

CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER
FORT WORTH DISTRICT
1127 TEXAS AND PACIFIC BUILDING
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

21 September 1951

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

Under authority granted by Congress in the Flood Control Act approved 24 July 1946, a master plan is being prepared for reservoir development and management at

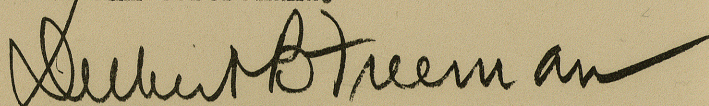
WHITNEY DAM AND RESERVOIR
BRAZOS RIVER NEAR WHITNEY, TEXAS

General features of the proposed plan for a reservoir development and management program for Whitney Reservoir have been formulated. Information relative to this proposed plan is shown in the attached pamphlet, entitled "Whitney Dam and Reservoir, Brazos River near Whitney, Texas, General Information, Proposed Reservoir Development and management Program," dated September 1951.

In order that interested persons may be informed concerning the proposed plan and may have an opportunity to express their views frankly, fully, and publicly, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, on 18 October 1951, in the Public School Gymnasium, Whitney, Texas, beginning at 10:00 a.m.

All interested persons are invited to be present or represented at the hearing. Persons interested in the development of the project from a State or regional viewpoint as well as those persons interested from a local viewpoint are urged to attend. Information is especially desired as to the extent that Federal, State, or local governmental agencies desire to participate in the development and financing of public park and recreational facilities and in the maintenance, management, and operation of these facilities as provided in Section 4 of the 1946 Flood Control Act, a copy of which is attached. Information is also desired as to the extent that State or local governmental agencies will furnish and maintain adequate access roads to areas proposed for recreational development on Government-owned lands.

Oral statements will be heard, but for accuracy of record, all important facts and arguments should be submitted in writing in SEXTUPLICATE, as the record of the hearing will be submitted to the Chief of Engineers with the aforementioned report. Written statements may be handed to the undersigned at the hearing or mailed to him beforehand.



DELBERT B. FREEMAN
Colonel, CE
District Engineer

- 2 Incls
1. Cy Sec 4, Flood
Control Act of
24 Jul 46
2. Information Pamphlet

(Public Law 526--79th Congress)
(Chapter 596--2d Session)
(H. P. 6597)

AN ACT

Authorizing the construction of certain public works on rivers and harbors for flood control, and for other purposes.

* * * * *

SEC. 4. That section 4 of the Act approved December 22, 1944 (Public, Numbered 534, Seventy-eight Congress), is amended to read as follows:

"The Chief of Engineers, under the supervision of the Secretary of War, is authorized to construct, maintain, and operate public park and recreational facilities in reservoir areas under the control of the War Department, and to permit the construction, maintenance, and operation of such facilities. The Secretary of War is authorized to grant leases of lands, including structures or facilities thereon, in reservoir areas for such periods and upon such terms as he may deem reasonable: Provided, That leases to nonprofit organizations may be granted at reduced or nominal rentals in recognition of the public service to be rendered in utilizing the leased premises: Provided further, That preference shall be given to Federal, State, or local governmental agencies, and licenses may be granted without monetary considerations, to such agencies for the use of all or any portion of a reservoir area, when the Secretary of War determines such action to be in the public interest, and for such periods of time and upon such conditions as he may find advisable. The water areas of all such reservoirs shall be open to public use generally, without charge, for boating, swimming, bathing, fishing, and other recreational purposes, and ready access to and exit from such water areas along the shores of such reservoirs shall be maintained for general public use, when such use is determined by the Secretary of War not to be contrary to the public interest, all under such rules and regulations as the Secretary of War may deem necessary. No use of any area to which this section applies shall be permitted which is inconsistent with the laws for the protection of fish and game of the State in which such area is situated. All moneys received for leases or privileges shall be deposited in the Treasury of the United States as miscellaneous receipts."

