	6,237	

### 5.1.3. Description of Use by Classification **Operations Lands**

The following paragraphs provide a brief description of eleven areas classified as Project Operations Lands. A detailed description of project structures located on these lands is contained in the OMP. General site layout of the OP-1, OP-2, and OP-3 facilities is located on Plates 11 and 21. All area locations are described below:

TABLE 2  
PROJECT OPERATIONS LANDS

Area Name	Area No.	Acres	Plate No.	Environmental Stewardship	Recreation
Main Dam & Outlet Works	OP-1	44	11	Minimal	Minimal
Project Administrative/Visitor Center Complex	OP-2	1	21	Minimal	Intensive
Maintenance Complex	OP-3	8	21	Minimal	Minimal
Lithia Springs Land Treatment Facility	OP-4	3	20	Minimal	Minimal
Opossum Creek Land Treatment Facility	OP-5	3	13	Minimal	Minimal
Whitley Creek Land Treatment Facility	OP-6	3	19	Minimal	Minimal
Wilborn Creek Sewage Treatment Facility	OP-7	1	16	Minimal	Minimal
Eagle Creek State Park	OP-8	4	30	Moderate	Moderate
Wolf Creek State Park	OP-9	6	31	Moderate	Moderate
Kaskaskia Biological Research Station Complex	OP-10	51	33	Minimal	Minimal
West Okaw WMA	OP-11	2	32	Intensive	Moderate

#### OP-1. Main Dam and Outlet Works (44 acres)

The main dam consists of a compacted earth fill embankment and a concrete spillway section with tainter and sluice gates. The crest of the dam embankment is at elevation 643 NGVD and the crest of the spillway is at elevation 593 NGVD. The dam is 3,025 feet in length and comprises approximately 44 acres. The length of the dam was measured from the road intersection where the Spillway East road meets the Dam Road to 300 feet west of the Dam West Overlook Cemetery parking lot. The spillway is 960 feet in length and comprises approximately 8.3

acres. The length of the spillway is measured from the dam concrete wall to the IL Route 16 Bridge. OP-1 is shown on Plate 11.

The road on the main dam offers an excellent view of the lake and is heavily used by the general public. Interpretive tours are conducted of the dam upon request from group organizations or schools. The spillway is an excellent area for the general public to enjoy bank fishing. The integrity of the main dam and security of the water control facilities must be maintained.

Proposed Actions:

Repaint bridge and other metal works. Special precaution needs to be taken during this process due to the presence of lead-based primer.

Construct a walkway/trail for pedestrian and bike traffic across the main dam outside of the guardrail on the east side of the dam that will connect with the Dacey Trail. This walkway/trail will be in accordance with the General Dacey Trail Master Plan.

OP-2. Project Administration Complex and Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center (1 acre)

This building, completed in 2010, contains the project's administrative office as well as the public visitor center. The administrative facility is located on the second floor of the building and contains office space, storage space, kitchen facilities, and file space. The first floor features a 1,544 square foot exhibit hall with space for rotating exhibits, auditorium with kitchen facilities for group use and a sales area operated by the Lake Volunteers Association. The building is a LEED Silver eligible building, utilizing energy efficient means where possible. OP-2 is shown on Plate 21.

OP-3. Maintenance Complex (8 acres)

Facilities in this area include equipment and material storage buildings, a compound large enough to securely store equipment, and maintenance work areas. One of the three trilateration stations that is used to monitor movement of the dam is located in this area. OP-3 is shown on Plate 21.

OP-4. Lithia Springs Land Treatment System (3 acres)

A land treatment system for wastewater disposal is located in the Lithia Springs Recreation Area. This facility occupies 3 acres on the eastern portion of this area, east of the main entrance of the Lithia Springs campground on the south side of the road. This area is shown on Plate 20.

Proposed Actions:

Connect wastewater treatment facilities and associated lift stations to the City of Shelbyville Force Main or turn the system over to the City. This will eliminate the land treatment system and/or the Corps of Engineers responsibility for maintaining land treatment facilities in this area, which will reduce Operation and Maintenance (O&M) costs and increase efficiency.

OP-5. Opossum Creek Land Treatment System (3 acres)

A land treatment system for wastewater disposal is located in the Opossum Creek Recreation Area and services the Opossum Creek, Coon Creek, and Lone Point Recreation Areas. This facility occupies 3 acres on the western portion of this area, west of the main entrance located down an access road on the north side of the road. This area is shown on Plate 13.

Proposed Actions:

Connect wastewater treatment facilities and all associated lift stations to the City of Shelbyville Force Main. This will eliminate this land treatment system and the Corps of Engineers responsibility for maintaining land treatment facilities in this area, which will reduce Operation and Maintenance (O&M) costs and increase efficiency.

OP-6. Whitley Creek Land Treatment System (3 acres)

An inactive land treatment system for wastewater disposal is located in the Whitley Creek Recreation Area. Facilities formally served by this treatment system have been connected to the City of Sullivan. This facility occupies 3 acres on the western portion of this area, west of the main entrance. This area is shown on Plate 19.

Proposed Actions:

Decommission, clean and remove treatment system in accordance with IEPA standards.

Renovate the land treatment system pond into a fish nursery pond.

OP-7. Wilborn Creek Wastewater Treatment System (1 acre)

An inactive treatment system for wastewater disposal is located in the Wilborn Creek Recreation Area. Facilities served by this treatment system have been connected to the City of Sullivan. This facility occupies approximately one acre in the central portion of this area, north of the Wilborn Creek Group Camp. This area is shown on Plate 16.

Proposed Actions:

Decommission, clean and remove the treatment system in accordance with IEPA standards.

OP-8. Eagle Creek State Park Office Complex (4 acres)

Within the confines of the Eagle Creek State Park, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) maintains an administration/maintenance building and a vehicle and equipment compound. The office building is the main headquarters for all daily operations at Eagle Creek State Park and is administered through the IDNR's Region III office in Clinton, Illinois. The Superintendent of Parks office is located in this building. The superintendent oversees Eagle Creek and Wolf Creek

State Parks, which are both located at Lake Shelbyville. This area is shown on Plate 30.

Proposed Actions:

The IDNR proposes update to existing sewer line running under the lake from Eagle Creek to Wolf Creek.

OP-9. Wolf Creek State Park Office Complex (6 acres)

Within the confines of the Wolf Creek State Park, the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) maintains an administration/maintenance building, a Conservation Police law enforcement office, a vehicle and equipment compound, and a wastewater treatment system. The office building is the main headquarters for all daily operations at Wolf Creek State Park and is administered through the IDNR's Region III office in Clinton, Illinois. This area is shown on Plate 31.

OP-10. Kaskaskia Biological Research Station Office Complex (51 acres)

This office complex is located on the land that is at the south end of the Kaskaskia Wildlife Management Area. IDNR maintains this office complex and it is part of the Wolf Creek State Park lease to operate a field research facility. Several buildings are located in this area that include offices, laboratories, and support facilities. A general site layout of these facilities is located on Plate 33.

