



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**

Nashville District

## ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT

### **Proposed Master Plan Update J. Percy Priest Lake**

January 2008

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**PROPOSED MASTER PLAN UPDATE  
J. PERCY PRIEST LAKE  
ENVIRONMENTAL ASSESSMENT**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

The original JPP Master Plan was approved in 1966 and last updated in 1986. This document serves as a guide for coordination of project development and management of all land and water resources. The intent of an updated Master Plan is to present a current inventory and assessment of resources, provide an analysis of resource use, and evaluate existing and future needs required to protect and improve the value of resources at J. Percy Priest.

With the proposed Master Plan update, an Environmental Assessment (EA) is being completed to evaluate existing conditions and potential impacts of proposed alternatives. The EA is prepared pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA), CEQ regulations (40 CFR, 1500–1517), and the Corps implementing regulation, Policy and Procedures for Implementing NEPA, ER 200-2-2, 1988. Various documents are referenced in this EA as providing background or supplemental information. Those of primary importance include the following: J. Percy Priest Lake Master Plan (1986), Environmental Assessment for Continued Operation, Maintenance, and Management of J. Percy Priest Dam and Reservoir (1987), J. Percy Priest Operational Management Plan Part I Natural Resources Management (1990), and J. Percy Priest Operational Management Plan Part II Park Management (1986). Full citations are included in Section 10.

## **2.0 PURPOSE AND NEED FOR ACTION**

### **2.1 Purpose and Need**

The original Master Plan for J. Percy Priest was approved in 1966; this was followed by a single update in 1986. Since the update was completed, public use patterns have changed significantly and with population growth in the middle Tennessee region increasing tremendously, J. Percy Priest receives constant pressure for recreation and outgrants. With public use at project facilities changing, reallocations of services at these facilities need to be addressed. Changes involving recreation area closures and improvements have occurred since the previous update. In addition, environmentally sensitive areas have been identified that need protection and special consideration.

Master Plans are periodically updated to ensure focus on three primary components: regional and ecosystem needs, project resource capabilities and sustainabilities, and expressed public interests and desires. Updates also ensure environmental mandates and considerations are incorporated (USACE 1996a). Through the implementation of updated Master Plans, project managers can provide responsible and timely protection, conservation, and enhancement of project resources. Project resources include natural, cultural, and man-made features (USACE 1996b).

### **2.2 Project History**

J. Percy Priest Reservoir is located in northern central Tennessee approximately ten miles southeast of Nashville on the Stones River (See Figure 1). This reservoir was authorized by the Flood Control Act of 1948 as one of six flood control reservoirs recommended for Cumberland River tributaries. Originally named Stewarts Ferry Reservoir, the name was changed in 1958 to

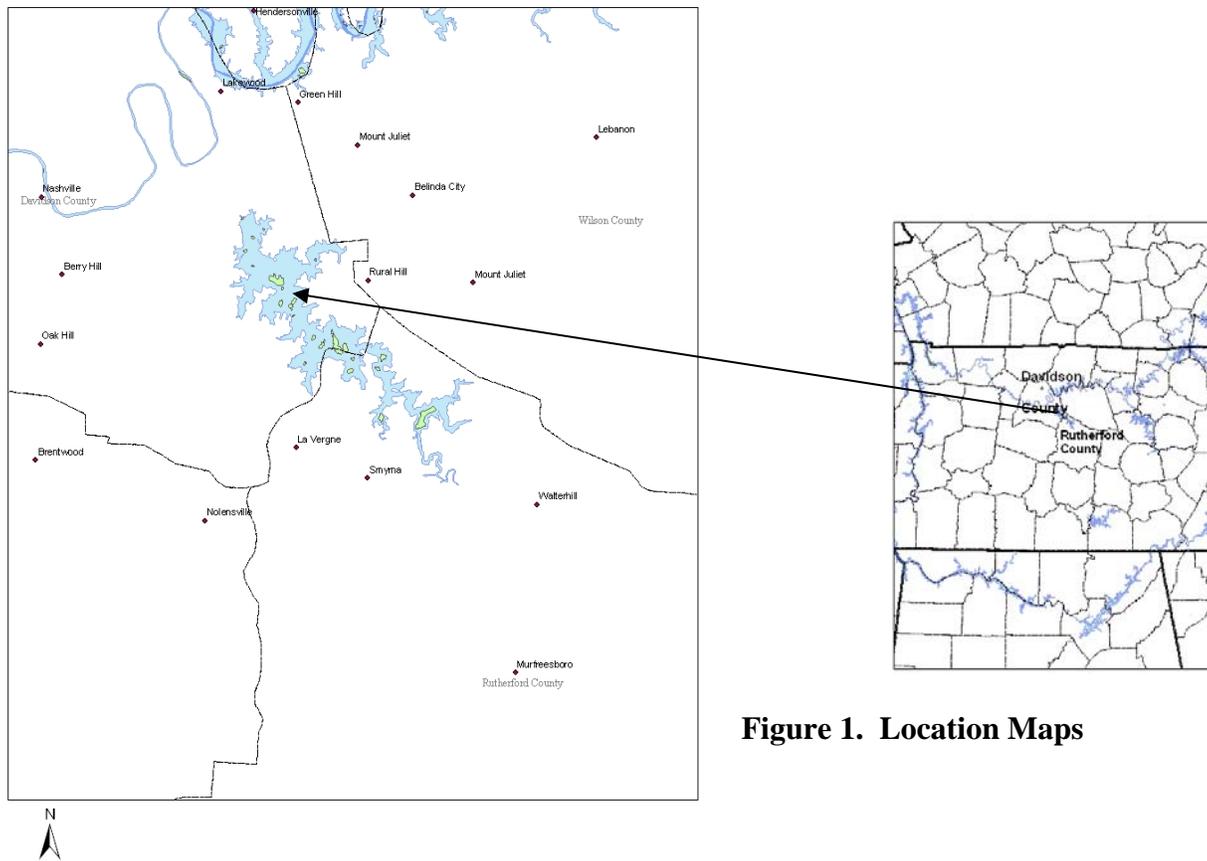
honor a late Tennessee Congressman. Construction began in 1963 and was completed in 1968. J. Percy Priest was authorized to provide recreation, flood control, and hydroelectric power production. Land acquisition at this reservoir was accomplished under the 1962 Army/Interior Joint Acquisition Policy. This resulted in public ownership of significant amounts of lands surrounding the reservoir. These lands remain especially critical since the lake is set in the midst of a highly developed, rapidly growing urban area. Table 1 shows reference elevations and associated area statistics. Additional project statistics are discussed in Section 4.

