



Project: Update the Master Plan for Philpott Lake

Virtual Public
Information Meeting #2
September 28, 2021



Community Engagement: How to Participate in our Virtual Meeting

- Please keep yourself on “**MUTE**” to ensure an uninterrupted meeting
- Please maintain professionalism and be courteous to others
- **Comments and Questions** (always open)
 - Use the “**CHAT**” feature throughout the presentation to ask questions
 - The presenters will monitor the chat and provide answers to questions during various open discussion times
- **Audio Participation** (during Q&A sessions)
 - Use the “**RAISE YOUR HAND**” feature if you’d like to verbally ask a question to the presenter
- **Email:** PHILPOTT@usace.army.mil with further questions



Purpose of the Meeting

- Explain why the Philpott Lake Master Plan needs updating and proposed changes to the Plan.
- Invite **stakeholders** to provide their input.
- Discuss USACE's Environmental Assessment, it's findings and recommendations



USACE Project Team

- Tamara Murphy, PE – Civil Engineer, AE Coordinator Lead, USACE
- Jeremy Overstreet – Biologist, USACE
- Eric Schreckengost – Natural Resources Specialist, USACE
- Carmen Boyette – Natural Resources Specialist, USACE
- Michael Hosey – Conservation Specialist, USACE
- Chris Powell – Operations Project Manager, Philpott Lake
- Crystal Triplett – Assistant Manager, Philpott Lake
- Jed Cayton – Public Affairs Specialist, Philpott Lake
- Megan Hoover – Architect, USACE
- Jenny Owens – Chief, Environmental Resources Section, USACE
- Shantel Middleton – Assistant District Counsel, Office of Counsel, USACE
- David Connolly – Director of Public Affairs, US Army Special Operations Command, USACE





Philpott Lake Mission

“To provide flood control for downstream communities while; producing clean hydroelectric power, offering safe and memorable outdoor recreation experiences, managing environmental resources, meeting downstream water flow requirements, and enhancing public awareness through educational outreach opportunities.”

Overview

The Corps defines a Master Plan as...

“ The strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all project recreational, natural and cultural resources throughout the life of the water resource development project.”

Source: Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-550



Overview (Continued)

The Master Plan Update Does Not Include:



Operational Management



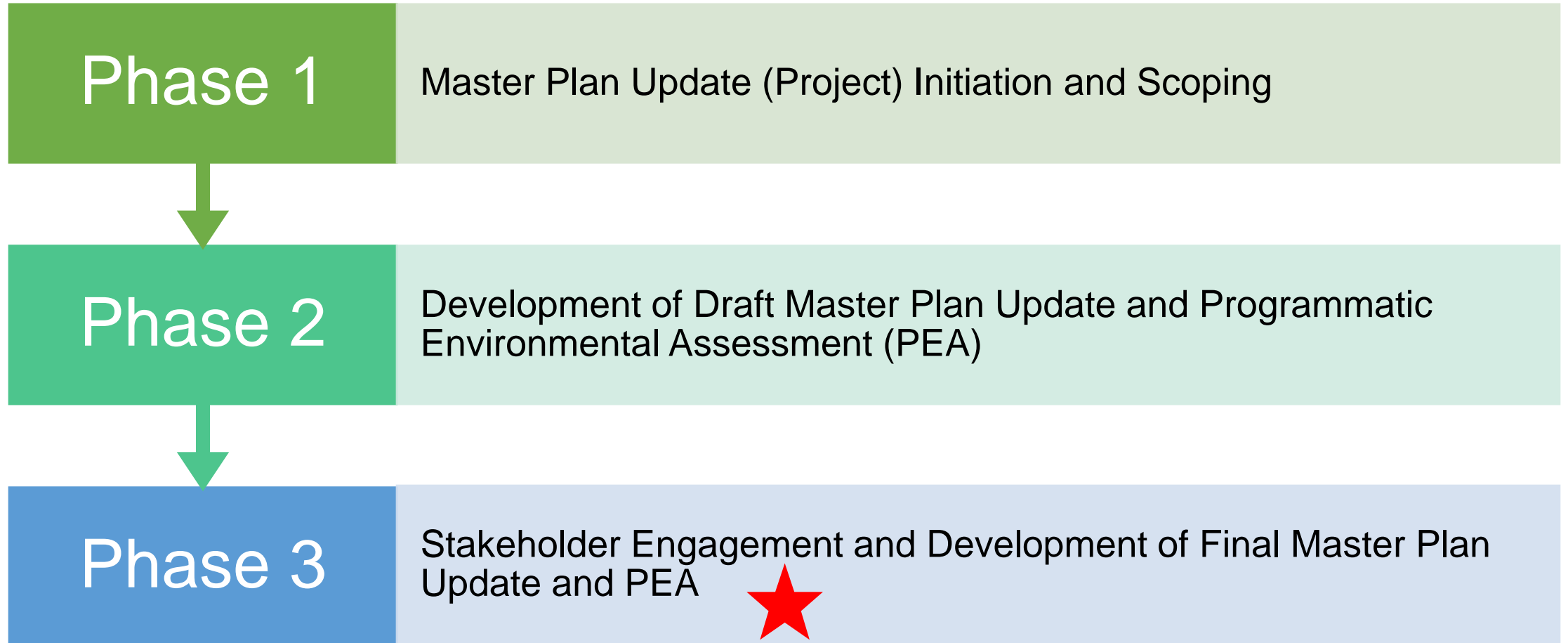
Shoreline Use Permitting



Water Control Plan



The Master Plan Update Process



Where we are today

Availability of Documentation

- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE), Wilmington District, in North Carolina has prepared the Master Plan Update and Programmatic Environmental Assessment for Philpott Lake, Roanoke River Basin, Virginia, dated September 2021.
- An electronic version of this Master Plan and Environmental Assessment is available on the USACE, Wilmington District website at:

<https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/Philpott/Philpott-Lake-Master-Plan-Update/>



Primary Goals of the Master Plan Update

The Master Plan Update is intended to:

- Reflect current ecological, socioeconomic, and outdoor recreational trends as well as those that are anticipated to occur within a long-term planning period, and
- Facilitate better consistency with current USACE policies and laws.





Master Plan Update Resources Use Objectives

- Maintain the congressionally authorized purpose of the project
- Improve recreational opportunities and facilities
- To provide watercraft accessibility while also enhancing waterfront access
- To enhance forest and wildlife management practices
- To preserve, protect, and interpret archaeological and historic resources



A scenic view of a river flowing through a forested valley. The trees are in various stages of autumn, with some showing vibrant yellow and orange leaves, while others are still green. The river is calm, reflecting the surrounding landscape. The sky is clear and blue.

Master Plan Update – Key Points

The proposed updates to the Master Plan represent:

- The re-classification of USACE lands to meet newer USACE land management directives and management policies, and
- A land management shift away from a construction-based activity to an approach that is supportive of low-density recreation and wildlife habitat protection.



Environmental Assessment Key Points

Alternatives considered include the:

- No-Action Alternative, in which the USACE would not adopt the proposed Master Plan. This alternative would not fulfill the need for the project.
 - Preferred Alternative, in which the USACE would adopt the proposed Master Plan for Philpott Lake with consideration of a variety of alternative options based on varying land classifications, resource objectives, and park site development needs identified during the project scoping process.
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Environmental Assessment Key Points (continued)

The PEA further analyzes the potential impact that implementing the Master Plan Update would have on the human environment.

- Physical Environment
- Natural Resources
- Socioeconomic Characteristics
- Policy / Executive Orders

Environmental Assessment Key Points (continued)

Preliminary Finding of the environmental review...