OP-11. West Okaw Wildlife Management Area (2 acres)

The Illinois Department of Natural Resources maintains an office complex at the West Okaw Unit of the State Wildlife Management Area. The area consists of an office building/maintenance compound with vehicle and equipment compound. The office is the headquarters for maintenance of the wildlife management area. A general layout of facilities is located on Plate 32.

## Recreation Lands

A description of all recreation development at Lake Shelbyville is presented in this section. A total of fifteen areas are classified as Recreation Lands. A summarization of development, including existing facilities and proposed actions are listed for each recreation area. The following sub-paragraphs describe recreation areas at Lake Shelbyville as shown on Plate 6. The individual recreation area plates are noted in the sub-paragraphs.

Primary boat ramps at Lake Shelbyville were constructed in 1970 based on proposed use criteria and standards that accommodated the average boat and trailer size for that time period. According to current Corps of Engineers Recreation Facilities and Customer Services Standards, EM-1110-1-400, a boat ramp is required to have a minimum of two launch lanes, with a minimum boat ramp launch lane width of 15 feet. A courtesy dock with a minimum width of six feet and a minimum length of 20 feet is also required. By these standards a four-lane boat ramp should be 66 wide. The four-lane ramps at Lake Shelbyville are only 58 feet wide, 8 feet short of meeting today's standards.

Each boat ramp has a portable courtesy dock per Corps standard, which takes up at least one lane at each ramp. Due to the size of boats and courtesy dock placement a four-lane boat ramp is only operational as a three-lane ramp and a two-lane boat ramp is only operational as a one-lane ramp. EM 1110-1-400 also requires that a boat ramp have a minimum of two launch lanes. Most primary boat ramps must be expanded in some way to accommodate courtesy docks. This will relieve congestion at ramps on busy summer days. An upgrade is proposed for each recreation area with a substandard primary boat ramp.

Currently, the northern portion of the lake has two two-lane high water boat ramps, located at Bo Wood and Wilborn Creek Recreation Areas. Courtesy dock placement reduces the two-lane ramps to one usable lane. When lake levels are between 610 and 614, these two ramps accommodate all activity from Bo Wood, Wilborn Creek, and Whitley Creek Recreation Areas, Sullivan Marina and Campground, Okaw Bluff Group Camp, and all minor access areas on the northern portion of the lake. During this time, Bo Wood and Wilborn Creek boat ramps become heavily congested and launch waiting time can be up to two hours.

The Wilborn Creek boat ramp parking lot becomes impacted when the lake level reaches 610.10 and at 615.90, the lot is completely submerged. Because the high water ramp uses the same parking lot, public health and safety are affected while there is water on the lot. The Wilborn high water ramp closes at 615.90 and the single useable launching lane within Bo Wood Recreation Area serves the entire northern portion of the lake. Congestion and launch waiting time at the Bo Wood ramp increases and at

times becomes unmanageable. Parking at the Bo Wood boat ramp area includes 49 vehicle towing trailer spaces and 91 individual vehicle spaces. Two individual vehicle spaces can accommodate a trailer and tow vehicle. When the only ramp open on the northern portion of the lake is the one at Bo Wood, all of the spaces fill quickly and vehicles park along the road and on the grass within the picnic area. Proposed remedies are outlined below.

TABLE 3  
PROJECT RECREATION LANDS

Area Name	Area No.	Acres	Plate No.	Environmental Stewardship	Recreation
Dam West Recreation Area	1	182	12	Minimal	Intensive
Opossum Creek Recreation Area	2	133	13	Minimal	Intensive
Coon Creek Recreation Area	3	223	14	Minimal	Intensive
Lone Point Recreation Area	4	147	15	Minimal	Intensive
Wilborn Creek Recreation Area	5	209	16	Moderate	Intensive
Forrest W. "Bo" Wood Recreation Area	6	182	17	Minimal	Intensive
Sullivan Beach and Okaw Bluff Group Camp	7	150	18	Moderate	Intensive
Whitley Creek Recreation Area	8	51	19	Moderate	Moderate
Lithia Springs Recreation Area and Lithia Springs Marina	9	194	20,36	Minimal	Intensive
Dam East Recreation Area	10	72	21	Minimal	Intensive
Spillway Recreation Area	11	18	21	Minimal	Intensive
Eagle Creek State Park	12	1,162	30	Moderate	Intensive
Wolf Creek State Park	13	1,590	31	Moderate	Intensive
Findlay Marina	14	50	34	Minimal	Intensive
Sullivan Marina and Campground	15	72	35	Minimal	Intensive

### Area 1. Dam West Recreation Area

This 182-acre area has been developed as a day-use area. Facilities in this area include 48 picnic units, 4 group picnic shelters, 2 playground areas (one of the playground areas is accessible to those with disabilities), 1 fish cleaning station, 6 drinking fountains, 1 boat ramp with four launch lanes, 1 two-lane high water boat ramp with parking lots, 1 large beach with bathhouse; 1 outdoor beach shower; 1 multipurpose trail; 9 bench shelters; 2 lift stations; 1 fee booth; 6 information boards; 1 sand volleyball court; 4 waterborne comfort stations (1 with an overlook canopy and 2 attached to group shelters), 3 full hook-up volunteer campsites; a one-acre pond and a warning siren for severe weather. This area also contains a portion of the General Dacey Trail with exercise stations along the trail. One of the three trilateration stations that are used to monitor movement of the dam is located in this area. All facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 12.

Stabilization of parts of the shoreline, removal and replacement of a picnic shelter and related parking facilities from Opossum Creek Recreation Area have been completed as part of the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan.

#### Proposed Actions:

Construct a Fish Nursery Pond in the area between the primary boat ramp parking lot and the high water boat ramp parking lot near the lake. The Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR) has determined that thirty to forty surface acres of nursery ponds are needed to supplement existing fisheries management efforts on Lake Shelbyville. These ponds are critical to ensuring viable fisheries for the future as the natural habitat needed for production and rearing continues to decline due to siltation and flood damage reduction operations. This pond will be used as a means to meet supplementation goals and provide a visible interpretative tool for wetlands and fisheries management at Lake Shelbyville. Working with the IDNR, funding for the project will be sought through the Continuing Authorities Program, Challenge Cost Share Partnership Agreements, and/or donations.

