

Section VI

Partnerships and Coordination

SECTION VI – PARTNERSHIPS AND COORDINATION

6-01. GENERAL

A high degree of coordination has been maintained with other government agencies throughout Lake Shelbyville's planning, development and operational stages. This memorandum is the fourth updating of the Master Plan and not all agencies involved during the original planning process have been in direct coordination with the Corps of Engineers during the production of this document. The only agency actively involved with the Corps of Engineers in this planning and coordination process was the Illinois Department of Natural Resources. The Corps of Engineers will notify the US Fish and Wildlife Service this memorandum has been updated. A brief summary of coordination with other agencies to date is contained in the following paragraphs.

6-02. FEDERAL AGENCIES

a. National Park Service. This agency worked closely with the Corps of Engineers and the Illinois Department of Natural Resources, particularly during the early planning and development of the project. Coordination has been principally concerned with estimates of annual visitation and activity use and estimates of the scope and nature of park and recreation developments required. The National Park Service conducted an extensive field reconnaissance as a part of the review and coordination process.

b. U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Since the early planning stages of the project, coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service has been maintained. A cooperative effort by the IDNR, the National Park Service and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, resulted in the establishment of committees on recreation, and fish and wildlife in order to facilitate planning of resources programs to assure optimum development of these features on the project. The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service was consulted to provide comments to the Lake Shelbyville Shoreline Erosion Management Plan and most recently they provided comments to the 1135 project plan.

c. U.S. Public Health Service. The U.S. Public Health Service in cooperation with the Illinois Department of Public Health prepared a report on the mosquito control problem associated with the Shelbyville Reservoir in November 1961. In 2001, a new insect-borne disease emerged in Illinois, the West Nile virus.

In Illinois, West Nile virus was first identified in September 2001 when laboratory tests confirmed its presence in two dead crows found in the Chicago metropolitan area. In 2002, birds, mosquitoes and horses in 100 of the state's 102 counties were reported positive for West Nile virus and the first human cases and deaths from West Nile virus illness in Illinois were reported in August

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2002. By the end of the year, the state led the nation with 800 human cases and 63 deaths. The Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH) maintains a sophisticated disease surveillance system to monitor animals and insects that can potentially carry the virus: dead crows and blue jays, mosquitoes and horses. Mosquitoes can either carry the virus or get it by feeding on infected birds. Shelby County reported three human cases and Moultrie County reported one human case and one death in 2002 caused by West Nile Virus.

d. Natural Resource Conservation Service (NRCS). This agency is consulted when land use issues regarding prime farmland and wetlands arise. The NRCS certifies land as acceptable for wetland restoration projects. Recent partnership activities including support of Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program (CREP) in the Kaskaskia River Watershed. The NRCS helps establish local Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) agencies. Two RC&D agencies are located within the Upper Kaskaskia River Watershed; Heartland and Lincoln Heritage.

e. Department of Interior – Bureau of Land Management (BLM). All leases for federally owned minerals at Lake Shelbyville are granted and administered by the Department of Interior through the BLM. Although federally owned minerals are under the administrative jurisdiction of BLM, consent from the managing agency must be obtained prior to granting a lease.

f. U.S. Naval Construction Battalion. The Corps of Engineers has a Memorandum of Agreement in place with this agency. This construction battalion, also referred to as the Sea Bees, uses the Okaw Bluff Group Camp as their base camp one weekend out of every month for the majority of the year. The Sea Bees perform several tasks while stationed at Lake Shelbyville that primarily includes building and maintaining facilities.

g. Army National Guard. In support of the Army, the Army National Guard through the Special Use Permit system utilizes the Bluestem Future Recreation Area, also known as Area F, for military training on a regular basis.

h. Coast Guard Auxiliary. The Corps of Engineers signed a Memorandum of Agreement with this agency in 2004. The purpose of the agreement is for the Corps of Engineers at Lake Shelbyville to work in cooperation with this agency to jointly support and promote a standard Vessel Safety Check Program, promote and expand water safety awareness, offer assistance to stranded boaters, offer assistance during search and rescue operations, and establish and maintain homeland security.

