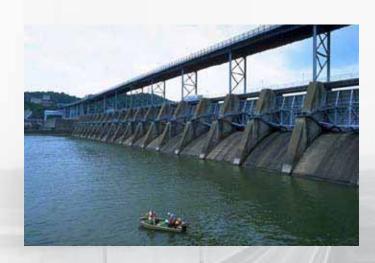
Amended Draft Environmental Impact Statement

Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan





Document Type: Environmental Impact Statement-

Administrative Record Index Field: Amended Draft EIS
Project Name: Watts Bar Land Plan
Project Number: 2004-1

AMENDED DRAFT ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT

WATTS BAR RESERVOIR LAND MANAGEMENT PLAN

Loudon, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane Counties, Tennessee

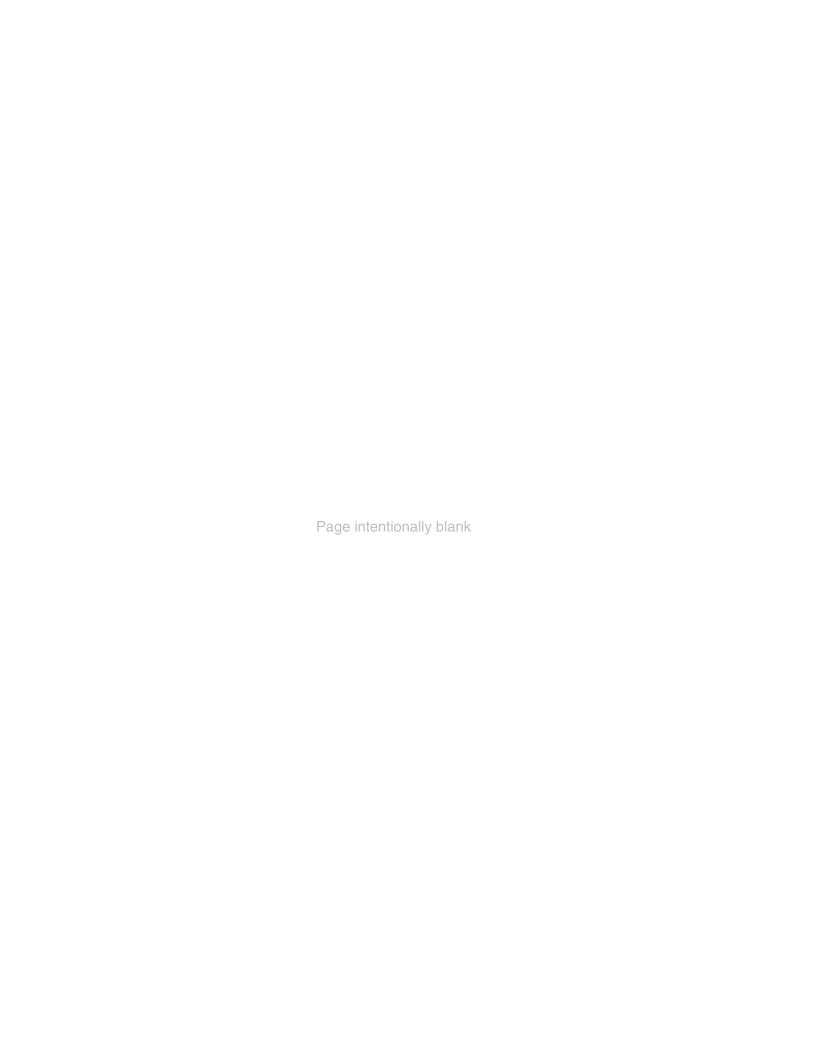
AUGUST 2007

Direct Comments to:

Richard L. Toennisson Tennessee Valley Authority 400 West Summit Hill Drive Knoxville, Tennessee 37902

Phone: (865) 632-8517 (865) 632-3451 Fax:

rltoennisson@tva.gov e-mail:



Amended Draft Environmental Impact Statement

August 2007

Proposed project: Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan

Loudon, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane Counties, Tennessee

Lead agency: Tennessee Valley Authority

Cooperating agencies: None

For further information,

contact:

Richard L. Toennisson Senior NEPA Specialist Tennessee Valley Authority 400 West Summit Hill Drive

