

**FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT FOR THE  
PROPOSED TOWN BLUFF AND B.A STEINHAGEN LAKE MASTER PLAN 2023  
NECHES RIVER BASIN  
JASPER AND TYLER COUNTIES, TEXAS**

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Engineering Regulation (ER) 1130-2-550 Change 07, dated 30 January 2013 and Engineering Pamphlet (EP) 1130-2-550 Change 05, dated 30 January 2013, require Master Plans for the USACE water resources development projects having a federally owned land base. The proposed revision of the 1971 Town Bluff Dam and B.A. Steinhagen Lake (hereafter referred to collectively as Town Bluff Project) Master Plan is being conducted pursuant to this ER and EP, and is necessary to bring it up to date to reflect current ecological, socio-demographic, and outdoor recreation trends that are affecting the lake, as well as those anticipated to occur within the planning period of 2023 to 2048.

In accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969, as amended, including guidelines in 33 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Part 230 and 40 CFR Parts 1500-1508, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has conducted an environmental analysis on the draft Town Bluff Project Master Plan 2023 (MP). The draft MP addresses the need for an updated comprehensive land management document for Town Bluff Project in Jasper and Tyler Counties, Texas. The final recommendation will be contained in the Town Bluff Project Master Plan 2023.

The revision of the 1971 Town Bluff Project Master Plan (hereafter Plan or Master Plan) is a framework built collaboratively to serve as a guide toward appropriate stewardship of USACE administered resources at Town Bluff Project over the next 25 years.

The Environmental Assessment (EA) for the draft Town Bluff Project Master Plan 2023 evaluated an alternative that would revise the 1971 Town Bluff Project Master Plan to meet current policy, and its assessment of impacts are summarized in Table 1 and the EA are included as reference.

In addition to a “no action” plan, one alternative that fully meets the project purpose was evaluated (proposed action/plan). Chapter 2.0 of the draft Town Bluff Project Master Plan EA discusses the alternative formulation and selection as well the summary of the new goals and objectives. Chapter 8, Tables 8-1, and 8-2 of the Master Plan summarizes the changes to the land classifications. The proposed plan includes coordination with the public, updates to comply with the USACE regulations and guidance, and reflects changes in land management and land uses that have occurred since 1971. Land classifications were refined to meet authorized project purposes and current resource objectives that address a mix of natural resources and recreation management objectives that are compatible with regional goals, recognize outdoor recreation trends, and are responsive to public comments.

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**Table 1: Summary of Potential Effects of the Proposed Plan**

<b>Resource</b>	<b>Insignificant effects</b>	<b>Insignificant effects as a result of mitigation*</b>	<b>Resource unaffected by action</b>
<b>Aesthetics</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Air quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Aquatic resources/wetlands</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Invasive species</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Fish and wildlife habitat</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Threatened/Endangered species/critical habitat</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Historic properties</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Other cultural resources</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Floodplains</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Hazardous, toxic &amp; radioactive waste</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Hydrology</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Land use</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Socioeconomics</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Environmental justice</b>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
<b>Soils</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Water quality</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
<b>Climate change</b>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

All practicable and appropriate means to avoid or minimize adverse environmental effects have been analyzed and incorporated into the proposed plan. The proposed plan will not entail any ground-disturbing activities. Future ground-disturbing activities on USACE property will be subject to all necessary environmental evaluations and compliance regulations.

No compensatory mitigation is required as part of the proposed plan.

Public review of the draft Master Plan, Environmental Assessment, and Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI) will be completed on September 30, 2023. All comments submitted during the public review period will be responded to in the final Master Plan.

Pursuant to Section 7 of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed plan will have no effect on federally listed species or their designated critical habitat.

Pursuant to Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers has determined that the proposed plan will have no effect on historic properties.

All applicable environmental laws were considered and coordination with appropriate agencies and officials has been completed.

All applicable laws, executive orders, regulations, and local government plans were considered in evaluation of alternatives. Based on the draft report, the reviews by other Federal, State, and local agencies, Tribes, input of the public, and the review by my staff, it is my determination that the proposed plan would not cause significant adverse impacts on the quality of the human environment, therefore, preparation of an Environmental Impact Statement is not required.

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Date

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Joshua M. Haynes  
Major, EN  
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