For hydroelectric power production, Priest has a single unit for generating approximately 28,000 kilowatts. The yearly average for this unit is production of 70,000,000 kilowatt hours. The operation of J. Percy Priest powerhouse is remotely controlled from Old Hickory Lake. The operational framework for winter and summer pool elevations allows for the storage capacity of potential flood waters during the winter months when precipitation and runoff are the greatest.

Aside from hydropower and flood control, project operations can be divided into recreation and natural resource management. This includes operation and management of recreational facilities as well as outgrants to other public agencies and concessionaires to provide additional features. Natural resource management includes management of lands and waters and coordination with public agencies and non-profit organizations to protect, enhance, and conserve the environmental resources of the project.

Water supply has become an important issue as three municipalities withdraw water to supply drinking water. With increasing populations and development, these municipalities are requesting additional water withdrawals. Developmental pressure has also presented conflicts for recreational use. Most prominent is the loss of hunting lands and encroachment of development near public hunting lands. As private lands are developed, more hunters look to recreate on public lands. Associated with the development of private lands near the lake have been increased requests for development of greenways and use of public lands for utility corridors.

Visitation to the project averages 30+ million visitor hours annually; that equates to slightly more than seven million visitors in 2006. J. Percy Priest continues to provide a variety of recreational opportunities and quality recreational experiences. In order to maintain this quality of services provided to the visiting public and protect and conserve the environmental and man-made resources at this project, updates of the Project Master Plan are needed.



**Figure 1. Location Maps**

**Table 1. Project Elevations and Statistics.**

<b>Elevations (above msl)</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Acres</b>	<b>River Miles</b>	<b>Shoreline Miles</b>	<b>Acre Feet</b>
<b>522.0</b>	Top of Dam				
<b>504.5</b>	Top of Gates; Total Storage	22,700		265	652,000
<b>463</b>	Spillway Crest				
<b>490</b>	Maximum Power Pool; Normal Summer Pool	41,200	42	213	
<b>480</b>	Minimum Power Pool; Winter Pool	10,570		172	268,000
<b>490-504.5</b>	Flood Storage				260,000
<b>480-490</b>	Power Drawdown				124,000

### **3.0 ALTERNATIVES**

Alternatives evaluated in the Environmental Assessment include the following:

### **3.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

With full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update, three actions would be incorporated: 1) outdated information would be revised to reflect current status and classification of project facilities and lands, conditions, and usage, 2) future uses and demands would be outlined, and 3) corridors would be designated for existing and future outgrants of project lands.

Project lands are classified as operational/administrative areas, recreational lands, environmentally sensitive areas, and multiple resource management lands. Outgrant utility corridors are categorized as I, II, or III depending upon number of existing outgrants and impacts to the project. Greenway trails, potential routes, and criteria for evaluation are also designated. Additional descriptions of these classifications and project areas are provided in the Master Plan Update.

Full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update is the preferred alternative. This would allow the most comprehensive update that best reflects environmental stewardship and conservation of J. Percy Priest project lands and waters while meeting public, social, and economic demands.

### **3.2 No-Action**

The No-Action alternative is defined as the Corps taking no action and therefore not implementing an update to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan. With this action, no new resource analysis and allocation would occur, nor would a revision to project sites' inventory be completed. Operation and management of J. Percy Priest would continue as outlined in the 1986 Master Plan Update.

### **3.3 Implementation of Revised Scope of Master Plan Update**

This alternative would include evaluating actions, comments, or requests that come about from public review when the EA and Master Plan Update are made available for a 30-day comment period. All comments received during the scoping period for the EA have been addressed and included in this document. All comments received during the public workshop/open house at the J. Percy Priest Resource Manager's Office to discuss the Master Plan Update have been addressed in that document. Any additional information would be discussed in the EA and any additional action alternatives developed would be evaluated.

One comment was received supporting this alternative. Tennessee Wildlife Federation (TWF) requested the Corps add additional language to address mitigation efforts as outlined in Section 11.07 Impacts to Established Recreational Opportunities in the Master Plan Update and Sections 4.9/5.7.1 Recreation Resources in the EA. TWF requests the Corps ensure lands designated to be returned to wildlife habitat and public hunting as mitigation for lands lost to greenways or other outgrant requests be of equal or higher wildlife value than those being lost. Implementation of this proposal could occur within the scope of Full Implementation of the Master Plan Update. The Resource Management Staff of J. Percy Priest could evaluate requests and mitigated lands on a case by case basis.

## **4.0 AFFECTED ENVIRONMENT**

### **4.1 Project Setting**

J. Percy Priest Dam is located on the Stones River at River Mile 6.8. The Stones River enters the Cumberland River at Mile 205.9 in Davidson County, Tennessee. J. Percy Priest Reservoir extends 22 miles up the Stones and continues 6 miles into the West Fork of the Stones River and 10 miles into the East Fork. The Stones River basin lies within Rutherford, Wilson, Cannon, and Davidson Counties. However, the reservoir lies primarily within Davidson (57%) and Rutherford (42%) Counties; one percent of the reservoir is within Wilson County. J. Percy Priest Lake covers 14,200 acres at normal pool elevation of 490 feet above mean sea level (msl). This area includes 42 river miles and 213 shoreline miles. Total project area at normal pool elevation with public lands and waters is 33,054 acres. Winter pool elevation is held at/near elevation 483 msl to accommodate potential runoff during the flood season December through March.

The Corps operates and maintains five campgrounds, nine picnic/day use areas, and seven access ramps. There are five commercial marinas on the lake that provide services to the visiting public. Approximately 10,000 acres of project lands are outgranted to Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) for wildlife management. In addition, Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County, State of Tennessee, and City of Smyrna provide recreational opportunities on J. Percy Priest through real estate instruments.

### **4.2 Climate, Physiography, Topography, Geology, and Soils**

*Climate.* Summers in Metropolitan Nashville are moderately hot and humid with the temperature averaging in the 80's in July. Winters can be chilly to cold with average lows of 27 during January. Average annual rainfall is 48.1 inches, typically with winter and spring being the wettest and fall being the driest (TWC 2007).

