

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

20 October 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

BENBROOK DAM AND RESERVOIR
CLEAR FORK OF TRINITY RIVER NEAR FORT WORTH, TEXAS

General features of the proposed plan for a reservoir development and management program for Benbrook Reservoir have been formulated. Information relating to this proposed plan is shown in the attached pamphlet, entitled, "Benbrook Dam and Reservoir, Clear Fork of Trinity River near Fort Worth, Texas, General Information, Proposed Reservoir Development and Management Program," dated October 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 20 November 1952, in the Benbrook Public School Gymnasium, Benbrook, Texas, beginning at 9:00 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 aspects of the Benbrook 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

(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

BENBROOK DAM AND RESERVOIR
CLEAR FORK OF TRINITY RIVER, NEAR FORT WORTH, TEXAS

GENERAL INFORMATION
PROPOSED RESERVOIR DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT PROGRAM
(To Accompany Notice of Public Hearing Dated 20 October 1952)

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

GENERAL

Benbrook Dam and Reservoir is located on Clear Fork of the Trinity River in Tarrant County, Texas. The dam is about 15 river miles above the confluence of Clear Fork with West Fork of the Trinity River. It is about 2 miles south of the village of Benbrook, and about 10 miles southwest of the courthouse in the city of Fort Worth. U. S. Highway No. 377 extending west-southwest from Fort Worth passes through the village of Benbrook and within one-half mile of the west end of the dam. The east end of the dam can be reached by proceeding south from Fort Worth on old Granbury Road, thence west on Dirks Road. A county road connecting U. S. Highway No. 377 and Dirks Road passes below the dam. A county road connecting U. S. Highway No. 377 and old Granbury Road crosses the upper reaches of the reservoir area.

The Benbrook Reservoir project was authorized under provisions of the River and Harbor Act approved 2 March 1945 (Public Law 14, 79th Congress, 1st Session) for navigation, flood control, and allied purposes. In addition to the acts 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 conservation pool, Benbrook Reservoir will have a total capacity of 88,250 acre-feet, an area of 3770 acres, and a shore line of approximately 40 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 marginal lands surrounding 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 entire 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 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 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.

AREAS PROPOSED FOR INITIAL DEVELOPMENT

Hillcrest 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 area, 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 a 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 east end. This area will contain the necessary buildings and facilities for operation of the project by the Government, including a Government boat dock.

Longhorn Park, an area of about 332 acres, would be located on the east side of the lake and extends southeast of the east end of the dam. Because of its varied recreational possibilities and the fact that this area is near the dam, Longhorn 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 and repair, fishing accessories, and picnicking supplies.

Mustang Park would be located on the south shore of the lake about $3\frac{1}{2}$ miles southwest of the dam, between the Bear Creek and Mustang Creek arms of the lake. It is proposed to develop this area for both general public use and organized camping for non-profit organizations such as the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, civic and church groups, and other organizations. The extensive shore line offers possibilities for swimming beaches, boat launching ramps, a protected boat harbor, and other waterfront activities. There is a satisfactory site for a commercial concession to supply the needs of the public for rental boats, motors, picnic supplies, etc. Proposed improvements include swimming beaches, facilities for launching and storing rowboats and small motorboats, picnic facilities, and simple shelters that may be either portable or constructed to withstand infrequent inundation. About 740 acres will be available.

Dellwood Park comprising 280 acres would be located on the west shore of the lake about ¼ miles southwest of the dam, at the confluence of the Bear Creek and Clear Fork arms of the lake. This area is proposed for lease to non-profit organizations such as boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, civic and church groups, and organizations requiring a large area for the conduct of their outdoor recreation programs. Proposed improvements include facilities for launching and storing rowboats and small motorboats, picnic facilities, and simple shelters.

Dutch Branch Park would be located on the west side of the lake and extend west and south of the west end of the dam. The area is bounded on the north by U. S. Highway No. 377. 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 and repair, fishing accessories, and picnicking supplies. About 360 acres are available for this development.

Woodlawn Park would be located downstream from the dam on both sides of the Clear Fork. Although this area of 564 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.

AREAS PROPOSED FOR FUTURE DEVELOPMENT

Rocky Creek Point would be located on the east shore of the lake about ½ miles south of the east end 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 out door recreation programs. Proposed improvements include a swimming beach, facilities for launching and storing rowboats and small motor boats, picnic facilities, and simple shelters. About 210 acres will be available for this development.

Holiday Park would be located on the west shore of the lake about one mile southwest of the dam. This area of about 490 acres has potentialities for a 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.