i. U.S. Department of Agriculture Community and Rural Development. This agency is working with the local communities in support of funds for the Regional Sewer and Water Program.

j. Environmental Protection Agency. The Corps of Engineers works with this agency when dealing with the wastewater treatment facilities and issues at Lake Shelbyville.

k. U.S. Geological Survey. The Corps of Engineers works with this agency when it comes to updating maps that pertain to Lake Shelbyville.

l. Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Corps of Engineers works with this agency to provide needed assistance during local, state, and national emergencies.

m. U.S. Power Squadron. The Corps of Engineers works with this agency to enhance and supplement the Lake Shelbyville Water Safety Program.

6-03. STATE OF ILLINOIS AGENCIES

Close liaison with the Illinois Division of Waterways, the Illinois Department of Public Health, and the Illinois Department of Transportation was maintained through the planning phases of Lake Shelbyville.

a. Department of Business and Economic Development. In Illinois, this agency is responsible to the Governor for the coordination of all economic development planning for the state, which includes planning by state and local government agencies in connection with such projects as Lake Shelbyville. Continuing coordination with this agency has been maintained as required.

b. Illinois Department of Natural Resources (IDNR). This agency has responsibility for management of state parks and recreation areas, conservation, management of fish and wildlife, enforcement of the Illinois Boat Registration and Safety Act, and enforcement of state fish and game laws. In regard to all of these responsibilities, this agency has been involved since the project's inception. The primary coordination with the State of Illinois for the purposes of this update of the Revised Master Plan has been with this agency. Some of the various divisions of IDNR that the Corps of Engineers partners with include Land Management and Education, Wildlife, Fisheries, Natural History Survey, Natural Heritage, and Water Resources.

c. Illinois Environmental Protection Agency (IEPA). The Corps coordinates with the IEPA regarding the construction and operation of wastewater treatment facilities, the maintenance of effluent (NPDES discharge permits) and in-lake water quality standards.

d. Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH). The Illinois Department of Public Health conducts a safety inspection at all of the public beaches at Lake Shelbyville on an annual basis. To protect the public's health, the Department requires that the licensed public beaches in Illinois be sampled in the shallow

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and deep areas every two weeks. Samples are sent to a Department laboratory for analysis. If the results exceed the Department's limits, the risk of illness increases and the Corps of Engineers is required to close the beach."

e. Illinois Department of Transportation (IDOT). This agency is responsible for providing, installing, and maintaining all of the directional signs that pertain to Lake Shelbyville that are on state owned right-of-ways. The signs meet IDOT guidelines and standards.

f. Illinois Historic Preservation Agency. This agency over the years has helped present interpretive programs and assisted with archeology work around the lake.

g. Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs (Tourism). The Central Illinois Tourism Office, which is part of this agency, has coordinated and assisted with special events and workshops within the Lake Shelbyville area. This agency has also published information concerning Lake Shelbyville and special events in their publications that are distributed to the public.

h. Illinois Emergency Management Agency. This agency coordinates disaster and emergency responses for the State of Illinois. The Corps of Engineers coordinates with this agency on Dam Safety training, flood and other disaster response efforts.

i. Illinois State Police. Through the East Central Illinois Drug Task Force situations that involve production of illegal drugs on Government property are turned over to this agency to handle. This agency also assists in traffic control for special events that involves traffic on any of the IL state highway routes that surround the lake.

j. Illinois Cooperative Extension Service. This agency assisted in organizing a 4-H club that primarily assists with projects at Lake Shelbyville. The Corps of Engineers has partnered with this agency to assist them with presenting off-site special events and workshops.

k. Experience Works, Inc. The agency provides personnel that work under the direction of Corps of Engineers personnel to perform clerical, receptionist, administrative, interpretive, and maintenance work.

l. Illinois Audubon Society. This agency has provided traveling displays and volunteers that have been utilized to present interpretive programs and events.

6-04. LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND AGENCIES

a. Local Governments. Since the beginning of the project, coordination has been maintained with counties, cities and villages in the Lake Shelbyville area. Many meetings have been held with various agencies and civic groups. The Operations Manager is the primary contact for coordination between the Corps and local government agencies and organizations.