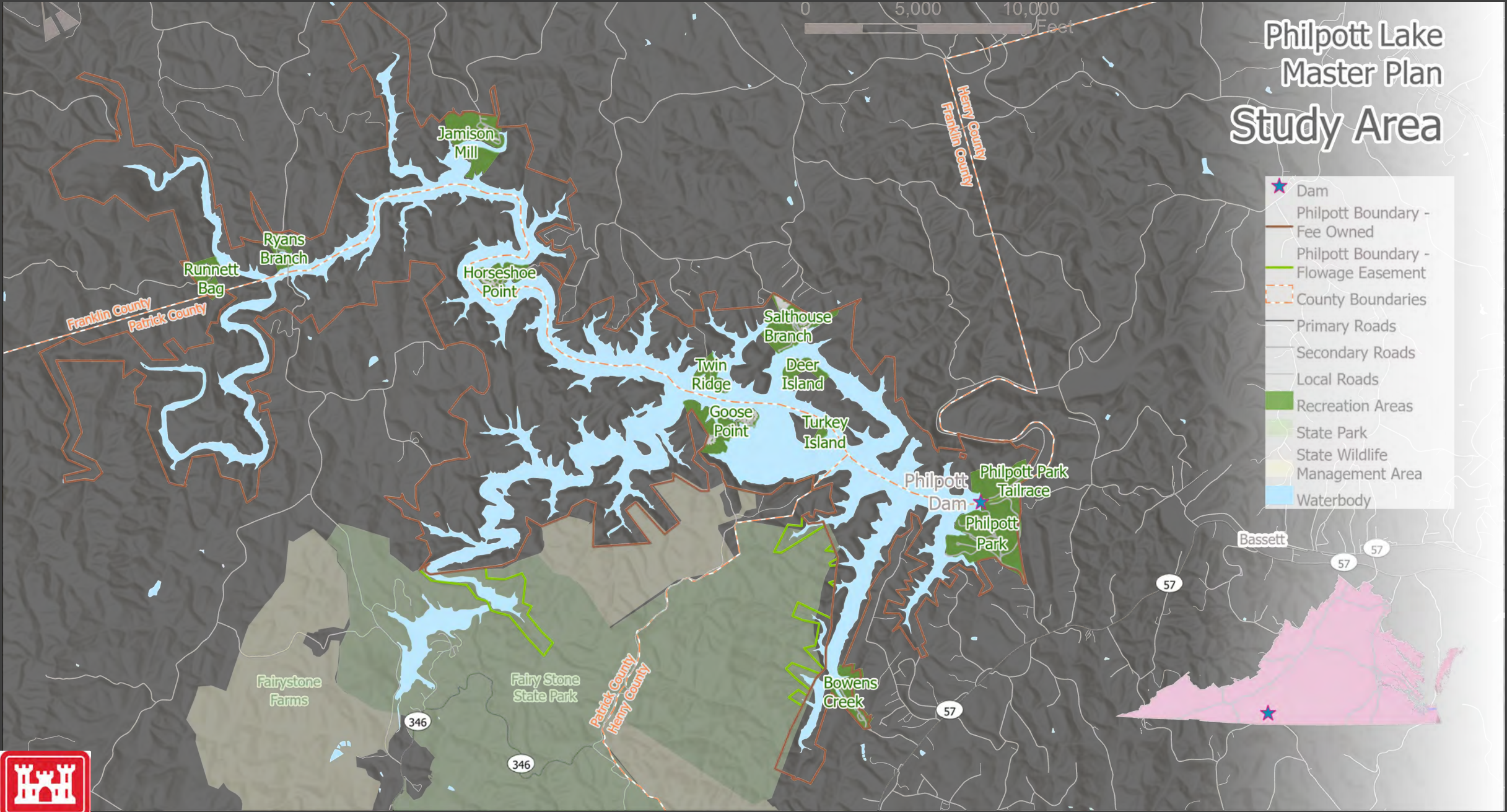
“while minor impacts will be imposed on several resource/policy areas, there will be no significant or adverse impacts from the proposed action, and no mitigating actions will be required”

If this opinion is upheld following the circulation of the Environmental Assessment, a Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be circulated.