Knoxville, Tennessee 37902 Phone: (865) 632-8517 Fax: (865) 632-3451

e-mail: rltoennisson@tva.gov

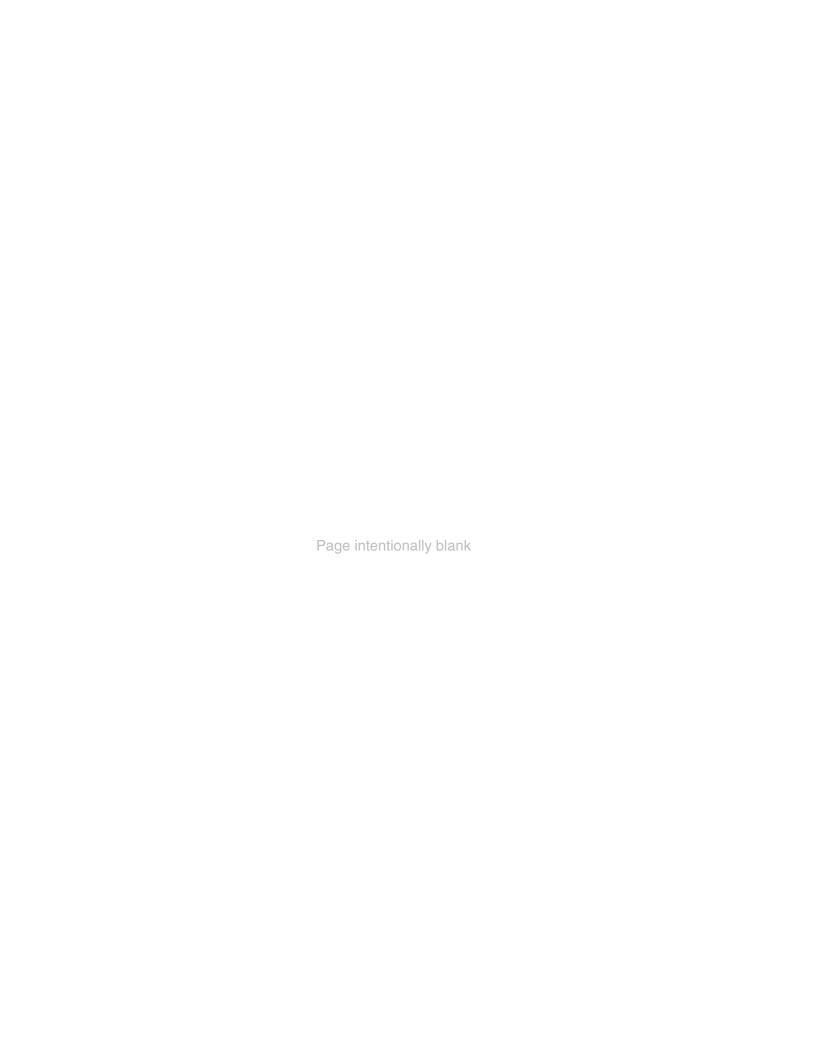
Comments must be

submitted by: September 24, 2007

Abstract:

Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) proposes to amend the *Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (2005 Plan), issued in May 2005, and to update the 1988 *Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan* (1988 Plan) for approximately 16,200 acres of TVA public land on Watts Bar Reservoir in Loudon, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane counties, Tennessee. The proposed updated *Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan and Amended Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (Land Plan) would guide land use approvals, private water use facility permitting, and resource management decisions on Watts Bar Reservoir. The proposed Land Plan allocates land into broad categories or "zones," including Project Operations, Sensitive Resource Management, Natural Resource Conservation, Industrial, Developed Recreation, and Shoreline Access.

This Land Plan incorporates modifications to the three alternatives proposed in the 2005 Plan as a result of TVA's November 2006 Land Policy and other administrative changes. These alternatives are a No Action Alternative to continue to use the 1988 Plan with accrued updates; a Modified Development and Recreation Alternative, providing suitable industrial use and developed recreation; and a Modified Conservation and Recreation Alternative, providing an emphasis on natural resource conservation and informal recreation activities. TVA's preferred alternative is the Modified Development and Recreation Alternative.



SUMMARY

PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION

The Tennessee Valley Authority (TVA) manages its public lands to protect the integrated operation of the TVA reservoir and power systems, to provide for appropriate public use and enjoyment of the reservoir system, and to provide for continuing economic growth in the Tennessee Valley. TVA is proposing to update the 1988 *Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan* (1988 Plan) to reflect changing, community needs and current TVA policies. This includes allocating additional public lands on the reservoir that were not previously allocated in the 1988 Plan. These additional lands include narrow shoreline strips, TVA operation areas, and lands committed under legal agreements.

In May 2005, TVA issued a *Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan and Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (2005 Plan) proposing to update the 1988 Plan for approximately 16,200 acres of TVA public land on Watts Bar Reservoir in Loudon, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane counties, Tennessee (TVA 2005a). Three alternatives were proposed in the 2005 Plan. These were a No Action Alternative to continue to use the 1988 Plan with accrued updates, a Balanced Development and Recreation Alternative with an emphasis on economic development and developed recreation, and a Balanced Conservation and Recreation Alternative with an emphasis on natural resource conservation and informal recreation activities.

The purpose of this *Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan and Amended Draft Environmental Impact Statement* (Land Plan) is to revise the 2005 Plan by incorporating the changes derived from implementation of the TVA Land Policy (November 2006) and other subsequent updates. The Land Plan would allow an additional opportunity to assess environmental impacts of a reasonable range of alternatives for allocating TVA public land on Watts Bar Reservoir and provide a means for additional public involvement in the decision-making process. The proposed updated Land Plan would guide land use approvals, private water use facility permitting, and resource management decisions on Watts Bar Reservoir. The proposed Land Plan allocates land into broad categories or "zones," including Project Operations, Sensitive Resource Management, Natural Resource Conservation, Industrial, Developed Recreation, and Shoreline Access.

The Watts Bar Reservoir, which is part of the Watts Bar project, is a multipurpose reservoir operated by TVA for navigation, flood control, power production, recreation, and economic development. The Land Plan is intended to be consistent with the purposes of the Watts Bar project. The Land Plan also seeks to address issues and concerns raised by the general public. Each reservoir land management plan is submitted for approval to the TVA Board of Directors and adopted as policy to provide for long-term stewardship and accomplishment of TVA responsibilities under the TVA Act of 1933.

ALTERNATIVES

TVA is considering three alternatives, consistent with the purposes of a multipurpose reservoir for managing public land around Watts Bar Reservoir.