*Physiology and Topography.* The reservoir lies within two ecoregions recognized by the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC). The Outer Nashville Basin (Ecoregion 71h) is characterized by open hills, gently rolling to steep; some plains with hills; highly dissected escarpments; moderate gradient bedrock and gravel-bottomed streams. The Inner Nashville Basin (71i) consists of smooth to rolling plains, with some small hills and knobs. Streams are low gradient with clear water on bedrock substrate (EPA, 1997). Most of the land area lies between elevation 480 and 550 feet. The highest point in the watershed is Short Mountain, while the lowest occurs in the streambed at the mouth of the Stones River. Outstanding natural features within the project area include sinkholes and cedar glades, both results of the predominant limestone formations common to this area (USACE 1990).

The project area is divided into two sections, based on natural characteristics. The lower portion of the reservoir, from the dam site to Fate Sanders Bridge, is wide and deep and resembles the more typical lake setting. This section is more suitable to intensive recreational development and is located within or closer to the urban center of Nashville and major transportation routes. The upper portion of the reservoir, which extends from Fate Sanders Bridge to Walter Hill Dam on East Fork Stones River and to Nice Mill Dam on West Fork Stones River, is narrower and

shallower. This area is more riverine. Though not as heavily populated and pockets of rural community remain, this section lies close to fast growing cities such as Murfreesboro and Smyrna. This portion of the reservoir is more suited to less intensive activities such as hunting, hiking, and canoeing. Additional descriptions are provided in the Master Plan Update.

*Geology.* Bedrock throughout the watershed is a Paleozoic limestone with minor shaley phases. Formations of Mississippian Age comprise a relatively small section of the basin. The entire reservoir lies within the Central Basin of Tennessee and formations are of Ordovician Age (USACE 1990).

*Soils.* A majority of project lands are thin clay soils. Soil depth ranges from less than six inches, which is most common, to several feet. Permeability is slow to moderate. Saturation is reached immediately upon becoming wet, but moisture is lost very quickly. Percolation is limited due to the underlying limestone bedrock, with is often at or very close to surface. Low fertility and high susceptibility to erosion are characteristics of these clay soils. Soils of the project area severely limit vegetative growth (USACE 1990).

### **4.3 Aquatic Environment**

*Hydrology.* In addition to recreation and aquatic habitat, water within the reservoir is needed to meet the demands of hydroelectric power production and water supply. In recent years, water supply has become an increasing demand for this resource. This issue was evaluated in 2003 through a water supply storage reallocation report and EA (USACE 2003). Demands for hydropower will continue to be met as this is one of the initial authorized purposes for this project.

Inflows to the reservoir during summer and fall months of some years are less than evaporation losses. The Stones River basin is naturally flashy due to shallow bedrock. As development around the lake continues and natural surfaces become more impervious as areas are converted to roads, driveways, and rooftops, periods where inflows to the reservoir are lessened could be extended. Runoff from impervious surfaces causes a higher peak inflow immediately following storm events, but does not allow for groundwater infiltration to supplement base flows. This issue would be more apparent in the headwaters and tributaries of the reservoir where reduced stream flows would be visible. Not only does this cause concern for providing suitable habitat for aquatic fauna, but reduced water levels would affect all uses of the lake—hydropower production, recreation, and water supply.

*Water Quality.* J. Percy Priest Reservoir is considered fully supporting designated uses. Livestock, urban runoff, and land development are the primary sources of pollution within the watershed (TDEC 2006).

J. Percy Priest Reservoir is a moderately deep, temperature-density stratified storage reservoir. Stratification typically begins in spring and lasts through fall. During this period, oxygen is quickly depleted below 20 to 25-foot depths. Oxygen depletion results from nutrient loading by tributary streams due to activities such as agriculture and urban runoff. Phosphate bearing, natural formations and wastewater effluents are also contributing factors. In addition, high nutrient levels trigger algal blooms, which increases biological oxygen demand and further reduces available oxygen.

Maintaining oxygen levels above TDEC recommendations of 5 milligrams per liter (mg/l) for sustaining aquatic life are possible within the reservoir's upper stratum. However, deeper reservoir strata experience problems with depleted oxygen. In anaerobic conditions, metals such as iron and manganese can occur in high concentrations and can stay in solution. This situation occurs for at least five months while the lake is stratified and can create potential problems downstream during hydropower releases, as water for this operation is pulled from depths greater than 15 feet (USACE 1990, USACE 2003). Hydrogen sulfide odors are also noticeable during this same period and worsen as the season progresses.

*Aquatic Resources.* Previous studies of benthic macroinvertebrates, phytoplankton, and fisheries have been completed in J. Percy Priest Reservoir. Phytoplankton taxa found are common throughout all Cumberland River Basin lakes, and communities present can be considered typical for the waterbody. Macroinvertebrate communities sampled in the five major tributaries to the reservoir are diverse. Most major taxa expected were represented. Differences in species composition represented different substrate types found in the tributaries. A high number of organisms indicates overall high productivity in the watershed. Fisheries within the reservoir are typical of those found in reservoirs of the southeastern US. Numerous species of forage, rough, and game and sport fish were represented (USACE 2003). The project Operational Management Plan (OMP), Part I (USACE 1990) gives additional detail of fisheries within the reservoir. Largemouth bass (*Micropterus salmoides*), crappie (*Pomoxis* spp.), rockfish (*Morone saxatilis*), and catfish are important sport fish within the lake (USACE 2003). Tailwater fish species are similar to those within the reservoir. Additional sport fish include sauger (*Stizostedion canadense*) and trout (*Oncorhynchus mykiss*); however, these are seasonal due to sauger spawning migration and winter releases for trout. Much of the Stones River below the dam becomes slackwater from Cheatham Lake. Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is responsible for fisheries management as specified in the OMP, Part I for J. Percy Priest (USACE, 1990). Management techniques include fish stocking and habitat enhancement. The Corps works with TWRA to stabilize water elevations, especially during spring spawning seasons as well as manage water releases as necessary.

#### **4.4 Terrestrial Resources and Land Use**

*Vegetation.* Detailed descriptions of terrestrial resources, both vegetative and wildlife can be found in the OMP, Part I (USACE 1990). Where lands are designated as recreational areas, these sites are identified and discussed in the OMP, Part II (USACE 1986).