Philpott Lake Master Plan Study Area

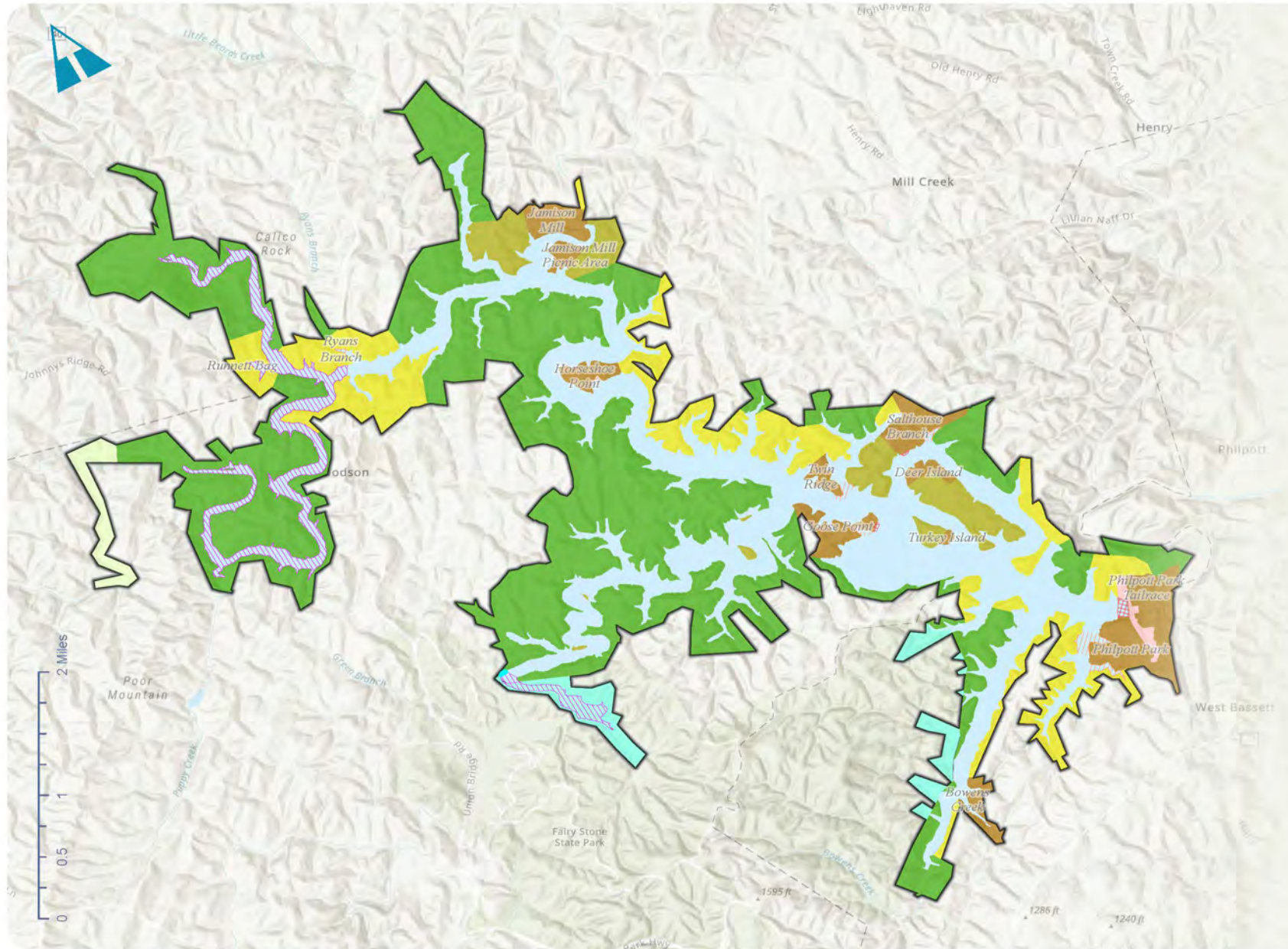
0 5,000 10,000 Feet








- ★ Dam
- Philpott Boundary - Fee Owned
- Philpott Boundary - Flowage Easement
- County Boundaries
- Primary Roads
- Secondary Roads
- Local Roads
- Recreation Areas
- State Park
- State Wildlife Management Area
- Waterbody