Dam West Recreation Area is the busiest day-use recreation area at Lake Shelbyville. This area is heavily congested due to use by both the general public and fishing tournament participants, especially on the weekends from Memorial Day to Labor Day. Congestion is exacerbated by insufficient launch lanes. Propose investigating expansion of boat ramp as well as reviewing traffic flow and boat ramp congestion to determine plan of action.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock to bring ramp up to standard and lengthen ramp to allow better transition between normal pool and high water

### Area 2. Opossum Creek Recreation Area

This 133-acre area has been developed for day-use and camping opportunities. Facilities in this area include 70 campsites (all campsites have electric hookups, 12 are full hook-up sites; 1 double site and 17 tent sites), 1 medium shower house; 2 comfort stations; 2 drinking fountains; 1 four-lane boat ramp with courtesy dock; 1 two-lane high water boat launching ramp with courtesy dock; 1 fish cleaning station; a one-acre pond with fishing pier and parking lot that is designed for people with disabilities; 1 trailer dump station; 1 wastewater land treatment system; 1 lift station; 1 fee booth; 2 information boards; 1 amphitheater; 1 set of horseshoe pits and 1 playground. All facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 13.

#### Proposed Actions:

Develop a hiking trail or 3D archery range from the fishing pond to the boat ramp.

Connect to City of Shelbyville Force Main and Eliminate Land Treatment Facility. This would eliminate the Corps of Engineers responsibility for maintaining and operating this facility.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock to bring ramp up to standard and lengthen ramp to allow better transition between normal pool and high water.

### Area 3. Coon Creek Recreation Area

This 223-acre area has been developed for camping opportunities. Facilities in this area include 183 campsites all of which have electrical service (21 campsites have electric, water, and sewer hook-ups, 13 campsites are double sites, and 4 campsites are administrative sites). In addition, there is 1 two-lane boat launching ramp with courtesy dock, 1 two-lane high water ramp with courtesy dock, 1 beach, 1 nature trail, 1 shower building with laundry facilities, 3 comfort stations with add-on showers, 10 comfort stations, 29 fountain/hydrants, 1 trailer dump station, 1 fish cleaning station, 1 playground, 1 swing set area, 1 sand volleyball court, 2 horseshoe pits, 1 outdoor beach shower, 5 lift stations, 1 fee booth, 3 information boards, and 1 amphitheater. All of the facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 14.

#### Proposed Actions:

Connect to City of Shelbyville Force Main and eliminate the Land Treatment Facility at Opossum Creek, which services this area.

Renovate primary boat launching ramp to accommodate courtesy dock so that two launching lanes can be utilized.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock to bring ramp up to Corps standard.

#### Area 4. Lone Point Recreation Area

This 147-acre area has been developed for day-use and camping opportunities. Facilities in this area include 79 total campsites, 10 campsites in one group use area, and 2 picnic sites. In addition there are 2 picnic shelters, 3 waterborne comfort stations, 1 shower building, 7 fountain/hydrants, 1 trailer dump station, 1 fish cleaning station, 1 two-lane boat launching ramp with courtesy dock, 1 two-lane high water boat ramp with courtesy dock, 1 amphitheater, 1 horseshoe pit, 1 lift station, 1 fee booth, 1 backpacking trail, 1 foot bridge, 4 information stations, 2 picnic sites, 1 amphitheater, 1 swing set area, and 1 playground. All facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 15.

#### Proposed Actions:

Connect to City of Shelbyville Force Main and eliminate the Land Treatment Facility at Opossum Creek, which services this area.

Renovate primary boat launching ramp to accommodate courtesy dock so that two launching lanes can be utilized.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock and bring ramp up to Corps standard.

Comfort station #3 has been removed from the main campground area and will be replaced with a mini-shower building within Walleye Group Camp. For public health and safety reasons the replacement building will be located within the group camp for those visitors that do not have access to the facilities within the main campground. Combining this proposed action with the existing facilities, which includes a group picnic shelter and 10 campsites with electricity, will increase utilization.

Add a trailer dump station near the boat ramp for the group camp users.

Remove campsites 56, 55, and 54 and convert area into walk-in tent area with electrical service. Shoreline erosion will eventually cut into the roadway, making access to those three sites unavailable. Options may include moving campsites, armoring shoreline or decommissioning campsites. The cost to place rip rap along the shoreline exceeds the benefit of protecting these three sites at this time.

#### Area 5. Wilborn Creek Recreation Area

This 209-acre area is a day-use and group camp area. Facilities in this area include 1 beach, 1 four-lane boat launching ramp with courtesy dock, 1 two-lane high water boat launching ramp with courtesy dock, 1 playground, 24 picnic units, 5 fountain/hydrants, 1 bath house, 2 comfort stations, a group camp with 15 campsites, 6 tents sites near the beach, 1 lift station, 4 information boards, 1 horseshoe pit, 1 outdoor beach shower, and 1 fish cleaning station. All of the facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 16.

**Proposed Actions:**

Renovate group camp area

Renovate primary boat launching ramp to accommodate courtesy dock so that four launching lanes can be utilized.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock to bring ramp up to Corps standard and lengthen ramp to allow easier transition between normal pool and high water.

**Area 6. Forrest W. "Bo" Wood Recreation Area**

This 182-acre area has been developed for both day-use and camping opportunities. Currently, the area has 144 total campsites, 54 sites with full hook-up, 7 picnic units, 1 four-lane boat launching ramp with courtesy dock, 1 two-lane high water launching ramp with courtesy dock, 1 shower building with laundry facilities, 2 shower buildings with no laundry facilities, 3 waterborne comfort stations, 11 fountains/hydrants, 1 picnic shelter, 1 playground, 2 trailer dump stations, 1 fish cleaning station, 3 lift stations, 1 fee booth, 1 horseshoe pit, 5 information boards, and 1 amphitheater. All of the facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 17.

**Proposed Actions:**

Renovate primary boat launching ramp to accommodate courtesy dock so four launching lanes can be utilized.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock to bring ramp up to Corps standard.

Construct dog freedom park for pet owners to give their dogs an enclosed area to exercise off leash.

**Area 7. Sullivan Beach Recreation Area and Okaw Bluff Group Camp**

This 150-acre area serves three separate and distinct recreation functions, day-use, group camping and fishing/hunting. There are 51 acres in the Sullivan Beach area and 99 acres in the Okaw Bluff Group Camp area. The Sullivan Beach Recreation Area has been developed for day-use opportunities. Facilities in this area include 1 swimming beach, 1 shower house, 1 playground, 2 fountains/hydrants, 15 picnic sites, 1 picnic shelter, 1 lift station, 2 information boards, and 1 outdoor beach shower. The Okaw Bluff Group Camp Area has been developed for day-use and group camping opportunities. Facilities in this area include 2 group camp areas, which includes 2 houses with dormitory and meeting room facilities; 1 administrative campsite, 1 nature trail, 1 hunter-fisherman access parking area, 1 equipment storage area, 37 acres of developed wetlands (classified low density recreation), 1 information board, 10 observation blinds, 1

observation platform, 1 lift station, and 1 set of horseshoe pits. Hidden Pond and Bruce West hunter/fisherman parking lot and minor boat access are also located in this area. All facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plate 18.

**Proposed Actions:**

Replace group camp houses with enclosed universally accessible multipurpose group shelters and mini-shower buildings in an area outside erosion limits.