Approximately 12,250 acres of the public lands are forested. Much of this area is secondary succession from former agriculture or logging operations. Predominant species include oaks (*Quercus* spp) and hickories (*Carya* spp) interspersed with sassafras (*Sassafras albidum*), sweetgum (*Liquidambar styraciflua*), hackberry (*Celtis occidentalis*), and dogwood (*Cornus florida*).

Cedar glades are dispersed throughout the project area and occur on shallow, poor soils. Aside from the dominant eastern redcedar (*Juniperus virginiana*), winged elm (*Ulmus alata*), post oak (*Quercus stellata*) and pignut hickory (*Carya glabra*) are common. Common shrubs include glade privet (*Forestiera ligustrina*), snowberry (*Symphoricarpos albus*), and fragrant sumac (*Rhus aromatica*).

Cedar glades are identified as environmentally sensitive areas and provide habitat for several rare plant species, many of which are endemic to Middle Tennessee. Many areas within the project lands are identified as state natural areas, state forest, or conservation sites. These sites are shown on maps within the Master Plan Update. Protection and conservation of this unique ecosystem is a priority.

Project resources are under continual pressure for outgrant to municipalities and others for construction of roadways and utility corridors. The proposed Master Plan Update outlines areas where these types of outgrants and associated land disturbance could occur.

*Wildlife.* TWRA manages approximately 10,896 acres of J. Percy Priest lands for wildlife management and providing recreational opportunities. Lands within the lower reaches of the project area receive intensive recreational use, primarily due to being within a highly populated area. Wildlife most compatible for habitats in this reach are small animals, such as rabbit (*Sylvilagus floridanus*), squirrel (*Sciurus carolinensis*), opossum (*Didelphis virginiana*), raccoon (*Procyon lotor*), fox (*Vulpes vulpes/Urocyon cinereoargenteus*), coyotes (*Canis latrans*) and songbirds. Deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) are also common as they have adapted to an urban environment. In the upper reaches of the lake, where there are larger tracts of natural habitat, game species such as deer and wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) are common. This area is also popular for hunting both small and large game. TWRA has designated a waterfowl resting area within the Poole Knobs area of the reservoir.

In addition to management efforts by TWRA, the Corps wildlife management program includes providing food plots, nesting structure, and cover habitat.

#### **4.5 Threatened and Endangered Species**

As taken from project documents, Appendix 2 includes a comprehensive list of species of concern occurring within Davidson, Wilson, and Rutherford Counties. Many of the species are plants that occur in cedar glade habitats. Cedar glades, and associated threatened and endangered species, are designated in the proposed Master Plan update as environmentally sensitive areas. This designation outlines restrictions and limitations to land uses for the protection and conservation of these areas and species.

#### **4.6 Archaeological and Historic Resources**

The Stones River Basin plays a significant role in Middle Tennessee history, both frontier era and Civil War period (USACE 1987). J. Percy Priest has several significant cultural sites. These range from ancient Native American sites to settlement sites abandoned with lake impoundment. Many of the sites are now inundated by the reservoir. Inventory and surveying was conducted prior to inundation in coordination with National Park Service and the University of Tennessee. The project has developed a Cultural Resources Management Plan as an appendix to the Master Plan that further outlines management and protection of this resource.

#### **4.7 Air Quality**

Rutherford County is considered in attainment with national ambient air quality standards (NAAQS) for which attainment designations have been issued (correspondence TDEC, Division of Air 2007). Per a 2005 Metro/Davidson County report, the county is in attainment with

NAAQS for the 2005 or 2003-2005 monitoring period for ozone, particulate matter (PM)<sub>10</sub> and <sub>2.5</sub>, sulfur dioxide, nitrogen dioxide, and carbon dioxide.

#### **4.8 Socio-Economic Resources**

In 2006, J. Percy Priest recorded 32 million visitor hours. This translates to \$61 million economic benefit to the local economy. Given the populations of Davidson and Rutherford Counties exceed 650 million residents as shown in the table below, the visitor base to the project is easily recognized.

**Table 2. Population Statistics for J. Percy Priest Reservoir Area**

	<b>Davidson County</b>	<b>Nashville</b>	<b>Rutherford County</b>	<b>Murfreesboro</b>	<b>Tennessee</b>
<b>Population</b>	575,261 (2005)	544,765 (2003)	218,292 (2005)	78,074 (2003)	5,962,959 (2005)
<b>Housing Units</b>	270,516 (2005)	242,451 (2000)	90,147 (2005)	28,815 (2000)	2,637,441 (2005)
<b>Person Per Square Mile</b>	1,135.2 (2000)	1,152.6 (2000)	294.1 (2000)	1,764.9 (2000)	138.0 (2000)
<b>Median Household Income</b>	\$40,878 (2003)	\$39,232 (1999)	\$48,545 (2003)	\$39,705 (1999)	\$37,925 (2003)
Information provided by US Census Bureau					

#### **4.9 Recreation Resources**

In addition to flood control and hydropower, recreation is an authorized purpose of J. Percy Priest. There are many recreational opportunities at this project. Fishing, swimming, boating, hiking, horseback riding, picnicking, camping, sightseeing, and hunting are a few. The Corps operates and maintains five campgrounds, nine picnic/day use areas, and seven access ramps. There are five commercial marinas on the lake that provide services to the visiting public. Approximately 10,000 acres of project lands are outgranted to TWRA for wildlife management, environmental education, and hunting. In addition, Metropolitan Nashville Davidson County, State of Tennessee, and City of Smyrna provide recreational opportunities on J. Percy Priest through real estate instruments.

With limited funding sources available, operation and maintenance of recreational facilities has been challenging. This intensifies with increased population of this region and residential development within the project area. As an effort to better use project facilities and meet the publics' requests for recreation, the Nashville District Corps of Engineers developed its Recreation Excellence at Army Lakes (REAL) Program. Under this program, one recreation area was closed and others reduced to boat launching. At other locations amenities are proposed for relocation or construction. All of these actions were implemented to achieve more efficient use of intensively used areas while providing improved facilities and services to project visitors.

A trend of recent years that has been growing in intensity is the construction of greenway trails and corridors. These include pathways to link parks and cities via a walking or biking pathway.