* * * * *

Approved July 24, 1946

WHITNEY DAM AND RESERVOIR
BRAZOS RIVER NEAR WHITNEY, TEXAS

GENERAL INFORMATION
PROPOSED RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
(To Accompany Notice of Public Hearing Dated 21 September 1951)

Fort Worth District
Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth, Texas
September 1951

GENERAL

Whitney Dam and Reservoir is located on the Brazos River. The dam is at river mile 142.4, about 5.5 miles southwest of Whitney in Hill and Bosque Counties, Texas. Texas State Highway No. 22 extending between Corsicana and Hamilton, Texas, crosses the dam and passes through Hillsboro, Whitney, and Meridian, Texas. This highway intersects or joins with several Federal and State Highways in the cities referred to above. The project is being constructed by the Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, and is substantially complete, except the powerhouse, which is under construction.

The Whitney Reservoir project was authorized under provisions of the Flood Control Acts approved 18 August 1941 (Public Law 228, 77th Congress, 1st Session) and 22 December 1944 (Public Law 534, 78th Congress, 2nd Session) for the control of floods, the development of hydroelectric power, and for other beneficial uses. The authorization also provides for the development of the reservoir area for recreational purposes and for conservation of Fish and Wildlife.

At the top of the contemplated power pool, Whitney Reservoir will have a total capacity of 387,000 acre-feet and an area of 15,800 acres with a shore line of approximately 190 miles.

The Congress recognized the public value of the recreational resources at Federal flood-control reservoirs and by the enactment of the Flood Control Act approved 22 December 1944, as amended by the Flood Control Act approved 24 July 1946, placed the responsibility for developing such reservoir areas for public recreation with the Corps of Engineers.

The Corps of Engineers is charged with the responsibility of administering and managing the resources of the reservoir area in the public interest, and it is authorized to construct or permit the construction of recreational facilities on land under its jurisdiction.

A plan for development of the Whitney Reservoir area is being prepared by the Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers. In the formulation of the plan, discussions were held with representatives of other interested governmental agencies. The plan results from experience gained by developing similar projects and from an understanding of the opportunities for recreation, education, and conservation of human resources of the area.

The general features of the plan are presented at this time. The PUBLIC HEARING is being held to determine if the plan meets the needs and desires of the public for land and water recreation, and to determine the extent that Federal, State, or local governmental agencies will participate in the development of the plan.

The actual development of the recreation areas outlined in this plan will depend upon the demand and need therefor, the availability of funds for construction of needed facilities, and the interest and cooperation of Federal, State, and local governmental agencies in establishing public park and recreational facilities on government-owned lands and constructing necessary connecting access roads on lands adjacent to the project boundary.

SELECTION OF AREAS TO BE DEVELOPED

The location of areas selected for development is shown on the attached map. These areas are considered to have the best potential recreational values. Selection was made after consideration of the advice and desires of the National Park Service, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U. S. Public Health Service, comparable State agencies, and other interested agencies and individuals.

AREAS PROPOSED FOR INITIAL DEVELOPMENT

Lofers Bend Park is located about one-half mile northeast of the dam. This principal public area offers outstanding aspects for the development of all types of day-use facilities including such specific improvements as boat launching ramp, swimming beach, parking and picnic areas, water supply and sanitation systems, and areas for overnight camping and house trailer parking to meet the needs of the vacationing public. A commercial concession will be offered to supply rental boats, picnicking accessories, and fishing equipment, as well as maintenance and storage services for nonresident boat owners. About 1,100 acres are available for this development.

Riverside Recreation Area is located below the dam on the east side of Brazos River. It offers day-use aspects for activities such as picnicking, swimming, and fishing. About 40 acres of land will be available.

Headquarters Area is located on the west bank of Brazos River on the downstream side of the dam. This area will contain the necessary buildings and facilities for administration and operation of the project by the Government.