**Area 8. Whitley Creek Recreation Area**

This 51-acre area is designated for picnicking and boat launching. The campground portion of the recreation area is closed, campsites consolidated with Bo Wood. Remaining open are 1 fish cleaning station, 1 comfort station, 1 fountain/hydrant, 1 information board, 1 lift station, 2 picnic sites, and a four-lane boat launching ramp with a courtesy dock. All of the facilities within this area are shown on Plate 19.

**Proposed Actions:**

Construct a four-lane high water ramp. This would alleviate congestion and launch waiting times that occur within the Bo Wood and Wilborn Creek Recreation Areas at high pool levels. Before the high water ramp is constructed within the Whitley Creek Recreation Area options of consolidating the primary ramp with the high water ramp will be investigated to reduce operation and maintenance costs.

Renovate primary boat launching ramp to accommodate courtesy dock so that four launching lanes can be utilized.

**Area 9. Lithia Springs Recreation Area and Marina**

This 194-acre site has been developed as a multipurpose area offering facilities to boaters, campers, and picnickers. Approximately, 69 acres of this area are leased to a marina concessionaire. Current marina lease period is 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2040. Corps facilities in this area include 1 two-lane boat launching ramp with courtesy dock, a two-lane high water boat ramp with courtesy dock, 112 campsites with electric hook-ups, 12 full hookup sites, 1 beach inside the campground, 1 outdoor beach shower, 1 shower building with laundry, 2 shower buildings, 6 waterborne comfort stations, 16 fountain/hydrants, 1 trailer dump station, 1 fish cleaning station, 1 playground, 1 fee booth, 3 information boards, 1 horseshoe pit, 3 lift stations, and one amphitheater. One of the three trilateration stations that are used to monitor movement of the dam is located in this area. Marina facilities in this area include 337 wet boat slips (325 permanent and 12 transient), 1 restaurant, gas and convenience store sales area, 1 office, boat sales and maintenance area, 3 waterborne comfort stations, 5 picnic sites, and 3 information boards. All facilities within this recreation area are shown on Plates 20 and 36.

Three types of visitors, day-users, campground users, and marina users, utilize the boat ramp facilities within Lithia Springs Recreation Area. The boat ramp facilities that are maintained by the Corps of Engineers within this area include a two-lane primary ramp, two-lane high water ramp, and a parking lot that has twenty-one individual vehicle spaces and forty-six vehicle towing trailer spaces. The Lithia Springs Marina facilities, which are maintained by a private concessionaire, are on both sides of the boat ramp.

Parking and boat launching congestion problems exist for both the Corps of Engineers and the marina because there are not enough parking spaces and launching lanes to accommodate the number and types of users. Due to lack of parking and other circumstances, day-users utilize the marina parking lots and marina slip renters utilize the day-use boat ramp parking lot.

**Proposed Actions:**

Replace day use area comfort station with a new pre-fabricated comfort station closer to the fish cleaning station.

Picnic shelter has been removed. Replace it with a shelter of historical design over the springs that are located within Lithia Springs Chautauqua Area.

Connect to the City of Shelbyville Force Main, which will eliminate the Land Treatment Plant in this area or turn facility over to City and eliminate the Corps of Engineers responsibility for maintaining and operating this facility.

Renovate and expand existing boat ramp and marina parking lots to separate users, alleviate congestion, and increase utilization.

Renovate primary boat launching ramp to accommodate courtesy dock so that two launching lanes can be utilized. This will alleviate delays in launching due to the small size and to both the marina and the public utilizing the ramp at the same time.

Widen high water ramp to accommodate courtesy dock to bring ramp up to Corps standard.

As customer demand and feasibility dictates, campground expansion can include additional campsites, replacing those removed from Opossum Creek and Lone Point Campgrounds due to erosion or poor location.

The Lithia Springs area may be available as a possible resort location. Land allocated for recreation in this area has not been fully developed. There is enough land and infrastructure available to potentially support resort-type development. A market and feasibility study will determine the viability of this project.

#### Area 10. Dam East Recreation Area

This 72-acre area has been developed as a day-use area. Project operation lands are also located in this area. Facilities in this area include the Administration/Visitor Center Complex, Maintenance Complex, 1 butterfly house and garden, 25 picnic sites, 1 playground, 1 waterborne comfort station, 1 picnic shelter, 5 fountains/hydrants, 1 lift station, 1 foot bridge, 4 information boards, 1 hiking/biking trail and 1 set of horseshoe pits. The facilities within this area are shown on Plate 21.

#### Proposed Actions:

It is estimated in the timeframe from 2018 to 2023 a portion of the maintenance complex access road, which also serves one of the three trilateration stations will be impacted due to the effects of shoreline erosion. As part of the Shoreline Erosion Management Plan provide shoreline revetment around maintenance area to protect access to the facility. If revetment is not possible an easement or purchase of private land will be necessary to ensure access to this area.

#### Area 11. Spillway Recreation Area

This 18-acre area was developed for day-use opportunities. Facilities within this area include 15 picnic sites, 2 picnic shelters, 1 playground, 1 fish cleaning station, 1 universal accessible fishing pier, 3 waterborne comfort stations (one is attached to a picnic shelter), 5 fountains/hydrants, 2 bench shelters, 2 lift stations, 1 minor boat launch area, 1 hiking/biking trail, and 4 information boards. Shoreline fishing opportunity is the primary attraction to this area. Facilities within this area are shown on Plate 21.

#### Proposed Actions:

Reconfigure the entire area. Consolidate or move the East side pavilion to a central location. Install new sidewalks to improve access. Install light poles along the spillway to provide better lighting for fishermen and improve security of the parking areas.

#### Area 12. Eagle Creek State Park

This 1,162-acre area is operated and managed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). Existing facilities within this area include 151 Class A campsites, 26 non-electric tent sites, 3 group camp sites, 2 picnic sites, 4 picnic shelters, 29 water fountains and/or hydrants, 1 trailer dump station, 1 four-lane boat ramp with courtesy dock, 1 two-lane high water boat ramp with courtesy dock, 14 vault toilets, 5 hiking trails, 1 cross country ski trail, 1 fish cleaning station, 1 shower building, 6 lift stations, 1 fee booth, 9 foot bridges, 4 information boards, 1 observation platform, and 1 playground. A portion of the Chief Illini Trail is located in this area. Through a sublease agreement between the IDNR and a private developer, a major resort lodge with golf course has been constructed. Shoreline Erosion Management Plan work has been completed in this area and includes

protecting the facilities threatened by shoreline erosion in the resort area. Facilities within this area are shown on Plate 30.

**Proposed Actions:**

Conduct Eagle Creek Resort and Conference Center assessment.

Upgrade lift stations and replace sewer system – increase septic tank capacity at Eagle Creek Resort, increase capacity of two lift stations and install sewer line under Lake Shelbyville to Wolf Creek State Park.

Construct cabin complex. Each cabin could provide indoor living space and a covered porch. Project will also include associated access roads, parking, water, electricity and sewage disposal system. A wood burning stove may be provided for supplemental heating.