A popular feature with greenways is to parallel streams or rivers. Nashville, Murfreesboro, LaVergne, and Smyrna are all growing cities within the J. Percy Priest area and are rapidly building greenways. To accomplish their proposed plans, these cities have requested or plan to request use of Corps-managed lands for construction of greenways.

Currently as listed in the Master Plan Update, there are four existing greenways on project lands: Stones River greenway (3 miles in length below the dam), Alta Lake connector (1.2 miles in the vicinity of Bell Road/Dodson Chapel Road), Smyrna (4 miles between Sam Ridley Parkway and Stewart Creek), and Long Hunter State Park (various sections). There are four proposed greenways that would make use of J. Percy Priest lands: LaVergne greenway in the Parthenon Boulevard vicinity; North Murfreesboro greenway in the vicinity of Walter Hill Recreation Area; Smyrna greenway along Stewart Creek and Weakley Road; and Long Hunter State Park greenway using portions of existing trails in Couchville, Bakers Cove and Bryant Grove.

In response to scoping this for EA, the cities of LaVergne and Smyrna responded that their future development plans would include requests for use of Corps lands for recreational development. LaVergne has interest in the Hurricane Creek ramp area for low impact development, such as greenways, trails, playgrounds, canoe access, and other features. In addition, the Parks and Recreation Department may want to consider an area in the vicinity of Poole Knob Recreation Area for greenway development. LaVergne eventually plans to link its greenway trail system with Smyrna's. Smyrna indicated interest in a greenway for connecting Sharp Springs to Jefferson Springs Recreation Areas and greenways along the river to connect Florence Road with the city of Murfreesboro's trail system.

A recreation and environmental concern associated with proposed greenway corridors is the bisecting or total loss of large tracts of public lands. In addition to environmental impacts, loss of hunting lands is a concern. Hunting lands are receiving additional pressures as residential developments continue to creep closer to the boundaries of Corps-managed lands. Directly associated with land development is the loss of private hunting lands. As these lands are no longer available, more hunters are moving to public lands. With increased use of lands for hunting and increase use of hiking and horseback riding trails comes a concern of conflicting uses of project lands.

#### **4.10 Health and Safety**

Safety of project visitors and project staff are highest priority in daily project operations. Facilities and recreational areas are routinely evaluated to ensure sites are safe for visitor use. In implementing the REAL program, safety is better achieved where resources are allocated to areas most needed. Project staff conducts numerous water safety programs and public announcements to educate children and project visitors about ways to be safe on the lake.

In coordination with TWRA, water safety hazards and no wake zones are marked with buoys. Park Rangers provide visitor assistance and work with Metro and county law enforcement agencies to ensure public safety. TWRA and Metro police provide water safety patrols on the reservoir.

#### **4.11 Aesthetics**

Management objectives include maintaining scenic vistas while limiting impacts that would negatively affect aesthetics. Aesthetics is an important feature that enhances the recreational experience. The perimeter lands around J. Percy Priest Reservoir provide a natural setting that is aesthetically pleasing as well as buffering the lake from development and negative impacts such as erosion and stormwater runoff. However, there are problems in maintaining these aesthetic qualities. Project resource staff is continually investigating trespasses that include activities such as timber cutting and land destruction by unauthorized off road vehicles. In addition, litter and illegal trash dumping both on project lands and project waters are continual problems. Vandalism within recreation areas also occurs frequently.

Other concerns that impact aesthetics are demands put upon project resources for uses such as road and utility line corridors. As J. Percy Priest is surrounded by residential, commercial, and industrial development, these demands are continually increasing. In many instances, these requests are in areas where the natural vegetation and landscape would be disturbed.

### **5.0 ENVIRONMENTAL CONSEQUENCES**

The following table summarizes which resources are likely to be affected by implementation of a Master Plan Update or No Action. Discussion of potential impacts then follows.

**Table 3: Resources Likely Affected With Proposed Implementation**

<b>Affected Environment</b>	<b>Likely to be Affected</b>
Climate, Physiography, Topography, Geology and Soils	Yes
Aquatic Environment	Yes
Terrestrial Resources/Land Use	Yes
Threatened & Endangered Species	Possibly
Archaeological & Historic Resources	Possibly
Air Quality	No
Socio-economics	Yes
Recreation Resources	Yes
Health & Safety	Yes
Aesthetics	Yes

#### **5.1 Climate, Physiography, Topography, Geology, and Soils**

##### **5.1.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Areas of geological or soils concerns would be protected with implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update. In addition to designating environmentally sensitive areas, such as cedar glades, designating utility and greenway corridors could prevent encroachment into incompatible areas where soils, geology, or topography need to be protected. Designated areas would also limit the cumulative area of potential disturbance by keeping the infrastructures within a banded

area and not looking at individual routes that could further impact topography, geology and/or soils.

### **5.1.2 No-Action**

With no action implemented, areas of special concern for topography, geology, and soils could still be protected based on the 1986 Master Plan and individual review of proposals. However without special consideration or designation of corridor routes, these areas of concern are more likely to be encroached upon or damaged. Individual assessment of utility or greenway routes would likely result in multiple sites being proposed by potential outgrantees, therefore the footprint and magnitude of environmental damage is increased. In addition without implementation of the proposed update, areas of special interest not already discussed in the 1986 Master Plan, such as cedar glades, would not be formally recognized as environmentally sensitive areas, nor would the ranking criteria for these areas be adopted.

## **5.2 Aquatic Environment**

### **5.2.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Aquatic resources are less likely to receive direct impacts from a proposed Master Plan Update. However, secondary impacts to this resource would be realized. These impacts would be concentrated to the transitional zone adjacent to the shoreline. With designated land uses and development corridors, potential erosion and stormwater runoff to J. Percy Priest would be limited and reduced. With designated areas for corridors and areas of special concern identified, impacts to the riparian corridor surrounding the lake can be minimized. Protection or conservation of the riparian area around the lake provides positive impacts to aquatic resources by providing canopy cover, thereby providing reduced temperatures around the waters edge and a source of detritus, as well as tree roots holding the banks in place. In addition, a wider riparian corridor with mature trees serves to filter runoff before reaching the reservoir. As impervious surfaces increase, the amount of runoff increases and the quality of this water source is impaired with sediment, oils, and other pollutants. An area surrounding the reservoir to capture this runoff becomes increasingly important.