Soldiers Bluff Observation Point is located on the edge of the bluff overlooking the west end of the dam. The master plan provides for parking areas and sanitary facilities for free public use. An observation shelter will be constructed when justified by a sufficient volume of public use. Within the shelter will be posted bulletins and maps describing the project. About 10 acres are available for this development.

Walling Bend Landing is located on the west shore of the lake about 2 miles northwest of the dam at the point where old State Highway 22 is severed by the power pool. At this location a 10-acre area is planned for boat launching and picnicking.

Powelldale Park is located on the west shore of the lake about 13 miles from the dam. It occupies part of a land formation known locally as "Powelldale Mountain." This area offers aspects for the construction of all types of day-use facilities. The plan proposes a 325-acre site to be developed with public boat launching ramp, picnic facilities, swimming beach, and facilities for overnight camping and house trailer parking on a limited vacation basis. Potable water supply and sanitary facilities are proposed. A commercial concession will be offered in this area to serve the needs of the public for rental boats, boat storage and repair, fishing supplies, and picnicking accessories.

Ham Creek Park is located on the north shore of the lake where it follows the north loop of Kimball Bend. The park occupies land on both sides of Ham Creek at its confluence with the lake, approximately 20 miles northwest of the dam. This area of 325 acres has possibilities for development with all types of day-use facilities. The plan proposes a public boat launching ramp, picnic facilities, swimming beach, and facilities for overnight camping and house trailer parking on a limited vacation basis. The plan proposes that potable water supply and sanitary facilities will be provided. Johnson County has made formal application to license this area for the purpose of developing it as a county park.

Cedar Creek Park is located on the east shore of the lake about 9 miles north of the dam. The area includes about 500 acres and has nearly a mile of frontage on the lake where it extends into the valley of Cedar Creek. This area has potentialities for the construction of all types of day-use facilities. The plan proposes picnic facilities, swimming beach, a public boat launching ramp, facilities for overnight camping and house trailer parking for limited vacation periods, potable water supply, and sanitary facilities. A commercial concession will be offered in this area to serve the needs of the public for rental boats, boat storage and repair, fishing supplies, and picnicking accessories. Texas State Parks Board has submitted formal application to license this area for the purpose of developing it as a State recreation area.

Juniper Cove is located on the east shore of the lake about 8 miles northeast of the dam. This area of 5 acres offers aspects for the construction of a boat harbor where a commercial concession may be established to serve the needs of the public for rental boats, boat storage and repair, fishing and picnicking supplies, etc.

AREAS PROPOSED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Towash Park is located about 4 miles northeast of the dam. The recreational aspects of this area justify it to be designated a principal public area. The proposed development includes parking and picnic areas, water supply and sanitation systems, swimming beach, boat launching ramp, game areas, and sites for overnight camping and house trailer parking to meet the needs of the vacationing public. A commercial concession will be offered to supply rental boats, picnic

accessories, and fishing equipment, as well as maintenance and storage services for nonresident boat owners. Approximately 400 acres are available for this development.

Little Rocky Harbor is located in the canyon of Little Rocky Creek about one mile west of the dam. A commercial concession will be offered on 5 acres of land in this area to serve the needs of the public for rental boats, boat storage and repair, fishing supplies, and picnicking accessories.

Ridgewood Organized Camp Area is located on the west shore of the lake about 10 miles northwest of the dam, near the confluence of Steeles Creek with the lake. This area will probably be available for lease to nonprofit organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, civic and church bodies, and other organized groups requiring a large area for the conduct of their outdoor recreation programs. Suggested improvements include access roads, a swimming beach, protected harbor for rowboats and small motorboats, picnic facilities, comfort stations, water supply and distribution system, and sleeping quarters. These facilities are not generally provided at Government expense if the area is leased by organized groups. Approximately 190 acres would be available for use as a camp site.