Enhance/develop five-acre wetland.

**Area 13. Wolf Creek State Park**

This 1,590-acre area is operated and managed by the Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). The only equestrian trail that exists at Lake Shelbyville is in this recreation area. Facilities within this area include 309 campsites, which includes 18 equestrian campsites and 34 tent sites, 10 group camp sites that will accommodate up to 300 campers, 5 picnic sites, 42 water fountains and/or water hydrants, 3 picnic shelters, 1 trailer dump station, 1 four-lane boat ramp, 1 two-lane high water boat ramp, 1 campground cabin, 40 vault toilets, 7 hiking trails, 1 equestrian / snowmobile trail, 2 shower houses, 1 fish cleaning station, 1 amphitheater, 3 playground sets, 1 horse riding stable facility, 1 swimming beach, 1 land treatment system, 3 lift stations, 1 campground fee booth, 7 foot bridges, 4 information boards, and 2 observation platforms. The Shoreline Erosion Management Plan work that has been completed in this area includes protecting the boat launch access road. Facilities within this area are shown on Plate 31.

**Proposed Actions:**

Sewer Line Replacement – replace sewer line under the lake from Eagle Creek State Park to Wolf Creek State Park.

**Area 14. Findlay Marina**

This 50-acre area is leased to a concessionaire who provides a full line of marina services. Current lease is 1 April 2015 to 31 March 2040. Facilities within this area includes 333 wet boat slips, 1 marine sales and service area, office, gas and convenience store sales area, 1 vault comfort station, 1 two-lane boat launching ramp (this primary ramp can also be used during high water), 1 information board, and 1 picnic shelter. Facilities within this area are shown on Plate 34.

Proposed Actions:

Connect waterborne facilities to Village of Findlay sewer system. The expansion of the marina is hindered and will remain hindered unless the wastewater treatment capabilities are increased. Wastewater storage tanks are currently being used and must be emptied frequently during the recreation season. The tanks may be inundated during some periods of high water and become potential environmental hazards.

Area 15. Sullivan Marina and Campground

This 72-acre area, under lease to the Sullivan Marina and Campground, is currently leased from 1 March 1995 to 28 February 2040. The lease area consists of a campground and marina concession. Facilities include 142 boat slips, 195 campsites, 1 swimming pool, 1 restaurant, 2 lodging units, 1 one-lane boat ramp, 1 trailer dump station, 1 playground, 1 shower, laundry, and office facility, 1 gas sales area, 1 sand volleyball court, 1 information board, 1 set of horseshoe pits, and 1 lift station that the Corps of Engineers maintains. A site plan of current operations is shown on Plate 35.

Proposed Actions:

Expand marina operations into Compartment 50 across State Highway 32.

TABLE 4  
TABLE OF RECREATION FACILITIES

RECREATION FACILITY	Dam West Area 1	Opossum Creek Area 2	Coon Creek Area 3	Lone Point Area 4	Wilborn Creek Area 7	Bo Wood Area 8	Sullivan Beach Area 10	Okaw Bluff Area 10	Whitley Creek Area 11	Lithia Springs Area 13	Dam East Area 14	Spillway Area 15	Outlying Areas	Corps Total	Eagle Creek State Park Area 5	Wolf Creek State Park Area 12	Lake Shelbyville Wildlife Mgmt. Areas WMM-1 & WMM-2	State Total	Findlay Marina Area 6	Sullivan Marina & Campground Area 9	Lithia Springs Marina Area 13	Private concessionaire Total	Grand Total	
Public Campsites																								
Sub Category – Campsite Type																								
Single		64	167	75	21	133				104				564	174	309		483		195		195	1242	
Double		1	13			4				2				20				0				0	20	
Total Public Campsites		65	180	75	21	137				106				584	174	309		483		195		195	1262	
Sub Category – Campsite Services																								
Campsite Electric		52	155	70		83				90				450	148	275		423		53		53	926	
Campsite (Electric, Water, and Sewer)		13	25	4		54				16				112				0		142		142	254	
Campsite Non-electric				1	21									22	26	34		60					82	
Total Public Campsites		65	180	75	21	137				106				584	174	309		483		195		195	1262	
Total Administrative Campsites (Gate Attendant & Volunteer Sites)	3	5	4	4		7		1		4				28	3	4		7				0	35	
Group Camp				1	1			2						4	3	10		13				0	17	
Cabin House								2						2				0				0	2	
Multi-purpose Group Shelter														0				0				0	0	
Mini Shelter														0				0				0	0	
Cabin														0		1		1				0	1	
Picnic Units	48			2	24	7	15		2		25	15	2	140	2	5	4	11			5	5	156	
Group Picnic Shelters	4			2		1	1				1	2	1	12	4	3		7	1			1	20	
Bench Shelter	9											2		11				0				0	11	
Comfort Station (Vault)													1	1	14	40		54	1			1	56	
Comfort Station (Waterborne)	4	2	10	3	2	3			1	6	1	3		35				0			3	3	38	
Comfort Station/Showers			3			2				2				7									7	
Shower House	1	1	1	1	1	1	1			1				8	1	2		3		1		1	12	
Laundry Facility			1			1				1				3				0		1		1	4	
Land Treatment System		1								1				2		1		1				0	3	
Lift Station	2	1	5	1	1	3	1	1	1	3	1	2		22	6	3		9				0	31	
Fountain and/or Hydrant	6	6	29	7	5	11	2		9	16	5	5	1	102	29	42		71				0	173	
Trailer Dump Station		1	1	1		2				1				6	1	1		2		1		1	9	
Fish Cleaning Station	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1		1		9	1	1		2				0	11	
Fee Booth	1	1	1	1		1				1				6	1	1		2				0	8	
Primary Boat Ramp Launch Lanes	4	4	2	2	4	4			4	2				26	4	4		8	2	1		3	37	
Minor Boat Ramp Launch Area												1	5	6			5	5				0	11	
High Water Boat Ramp Launch Lanes	2	2	2	2	2	2				2				14	2	2		4	2			2	20	
Swimming Beach	1		1		1		1			1				5		1		1				0	6	
Outdoor Beach Shower	1		1		1		1			1				5				0				0	5	
Trail	1		1	1				1			1	1	4	10	5	7	1	13				0	23	
Foot Bridge				1							1		20	22	9	7	5	21				0	43	
Information Board	6	2	3	4	4	5	2	1	1	3	4	4	5	44	4	4	2	10	1	1	3	5	59	
Overlook	1													1				0				0	1	
Fishing Pier		1										1	1	3			1	1				0	4	

TABLE 15 (cont'd)

