

CORPS OF ENGINEERS, U. S. ARMY
OFFICE OF THE DISTRICT ENGINEER
FORT WORTH DISTRICT
100 WEST VICKERY BOULEVARD
FORT WORTH, TEXAS

29 December 1952

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

BELTON DAM AND RESERVOIR
LEON RIVER, IN BELL AND CORYELL COUNTIES, TEXAS

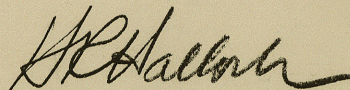
General features of the proposed plan for a reservoir development and management program for Belton Reservoir have been formulated. Information relating to this proposed plan is shown in the attached pamphlet, entitled "Belton Dam and Reservoir, Leon River, in Bell and Coryell Counties, Texas, General Information, Proposed Reservoir Development and Management Program," dated December 1952.

In order that interested persons may be informed concerning the proposed plan and may have an opportunity to express their views thereon frankly, fully, and publicly, a PUBLIC HEARING will be held by the District Engineer, Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District, on 28 January 1953 in the American Legion Memorial Building, Belton, Texas, beginning at 9 a. m.

All interested persons are invited to be present or represented at the hearing. Information is especially desired as to the extent that Federal, State, or local governmental agencies will 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.

The purpose of the public hearing is to discuss the proposed plan for development of the recreational potentialities of the Belton Reservoir for the general public, including such items of general public use as parking and picnicking areas, drinking water and sanitary facilities, observation and swimming areas, and access roads on Government property.

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.



H. R. HALLOCK
Colonel, CE
District Engineer

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

73897

(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-eighth 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

BELTON RESERVOIR
LEON RIVER IN BELL AND CORYELL COUNTIES, TEXAS

GENERAL INFORMATION
PROPOSED RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
(To Accompany Notice of Public Hearing Dated 29 December 1952)

Fort Worth District
Corps of Engineers
Fort Worth, Texas
December 1952

GENERAL

Belton Dam and Reservoir is located on the Leon River in Bell and Coryell Counties, Texas. The dam is at river mile 16.7 on the Leon River, about 3 miles north of Belton and about 7.7 miles west of Temple. State Highway No. 317 extending north from Belton passes within about one mile of the dam. State Highway No. 36 extending northwest from Temple crosses the Leon River about 23 river miles above the dam. Several existing county roads provide access to the reservoir area.

The Belton Reservoir project was authorized under provisions of the Flood Control Act approved 24 July 1946 (Public Law 526, 79th Congress, 2nd Session) for flood control and water conservation. In addition to the Act authorizing the project for its primary purposes, the Flood Control Act approved 22 December 1944, as amended by the Flood Control Act approved 24 July 1946, authorized the Chief of Engineers to construct, maintain, and operate public parks and recreational facilities in reservoir areas under the jurisdiction of the Department of the Army and to permit the construction, maintenance, and operation of such facilities.

At the top of the contemplated conservation pool, Belton Reservoir will have a total capacity of 210,600 acre-feet, an area of 7,400 acres, and a shore line of approximately 110 miles.

The plan which will be presented at the hearing is based on studies made by representatives of the Fort Worth District, Corps of Engineers, in collaboration with various non-governmental agencies and persons, and various interested Federal, State, and local governmental organizations.

This proposed plan envisions the orderly development of Government-owned lands around the rim of the reservoir for the benefit of the general public. None of these lands have been acquired solely for recreational use but are needed for the construction, operation, and maintenance of the project for its authorized purposes.

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 the needed facilities, and the interest and cooperation of Federal, State, and local governmental agencies in establishing public parks 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 as described below is shown on the attached map. These areas are considered to have the best potential recreational values. The advice and desires of the U. S. National Park Service, the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service, the U. S. Public Health Service, comparable State agencies, and numerous other interested agencies and individuals were sought in selecting these sites and determining appropriate developments for the areas selected.

AREAS PROPOSED FOR INITIAL DEVELOPMENT

Belleview Observation Point would be located on the upstream side of the right abutment of the dam. The plan proposes the improvement of an existing road and parking areas, as well as the construction of additional parking space. Also included in the proposed plan are water supply and sanitary facilities for free public use. An observation shelter building is proposed for construction when justified by sufficient public use. Within the shelter would be posted bulletins and maps describing the project. About 4 acres are available for this development.

Headquarters Area would be located adjacent to the upstream side of the dam near its south end. This area will contain the necessary buildings and facilities for operation of the project by the Government, including a Government boat dock.