Plowman Creek Recreation Area is located about 15 miles northwest of the dam at a point near the confluence of Plowman Creek with the lake. The area is about three quarters of a mile southeast of Kopperl. The plan proposes facilities for general day use, such as boat launching ramp, picnic tables and fireplaces, swimming beach, water supply and sanitation systems, and game areas. Overnight camping and house trailer parking will be permitted on a limited vacation basis. A commercial concession will be offered to serve the needs of the public for boat storage and repair, boat rental, fishing accessories, and picnicking supplies. About 300 acres will be available for this development.

Kimball Recreation Area is located on the west shore of the lake about 19 miles northwest of the dam and includes about 75 acres. The area lies both to the north and to the south of State Highway (FM) No. 353 which crosses the lake at this point. This area is proposed for day-use activities such as parking, picnicking, and boat launching.

Old Fort Landing is located on the east shore of the lake about 10 miles north of the dam. About 5 acres will be available for development with facilities for boat launching and picnicking.

Crazy Bridge Landing is located 8 miles northeast of the dam on the south side of Cedar Creek Valley. This landing will be a convenient point of access to the lake from the town of Whitney. This 5-acre area is planned for boat launching and picnicking.

GENERAL POLICIES OF MANAGEMENT

Policies formulated by the District Engineer with regard to recreational, biological, and agricultural land management at Whitney Reservoir will be designed to make the lake and Government-controlled lands surrounding the lake available to the general public to the fullest extent compatible with an orderly and planned management.

A high standard of public health and sanitation will be maintained. Potable water for domestic use will be provided and comfort stations will be located at strategic locations within the approved public use areas. Garbage disposal will be provided.

Certain areas have been proposed for initial development. The development of other areas is proposed only in the event that the additional development represents an orderly and needed expansion. Lands suitable for agricultural or grazing purposes, which are not included for recreational or related development, will be leased for those purposes. The use of such lands for agricultural or grazing purposes will be in accordance with a sound land-use program in which the services and cooperation of the Soil Conservation Service will be utilized to the fullest extent possible.

The lake shore will be retained in its present natural state insofar as is consistent with making ample facilities available to the public. While owners of lands adjacent to the reservoir area may expect access to the lake, this ownership does not convey any preferential rights to the use of Government-owned land nor do such owners have the prior right for lease thereof for access or recreational purposes. Access to the lake will be provided entirely in the light of desirable public use.

Commercial enterprises, operated by concessionaires on Government-owned land, will be allowed to the extent necessary to meet the reasonable needs of the public, and will be conducted only under terms of leases or licenses granted for that purpose. Such leases or licenses will be granted in a fair and impartial manner and for a period of sufficient length to encourage adequate development.

The Corps of Engineers, in regulating facilities provided on the lake or surrounding Government-owned lands, has the purpose of insuring that adequate and suitable facilities will be provided to meet reasonable demands. It is proposed therefore to require that plans for all structures built on leased sites in the reservoir area be subject to the approval of the District Engineer. Also, the schedule of prices for services and facilities offered to the public by concessionaires will be subject to this approval. Every effort will be made to insure that the proper types of developments will be provided at a reasonable cost.

Boats of all classes will be operated in areas considered safe for boating under rules and regulations considered necessary to obviate

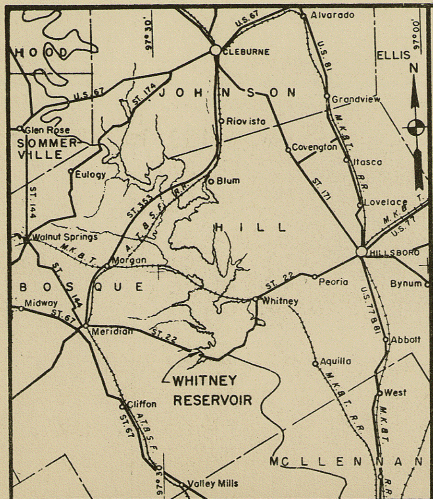
unsafe boating practices. Permits, issued free of charge, will be required for each boat placed on the lake, except those placed on the lake for a period of less than three days at any one time. Permits will be issued by the Project Engineer, Administration Building, at the dam site. These permits are not intended to restrict the use of the lake, but are intended to encourage use of the lake in an orderly and safe manner.