TVA continues to propose an update of the 1988 Plan for Watts Bar Reservoir lands. With the implementation of the November 2006 TVA Land Policy and after review of the comments on the 2005 Plan, TVA is now considering modified versions of the 2005 alternatives. These modifications include updates of the proposed allocation Zones 5 (Economic Development to Industrial) and 6 (Developed Recreation), discontinuing the proposed Integrated Resource Management (IRM) plan, and administrative changes. The greatest difference from the original form of the alternatives is the removal of the residential component of mixed-use development, independent retail businesses, and some specific types of commercial recreation that are no longer provided for in the TVA Land Policy.

Under all alternatives, TVA would continue to conduct environmental reviews prior to the approval of any proposed development or activity on public land to address site-specific issues. TVA's selected alternative would guide TVA resource management and property administration decisions on the TVA public land surrounding Watts Bar Reservoir until the Land Plan is revised in the future, which is expected to be about 10 years.

No Action (Modified Alternative A): TVA would continue to use the existing 1988 Plan, with minor revisions to reflect allocation changes made over the past 19 years and current TVA policy. The proposed No Action Alternative (Modified Alternative A) would be updated with the administrative changes that have occurred or have been corrected since the publication of the 2005 Plan. These changes are limited to acreage and landrights corrections. The 19 allocation categories defined by the 1988 Plan would continue to be used, although activities and land uses not provided for by the Land Policy would not occur. Five thousand nine hundred acres of the TVA land on Watts Bar Reservoir (project operations and marginal strip) would continue to be administered by TVA but remain unplanned.

Modified Development and Recreation (Modified Alternative B): The proposed Modified Alternative B would continue to provide suitable economic and recreation opportunities as prescribed by the TVA Land Policy. TVA would apply one of the seven appropriate land allocation Zones to all Watts Bar Reservoir lands. Zone definitions, IRM, and administrative changes described above would be included. Under this alternative, TVA would help promote some industrial development and commercial recreation by allocating 1,253 acres of land for industrial use and 1,622 acres to recreation totaling about 18 percent of TVA-owned land on Watts Bar Reservoir. Approximately 7,500 acres (46 percent) of land would be allocated for sensitive and natural resource use. Although natural resource conservation and informal recreation would predominate on the reservoir, industrial development and developed recreation would occur on TVA land where those activities are most suitable and have the greatest opportunity for success.

Modified Conservation and Recreation (Modified Alternative C): Similar to the original Alternative C, the Modified Alternative C proposes a small amount of land allocated for economic development or industrial use and large portions to sensitive resource management and natural resource conservation. Under Modified Alternative C, TVA would help promote conservation of natural resources and informal and commercial recreation by allocating about 8,900 acres of land for Sensitive and Natural Resource use and 1,360 acres to Developed Recreation totaling about 63 percent of TVA-owned land on Watts Bar Reservoir. TVA would apply one of the seven appropriate land allocation zones to all Watts Bar Reservoir lands. Only those lands with existing industrial facilities, about 90 acres (less than 1 percent), would be allocated for industrial use. This alternative would also include the minor changes and alterations described in Modified Alternative B. Under this

alternative, natural resource conservation and informal recreation would predominate on TVA Watts Bar Reservoir land. Developed recreation would occur on TVA land where those activities are most suitable and have the greatest opportunity for success.

AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT

TVA owns and manages 16,200 acres of land on Watts Bar Reservoir. The principal towns on the reservoir are Spring City, Kingston, Loudon, Rockwood, Lenoir City, Oak Ridge, and Harriman. Rural populations are concentrated in the numerous long valleys between the forested ridges. Watts Bar Reservoir flows from the northeast to southwest through Loudon, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane Counties in east Tennessee. At normal summer pool, the reservoir extends 72.4 miles up the Tennessee River to Fort Loudoun Dam, and 62.5 miles to Melton Hill Dam on the Clinch River. Including parts of the Emory and Little Emory rivers, the shoreline length totals 721 miles. TVA public land surrounding the reservoir includes natural areas, habitat protection areas, land fronting residential development, wildlife management areas, forested areas, licensed recreation areas, power transmission line corridors, riparian/wetland areas along streams and the reservoir shoreline, and Kingston Fossil Plant, Watts Bar Nuclear Plant, and the Watts Bar Dam Reservation.

There are 15 TVA managed areas and 17 areas managed by other local, state, or federal agencies currently located on or in the vicinity of public lands on Watts Bar Reservoir. Segments of the Emory and Little Tennessee rivers, and Piney Creek, which are tributaries to the reservoir, are listed on the National Rivers Inventory. Privately owned land surrounding the reservoir is a mosaic of residential and industrial/commercial development, upland and bottomland forests, and farmland comprised of hay, pasture, row crops, and small woodlots. The reservoir is similar to other reservoirs in the Tennessee River system in landscape character. Substantial visual features throughout the reservoir include secluded coves and vegetated large islands, visual buffering shoreline areas, and attractive isolated areas.

The numerous plant communities on Watts Bar Reservoir provide suitable habitat for a variety of wildlife species. These diverse plant communities include pine/hardwood forests, upland and riparian hardwood forests, and old field and agricultural field habitats. Many features, such as forested and emergent wetlands, streams, limestone bluffs, and caves, on reservoir parcels provide unique habitats for wildlife. In addition, the reservoir has one of the largest populations of nesting osprey in the Tennessee River Valley, and a significant establishment of heron colonies suggesting that the reservoir may provide suitable nesting habitat for other wading birds uncommon in Tennessee.