RECREATION FACILITY	Dam West Area 1	Opossum Creek Area 2	Coon Creek Area 3	Lone Point Area 4	Wilborn Creek Area 7	Bo Wood Area 8	Sullivan Beach Area 10	Okaw Bluff Area 10	Whitley Creek Area 11	Lithia Springs Area 13	Dam East Area 14	Spillway Area 15	Outlying Areas	Corps Total	Eagle Creek State Park Area 5	Wolf Creek State Park Area 12	Lake Shelbyville Wildlife Mgmt. Areas WM-1 & WM-2	State Total	Findlay Marina Area 6	Sullivan Marina & Campground Area 9	Lithia Springs Marina Area 13	Private concessionaire Total	Grand Total
Fishing Pond	1	1											15	17			5	5					22
Observation Blinds								10						10			3	3				0	13
Observation Platform								1						1	1	2	3	6				0	7
Playground	2	1	1	1	1	1	1			1	1	1		11	1	3		4		1		1	16
Swing Set Area			1	1										2				0				0	2
Sand Volleyball Court	1		1											2				0		1		1	3
Horseshoe Pits		1	2	1	1	1		1		1	1			9				0		1		1	10
Ice Skating Rink														0				0				0	0
Amphitheater		1	1	1		1				1				5		1		1				0	6
Visitor Center											1			1				0				0	1
Marina														0				0	1	1	1	3	3
Boat Slips (Wet)														0				0	333	142	337	865	812
Restaurant														0				0		1	1	2	2
Swimming Pool														0				0		1		1	1
Lodge/Rental Room Facility														0				0		2		2	2
Golf Course														0	1			1				0	1
Warning Siren	1													1				0					1
Horse Riding Stable														0		1		1					1

## Environmentally Sensitive Areas

TABLE 5  
ENVIRONMENTALLY SENSITIVE AREAS

Area Name	Area No.	Acres	Plate	Environmental Stewardship	Recreation
Pogue Timber	ES-E-1	34	7	Intensive	Minimal
Lithia Springs Chautauqua	ES-C-2	314	7, 22	Intensive	Moderate
Okaw & Doctor's Island Historic Area	ES-C-3	16	7	Moderate	Minimal
West Okaw Biologically Significant Stream	ES-E-4	43	7, 32	Intensive	Minimal
Coneflower Hill Prairie	ES-E-5	5	7, 33	Intensive	Minimal
Capel Hill Prairie	ES-E-6	2	7, 31	Intensive	Minimal

Because of their historic, cultural or biologic significance lands classified as Environmentally Sensitive Areas are listed separately. The following areas with two sub categories are listed below:

ES-E: Environmentally Sensitive Area – Ecological

ES-C: Environmentally Sensitive Area – Cultural

### ES-E-1. Pogue Timber Environmentally Sensitive Area (34 Acres)

The site, also known as Sullivan Woods, contains climax oak-hickory forest, with many trees in the mature size class (24-36" diameter). This is by far the finest stand of climax forest in the vicinity of Lake Shelbyville in Central Illinois. The IDNR has listed this area in the State's Illinois Natural Area Inventory (INAI). The protective designation is a statement of rarity on a statewide basis and on the need for preservation of those natural qualities for the enjoyment of future generations. A site plan of Pogue Timber can be found on Plate 7.

### ES-C-2. Lithia Springs Chautauqua Environmental Sensitive Area (314 Acres)

This area generally consists of oak-hickory forest on the uplands with some open field areas on the ridge tops. The lowland areas near the bridge support only pioneer vegetation and are frequently flooded. Lithia Creek is located within the eastern section of the area. The historical area, which is a National Register of Historic Places eligible site, is also located in the eastern portion. This area was utilized as a "religious retreat" in the early 1900's and some remnants of the old buildings and structures are still evident. The terrain is generally rugged and autumn olive has taken over most open field borders adjacent to private land.

Lithia Bridge and Chautauqua hunter-fisherman parking lots are located in this area. A site plan of this area is provided on Plates 7 and 22.

Efforts will be made to have this area listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

Proposed Action:

Construct shelter of matching historical design of original shelter over the springs

ES-C-3. Okaw and Doctor's Island Historic Area (16 acres)

This area includes two islands that have historic significance. The northernmost island, Okaw Island, has had some significant purposes identified by the University of Illinois. Doctor's Island, the southernmost of the two islands, also has significant purposes. Because of the close proximity of the two sites and similarities discovered it is believed that there is a definite cultural association between the two islands. A site plan of this area is provided on Plate 7.

ES-E-4. West Okaw Biological Significant Stream (43 acres)

A portion of the West Okaw River in the Wildlife Management Area is classified as a Cat. VI biologically significant stream in the IDNR's INAI. (*Illinois Department of Natural Resources, 2015*) This category is characterized as having unusual concentrations of flora or fauna and high quality streams. The great diversity of plants and animals is a good indicator of the quality of the river in this area. A site plan is provided on Plates 7 and 32.

ES-E-5. Coneflower Hill Prairie (5 acres)

The Coneflower Hill Prairie, located at the south edge of the Kaskaskia Unit in the State managed wildlife area, is a high quality prairie remnant intensively managed by IDNR. Many of these hill prairies were overlooked as they were often too steep to farm. Coneflower Hill Prairie plan can be found on Plates 7 and 33.

ES-E-6. Capel Hill Prairie (2 acres)

This prairie, located within Wolf Creek State Park along the shoreline, is another remnant prairie in an area that was overlooked by farmers. This small prairie is a high quality natural community that is suffering from severe erosion. A plan showing Capel Hill Prairie is shown on Plates 7 and 31.

Proposed Action:

Protect the remaining portion of the prairie as this is a significant, high quality area listed in the INAI.

## Multiple Resource Management Lands

The following areas have been classified as Multiple Resource Management Lands, and are managed for one or more of the following activities: Recreation – Low Density; Wildlife Management – General, Vegetative Management; and Environmental Sensitive. These areas are illustrated on Plate 8, and described below.

TABLE 6  
MULTIPLE RESOURCE MANAGEMENT LANDS

Area Name	Area No.	Acres	Plate No.	Environmental Stewardship	Recreation
Arrowhead MRA	LD-1	278	8, 23	Moderate	Moderate
Chief Illini MRA	LD-2	648	8, 23	Moderate	Moderate
Camp Camfield MRA	LD-3	443	8, 24	Intensive	Moderate
Woods Lake MRA	LD-4	201	8, 25	Intensive	Moderate
Adams MRA	LD-5	196	8, 26	Moderate	Minimal
Big Red's Timber MRA	LD-6	250	8, 27	Moderate	Moderate
West Okaw WMA	WM-1	2,872	8, 32	Intensive	Moderate
Kaskaskia WMA	WM-2	3,414	8, 33	Intensive	Moderate
Johnson's Bluff MRA	VM-1	212	8, 28	Moderate	Minimal
Whitley Creek Bottoms MRA	VM-2	698	8, 29	Moderate	Minimal
All Other Undesignated	LD & VM	9,297	4	Intensive	Minimal

### Low Density Recreation Areas

#### LD-1. Arrowhead Multiple Resource Area (278 acres)

This area consists of a narrow band of timbered land, interlaced with numerous coves and ravines protruding to the government fee line. Several large white oaks in the 12" to 16" DBH (Diameter at Breast Height) class are found near the top of the ravines. Most of the oak-hickory association found in the western half of the area is in the pole stage (6" DBH) to slightly smaller. Den trees appear to be

adequate and numerous leaf nests exist. Locust, hawthorn, coralberry and multiflora rose are the dominant ground species. An unimproved, secondary road extends to the government fee line near the center of the area, southward, to the lakeshore. Arrowhead Road hunter/fisherman parking lot and a portion of the Chief Illini backpacking trail exist in this area. The trail has been realigned away from the shoreline and ravine crossings reduced, making the trail safer for visitors. An Adirondack-style shelter is located along the trail in this area. This area is used for such things as hunting, hiking, and watchable wildlife program purposes. Arrowhead Multiple Resource Area can be found on Plates 8 and 23.