Round Rock Park, an area of about 230 acres, would be located on the south side of the lake and extends west of the south end of the dam. Because of its varied recreational possibilities and the fact that this area is near the dam, Round Rock Park is being considered as a principal public area. The plan proposes facilities for day-use activities such as picnicking and games, boat launching, and swimming. A commercial concession is also proposed for this area to serve the needs of the public for rental boats, boat storage, fishing accessories, and picnicking supplies.

Miller Spring Park would be located downstream from the dam on both sides of the Leon River. Although this area of about 250 acres contains the outlet channel and uncontrolled spillway, a large part of the land is suitable for public use activities. The plan proposes facilities for day-use parking, picnicking, games, stream bank fishing, house trailer parking, and overnight camping.

Live Oak Ridge would be located on the north side of the lake about 3/4 mile northwest of the dam. This area has potentialities for general day-use development including such facilities as picnic and game areas, a boat launching ramp, and swimming beach. If indicated by public demand as needed, a concession would be included in the development to furnish rental boats and motors, fishing accessories, and picnic supplies to the general public. About 120 acres are available for this development.

Tennessee Valley Park would be located about 2 miles northwest of the dam. This area, containing about 260 acres, is being considered as a principal public area because of its size and possibilities for a wide variety of recreational use. The plan proposes facilities for day-use activities such as picnicking and games, boat launching, and swimming. A commercial concession is also proposed for this area to serve the needs of the public for rental boats, boat storage, fishing accessories, and picnicking supplies. The plan also proposes facilities for overnight camping and house trailer parking.

Mountview Cabin Area would be located on the north side of the lake about 5 miles northwest of the dam. Approximately 220 acres are available for development with vacation cabins for rental to the general public.

Leona Park would be located on the northeast side of the lake about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of the dam. This area of about 400 acres has varied recreational possibilities and is being considered as a principal public area. The accessibility from State Highway 36, the large extent of land, and long shore line frontage are valuable assets that should influence favorably the future use and popularity of Leona Park. The plan proposes facilities for day-use activities such as picnicking and games, boat launching, and swimming. A commercial concession is also proposed for this area to serve the needs of the general public for rental boats, boat storage, picnicking supplies, and fishing accessories. It would also be possible to include facilities for overnight camping and house trailer parking.

AREAS PROPOSED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Westcliff Recreation Area would be located on the west side of the lake about $2\frac{1}{2}$ miles west of the dam. This area of about 130 acres has potentialities for day-use development including such facilities as picnic areas and a boat launching ramp. If indicated by public demand as needed, a concession would be included in the development to furnish rental boats and motors, fishing accessories, and picnic supplies.

Arrowhead Point would be located on the north side of the lake about $1\frac{1}{4}$ miles northwest of the dam. Approximately 110 acres are available for general day-use development. Proposed facilities include picnic and game areas, a boat launching ramp, and swimming beach.

Lands End Organized Camp Area would be located on the east side of the lake about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles northwest of the dam. This area is proposed for lease to non-profit organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, civic and church groups, and organizations desiring to conduct outdoor recreation programs. Proposed improvements include a swimming beach, facilities for storing and launching rowboats and

small motor boats, picnic facilities, and simple shelters. About 120 acres will be available for this development.

Cedar Ridge would be located on the east side of the lake about 4 miles north of the dam. This area of about 350 acres has potentialities for general day-use development including facilities for picnicking and games, boat launching, and swimming. A commercial concession is also proposed to serve the needs of the general public for rental boats and motors, fuel, fishing accessories, and picnicking supplies.

Woodmount Cabin Area would be located on the east side of the lake about $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles northwest of the dam. This area of 100 acres has possibilities for development with a limited number of private vacation cabins.

White Flint Recreation Area would be located on the northwest side of the lake about $7\frac{1}{2}$ miles north of the dam. This area has potentialities for day-use development with facilities for picnicking and boat launching. About 310 acres are available for this development.

GENERAL POLICIES OF MANAGEMENT

Policies formulated by the District Engineer with regard to recreational, biological, and agricultural land management at Belton 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, Headquarters Area. 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 shore line 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.