Land Classification 2021 Master Plan

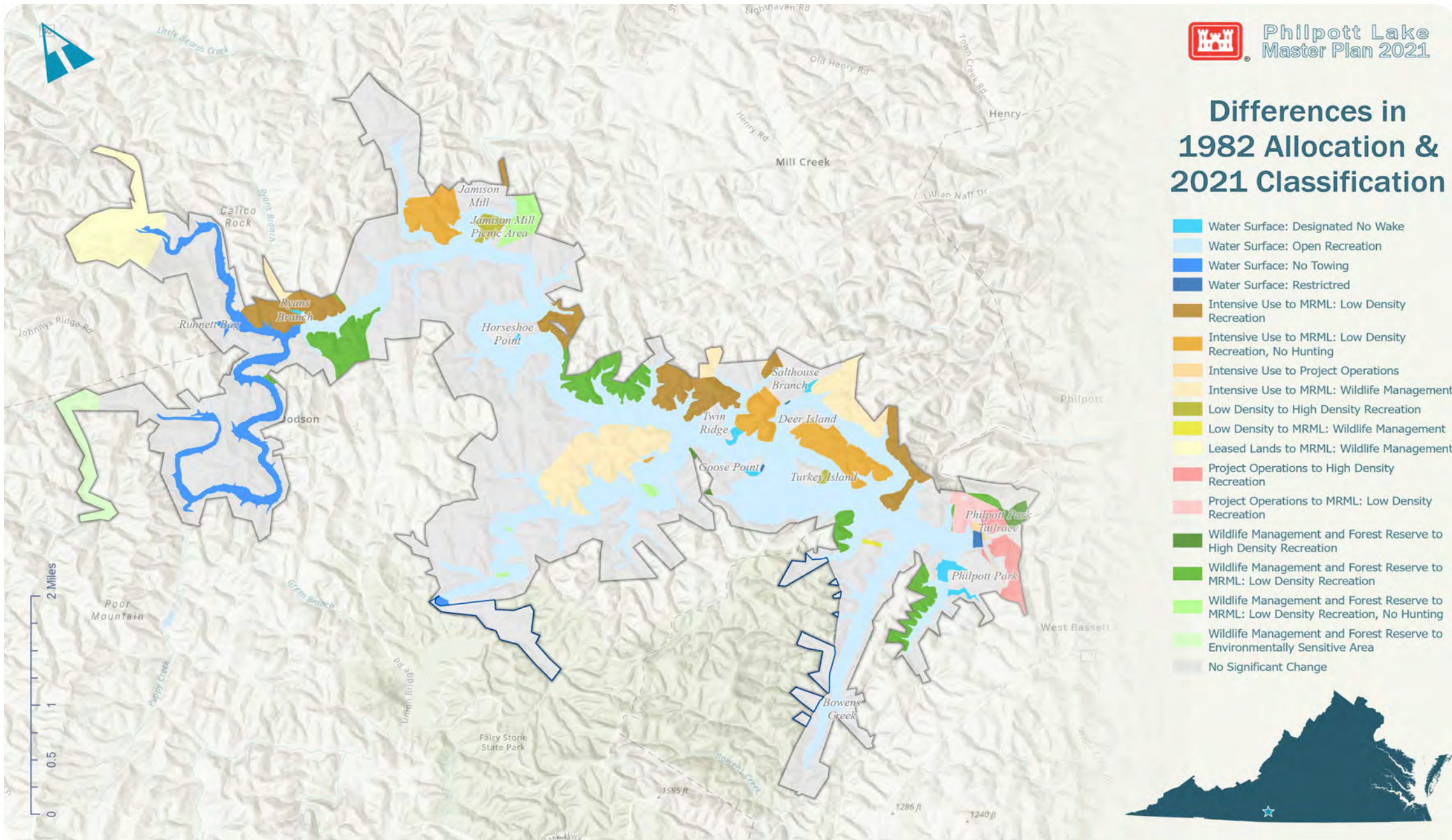


-  Project Operations
-  High Density Recreation
-  MRML: Wildlife Management
-  Environmentally Sensitive Area
-  MRML: Low Density Recreation
-  MRML: Low Density Recreation, No Hunting
-  Flowage Easement
-  Flowage Easement, Water Surface: No Towing
-  Water Surface: Designated No Wake
-  Water Surface: Open Recreation
-  Water Surface: Open Recreation, No Tow
-  Water Surface: Restricted



Differences in 1982 Allocation & 2021 Classification

-  Water Surface: Designated No Wake
-  Water Surface: Open Recreation
-  Water Surface: No Towing
-  Water Surface: Restricted
-  Intensive Use to MRML: Low Density Recreation
-  Intensive Use to MRML: Low Density Recreation, No Hunting
-  Intensive Use to Project Operations
-  Intensive Use to MRML: Wildlife Management
-  Low Density to High Density Recreation
-  Low Density to MRML: Wildlife Management
-  Leased Lands to MRML: Wildlife Management
-  Project Operations to High Density Recreation
-  Project Operations to MRML: Low Density Recreation
-  Wildlife Management and Forest Reserve to High Density Recreation
-  Wildlife Management and Forest Reserve to MRML: Low Density Recreation
-  Wildlife Management and Forest Reserve to MRML: Low Density Recreation, No Hunting
-  Wildlife Management and Forest Reserve to Environmentally Sensitive Area
-  No Significant Change



