

# Optima Lake Listening Session

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US Army Corps of Engineers  
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## U. S. Army Corps of Engineers



Worldwide organization --- 9 divisions, 41 districts, field offices

227 years of service to the Nation

Emergency Response

Civil Works

Military Construction

Overseas Contingency Operations



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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



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## 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.



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## Optima Lake Overview

- CONSTRUCTION PLANNING - 1962
- CONSTRUCTION BEGAN - 1966
- CONSTRUCTION COMPLETION in 1978, including park facilities.



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## Optima Lake Overview

- 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)



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## 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



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## 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
- Included demolishing unsafe Public Use Facilities



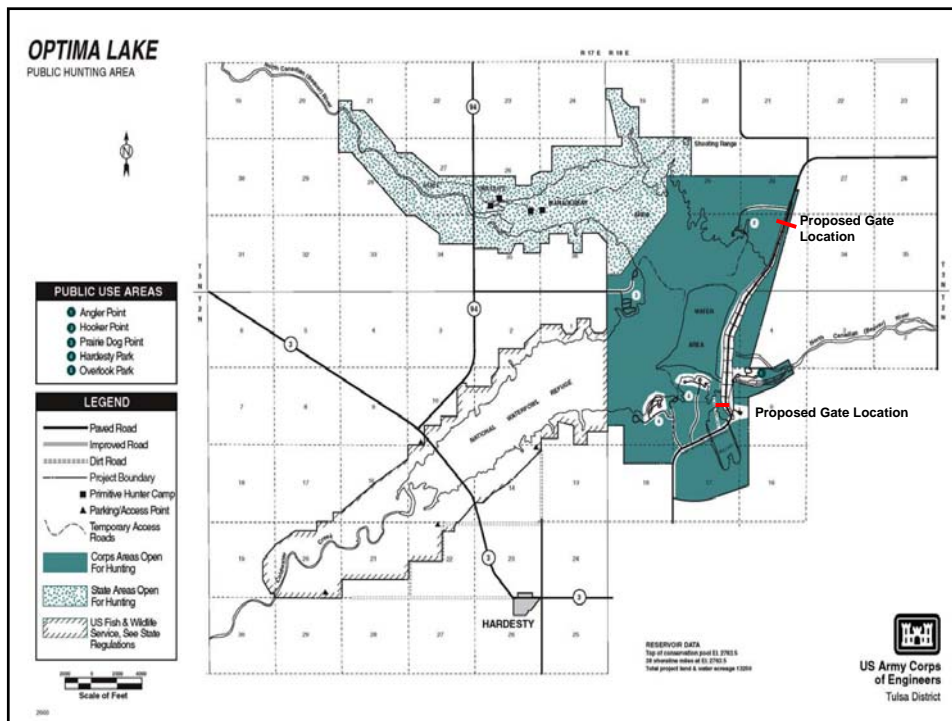
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# American Recovery and Reinvestment Act

- Contract strategy will be an existing previously competed contract
- 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 will not be restricted once project is complete



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## 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)



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# Questions



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