**LD-2. Chief Illini Multiple Resource Area (648 Acres)**

This area contains heavily forested land with a scattering of grass-covered openings. Controlled burning, limited forest management practices for resource improvement, and supplemental nesting boxes are techniques utilized by the Corps of Engineers in this area to improve habitat for forest wildlife species. A portion of the Chief Illini backpacking trail is located in this area. The trail has been realigned away from the shoreline reducing the need to cross ravines and reducing the overall slope of the trail to better accommodate lake visitors. Eagle Cove and Mahoney hunter/fisherman parking lots are located in this area. This area is used for such things as hunting, hiking, and watchable wildlife program purposes. This area is shown on Plates 8 and 23.

**LD-3. Camp Camfield Multiple Resource Area (443 acres)**

All of the area lying south of the township road in this area, approximately 226 acres of the 443 acres, has been designated as the Camp Camfield Environmental Study Area. The area is very diverse. A large demonstration prairie plot consisting of 11 acres is located within the study area. An oak-hickory timber association is present throughout the area, in various stages of succession. Lowe Pond is located in this area. This area also includes a trail system, 1 hunter/fisherman parking lot, 1 gravel entrance road, 1 vault comfort station, 1 picnic shelter with storage room attached, 1 picnic area, 1 stage area, 3 information boards, 3 foot bridges, and 2 fire rings. The Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) originally created the trail system in this area in 1978 and 1979, which is designated as a National Recreation Trail. Through a Challenge Partnership Agreement with the Corps of Engineers, the Central Illinois Mountain Bicycling Association (CIMBA) began converting the 7 miles of trails to multipurpose use in 2001. The portion of the area lying north of the township road is primarily timbered, with a ten-acre farm field at the extreme north end. This area is used for such things as hunting, hiking, fishing, bike riding, and watchable wildlife program purposes. The facilities in this area are shown on Plates 8 and 24.

**Proposed Action:**

Complete the approximately one mile 'Black' Trail

**LD-4. Woods Lake Multiple Resource Area (201 acres)**

The major feature of this area is a 30-acre man-made lake, known as Woods Lake. Surrounding the lake on the uplands is a mixture of old agricultural fields, pasture land, and a small amount of timber. An unimproved road extends from the Woods Lake East hunter/fisherman parking lot on Highway 32 across the dam of Woods Lake. A small fishing pier is located at the dam. Another unimproved road on the west side provides access to a hunter/fisherman parking lot and accessible fishing pier which was built in 2015. The Fin and Feathers Nursery Pond is located north of Woods Lake in this area. The fields are generally covered with brome grass, while the pasturelands have a grass cover under a sparse stand of oak and hickory. A dense hawthorn thicket is located on the south side of the lake. Firearm hunting is prohibited in this area. This area is used for fishing, hiking, archery only hunting, and watchable wildlife program purposes. Facilities can be found on Plates 8 and 25.

**Proposed Actions:**

A vault comfort station has been removed from Lithia Springs Recreation Area and will be replaced with a new pre-fabricated vault comfort station within the Woods Lake West area.

**LD-5. Adams Multiple Resource Area (196 acres)**

The area is predominantly wooded with a few old fields located on the outer boundaries. The Coal Shaft South hunter/fisherman parking lot and minor boat access is located in this area on the southwest side of the Coal Shaft Bridge. This area is used for hunting, fishing, boat access, and sightseeing purposes. The area is found on Plates 8 and 26.

**LD-6. Big Red's Timber Multiple Resource Area (250 acres)**

The area is composed primarily of invading brush and immature timber. One old farm field, eight acres in size, is present. Two large lake coves that extend from east to west break up the area. This area is used for hunting, hiking, biking, and watchable wildlife program purposes. The General Dacey Trail has an extensive trail system in this area. This area is found on Plates 8 and 27.

**Wildlife Management Areas**

Two areas are assigned this land-use classification. These areas are licensed to the IDNR for operation and management. A brief description follows.

**WM-1. West Okaw Wildlife Management Area (2,872 acres)**

This area is licensed to the IDNR for wildlife management purposes. Almost equally divided between crop fields and timbered acreage, most of the crop fields lie in the flood plain of the West Okaw River or one of the many feeder creeks supplying the area. Man-made levees have been constructed at three sites to impound shallow water on planted cereal and feed grains to attract waterfowl to the

area. A wide variety of forest game, upland game, non-game, and migratory bird species are found on this site at various times during the year. Four farm ponds and sixteen hunter/fisherman parking areas have been established in the area. The facilities within this area are shown on Plates 8 and 32.

Section 1135(b) of the Water Resource Development Act (WRDA) of 1986 allowed modification of completed projects to restore environmental benefits. A wetland restoration is being planned in Moultrie County at the northern end of Lake Shelbyville on the Kaskaskia and West Okaw Rivers in the West Okaw and Kaskaskia Wildlife Management Areas. The modification would restore 345.6-acres of wetlands habitat to modern historic conditions and improve the water level management capability allowing maximum capability. The complex is integral to the long-term restoration of wetlands at the Lake Shelbyville Project. The water control system and levees, coupled with vegetation management will allow for the restoration of more natural hydric and vegetative conditions. This 1135 Project is further described in Chapter 6.

The West Okaw River from Lovington south to 1 mile south of IL Route 121 is considered a Grade B stream and a category VI Natural Area according to the Illinois Natural Areas Inventory. Two miles of this stream is located within the West Okaw Management Area. The West Okaw Biologically Significant Stream has been added as an Environmental Sensitive Area outlined in that section. (*Illinois Department of Natural Resources, 2015*)

**Proposed Actions:**

Construct high water boat ramp at Bethany

**WM-2. Kaskaskia Wildlife Management Area (3,414 acres)**

This area is licensed to the IDNR for fish and wildlife management purposes. Fishing, hunting, and a variety of other day-use activities are permitted on the area by the state agency. The facilities within this area are shown on Plates 8 and 33.

The Section 1135 project described above in WM-1 also encompasses portions of this area and is further described in Chapter 6.

