

Panhandle Ag Appreciation Days

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Tulsa District

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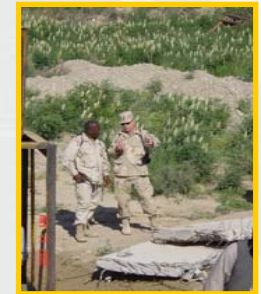
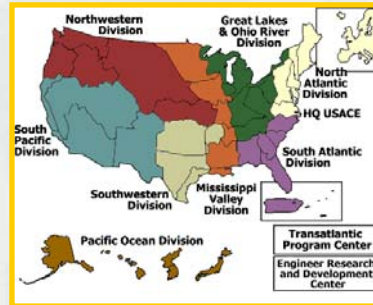


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Optima Lake Overview

- THE NEED

- Significant floods during the 1920's, 1930's, 1940's demonstrated a need to control the potential for flood waters from the North Canadian Watershed

- THE SOLUTION

- Optima Dam, in conjunction with Canton and Fort Supply, to provide downstream flood control, including Oklahoma City



Optima Lake Overview

- **AUTHORIZED PROJECT**
 - Optima authorized by Flood Control Act of 1936, for the purposes of flood control, water supply, recreation, and fish and wildlife.
- **DELAYS**
 - Construction delayed by Depression, World War II and Korean Conflict.



Optima Lake Overview

- CONSTRUCTION PLANNING – 1962
- LANDS PURCHASED – 1966-1970
- CONSTRUCTION BEGAN - 1966
- CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION in 1978,
including park facilities.



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Optima Lake Overview

- TOTAL ACQUIRED LAND – 13,734 acres
- LAND MANAGEMENT of 12,396 total acres, 4,334 acres licensed to USFW (Optima National Wildlife Refuge) and 8,062 acres licensed to State of Oklahoma (State Game Management Area)



Optima Lake Overview

- CURRENT STATUS
 - Pool never filled
 - Park visitors were small in number
 - Revenue from camping fees collected low in comparison to cost of mowing, cleaning, refuse collection and maintenance of park facilities
 - Operations and Maintenance budget declined due to low project “outputs”
 - Reduced personnel and services
 - Deterioration of facilities



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

- Optima embankment is 3 miles long and 120 feet high in some areas
- Guardrail is deficient and in need of replacement
 - Submitted as an ARRA project along with 27 other sites
 - Reevaluated options due to concerns over cost of project
- Number 1 priority is to maintain public safety
 - Least costly alternative was to close the embankment road



American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

- Scope of Work
 - Close Embankment Road
 - 2 gates, warning devices and signage
 - Remove Unsafe Public Use Facilities
 - Restrooms
 - Overlook Building
 - Campsite above-ground structures
 - Trailer dump stations
- Access to Public Use Areas would not be restricted, if project is completed
- Public Comment Period Closes March 14, 2010



Location of Environmental Assessment

- Tulsa District Website: www.swt.usace.army.mil
- Guymon Public Library
- Olive Warner Memorial Library in Hooker
- Liberal, Kansas Memorial Library



Optima Lake Initial Appraisal

AUTHORITY: Section 216 of the Flood Control Act of 1970 - Review of Completed Projects

PURPOSE: To review operations of completed projects when found advisable due to changed physical, economic, or environmental conditions

SCHEDULED COMPLETION: September 2010

PRODUCT: Initial Appraisal Report to Congress

STUDY SCOPE: Will include evaluation of changes in the operation of the project, changes in project purposes, deauthorization or decommissioning of the project, and no-action.



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Optima Lake Study Process

INITIAL APPRAISAL: Will determine if a reconnaissance study is warranted; will evaluate economic, environmental, and engineering issues, and public involvement results. (100% Federally funded)

RECONNAISSANCE STUDY: If recommended, will identify and evaluate potential alternatives and will identify non-Federal Feasibility study sponsor(s). (100% Federally funded)

FEASIBILITY STUDY: If recommended, will make evaluate alternatives in detail and, if findings warrant it, make recommendations to Congress regarding operational changes to the project.
(Cost Shared: 50% Federal – 50% Non-Federal)

IMPLEMENTATION: If recommended and authorized and funded by Congress, will be done in partnership with a non-Federal sponsor.
(Cost shared by project purpose)