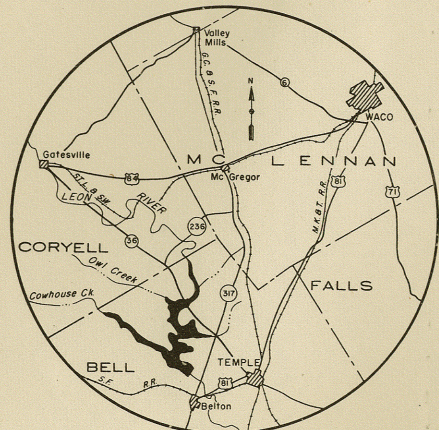
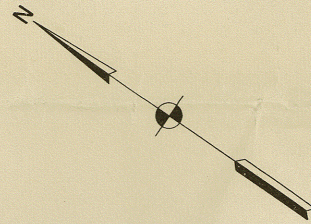
Enforcement of civil and criminal laws in the project area will remain the responsibility of duly constituted officers of Federal, State, and local governmental agencies. The Corps of Engineers, through the Project Engineer and his assistants, will cooperate fully with all law enforcement officers including 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 Belton Reservoir will remain a permanent attraction.

MOTHER NEFF STATE PARK
EXISTING FACILITIES AVAILABLE

- PICNIC AREAS
- CAMPING AREAS
- RENTAL CABINS
- CONCESSION
- MUSEUM
- SHELTER FOR ASSEMBLIES



VICINITY MAP
SCALE IN MILES

WHITE FLINT RECREATION AREA

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING

Proposed Eastern Boundary
of Fort Hood Military Reservation

TOP OF CONSERVATION POOL

EXISTING
FORT HOOD
RESERVATION

LEGEND

- I INITIAL DEVELOPMENT
- F FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
- E EXISTING PARK FACILITIES
- EXISTING ROADS

CORYELL COUNTY
BELL COUNTY

I LEONA PARK

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- CONCESSION
- BOAT RENTAL
- SWIMMING
- HOUSE TRAILER PARKING
- OVERNIGHT CAMPING

F CEDAR RIDGE

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- CONCESSION
- BOAT RENTAL
- SWIMMING

I TENNESSEE VALLEY PARK

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- CONCESSION
- BOAT RENTAL
- SWIMMING
- HOUSE TRAILER PARKING
- OVERNIGHT CAMPING

F WOODMONT CABIN AREA

I MOUNTVIEW CABIN AREA

F LANDS END ORGANIZED CAMP AREA

F ARROWHEAD POINT

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- SWIMMING

I LIVE OAK RIDGE

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- CONCESSION
- BOAT RENTAL
- SWIMMING

I BELLEVIEW OBSERVATION POINT

- PARKING AREAS
- OBSERVATION SHELTER

I MILLER SPRING PARK

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- STREAM BANK FISHING
- HOUSE TRAILER PARKING
- OVERNIGHT CAMPING
- CONCESSION

F WESTCLIFF RECREATION AREA

- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- CONCESSION
- BOAT RENTAL

I ROUND ROCK PARK

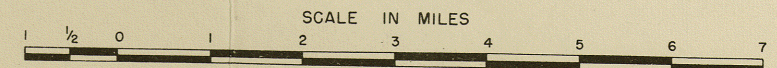
- DAY USE AREA
- PARKING AREAS
- PICNICKING & GAMES
- BOAT LAUNCHING
- CONCESSION
- BOAT RENTAL
- SWIMMING