**Vegetative Management Areas**

**VM-1. Johnson's Bluff Multiple Resource Area (212 acres)**

The extreme north portion of this area supports a wide variety of vegetation. The terrain is quite varied. It is essentially composed of moderately steep slopes leading down to low areas in the creek bottom. These low areas are commonly flooded with only a two to three foot rise in the normal pool level. Due to this frequent flooding, most of the trees along the flood plain have been killed, and the bottomland supports a dense annual weed cover. The upland supports a mixture of annual and perennial weeds and grasses. Encroaching woody vegetation is

evident. The timber scattered throughout this northern portion is predominantly oak-hickory. Two large fields in the southeastern portion of this northern section are presently grain-cropped through the agricultural lease program. The remainder of this northern portion is composed of medium-aged oak-hickory forest sloping gently down to Wilborn Creek where predominantly lowland hardwoods are found. High water levels have killed many of the trees in the low-lying areas. The southeastern portion of this northern section is composed of large, mature, upland hardwoods, primarily oak and hickory. The shoreline here is very steep. The outstanding topographic feature of this portion is Johnson's Bluff, and extremely scenic overlook with steep slope leading down to the lake. The extreme southern section of this area is a long, relatively narrow strip of land with some open field areas and some timber. The open fields are in varying seral stages from annual weeds to relatively dense brush cover. Two small ponds are also located in this section. Immediately north of this narrow strip of land lies a wooded hillside strip bordering the lake. Johnson's Bluff minor boat access and hunter/fisherman parking lot are located in this area. This area is shown on Plates 8 and 28.

VM-2. Whitley Creek Bottoms Multiple Resource Area (698 acres)

Whitley Creek runs the full length of this area. There are several open bottomland fields lying on both sides of Whitley Creek. Those fields lying closest to the lake are subject to regular flooding in the spring with rises in the lake level. Several of the fields farther away from the lake are presently grain cropped through the agricultural lease program. The upland timbered areas are primarily second growth oak-hickory timber. The northern portion of this area has a large cove dividing the land into three separate areas. Most of the slopes and ridge tops are covered with the oak-hickory association typically found throughout the lake area. Several old farm fields are found scattered throughout this northern section. One small but uniform stand of oak-hickory is found at the extreme east end of this northern section. Bragg and Bruce Ponds, Hugh's Ridge, South Crooked Bridge, and North Crooked Bridge hunter-fisherman parking lots are located in this area. This area is shown on Plates 8 and 29.

Proposed New Actions:

Develop a 146-acre wetland and fish nursery pond. Whitley Creek has been identified by IEPA as one of the most impaired streams within the Kaskaskia Watershed due to significant sedimentation and nutrient loading from adjacent agriculture practices. Construction of a wetland and nursery pond within the Whitley Creek Bottoms will significantly reduce sediment loading into Lake Shelbyville and the Kaskaskia River, increase waterfowl and shorebird habitat, and will provide additional nursery pond acreages for supplemental fish rearing as identified by IDNR. The project will meet the goals of the North American Waterfowl Management Plan, IDNR and IEPA water quality standards. The total cost estimate for this project is \$728,000. Funding will be sought through the Continuing Authorities Program, Challenge Partnership Agreements, and/or donations.

## 5.2. LAND AND WATER USE POLICIES

### Forest Resources

All lands in government fee ownership are being managed to upgrade their forest resources for improvement of recreation, wildlife, and scenic values. The Land Classification Map, Plate 4, shows these lands as Recreation, Environmentally Sensitive, Low Density Recreation, Vegetative Management, and Wildlife Management. The OMP describes the general practices and techniques used to implement a program for developing the forest resources of Lake Shelbyville, such as tree planting and vegetation manipulation, to support management objectives. Timber will be harvested when required to achieve management objectives such as wildlife habitat improvement. Forest management is a secondary purpose for areas classified as intensive or low-density recreation.

### Agricultural Use

Lake Shelbyville's OMP contains provisions for agriculture as a corollary use to provide food for wildlife and to prevent encroachment of undesirable vegetation. In addition, agricultural leasing demonstrates effective land management by deriving income for the federal treasury and local counties as well as providing resource benefits. As agricultural use of project land is not an authorized purpose, except as an interim or corollary use, no such areas have been allocated for this use.

### Concession Development

A specific objective of the Master Plan is to encourage full usage of recreational opportunities. To meet public demand and in conjunction with the popularity of recreation vehicles, electric, water, and sewer hookups have been provided to many campsites. Roads have been widened and parking spaces increased to accommodate recreational vehicles. As the demand for more sophisticated facilities increases, an alternative to traditional camping must be considered.

Traditionally, overnight camping has taken precedence over resort type facilities. Resort facilities require less land, minimize the requirements for extending roads and utilities, and offer a complementary alternative to dispersing full service campsites over large areas. The Corps continues to work with IDNR to reopen Eagle Creek Resort, an effort which may take several more years. Areas west of Sullivan Marina and Campground and Findlay Marina are zoned for High Density Recreation Use and may be considered as future resort concessionaire sites. A decision to develop these potential resort concession sites will be based on the recommendation of a valid market potential and feasibility analysis study. All development plans will follow policy established by regulation, ER 1130-2-550, Change 5, dated 30 March 2009 and policy dated, 6 December 2005, Recreation Development Policy for Outgranted Corps Lands.

### Shoreline Use Management Policy

The following is taken from the St. Louis District Policy on Lake Shoreline Private Use Facilities, 20 February 1975:

*“It is the policy of the Chief of Engineers, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to manage and protect the shoreline of all lakes under its jurisdiction to properly establish and maintain acceptable fish and wildlife habitat, aesthetic quality and natural environmental conditions and to promote safe and healthful use of the shorelines for recreational purposes by all of the American people. It is the objective of the Corps to restrict private exclusive use of public property to the degree necessary to gain maximum benefits to the general public, and to provide for the restoration of shoreline where degradation has occurred. Such actions will consider all forms of benefits such as: recreation, aesthetics, and fish and wildlife.”*

It is the policy that private exclusive use will not be permitted on new lakes or on lakes where no private facilities existed as of 13 December 1974, the date of the implementing regulation (ER 1130-2-406).

### **Other Policies**

Preservation of the natural environment is essential to the proper maintenance and management of wildlife habitat, aesthetic quality of lake projects, and shoreline erosion control. Revocable lakeshore use permits of a temporary nature will continue to be issued as authorized by 36 CFR 327 for special event recreation programs such as water carnivals, boat regattas, ski jump exhibitions, etc.

Mowing permits are issued according to District policy. Mowing permits that have been issued at Lake Shelbyville are explained in the OMP.

Off-Road Vehicle Usage and seaplane landings are managed by policy explained in the OMP.

Prior to implementation of any future actions or major expansions, a feasibility analysis with a detailed design that complies with all environmental and fiscal laws, regulations and policies will be completed. Additional campsites will require further documentation of public demand, as well as policy, design, and cost analysis and inclusion in an approved master plan supplement prior to programming and funding.