Questions



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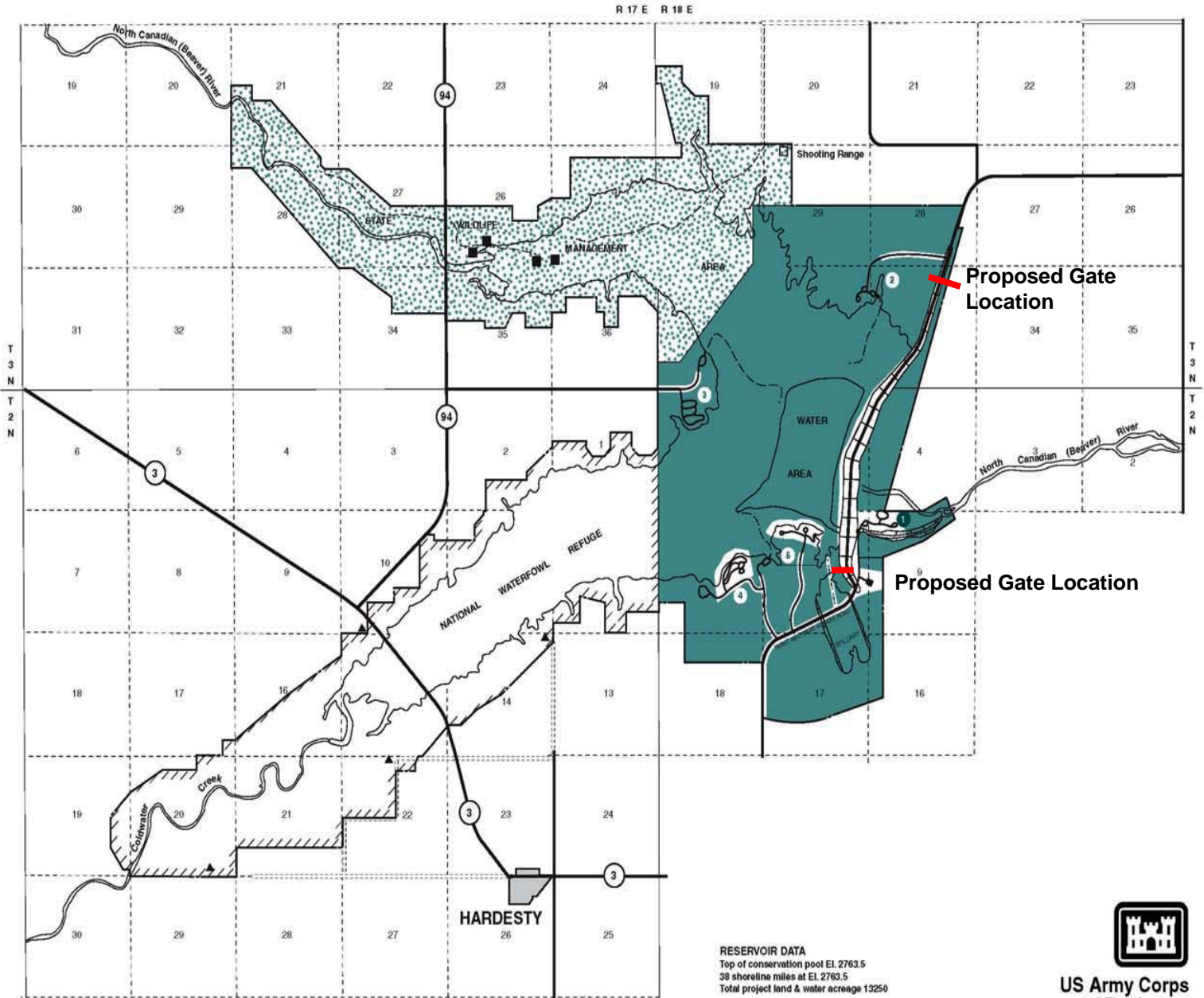
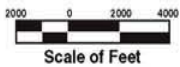
OPTIMA LAKE

PUBLIC HUNTING AREA



- PUBLIC USE AREAS**
- 1 Angler Point
 - 2 Hooker Point
 - 3 Prairie Dog Point
 - 4 Hardesty Park
 - 6 Overlook Park

- LEGEND**
- Paved Road
 - Improved Road
 - Dirt Road
 - Project Boundary
 - Primitive Hunter Camp
 - Parking/Access Point
 - Temporary Access Roads
 - Corps Areas Open For Hunting
 - State Areas Open For Hunting
 - US Fish & Wildlife Service, See State Regulations



RESERVOIR DATA
 Top of conservation pool El. 2763.5
 38 shoreline miles at El. 2763.5
 Total project land & water acreage 13250



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 Tulsa District