There is considerable coordination with Shelby and Moultrie counties and the municipal governments of Shelbyville, Sullivan, Findlay, Bethany, and Windsor. As partners, the Corps advises them of general policy regarding public use of the reservoir and tentative plans. In addition, officials of local governments seeking information on these matters have made a number of visits to the lake project office. Corps of Engineers personnel also attends local government meetings to inform them of current matters and issues.

b. Kaskaskia Watershed Association. The Corps of Engineers has worked closely with this agency to coordinate and present meetings and workshops that showcase the Kaskaskia River Watershed, which Lake Shelbyville is a part of.

c. Kaskia-Kaw Rivers Conservancy. In 2001, this agency entered a Cooperative Agreement with the Corps of Engineers. They manage the sales area in the Lake Shelbyville Visitor Center and assists in coordinating and presenting special events at Lake Shelbyville and surrounding communities that helps build community and public relations. This agency also has a Real Estate License that allows them to provide vending machines within the recreation areas at Lake Shelbyville.

d. Shelby County Community Services. Through the Challenge Partnership and Donation programs this agency has provided assistance to the Corps of Engineers and made it possible to construct universally accessible facilities such as fishing piers within the Opossum Creek and Spillway Recreation Areas, and playground and beach access mats within Dam West Recreation Area. This agency partnered with the Corps of Engineers to provide supplies that made the construction of the Okaw Wetland wildlife blinds possible and they also provide flowering plants that have been utilized in flower beds in various areas around the lake.

e. Izaak Walton League, Champaign County Chapter. Through the Challenge Partnership Program this agency has provided assistance to the Corps of Engineers and made it possible to construct the universally accessible fishing pier within the Spillway Recreation Area. This agency has also worked with the Corps of Engineers to put fish attractors in place.

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f. Shelbyville General Dacey Trail Committee. This committee is working with the Corps of Engineers in planning and promoting the Lake Shelbyville General Dacey Trail Plan.

g. Central Illinois Mountain Bicycling Association. Through a Challenge Partnership Agreement this agency renovated the '79 Camp Camfield Hiking Trail into a multipurpose trail that accommodates mountain bike and hiking activities. This agency maintains the '79 Camp Camfield multipurpose trail and is active in promoting the Lake Shelbyville General Dacey Trail Plan.

h. Shelby County Search and Rescue Dive Team. This agency has assisted in search and rescue and recovery missions and with special events at Lake Shelbyville.

i. Moultrie County Search and Rescue Dive Team. This agency has assisted in search and rescue and recovery missions at Lake Shelbyville. They have also assisted in recovering vehicles from the lake that were accidentally submerged while launching a watercraft.

j. Lake Shelbyville Development Association (LSDA). The LSDA membership consists of the three marina concessionaries, their customers, Eagle Creek Resort, and other regional business interests around Lake Shelbyville. The LSDA is on the board of the Upper Kaskaskia Ecosystem Partnership and the Kaskaskia Watershed Association. The Corps of Engineers and IDNR serve as technical advisors on their committee and keep the organization updated on tourisms, recreation, flood damage reduction and environmental stewardship activities.

k. Upper Kaskaskia Ecosystem Partnership. The Corps of Engineers has worked closely with this agency to coordinate and present meetings and workshops that showcase the Kaskaskia River Watershed, which Lake Shelbyville is a part of.

l. Okaw Valley Soil and Water Conservation District. The Corps of Engineers has worked with this agency for several years to present special events such as the Envirothon and Fayette County School Assemblies and Conservation Days.

m. Douglas Hart Nature Center. For several years this agency has supported the Lake Shelbyville EcoMeet Special Event by coordinating and presenting the EcoMeet Nature Sleuth competition.

n. American Angling Association. For several years this agency has supported the annual Fish Habitat Improvement special event. This agency also provides volunteer services at the Fin and Feathers Nursery Pond.