The various aquatic and terrestrial habitats in the vicinity of Watts Bar Reservoir provide suitable habitat for several federally and state-listed wildlife species. Although 13 plant species listed by the state of Tennessee occur on TVA land, there are no known federally listed plant species. Several protected terrestrial animal species occur on TVA land, and approximately 24 caves and 22 heron colonies were identified from the project area. Two of these species (bald eagles and gray bats) are federally listed, and 12 species are listed by the state of Tennessee. There are 10 mollusks and six fish in the vicinity of the reservoir that are state- or federally listed species. However, five of the mollusk species are believed to be extirpated from the reservoir. Currently, there are four federally listed mussels and one state-listed mussel and two federally listed and four state-listed fish known from the reservoir and its tributaries.

The overall reservoir ecological health rating for Watts Bar Reservoir was fair in 2004, with some ratings declining from good to poor between 1994 and 2002. The overall water quality characteristics of the reservoir are strongly affected by waters outside of the local watershed. Sediment quality ratings have varied from good to fair (1991-2003) with a greater frequency of occurrence of organic chemicals such as chlordane and polychlorinated biphenyls. Institutional controls (warning signs, fish consumption advisories, and monitoring) are in place to reduce health and environmental risks.

Throughout the reservoir, aquatic bottom-dwelling (benthic) animal communities rated generally 'poor,' although there may be an improving trend since 2002, except for the midreservoir area, which rated 'excellent' in 2004. With only two exceptions since 1994, vital stations fish community monitoring results have rated fish communities as 'good' in the reservoir, which indicates a consistently well-balanced fish assemblage.

Soils occurring in the Watts Bar Reservoir project area with properties to be classified as prime farmland (about 3,000 acres total) are generally located on the floodplains of the river and smaller streams. Especially significant areas of wetlands occur in the embayments associated with Hines Creek, Whites Creek, Muddy Creek, Greasy Run Creek, and Wolf Creek. Other important wetland areas are located in parcels located along the Little Emory River, in the Swan Pond and former Clinch River Breeder Reactor area, and on various forested islands in the reservoir.

The 100-year flood elevations for the Tennessee River part of Watts Bar Reservoir vary from 746.5 to 760.0 feet mean sea level (msl), while on the Clinch River arm of the reservoir, they vary from 747.1 to 755.3 feet msl. The flood risk profile elevations for the Tennessee River vary from elevation 747.0 to 769.3 feet msl, and on the Clinch River they vary from 748.4 to 759.2 feet msl.

Watts Bar Reservoir is bounded by three dams (Watts Bar, Fort Loudoun, and Melton Hill) with navigation locks that connect it to the National Inland Waterway System. There are several barge terminals near the principal towns of Spring City, Kingston, Loudon, Rockwood, Lenoir City, Oak Ridge, and Harriman, as well as some concentrations of residential shoreline developments and marinas. In 2005, over 1.2 million tons of commercial cargo was transported on the reservoir with an annual savings to shippers averaging \$9 million.

TVA land comprises about 11 percent of the land within 0.25 mile of Watts Bar Reservoir. There are over 17,000 acres of platted residential property adjacent to public land on the reservoir; approximately half of the platted area has already been converted to residential housing. Since the completion of Watts Bar Reservoir, TVA has sold or transferred over 9,000 acres (35 percent of the original TVA land base) to private, state, or federal ownership. Of the 721 miles of shoreline, 340 miles (47 percent) is available for Shoreline Access, which includes current development. TVA has several long-term land use agreements with other federal, state, and local government agencies for wildlife management areas, refuges, and parks.

Over 700 archaeological resources have been identified on TVA public land surrounding Watts Bar Reservoir from existing data and recent survey results. Prehistoric components and sites dating from the Paleo-Indian through Mississippian periods have been recorded, along with historic archaeological sites associated with the 19th to 20th century habitation of the area. Historic structures eligible for listing on the National Register of Historic Places

on TVA lands include the Watts Bar Fossil Plant; the Watts Bar Dam, Locks, and Power House; and a number of remaining dwellings from the original construction village (now Watts Bar Resort).

The reservoir receives an estimated 1.9 million recreation user days per year; approximately 313,000 gained access to the reservoir through public use areas, 702,000 through private residential areas, and 874,000 through commercial use areas. There are 67 developed recreation areas on Watts Bar Reservoir. Twenty-six are commercial recreation areas (e.g., marinas and campgrounds), and 37 are public recreation areas (e.g., boat ramps, picnic areas, beaches, and trails). In addition, there are four quasi-public recreation areas such as summer camps. Informal recreation is actively managed on 41 parcels allocated for natural resource conservation management but occurs on most undeveloped TVA-managed land. Most of Watts Bar Reservoir water recreation is designated as suburban and the Clinch River arm of the reservoir is designated as rural developed. There are over 50 paved boat ramps on the reservoir, 3,600 permitted docks, and marina facilities with about 1,500 boat docking slips (with an additional 200 plus out-of-water storage slips).