### **5.2.2 No-Action**

Impacts to aquatic resources would most likely be affected through increased land disturbance if utility and greenway corridors are not limited to designated areas. With the potential for multiple areas to be considered, runoff from land disturbance is increased, thereby causing additional non-point source pollution to reach the lake. Impacts to aquatic resources would be limited to the zones along the shoreline. This could negatively impact both the availability of habitat being lost due to siltation as well as macroinvertebrate and fisheries that use this area. There would be no impacts to the open water habitat.

## **5.3 Terrestrial Resources and Land Use**

### **5.3.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Terrestrial resources would receive the greatest amount of disturbance from approved requests for utility and greenway corridors. Impacts to this resource would be limited most with implementation of the full proposed update. Greenway corridors and routes for proposed or future utility lines would be designated. Resource management staff have proposed the route locations such that disturbance to project resources would be avoided or limited to the greatest

extent possible. Therefore, by implementing these designations to outline routes of access, impacts to terrestrial resources and wildlife can be concentrated in the most suitable areas.

Classification or reclassification of project lands as proposed in the update would allow proper designation of lands as they are currently being used or have future potential for use. By properly designating the lands, protection and proper use could more easily be accomplished.

### **5.3.2 No-Action**

With no implementation of a Master Plan Update, requests for use of project lands for utility and greenway corridors would be reviewed on a case by case basis. There would be no predetermined layout for these routes; therefore potential impacts to the resource could be significant. In addition there would be no classification or reclassification of project lands to better represent current or future uses. Similarly, as this update is being made available to the public, they would not be advised of various changes that have occurred at recreation and management areas at J. Percy Priest.

## **5.4 Threatened and Endangered Species**

### **5.4.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Threatened and endangered species would benefit most from full implementation of a proposed Master Plan update with the designation of Environmentally Sensitive Areas. Many of the plant species of concern occur in cedar glade habitat, which would have special designation. With this special designation there would be limitations and restrictions to land uses that would further protect and conserve species of concern. Designated utility and greenway corridors would limit disturbance to areas where species of concern most likely occur. However, more detailed evaluation of each proposal would occur to ensure impacts were avoided and coordination with US Fish and Wildlife Service and Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation would occur as needed.

### **5.4.2 No-Action**

Threatened and endangered species would continue to be protected. In addition, sensitive areas such as cedar glades would still be considered areas of special significance. However, without the Master Plan update, there would not be a formal designation Environmentally Sensitive Areas.

## **5.5 Archaeological and Historic Resources**

### **5.5.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Management and protection of archeological and historic resources would benefit with full implementation of a proposed Master Plan update. Utility and trail corridors that have been designated with the update have been routed to avoid disturbance to these resources. Each request for land use would also be further evaluated to ensure avoidance of historic resources. Coordination with Tennessee Historical Commission would occur as needed.

### **5.5.2 No-Action**

Management and protection of archeological and historic resources would continue without an updated Master Plan. Without designated areas for utility and trail corridors, there would be the

need for more extensive review and evaluation to ensure no sites of interest are likely to be affected with each outgrant request.

## **5.6 Socio-Economic Resources**

### **5.6.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update would accurately reflect project facilities inventory and conditions. In addition this would allow allocation of resources to project facilities that are used most by project visitors. This in turn addresses socioeconomic benefits gained from project visitation. It is understood that municipalities lying in close proximity to J. Percy Priest reservoir receive economic benefits from visitors to the lake. As project facilities are best managed to provide for recreation and environmental conservation, adjacent municipalities could continue to benefit from the visitation.

In addition to revenue to the locally economies, these cities may rely upon the reservoir for water supply and dilution of wastewater discharges. Proposals from these municipalities are expected for real estate instruments for activities such as roads, utility lines, parks, and greenways. Growth within these cities and counties increases the pressure and use of project resources and facilities. With full implementation of the update, areas for requests such as those named above would be designated where these requests could be accommodated to the fullest extent possible while not comprising project resources and authorized purposes.

### **5.6.2 No-Action**

By implementing no action, the Master Plan would not be updated to accurately reflect current project inventories, classification, and future needs. Project facilities in need of reallocation would remain as outlined in the 1986 Master Plan update. Therefore optimization of project resources would be limited. Economic benefits to surrounding municipalities would continue based on visitation to J. Percy Priest Reservoir. Outgrants requested by municipalities would continue to occur, however review of each request would not be as expeditiously evaluated with no designated corridors for project use.

## **5.7 Recreation Resources**

### **5.7.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

Recreation needs of the visiting public would be better accommodated with implementation of a Master Plan update. Reallocation of facilities and services would be reflected in the master plan by having an inventory and assessment that accurately reflects existing project facilities as well as those proposed to accommodate future needs and demands.

With this update, greenway and trail corridors within J. Percy Priest managed lands have been assessed and a category level (I, II, or III) assigned. This categorization includes amount of impact, trail surface, trail width, and number of uses with level I being the highest impacting. More detailed discussion of this assessment is available within the Master Plan Update.

With full implementation of the proposed update, currently proposed and future greenways and trails would be evaluated based on the established categorization. Implementation of the Nashville District Corps Mitigation policy would require that proposals consider avoidance, minimization, and then mitigation for impacts from greenway construction projects to Corps managed lands and resources. In addition, corridor routes have been designated around project

lands that delineate where trails should be located to accommodate requests while protecting and conserving the natural resources and limiting possible environmental impacts.

In addition to avoiding environmental impacts, proposed routes for greenways address loss of other recreational uses, such as public hunting. Trail designs, such as that proposed for North Murfreesboro greenway where parallel trails are proposed to the greatest extent possible, would accommodate various uses and avoid conflicts, such as with horse riders and hikers.

To further address potential loss of public hunting lands, the Master Plan update outlines change in designation of project lands from recreation areas to lands within TWRA wildlife management areas. Areas such as Fall Creek, Fate Sanders, Lamar Hill, Stewart Creek, and Poole Knobs would be considered for change in designation. This would serve to offset loss of acreage due to greenways or other uses that would inhibit hunting.

### **5.7.2 No-Action**

Provision of recreational facilities and services would continue at J. Percy Priest Reservoir without an update to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan. However, the plan by which the Resource Manager and staff operate would not accurately reflect the current status of project facilities. Nor would there be additional measures in place, such as trail corridors and additional land use designations, to better accommodate recreational needs while protecting the natural resources.

