



**US Army Corps
Of Engineers**
Wilmington District

News Release

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Please visit our District website at <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil>

W. KERR SCOTT RESERVOIR SHORELINE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE

Wilkesboro, NC – The Corps of Engineers announces that it intends to update the W. Kerr Scott Reservoir Shoreline Management Plan as last approved in February 1997. This plan provides guidance and information to the public specific to the effective management of the shoreline at W. Kerr Scott Reservoir. The plan also describes the types of private use that are permitted and the fees charged for such things as boat docks, walkways, and erosion control structures. Shoreline allocations, rules, regulations and other information relative to use of the shoreline are discussed in detail.

The update will require an Environmental Review taking anywhere from 90 days to 18 months. This review will be immediately followed by public listening sessions as announced and will likely be held at the Visitor Assistance Center located at the reservoir. Listening sessions will give the public the opportunity to review the draft plan and any changes being proposed. At these sessions the public will have the opportunity to sit down with a ranger to get clarification on proposed changes and provide written or oral comments.

The draft plan once completed will be posted on the official W. Kerr Scott Reservoir webpage at: <http://www.saw.usace.army.mil/wkscott/index.htm>, and hard copies will be available at the Visitors Assistance Center located off Reservoir Road near the dam. The current projected timeline for completion of the updated plan is December 2008.

Effective December 7, 2007, the Commander of the Wilmington District U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Colonel John Pulliam Jr. has placed a moratorium on the issuance of certain new shoreline use permits. A moratorium is commonly applied in the Shoreline Management Plan review and update process. Specifically, the moratorium will involve the following areas of proposed change:

- a. **Legal Access:** Temporarily suspend the issuance of any new shoreline permit where “Legal Access Agreements/Statements” are used as a means of gaining legal access to public lands for the purpose of obtaining a shoreline use permit. Current permit holders who use Legal Access Agreements to access public lands will be grandfathered under the 1997 Shoreline Plan as long as a boat dock has been constructed and correctly placed on reservoir waters. Similarly, those permit holders who have not constructed their docks will be notified in writing of a 6-month dock construction grace period or the permit will be terminated.
- b. **Electricity Within Flood Pool:** Temporarily suspend the issuance of any new shoreline permit proposing the use of electrical lines (above or below ground) within the reservoir’s flood pool (1080 above mean sea level), including electrical line use on boat lifts. Those permit holders with existing approved and certified electric lines will be grandfathered under the 1997 Plan. The use of solar powered boat lifts is highly recommended and will be allowed through the moratorium period.

This moratorium does not affect any existing permits and subsequent renewal under the 1997 Shoreline Plan. The reservoir staff will maintain a waiting list for anyone affected by the moratorium and contact will be made after the update is complete. Any questions relating to this process may be directed to the W. Kerr Project Office at 336-921-3390.