The 2000 census population of the four counties in the Watts Bar Reservoir area is estimated to have increased by 17.7 percent over the 1990 population, and estimates for 2006 indicate an additional 7.2 percent growth since 2000. This was a faster growth rate than in either the state or the nation, in contrast to the previous decade in which the area grew much more slowly than the state and the nation. Minorities account for 5.7 percent of the population, which is well below the Tennessee state average of 22.1 percent. In 2006, the civilian labor force of the area was 67,220 with an unemployment rate of 5.3 percent, which is higher than both the state and the national rates. The area is more dependent on manufacturing, farming, and government employment than either the state or the nation. In 2005, farm employment accounted for 4.8 percent, manufacturing 16.8 percent, government 15.4 percent, and, except for Roane County manufacturing and Meigs County government, all were 1 to 4 percent higher than both the state and national averages. Per capita personal income is lower than the state and national averages, averaging 78.4 percent of the national average in 2005. The estimated poverty rate in the area in 2004 was 14.1 percent, slightly lower than the state rate of 15.0 percent, but higher than the national average of 12.7 percent.

Except for ozone and particulate matter, all counties that surround Watts Bar Reservoir and their surrounding counties are currently in attainment with the National Ambient Air Quality Standards that establish safe concentration limits for pollutants in the ambient atmosphere. The closest Prevention of Significant Deterioration Class I area is the Great Smoky Mountains National Park to the east and southeast from the reservoir, which is about 20 miles distant.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES

Under any alternative, impacts to sensitive resources, such as federally and state-listed as endangered and threatened species, cultural resources, and wetlands, would be mitigated through regulatory requirement and commitment prior to any undertaking. Future residential, industrial, and recreational developments on adjacent private property or TVA property have the potential to impact water quality by increased soil erosion, chemical usage, and sewage loading. These impacts can be avoided or minimized by vegetated buffer zones and development restrictions similar to the Shoreline Management Policy.

Under any alternative, impacts to floodplain values would be insignificant and any development proposed in the 100-year floodplain would be subject to the requirements of Executive Order (EO) 11988 (Floodplain Management). Likewise, adverse effects to wetlands from land clearing and ground disturbance would be mitigated under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act and EO 11990 and would be insignificant. The potential for activities to affect archaeological and historic properties would be mitigated through phased compliance with the implementation of the programmatic agreement with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation.

All of the alternatives directly result in insignificant impacts on air quality; however, proposed industry development actions would be carefully reviewed for potential impacts and compliance with air quality requirements. There may be some incremental clearing of wetland vegetation by landowners, resulting in some minor, cumulative loss of wetland function, primarily shoreline stabilization, wildlife habitat provision, and plant community diversity. In site-specific cases where some wetland impacts occur, mitigation requirements would offset any long-term loss of wetland functions.

Under the No Action Alternative, there would be an insignificant loss of public lands. However, there would be potential for the habitat alteration of up to 1,500 acres from future industrial use and the eventual loss of 3,200 acres of high-quality habitat from future industrial and developed recreation use. Loss and fragmentation of terrestrial habitat by clearing and alteration of vegetation could impact the composition and abundance of species. There would be no federally listed as threatened and endangered plants impacted, and use of the 1988 Plan would not likely adversely affect federally listed animal species. There would be some insignificant impacts to state-listed species from clearing and alteration of vegetation and pollution and siltation from erosion and ground disturbance activities. There would be temporary insignificant adverse impacts to managed areas and sensitive ecological sites from incompatible land use on adjacent areas. There would be no change to aquatic ecology and commercial navigation from the existing conditions that would have insignificant impacts, and the gradual minor degradation of visual resources would continue.

Under the No Action Alternative, the largest amount of land would be available for Developed Recreation (Zone 6) opportunities. The eventual use of land allocated for industrial or recreation development would cause loss of existing informal recreation at some sites resulting in a reduction of diversity in recreation opportunities. There would be no impacts to environmental justice and no change in impacts to socioeconomic issues with opportunities for future beneficial development. Insignificant air quality adverse impacts from emissions of construction and development activities would occur depending on the industries recruited. Some insignificant noise impacts from future industrial or recreation development are expected. Insignificant adverse impacts would occur to water quality from the release of toxic substances, erosion, or nutrient loading from future industrial and recreation development, and the potential loss of prime farmland would have an insignificant impact to region.

Under Modified Alternative B, the loss of public lands and other adverse impacts described below would be slightly less than the No Action Alternative. There would be potential for the habitat alteration of up to 1,250 acres from future industrial use and the eventual loss of 3,200 acres of high-quality habitat from future industrial and developed recreation use; loss and fragmentation of terrestrial habitat by clearing and alteration of vegetation could impact the composition and abundance of species. There would be no federally listed as

threatened and endangered plants impacted, and the proposed impacts would not likely adversely affect federally listed animal species. There would be slightly less insignificant impacts to state-listed species from clearing and alteration of vegetation and pollution and siltation from erosion and ground disturbance activities. There would be temporary insignificant adverse impacts to managed areas and sensitive ecological sites from incompatible land use on adjacent areas and beneficial impacts from the adjustment of boundaries and new areas. There would be insignificant adverse impacts to aquatic ecology and commercial navigation, and the gradual minor degradation of visual resources would continue. There would be no impacts to environmental justice and insignificant impacts to socioeconomic issues with opportunities for future beneficial development. Insignificant air quality adverse impacts from emissions of construction and development activities would occur depending on the industries recruited. Some insignificant noise impacts from future industrial or recreation development are expected. Insignificant adverse impacts would occur to water quality from the release of toxic substances, erosion, or nutrient loading from future industrial and recreation development, and the potential loss of prime farmland would have an insignificant impact to the region.