GENERAL POLICIES OF MANAGEMENT

Policies formulated by the District Engineer with regard to recreational, biological, and agricultural land management at Benbrook 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 of the U. S. Department of Agriculture 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

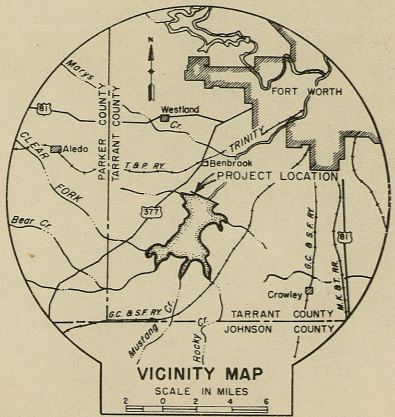
for a period of less than three days at any one time. Permits will be issued by the Project Engineer, Administration Building, at the dam site. These permits are not intended to restrict the use of the lake, but are intended to encourage use of the lake in an orderly and safe manner.

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 Benbrook Reservoir will remain a permanent attraction.



I DUTCH BRANCH PARK

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

WOODLAWN PARK I

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

**HILLCREST I
OBSERVATION POINT**

- PARKING AREAS
- OBSERVATION SHELTER

F HOLIDAY PARK

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

HEADQUARTERS AREA I

- GOVERNMENT MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE FACILITIES

LONGHORN PARK I

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

**I DELLWOOD PARK
ORGANIZED CAMP AREA**

**ROCKY CREEK POINT F
ORGANIZED CAMP AREA**

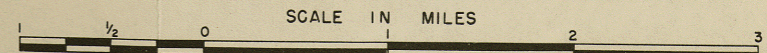
I MUSTANG PARK

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

LEGEND

- I** INITIAL DEVELOPMENT
- F** FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
- EXISTING ROADS
- ▬ PROPOSED ROAD RELOCATIONS
- ROADS THAT WILL BE INUNDATED BY CONSERVATION POOL

**BENBROOK RESERVOIR
PROPOSED RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**
CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT WORTH DISTRICT



SCALE IN MILES
0 1 2 3

CORPS OF ENGINEERS FORT WORTH DISTRICT

PROPOSED RECREATIONAL DEVELOPMENT
BENBROOK RESERVOIR

BY CONGRESSIONAL BOAT
BOARDS THAT WILL BE IMPROVED
BY PROPOSED BOAT RECONSTRUCTION
EXISTING BOARDS

□ FUTURE DEVELOPMENT
□ INITIAL DEVELOPMENT

LEGEND

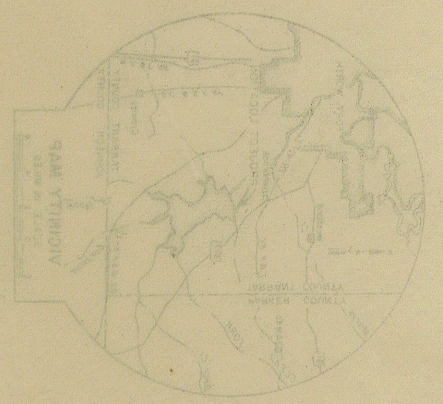
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Notice of Public Hearing
Corps of Engineers
Ft. Worth, Texas

Benbrook Dam & Reservoir
Clear Fork of Trinity River
Near Ft. Worth

October 20, 1952

In sketch file &
boundary line cabinet



OVERNIGHT CAMPING
HOUSE TRAILER PARKING
SWIMMING
BOAT RENTAL
CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
FISHING & BIRDS
DAY USE AREA
ORGANIZED CAMP AREA

□ KPAQ SWATSUMI

ORGANIZED CAMP AREA
□ ROCKY CREEK POINT

SWIMMING
BOAT RENTAL
CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
FISHING & BIRDS
DAY USE AREA
□ ГОИШОИ БАРК

MANAGEMENT FACILITIES
COLLECTOR MANAGEMENT
□ AREA HEADQUARTERS

RECREATION SHELTER
BASKING BEACH
□ TRUSSLETT OBSERVATION POINT
□ HIGGCREST

CONCESSION
OVERNIGHT CAMPING
HOUSE TRAILER PARKING
SHELTER BASKING LIGHTS
SHELTER BASKING LIGHTS
FISHING & BIRDS
DAY USE AREA
□ MOODGAMI BARK

SWIMMING
BOAT RENTAL
CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
FISHING & BIRDS
DAY USE AREA
□ HOIYADI BARK

SWIMMING
BOAT RENTAL
CONCESSION
BOAT LAUNCHING
FISHING & BIRDS
DAY USE AREA
□ DULCH BROADVA BARK

□ KPAQ HONIAVA BARK