## **5.8 Health & Safety**

### **5.8.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

As status and classification of project land and facilities are revised and future needs and demands are outlined, resource staff at the reservoir would be more readily prepared to address health and safety issues. As outlined in the Master Plan update, health and safety of project visitors and staff have been considered in the analysis of current and future needs of project resources. Therefore, implementation of the update would assist resource staff in ensuring health and safety is addressed.

By outlining designated areas for trail corridors and trail design, safety of project visitors is also addressed. Corridors have been placed along areas to avoid conflict of use.

### **5.8.2 No-Action**

Safety will remain highest priority for daily park operations. Projects and programs to promote visitor safety and awareness would continue even with no implementation of a Master Plan update. Review of reach trail proposal would include evaluation to limit conflicts of use to the greatest extent possible.

## **5.9 Aesthetics**

### **5.9.1 Full Implementation of Proposed Master Plan Update**

With continual requests for outgrants of project lands, implementation of the proposed update would reduce potential impacts to the aesthetics of J. Percy Priest Reservoir. By developing corridors for activities such as trails, greenways, and utility lines, these activities are concentrated such that there would be less potential for land disturbance. With less land disturbance, aesthetic qualities are retained.

In addition with an updated inventory and resource analysis, those areas providing quality aesthetics are more accurately identified.

### **5.9.2 No-Action**

Without implementation of a Master Plan Update, there is potential for increased impacts to aesthetics of the reservoir. Outgrants would continue to be requested. If these are not concentrated within a designated area, there is additional likelihood of land disturbance; this in turn could negatively affect aesthetic qualities.

## **5.10 Cumulative Impacts**

Cumulative impacts would result from the incremental impact of the proposed action added to those of other past, present, or reasonably foreseeable future actions in the local area. Geographical boundaries for this discussion of cumulative impacts are J. Percy Priest Reservoir and counties the project lies within. Temporal boundaries established span from reservoir impoundment (1968) to fifty years future projection.

### **Past and Present Actions**

Stones River was impounded for the creation of J. Percy Priest Reservoir. Authorized purposes for construction were flood control, hydropower generation, and recreation. Allocation of water within the reservoir for water supply to municipalities and private interest has also placed a demand on project resources. Project purposes for recreation and associated natural resource management is the focus of the Master Plan Update.

Recreational usage of J. Percy Priest has been tremendous due to close proximity to downtown Nashville. Visitation to recreation areas has been steady and/or increasing. As a result, the reservoir contributes heavily to the local economy in visitor spending and local jobs. Associated with the high volume of visitation is use of recreational facilities. Many areas reach and sometimes exceed capacities for parking, camping and picnicking facilities. Boat traffic on the reservoir is often in heavy volume.

Also because of close proximity to the metropolitan area, urban and suburban development around the reservoir has been tremendous. As this development has increased, so have requests for rights-of-way and licenses on public lands for community infrastructures such as utility lines, greenways, and roadways. This impacts land and aquatic resources. However, the reservoir is fully supporting designated uses as outlined by TDEC (2006).

### **Reasonably Foreseeable Future Actions**

Urbanization is expected to continue. Therefore pressures on the lake's resources are expected to continue. Carrying capacities of each resource would continue be maximized and/or exceeded. In addition, damages such as water quality due to runoff, continual requests for outgrants, encroachments on public lands, etc are expected to continue and possibly become worse. Necessary precautions would need to be implemented to ensure the resources are not overused or damaged to an unacceptable level. The Master Plan Update is one tool that Resource staff implements to ensure optimal use of facilities and resources and conservation and protection of natural resources while providing recreational opportunities to the visiting public.

## **Effects**

As the area around J. Percy Priest continues to experience pressure from residential development, terrestrial resources surrounding the reservoir become even more of a limited resource. With the loss of vegetated land area outside Corps boundaries, wildlife is likely to be concentrated in the remaining forested lands. In addition, more pressure is placed on the public lands for the facilities and activities that are provided.

Water quality and aquatic resources within the lake have been termed as generally good. Land development, livestock, and urban runoff are primary pollution sources. As development around the reservoir continues to increase, urban runoff will continue to be a source of pollution that could affect water quality of the lake. This increases the need to maintain the forested buffer surrounding the lake. With urban development and loss of pervious surfaces such as grass and trees comes loss of water being infiltrated into groundwater. This will place additional pressures on the reservoir to meet water demands.

With the increase in residential development in the surrounding counties, visitation to J. Percy Priest Reservoir will continue to increase. Demands for recreational facilities will also continue to increase. Facilities will need continual repair and upgrade to satisfactorily meet visitor expectations. In addition there will be conflicting demands for recreational opportunities on the reservoir and project lands. The continued request for various uses of project lands by municipalities and other interests will also add more demands on the limited project lands and waters.

A Master Plan Update would provide a tool for the Resource staff of J. Percy Priest to ensure natural resources and project facilities are being used to the greatest extent possible without degradation to the resource. Revising existing data to reflect current status and classification as well as project future uses and demands would better provide for accommodating demands for varying recreational opportunities while avoiding potential conflict. Designating areas for existing and future outgrants of project lands would limit locality and severity of potential impacts while expediting evaluation period for requests.

## **6.0 ENVIRONMENTAL COMPLIANCE**

Compliance with Federal Acts and Executive Orders are summarized in Table 4.

### **6.1 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act**

The Corps is required to coordinate with the USFWS and TWRA under the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (FWCA) (48 Stat. 401, as amended; 16 USC 661 et seq.). Coordination was initiated with a scoping notice and continued with review of the EA. Comments received are summarized in Section 7.2; there are no outstanding issues.

### **6.2 Endangered Species Act**

The Endangered Species Act (ESA) requires the determination of possible effects on or degradation of habitat critical to Federally-listed endangered or threatened species. Implementation of an updated Master Plan would not affect threatened or endangered species. Individual requests for use of project lands would be evaluated to ensure compliance with this Act. In correspondence provided on November 19, 2007 US Fish and Wildlife Service

concluded with language that additional coordination would occur for outgrant requests. In addition the Service commented that it is unlikely formal consultation would be needed based on the efforts identified to minimize adverse effects to listed species.