Under Modified Alternative B, the minor reduced amount of land available for Developed Recreation (Zone 6) when compared to the No Action Alternative would be offset by an increase in land allocated for Natural Resource Conservation (Zone 4). There would be insignificant adverse impacts to commercial navigation from loss of the Parcel 218 barge terminal; however, the designation of safety harbor land would be beneficial.

Under Modified Alternative C, TVA would maintain public ownership of almost all Watts Bar Reservoir land, and the greatest amount of land would be allocated for Natural Resource Conservation, offsetting the least amount of land available for Developed Recreation. Only 92 acres of public land would likely eventually be converted to industrial uses; however, there would be beneficial impacts to environmental justice because of the greater availability of public and informal recreation opportunities. Because there would be minimal clearing and alteration of vegetation, and consequently minimal pollution and siltation from erosion or ground disturbance activities, there would be no adverse and some beneficial impacts to federally listed as threatened and endangered species. This alternative would also have the least insignificant impacts to state-listed species of all other alternatives. The retention of high-quality terrestrial habitat would be a benefit to terrestrial ecology on the Watts Bar Reservoir area. This alternative would have the least potential alteration of aquatic habitat and most beneficial improvement to aquatic ecology and water quality. because there would be less industrial and recreation development land allocations that would cause the release of toxic substances, erosion, or nutrient loading. There would be temporary, insignificant adverse impacts to managed areas and sensitive ecological sites from incompatible land use on adjacent areas and beneficial impacts from the adjustment of boundaries and new areas. The least noise, prime farmland, air quality, and visual impacts of all the alternatives would occur. Although still insignificant, this alternative has the greatest adverse impacts to commercial navigation from loss of the Parcel 218 barge terminal and a potential future barge terminal on Parcel 298; however, the designation of safety harbor land would be beneficial.

IMPACTS SUMMARY

Modified Alternative A has greater acreages of land allocated to developed uses, including Industrial and Developed Recreation, than the other alternatives. Adoption of Modified Alternative B would allow greater recreational and industrial development than Modified

Alternative C, but slightly less than Modified Alternative A. Therefore, Modified Alternative B would have greater potential for impacts to natural resources than Alternative C, but less than Modified Alternative A. Implementation of Modified Alternative C would result in the largest amount of acres allocated to Zone 4, Natural Resource Conservation.

THE PREFERRED ALTERNATIVES

The preferred alternative is Modified Alternative B, which provides suitable opportunities for the conservation of natural resources and economic development. The environmentally preferred alternative is Modified Alternative C, which has the least adverse impact on the environment of all the alternatives.

TABLE OF CONTENTS

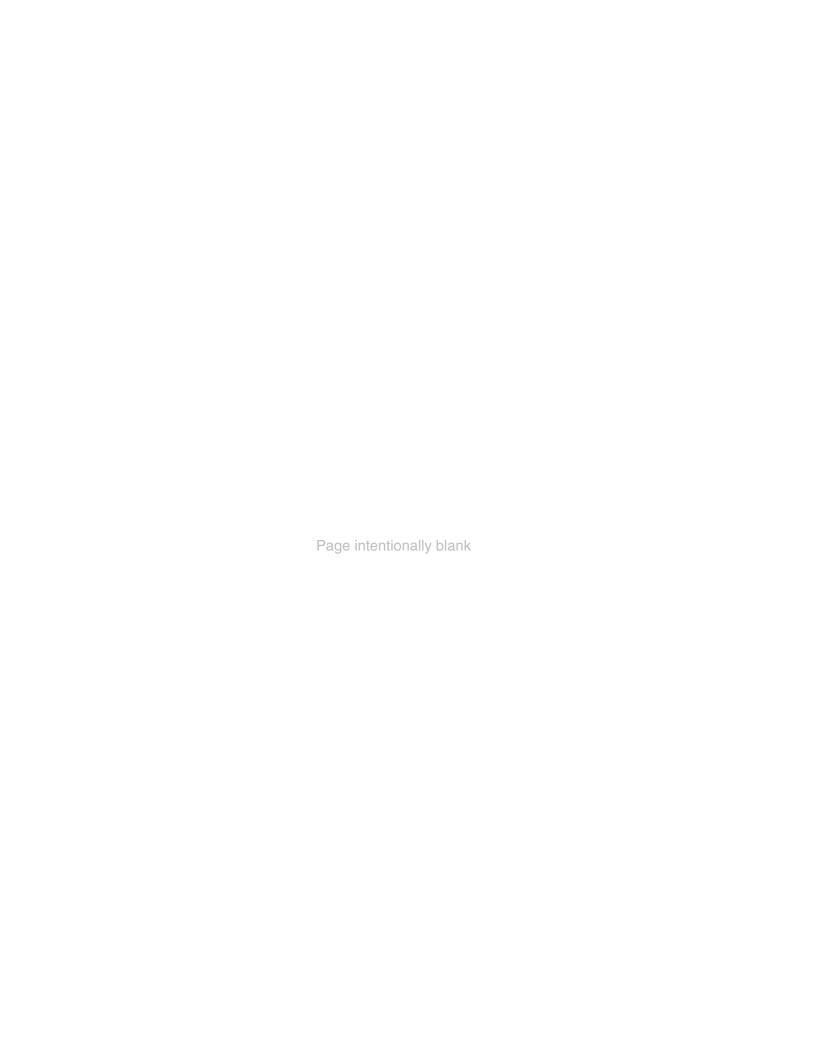
1.	PURPOSE OF AND NEED FOR ACTION	1
1.	. Background	1
1	Purpose and Need	3
1	•	
	1.3.1. Natural Resource Management	4
	1.3.2. Allocation Zones	
	1.3.3. 1.3.3 Other Modifications	
1		
1		
1	1 0	
	1.6.1. Scoping Response	
	1.6.2. Allocation Proposals	
	1.6.3. Issue and Resource Identification	
1	7. 2005 Plan Public Review Process	
	1.7.1. Public Comments	
	1.7.2. Alternatives and Agency Response	
1	Necessary Federal Permits or Licenses	15
2.	ALTERNATIVES	17
2	. Alternatives	17
	2.1.1. Alternative A – The No Action Alternative	
	2.1.2. The Planning Process for the Action Alternatives	
	2.1.3. Modified Action Alternative Allocation Proposals	
	2.1.4. Action Alternative B – Modified Development and Recreation	
	2.1.5. Action Alternative C – Modified Conservation and Recreation	
2		
2	·	
2	•	
3.	AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT	
3		
3		
3	, ,	
	3.3.1. Plants	
	3.3.2. Terrestrial Animals	
•	3.3.3. Aquatic Animals	
3		
	3.4.1. TVA Small Wild Areas (SWAs)	
	3.4.2. TVA Ecological Study Areas (ECSAs)	
	3.4.3. TVA Habitat Protection Areas (HPAs)	
	3.4.4. Wildlife Management Areas (WMAs), Wildlife Refuges, and Wildlife Observ (WOAs)	
	(WOAs)	
	3.4.6. Other Managed Areas	
	3.4.7. Nationwide Rivers Inventory-Listed Streams	
	7.∓.7.	