Survey Analysis

The USACE is meeting its objectives

82%

OFFERING SAFE AND MEMORABLE
OUTDOOR RECREATION
EXPERIENCES

74%

MANAGEMENT OF
ENVIRONMENTAL RESOURCES

69%

MEETING DOWNSTREAM WATER
FLOW REQUIREMENTS FOR
RECREATIONAL PURPOSES

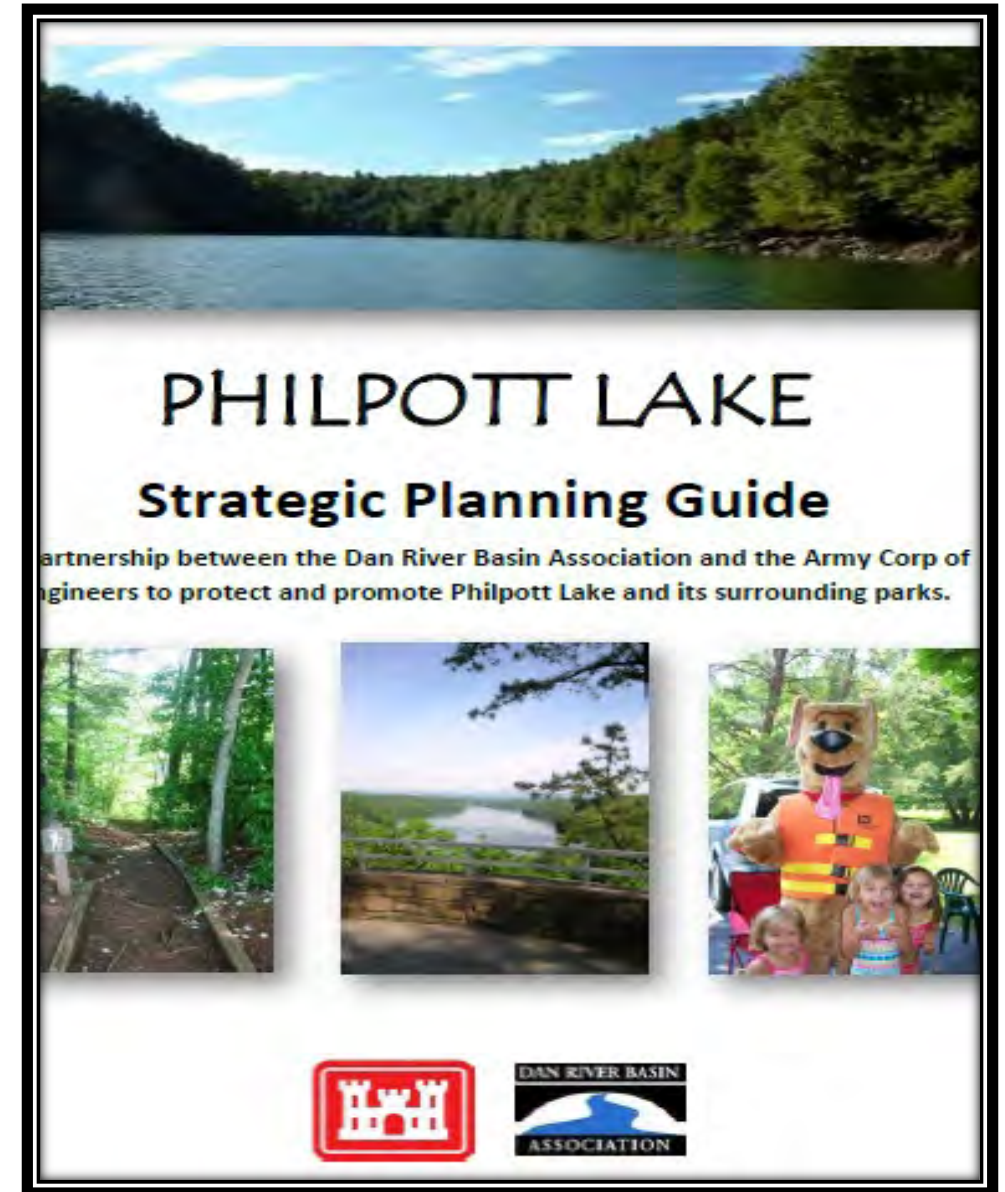


Partnerships to Meet Management Goals

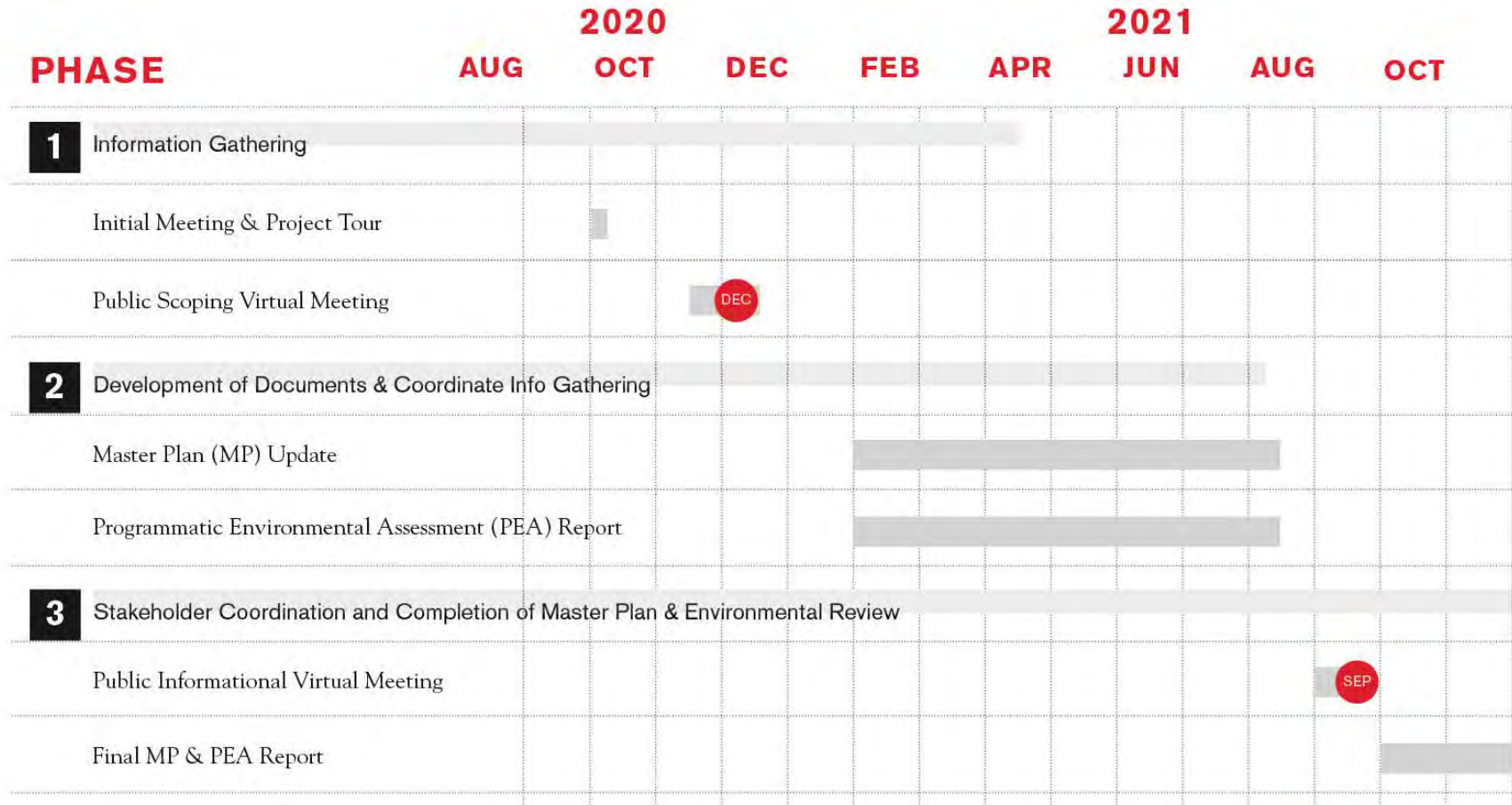
Partnering is an essential tool that allows USACE to more effectively manage recreational and environmental resources