o. Shelby County Office of Tourism. This agency has coordinated and assisted with special events and workshops within the Lake Shelbyville area. This agency has published information concerning Lake Shelbyville and special events in their publications that are distributed to the public. The Corps of Engineers has partnered with this agency to represent Lake Shelbyville at Sport and Boating Shows.

p. Shelby County Historical Society. This agency has supported the Lithia Springs Chautauqua Living History Tours Special Event and improvements made to the Lithia Springs Chautauqua Area. Materials and information have been supplied by this agency to develop Visitor Center displays.

q. Shelbyville Chamber of Commerce. The Corps of Engineers is a member of this local agency and have worked together to coordinate and promote special events in the Lake Shelbyville area. This agency for several years has sponsored the annual 4th of July Fireworks Demonstration that is held within the Dam West Recreation Area.

r. Sullivan Chamber of Commerce. The Corps of Engineers is a member of this local agency and have worked together to promote special events in the Lake Shelbyville area.

s. Kaskaskia Archeological Society. This agency has assisted with several archeology surveys around the lake and assisted in monitoring archeology sites that are located on Government land the surrounds Lake Shelbyville. This agency has also assisted with presenting Lake Shelbyville special events and interpretive programs.

t. Boy Scout Troops. A local Order of the Arrow has adopted and performs annual inspections and maintenance on the Chief Illini Trail. Scout groups have assisted the Corps of Engineers over the years with projects such as trail maintenance and building and putting nesting boxes in place.

u. Girl Scout Troops. Several scout troops have volunteered over the years to assist with various projects around the lake.

v. 4-H Clubs. A club has been organized that assists primarily with projects at Lake Shelbyville, such as trail maintenance and building and installing nesting boxes. Several other clubs have volunteered over the years to assist with various projects around the lake.

w. Future Farmers of America (FFA). Local chapters have volunteered over the years to assist with trail maintenance and other projects around the lake. Chapters have been involved with presenting interpretive programs as part of a high school mentoring program.

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x. City and County Law Enforcement Agencies. The Corps of Engineers has additional Law Enforcement Agreements with the Moultrie County and Shelby County Sheriff Departments and the City of Shelbyville Police Department. These departments provide additional law enforcement coverage on Government property within their jurisdictions. These agreements have drastically helped reduce the amount of vandalism experienced at Corps of Engineers facilities around the lake. These agencies also assist the Corps of Engineers in providing traffic control during special events.

y. Sierra Club. This agency has provided comments to various Corps of Engineers projects on the Kaskaskia River including the Master Plan Updates and Environmental Assessments.

z. Whitetails Unlimited. This agency supports the annual deer hunt for people that are physically-challenged.

aa. Illinois Rifleman Association. For several years in conjunction with the National Rifleman Association this agency has supported the annual deer hunt for people that are physically-challenged.

bb. Twin Oaks Sporting Clays. For several years this agency has supported the Lake Shelbyville hunter safety education program.

cc. Tri-County Quails Unlimited. For several years this agency has supported the Lake Shelbyville hunter safety education program.

dd. Pheasants Forever. This agency has supported the Lake Shelbyville hunter safety education program. This agency provides a prairie grass drill that has been utilized by the Corps of Engineers to plant various plots around the lake.

ee. Heartland Resource and Conservation Development (RC&D). This agency has assisted in coordinating and presenting special events in the Lake Shelbyville area.

ff. Lincoln Heritage Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D). Through meetings the Corps of Engineers works with this agency for the betterment of the resource on the upper watershed of the lake.

gg. International Mountain Bicycling Association (IMBA). This agency is assisting in the promotion and coordination of the Lake Shelbyville General Dacey Trail Plan.

hh. Soyland Access to Independent Living (SAIL). This agency has assisted the Corps of Engineers to evaluate accessibility of the facilities at Lake Shelbyville.

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ii. Shelbyville High School National Honor Society. This organization has assisted in preparing and planting various flower beds around the lake.

jj. Wal-Mart. The local stores have made donations of items that have been utilized during special events at the lake.

kk. Crappie USA. This agency sponsors a Kids Fishing Tournament special event at Lake Shelbyville in cooperation with the Corps of Engineers.