3.5. Water Quality and Shoreline	59
3.5.1. General Water Quality Characteristics	
3.5.2. TVA Water Quality Monitoring and Results	
3.6. Aquatic Ecology	
3.6.1. Benthic Community	
3.6.2. Fish Community	
3.7. Wetlands and Floodplains	
3.7.1. Wetlands	
3.7.2. Floodplains	
3.8. Land Use and Prime Farmland	
3.8.1. Land Use	
3.8.2. Prime Farmland	
3.9. Cultural Resources	
3.9.1. Archaeological Resources	
3.9.2. Historic Structures	
3.10. Navigation	
3.11. Recreation	
3.11.1. Developed Recreation	
3.11.2. Informal Recreation	
3.12. Visual Resources	
3.12.1. Environmental Setting of Watts Bar Reservoir	
3.12.2. Environmental Setting of the Clinch River Segment of Watts Bar Reservoir	
3.12.3. Environmental Setting of the Emory River Segment of Watts Bar Reservoir	
3.13. Socioeconomic and Environmental Justice	
3.13.1. Socioeconomics	
3.13.2. Environmental Justice	
3.14. Air Quality	
4. ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES	
4.1. Introduction	
4.2. Terrestrial Ecology (Plant and Animal Communities)	
4.3. Sensitive (Endangered and Threatened) Species	
4.3.1. Plants	
4.3.2. Terrestrial Animals	
4.3.3. Aquatic Animals	
4.4. Managed Areas and Sensitive Ecological Sites	
4.5. Water Quality and Shoreline	
4.6. Aquatic Ecology	
4.7. Wetlands and Floodplains	
4.7.1. Wetlands	
4.7.2. Floodplains	
4.8. Land Use and Prime Farmland	
4.8.1. Land Use	
4.8.2. Prime Farmland	
4.9. Cultural Resources	
4.9.1. Archaeological Resources	
4.9.2. Historic Structures	
4.10. Navigation	128

131
135
138
138
140
141
142
142
142
143 143
143
145
149
155
155
162
167
173
229
289
365
389
18
19
23
31
34

Table 2.2-2.	Comparison of Acres Allocated to Sensitive and Natural Resource Uses	36
Table 2.3-1.	Summary of the Environmental Impacts of the Alternatives	36
Table 3.2-1.	Vegetation Type of the 1994 Inventory	40
Table 3.3-1.	Listed Plant Species by Community Type Known From or Potentially Occurring Adjacent (within 5 miles) of Watts Bar Reservoir	46
Table 3.3-2.	Listed Terrestrial Animals Known to Occur in Loudon, Meigs, Rhea, and Roane Counties, Tennessee	48
Table 3.3-3.	State- and Federally Listed Aquatic Animal Species Reported From Watts Bar Reservoir and its Tributaries, and Recent Status of Those Species in and Around Watts Bar Reservoir	51
Table 3.5-1.	Watts Bar Reservoir Water Quality Ratings, Reservoir Vital Signs Monitoring Data	61
Table 3.6-1.	Benthic Community Ratings, Vital Signs Monitoring Data	65
Table 3.6-2.	Fish Community Ratings, Vital Signs Monitoring Data	66
Table 3.7-1.	Wetland Types on Zone 7 Parcels	70
Table 3.7-2.	Watts Bar Parcels With Significant Wetlands	70
Table 3.8-1.	Comparison TVA Planned Land and Private Land Within 0.25 Mile of Watts Bar Reservoir	72
Table 3.8-2.	Number of Land Use Agreements by Category Existing in 1988 and 2004	75
Table 3.8-3.	Change in Farm Size and Value of Agricultural Products From 1987 to 2002 in Counties Adjacent to the Watts Bar Reservoir	76
Table 3.8-4.	Acreage of Farmland in the Counties Adjacent to the Watts Bar Reservoir	77
Table 3.8-5.	Number of Parcels, Acreage of Prime Farmland (greater than 1 acre) and Agricultural Land Use for all Parcels Allocated in Each Zone	77
Table 3.11-1.	Demand for Recreation Opportunities on Watts Bar Reservoir	83
Table 3.11-2.	Current Shoreline Use	83
Table 3.11-3.	WROS Opportunity Classes as a Function of Density	84
Table 3.11-4.	WROS Opportunity Class Calculation for Clinch River	84
Table 3.11-5.	WROS Opportunity Class Calculation for Main Watts Bar	85
Table 3.11-6.	National Survey on Recreation and Environment for the Watts Bar Reservoir Area	85
Table 3.11-7.	Recreation Facilities on Watts Bar Reservoir	87
Table 3.11-8.	Informal Recreation Areas Identified on Watts Bar Reservoir	88
Table 3.13-1.	Population and Population Projections, 1980-2020	93
Table 3.13-2.	Percent Change in Population	94
Table 3.13-3.	Labor Force Data, Residents of Watts Bar Reservoir Area, 2006	94
Table 3.13-4.	Employment, 2005	95
Table 3.13-5.	Percent Distribution of Employment, 2005	95
Table 3.13-6.	Occupation of Workers (Percent Distribution), 2000	95
Table 3.13-7.	Per Capita Personal Income	96