- Wildlife Management
- Promotion of Parks and Related Recreation
- Trail System Connectivity

What opportunities for partnerships should be pursued during the next stages of the project?



Project Schedule



● Public Meeting

*dates are subject to change





HELP US UPDATE THE PHILPOTT LAKE MASTER PLAN

Ways to Participate

- Visit our Project Web Page
 - Review all project materials online: <https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/Philpott/Philpott-Lake-Master-Plan-Update/>

- Participate in the Open Comment Period
 - 30-day review period (Summer 2021) for MP and Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) documents



VISIT OUR PROJECT WEBPAGE

Visit the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Wilmington District website to access all resources related to this master plan effort.

<https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/Philpott/Philpott-Lake-Master-Plan-Update/>

- OR -

Scan QR code with camera app to link directly to the project webpage.



Connect with us on Facebook to stay informed of project updates:
@USACE.Wilmington



JOIN OUR VIRTUAL PUBLIC MEETING ON 12/3

Tune in safely from the comfort of your own home and join our WebEx call. We will provide an introduction on the master plan process and gather information from the public about your perspective of management needs and operations.

December 3, 2020
18:00 - 19:00 (6:00 - 7:00 PM)

Join WebEx Meeting
<https://mofatnichol.webex.com/mofatnichol/j.php?MTID=m5e11b752b3d3e29a1cb72a3c7642c54f8>

Access Code: 172 317 8650
Password: p2uUyF3pu3
To Join by Phone: +1-415-655-0001 US Toll



TAKE OUR COMMUNITY SURVEY

An online survey, focusing on Philpott Lake Master Plan Update's community priorities and preferences, is available from Thursday, November 17, 2020 until Thursday, December 19, 2020.

Take the Survey:
<https://www.surveymonkey.com/l/PhilpottLakeMPSurvey1>

- OR -



Scan QR code with camera app to link directly to the survey.

The survey takes less than ten minutes to complete. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts and concerns as your feedback will help the planning team with this master plan update.





Project Information Sheet



The Wilmington District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) has commissioned CATLIN Engineers and Scientists (CATLIN) and its primary subcontractor Moffatt & Nichol (M&N) to update the *Philpott Lake Master Plan*.

Purpose of the Project

The purpose of this project is to update the *Philpott Lake Master Plan* and its utilization and management of project lands. The plan was last updated in 1982; this new update will follow USACE's six-step planning process, while maintaining compliance with current USACE Master Plan regulations, policies and criteria. The master planning process will incorporate both agency and community input to devise the best long-term strategy.