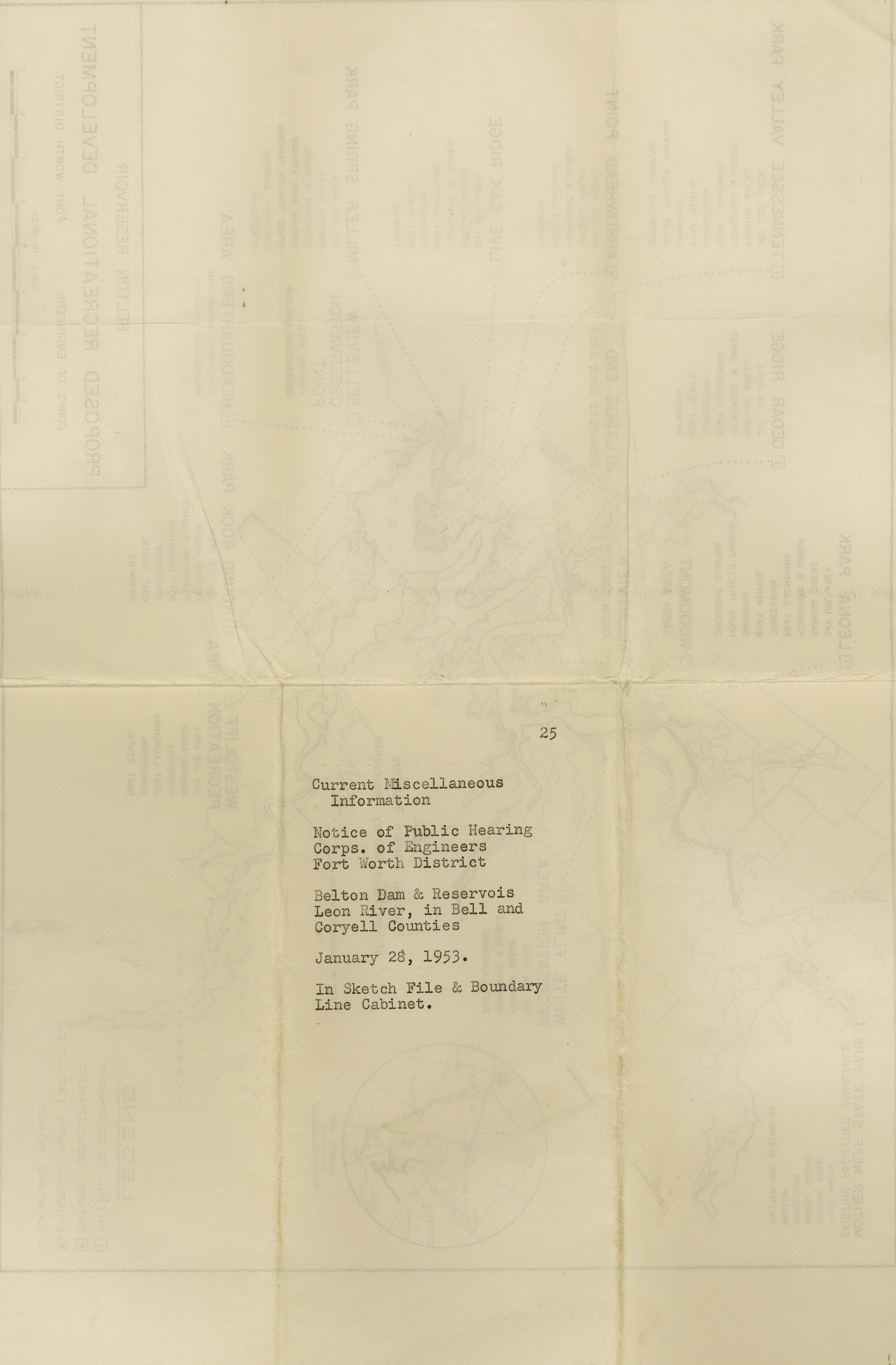
I HEADQUARTERS AREA

- GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT
- MAINTENANCE FACILITIES

**BELTON RESERVOIR
PROPOSED RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT WORTH DISTRICT





CORPS OF ENGINEERS
 FORT WORTH DISTRICT
PROPOSED RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
 BELTON RESERVOIR

Current Miscellaneous Information

Notice of Public Hearing
 Corps. of Engineers
 Fort Worth District

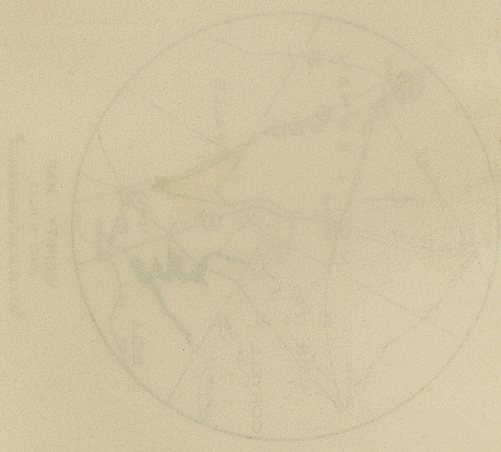
Belton Dam & Reservoirs
 Leon River, in Bell and
 Coryell Counties

January 28, 1953.

In Sketch File & Boundary
 Line Cabinet.

LEGEND

- EXISTING ROADS
- ⊙ EXISTING PARK BOUNDARIES
- NATURAL DEVELOPMENT
- ▣ INITIAL DEVELOPMENT



SHEDDER FOR RESENGER
 MOTHER
 COMMISSION
 BELT STATE
 STRONG TRUSS
 STATE AREA

EXISTING BOUNDARIES
 MOTHER WELL STATE PARK