Hunting and fishing at the reservoir will be in accordance with applicable State and Federal laws and regulations. The enforcement of these regulations will be the responsibility of State Game Wardens and the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. In the interest of public safety and the proper operation and maintenance of the project, hunting will be permitted in certain specified areas only and will be with shotgun only. Fishing will be permitted in the reservoir, along the shoreline areas under the control of the Corps of Engineers, and in the river channel downstream from the outlet works but not from or in the immediate vicinity of the dam and appurtenant works.

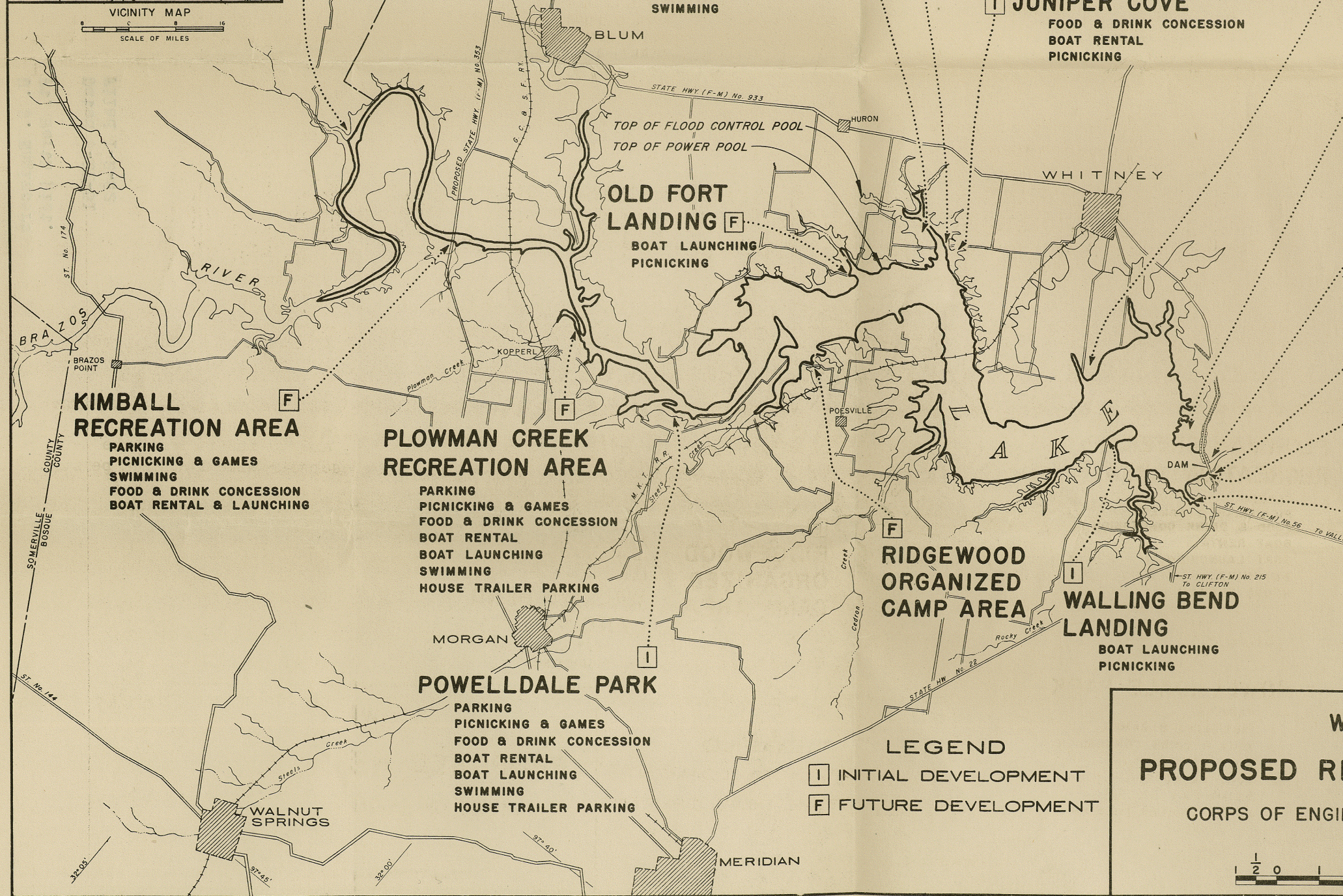
Subject to availability of funds, roads on Government-owned lands will be constructed or improved to the extent required to serve development areas and accommodate visitors at the project and trails will be provided in areas where constant public use indicates their desirability.