Public Participation and Stakeholder Engagement

This planning process will involve key stakeholder participation across local, regional, and state agencies, and community members who live and work in the Philpott Lake area. It is the project team's intention to come to a consensus on not only updating the master plan, but also creating a plan which will be mutually beneficial to the agencies and community alike, while best serving the conservation of these project lands.

Master Plan Expected Outcomes

The Master Plan will provide guidance for the coordinated utilization and management of Philpott Lake's project lands. Additionally, the Master Plan will update the long-term land management goals and objectives and provide recommendations on outdoor recreational opportunities, management of environmental resources, and management of downstream river flow. The Master Plan will recommend a land classification approach for the administration and conservation of resources. Lastly, the Master Plan will update and revise, as needed, the associated design and feasible best management practices.

Involvement in the Process

As the master planning process evolves, there will be several opportunities for community input including two virtual meetings and an open-comment review period. The first virtual public scoping meeting will inform the general public of the master plan process and gather information from the general public about their perspective of management needs and operations. The second virtual public meeting will facilitate a forum for the discussion of project related

This project is brought to you by:



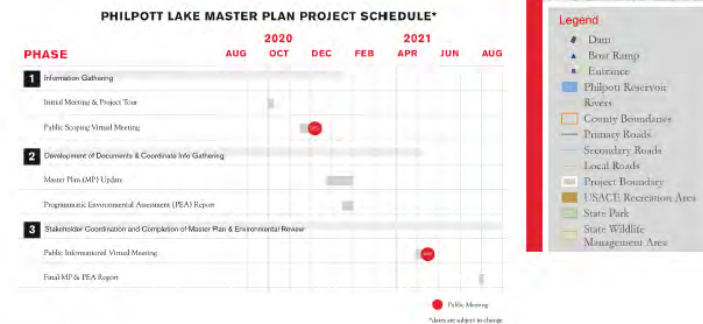
interests. The public will have the opportunity to review both the draft Master Plan and Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) report and provide feedback during a 30-day review period on the [project website](#). The plans will also be posted on the project website and copies will be available for review at the Philpott Lake Visitors Center and local libraries.

Schedule

The goal is to finalize the *Philpott Lake Master Plan Update* by late Summer, 2021. This master plan update, alongside the Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) reports, will provide Philpott Lake staff long-term goals and objectives for land and the management of resources.

Contact Information

Please contact **Chris Powell, Operations Project Manager**, via email Christopher.C.Powell@usace.army.mil or by phone at 276-629-4512 ext. 8224 should you have any questions, comments, or concerns.



This project is brought to you by:



Ways to Stay Involved

Attend our Virtual Public Meetings

The first Virtual Scoping Meeting will be to inform the general public of the master plan process and to gather information from the general public about their perspective of management needs and operations. This first Virtual Public Meeting will be held on Thursday, December 3, 2020 from 18:00 - 19:00 (6:00 - 7:00 PM). To attend this meeting virtually, please click [here](#). Meeting ID: 172 317 8650 Password: p2UuJyF3pu3

To join by Phone: +1-415-655-0001 US Toll

The second Virtual Public Meeting is tentatively scheduled for early Summer, 2021. Once preliminary drafts of the Master Plan (MP) and Programmatic Environmental Assessment (PEA) have been reviewed by U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) and comments have been incorporated to the satisfaction of the USACE, this Virtual Public Meeting will facilitate a forum for the discussion of project related concerns. Please check back to the project webpage or follow us on Facebook.

Provide Feedback in the Philpott Lake Master Plan Update: Survey 1

An online survey, focusing on Philpott Lake Master Plan Update's community priorities and preferences, is available from Thursday, November 19, 2020 until Thursday, December 17, 2020. The survey takes less than ten minutes to complete. Please take a few minutes to share your thoughts and concerns as your feedback will help the planning team with this master plan update.

Get social

Connect with us on social media by following USACE Wilmington on Facebook and Twitter.

Click the image to view more details about our upcoming public meetings and how to stay updated on the Philpott Master Plan



Submit comments or contact us here

PHILPOTT@usace.army.mil

Take a Virtual Tour of the Project Site

Integrating site visit photos with an ArcGIS Story Map, the project team created this interactive experience for all to virtually discover the many aspects of Philpott Lake.

[Click here to take a virtual tour of the site.](#)

<https://www.saw.usace.army.mil/Locations/District-Lakes-and-Dams/Philpott/Philpott-Lake-Master-Plan-Update/>



Project Website

A photograph of a concrete dam structure with a walkway overlooking a reservoir. The dam is made of dark concrete and has a metal railing along the edge. The walkway is paved with light-colored concrete and has a rectangular metal grate. In the background, there is a dense forest of trees with some autumn foliage. The sky is blue with some light clouds.

Questions and Comments?

PHILPOTT@usace.army.mil