Table 3.13-8.	Minority Population, 2005, and Poverty, 2004	96
Table 4.3-1.	Rare Plant Species Occurring on Watts Bar Reservoir Land for All Alternatives, Listed by Zone	.104
Table 4.8-1.	New Private Developments on Watts Bar Reservoir	.118
Table 4.8-2.	TVA Land Use Valleywide	.121
Table 4.8-3.	Acres of Prime Farmland and Land Used for Agriculture in Parcels Proposed for Allocation Change	.122
Table 4.8-4.	Prime Farmland Acreage Potentially Affected Under Each Alternative	.123
Table 4.11-1.	Acres of Developed and Informal Recreation on Watts Bar Reservoir	.133
Table 4.11-2.	Comparison of Alternatives With Recreation Allocations	.133
	LIST OF FIGURES	
Figure 1.1-1.	Map of Watts Bar Reservation and Vicinity	2
Figure 3.5-1.	Trend in Chlorophyll-a Concentrations in Watts Bar Reservoir Forebay (TRM 532.5)	62
Figure 3.5-2.	Trend in Chlorophyll-a Concentrations in Watts Bar Reservoir Transition Zone (TRM 560.8)	62
Figure 3 12-1	Viewing Distance	89



Acronyms and Abbreviations

1988 Plan 1988 Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan

2005 Plan 2005 Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan and Draft Environmental

Impact Statement

APE Area of Potential Effects

ARPA Archaeological Resources Protection Act

BMPs Best Management Practices

CERCLA Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act

CFR Code of Federal Regulations

CRM Clinch River Mile

cfs Cubic Feet Per Second

DO Dissolved Oxygen

EA Environmental Assessment

EIS Environmental Impact Statement

ECSA Ecological Study Area

ERM Emory River Mile
EO Executive Order

ESA Endangered Species Act

FEIS Final Environmental Impact Statement

FRP Flood Risk Profile

GIS Geographic Information System

HPA Habitat Protection AreaHUC Hydrologic Unit Code

IRM Integrated Resources Management

KIF Kingston Fossil Plant

Land Plan Watts Bar Reservoir Land Management Plan and Amended Draft

Environmental Impact Statement

LWBU Lower Watts Bar Management Unit

mg/m³ Milligrams per cubic meter

msl Mean Sea Level

NRI Nationwide Rivers Inventory

NEPA National Environmental Policy Act
NHPA National Historic Preservation Act

NNL National Natural Landmark

NRI Nationwide Rivers Inventory

NOI Notice of Intent
NPS Nonpoint Source

NRHP National Register of Historic Places

NWI National Wetlands InventoryPA Programmatic AgreementPCB Polychlorinated Biphenyls

PM_{2.5} Particulate Matter With a Diameter Less Than or Equal to 2.5 Micrometers

PNNL Potential National Natural Landmark

PPS Protection Planning Site

PSD Prevention of Significant Deterioration

ROD Record of Decision

ROS Reservoir Operations Study

ROS FEIS Reservoir Operations Study Final Environmental Impact Statement

SAHI Shoreline Aquatic Habitat Index
SEG Scientific Ecology Group Inc.

SEIS Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement

SHPO State Historic Preservation Officer

SMI Shoreline Management Initiative, TVA

Shoreline Management Initiative: An Assessment of Residential Shoreline

SMI EIS Development Impacts in the Tennessee Valley Final Environmental Impact

Statement

SMIN Shoreline Management Inventory
SMP Shoreline Management Policy, TVA

SWA Small Wild Area

TDEC Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation

TRM Tennessee River Mile

TVA Tennessee Valley Authority

TWRA Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency

U.S. United States

USACE U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

USCG U.S. Coast Guard

USDOE U.S. Department of Energy

USEPA U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

USFWS U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service

WBDA Watts Bar Development Authority

WBN Watts Bar Nuclear Plant
WBWG Watts Bar Working Group
WMA Wildlife Management Area
WOA Wildlife Observation Area

WROS Water Reservoir Opportunity Spectrum