Enforcement of civil and criminal laws in the project area will remain the responsibility of duly constituted officers of Federal, State, and local governmental agencies. The Corps of Engineers, through the Project Engineer and his assistants, will cooperate fully with all law enforcement officers including State Officers responsible for enforcement of laws pertaining to game and fish, forestry conservation, public health and sanitation, and prevention of pollution.

By planned and controlled recreational development, as outlined herein, it is hoped to provide an atmosphere of restful relaxation induced by surroundings of natural beauty, and to insure that the recreational resources of the Whitney Reservoir will remain a permanent attraction.



VICINITY MAP
SCALE OF MILES



HAM CREEK PARK
I DAY USE AREA
PARKING AREAS
PICNICKING & GAMES
FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
BOAT RENTAL
SWIMMING

CRAZY BRIDGE LANDING
F BOAT LAUNCHING
PICNICKING

CEDAR CREEK PARK
I DAY USE AREA
PARKING AREAS
PICNICKING & GAMES
FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
BOAT RENTAL
SWIMMING

JUNIPER COVE
I FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT RENTAL
PICNICKING

TOWASH PARK
F DAY USE AREA
PARKING AREAS
PICNICKING & GAMES
FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
BOAT RENTAL
SWIMMING

LOFERS BEND PARK
I DAY USE AREA
PARKING AREAS
PICNICKING & GAMES
FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
BOAT RENTAL
SWIMMING
HOUSE TRAILER PARKING
OVERNIGHT CAMPING

RIVERSIDE RECREATION AREA
I DAY USE
PICNICKING
SWIMMING

HEADQUARTERS AREA
GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT
MAINTENANCE FACILITIES

SOLDIERS BLUFF OBSERVATION POINT
I PARKING
OVERLOOK SHELTER

LITTLE ROCKY HARBOR
F FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT RENTAL
PICNICKING

KIMBALL RECREATION AREA
F PARKING
PICNICKING & GAMES
SWIMMING
FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT RENTAL & LAUNCHING

PLOWMAN CREEK RECREATION AREA
F PARKING
PICNICKING & GAMES
FOOD & DRINK CONCESSION
BOAT RENTAL
BOAT LAUNCHING
SWIMMING
HOUSE TRAILER PARKING

RIDGEWOOD ORGANIZED CAMP AREA
F

WALLING BEND LANDING
I BOAT LAUNCHING
PICNICKING

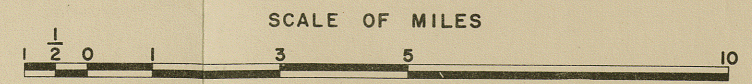
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LEGEND
I INITIAL DEVELOPMENT
F FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

**WHITNEY RESERVOIR
PROPOSED RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT WORTH DISTRICT



Notice of Public Hearing
Whitney Reservoir and proposed recreational
development, Hill and Bosque Cos.

U. S. Engineers
Ft. Worth Dist.

Dated 9-21-51
Filed 1-2-52

73848

