



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

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Corps of Engineers to begin filling B. A. Steinhagen

FORT WORTH, Texas – Work is nearing completion on the embankment and flood gate structure at Town Bluff Project, which has kept B. A. Steinhagen Lake dry for nearly eight months. Beginning last June, the lake was drained in an attempt to halt the rapid growth of nuisance aquatic vegetation, such as water hyacinth and hydrilla, which has plagued the shallow lake for years. The drawdown was planned to last until September 2006; however, during inspection of the dam in mid-summer it was determined that the opportunity could not be passed up to perform some routine repairs to the structure.

Completion of these repairs was hampered during the winter and early spring by the wet, cold weather, which made it impossible to perform concrete work. The current schedule calls for the lake to begin filling during the last week of May, reaching conservation pool by mid-June. Texas Parks and Wildlife Fisheries biologists plan to restock the lake with catfish, crappie and Florida-strain largemouth bass over the coming months.

Boaters should be aware that the Neches River below the Town Bluff Dam will experience a reduced flow while the lake is filling, and those upstream on the Neches and Angelina Rivers will see the rivers begin returning to normal levels, all the way to the Sam Rayburn Dam on the Angelina and upstream of Highway 255 on the Neches. Boaters should also be cautious to avoid floating debris that will be carried by the rising water on both rivers and the lake.

For more information please contact the Town Bluff Project Office at 409-429-3491 or visit the Fort Worth website at www.swf.usace.army.mil .

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