

CECW-O/CECW-B

S: 15 September 1999  
23 August 1999

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDERS, MAJOR SUBORDINATE COMMANDS,  
ATTN: CHIEFS, CONSTRUCTION-OPERATIONS DIVISIONS

SUBJECT: The Modernization of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Managed Recreation Areas

1. The modernization of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers managed recreation areas has been identified as a priority by the Chief of Engineers.
2. More than 90 percent of the 456 Corps lakes and reservoirs, which provide outdoor recreation opportunities to public, were constructed 20 or more years ago. In fact, 40 percent of those same lakes and reservoirs were constructed 40 or more years ago. The age of the Corps managed recreation areas is, in many cases, of a vintage similar to that of the lake or reservoir.
3. Many of the Corps managed areas are outdated and do not serve the needs of the using public. They require modernization to meet the needs of present users, under served populations, and to allow for flexibility to make further future modifications as equipment and population changes dictate.
4. An essential piece of any modernization budget proposal is the preparation of a list of recreation areas that could be modernized in Fiscal Year 2001.
5. Request each major subordinate command (MSC) submit modernization proposals for the number of Corps managed recreation areas listed below. The number per MSC is based on the relative number of lakes and reservoirs. The MSC proposals must be prioritized. Either day use and/or camping areas may be submitted.

LRD	- 5 recreation areas
MVD	- 4 recreation areas (include MR&T)
NAD	- 3 recreation areas
NWD	- 5 recreation areas
SAD	- 4 recreation areas
SPD	- 4 recreation areas
SWD	- 6 recreation areas

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6. The narrative portion of the modernization proposals for each area must include the following (three pages maximum):

a. Name of the District, Water Resources Project and Recreation Area.

b. Current condition of the Recreation Area. Include both facility conditions and management problems that may be occurring. Attach digital photographs that show the existing condition of the recreation facilities/infrastructure and/or management problems that would be corrected by modernization of the recreation area.

c. Annual Visitation to this recreation area for the last five years.

d. Recreation revenues collected at this recreation area for the last five years.

e. Modernization of the recreation areas will include (please list major actions).

f. Projected cost of the modernization (include design and environmental compliance costs).

g. Projected annual visitation following modernization.

h. Projected annual recreation revenues following modernization.

7. The proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

a. Addresses customer feedback/needs.

b. Projected positive impact on fee collections (look at last 5 years against projections after modernization).

c. Projected positive impact on long term operation and maintenance (look at last 5 years against projections after modernization).

d. Correction of environmental shortfalls.

e. Takes advantage of consolidation opportunities.

f. Accessibility for persons with disabilities.

g. Execution plan and potential/contractual tools exist or can be developed to execute modernization activities quickly.

h. Passes the common sense test.

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8. Please submit the above modernization proposals via e-mail to Mr. Dave Wahus, Natural Resources Management Branch, by close of business on 15 September 1999. Specific questions may be directed to Mr. Wahus at 202-761-1790.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

/s/

THOMAS F. CAVER, JR., P.E.  
Chief, Programs Management Division  
Directorate of Civil Works