### 6.3 Environmental Justice

Executive Order 12898, *Federal Actions to Address Environmental Justice in Minority Populations and Low Income Populations*, requires Federal agencies to promote “nondiscrimination in Federal programs substantially affecting human health and environment”. In response to this directive, Federal Agencies must identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health and environmental effects of their programs, policies, and activities on minority and low-income populations. The final step in the environmental justice evaluation process is to evaluate the impact of the project on the population and to ascertain whether target populations are affected more adversely than other residents.

Implementing the proposed Master Plan Update would not disproportionately affect minority or low-income populations. Project lands are available for use by all members of the general public.

### 6.4 Cultural Resource Requirement

Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 requires the Corps to identify historic properties affected by the proposed action and to evaluate the eligibility of those properties for the National Register of Historic Places. The Act also requires Federal agencies to provide the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation an opportunity to comment on undertakings through the process outlined in the Council’s regulations (36 CFR 800).

There would be no effect to cultural resources with implementation of an updated Master Plan. Individual requests for use of project lands would be evaluated to ensure compliance with this Act and coordination with the Tennessee Historical Commission would occur as necessary. Per an October 12, 2007 discussion with this office, the State Historic Preservation Officer concurs with this action.

**Table 4: Federal Act/Executive Order Compliance**

Act/Executive Order	Status	Compliance
Wetlands (EO 11990)	No effect	C
Prime/Unique Farmlands	N/A	N/A
Floodplain Management (EO 11988)	N/A	N/A
Clean Water Act		
Section 404	No effect	N/A
Section 401	No effect	N/A
NPDES	No effect	N/A
Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act	No effect	C
Endangered Species Act	No effect	C
National Historic Preservation Act	No effect	C
Environmental Justice (EO 12898)	No effect	C
Clean Air Act	No effect	C
Comprehensive Environmental Response Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA)	N/A	N/A
Resource Conservation and Recovery Act (RCRA)	N/A	N/A
Wild and Scenic Rivers Act	N/A	N/A
Rivers and Harbors Act	N/A	N/A
N/A—not applicable C--Compliant		

## 7.0 SCOPING AND PUBLIC CONCERN

### 7.1 Public Involvement

Scoping letters were mailed to state and federal governments with jurisdiction by law or special expertise and members of the public. (See Appendix 1 for mailing list.) This EA and unsigned FONSI are being circulated for a thirty-day comment period.

In addition an open house was held at the J. Percy Priest Resource Manager's Office on 26 April 2007. The public was invited to attend and discuss the 2007 revision to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan and any other issues of concern. Approximately six people were in attendance. There were no specific issues related to the Master Plan or where there concerns expressed that should be addressed in this EA.

### 7.2 Scoping Responses

A scoping letter was issued on February 26, 2007. Comments are summarized below; full comments are included in Appendix 1. These issues have been addressed in this Environmental Assessment.

- Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation (TDEC), Air Pollution Control Division provided air quality monitoring status information. This office does not expect the action alternative to adversely impact local air quality if adequate measures are employed to control fugitive emissions and waste is properly disposed.
- Tennessee Historical Commission stated that the project may affect properties eligible for listing in the National Register of Historic Places and coordination with this office should continue. *Response: a copy of the EA is being provided to this office.*
- Consolidated Utility District (CUD) provides water supply to Rutherford County through withdrawals from J. Percy Priest Lake. CUD expressed concerns for water quantity as it sees a need for additional withdrawals. CUD is also concerned for water quality from erosion and sedimentation as well as chemical spills from truck wrecks on Interstate 840. *Response: use of project waters for water withdrawals are discussed in this EA; however requests for withdrawals are beyond the scope of this review and would be addressed through the Corps Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch. Water quality is a concern addressed in this EA.*
- TDEC, Division of Natural Areas commented in favor of updating the Master Plan due to outdated document and recent growth and land use changes in the Stones River watershed. The Division notes there are several populations of rare species identified near J. Percy Priest Lake and has special concern for cedar glades. The Division asks that the Corps use previously provided data as well as new information provided with its response to consider rare species habitat protection in the Master Plan update. *Response: this information was considered during the preparation of the Master Plan update.*

- Tennessee Wildlife Federation commented it strongly supports the alternative to update the master plan. The agency requested the EA address the following issues: impacts of land uses on the resource, impacts on natural resources management, and greenway connection corridors. *Response: these issues were discussed within the EA.*
- TDEC, Division of Solid Waste did not see anything of concern for its office with the proposed master plan update.
- TDEC, Division of Recreation Educational Services commented that it sees no involvement by this office for this project.
- TDEC, Division of Water Supply (DWS) provided a review of wells and municipal water supplies located within the project area. In addition, DWS commented that any work planned within the project area should address construction and drainage around/through sinkholes and provided a list of erosion control requirements in the vicinity of sinkholes. This office also requires pre and post construction mapping where sinkholes are affected. *Response: there are no activities proposed at this time. Review of actions will consider potential impacts to sinkholes.*
- Smyrna Department of Parks commented they are interested in ensuring continued execution of outgrant proposals they have initiated with the Corps. The Department of Parks is very interested in expanding greenways within the City's area of responsibility. *Response: requests for proposed and future uses of Corps' lands acknowledged. Initial coordination would be with J. Percy Priest Resource Manager.*
- LaVergne Department of Parks commented they are interested in continued and future coordination to acquire real estate instruments for Corps managed lands for greenways and possibly park facilities. *Response: requests for proposed and future uses of Corps' lands acknowledged. Initial coordination would be with J. Percy Priest Resource Manager.*

### **7.3 Environmental Assessment Responses**

The J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update and Environmental Assessment were circulated for a 30-day comment period on October 12, 2007. Responses are summarized and all letters and transmittals are included in Appendix 1.

- Per October 18, 2007 telephone conversation between Corps District Archeologist and Tennessee Historical Commission, the State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) understands the Master Plan Update and EA are planning documents. There is no stated implementation of undertakings. Proposals for specific actions would be reviewed on an individual basis and coordinated with the SHPO. *Response: None required.*
- On November 8, 2007 Ms. Karen Johnson requested consideration of a possible greenway in the Smith Springs Road area. This would afford local residents the opportunities for health and fitness as well as enjoyment of the natural resources. *Response: There have been no proposals for greenways in this vicinity. The Corps would entertain a proposal from Metro Nashville or other public organization for review*

*in accordance with the J. Percy Priest Master Plan and other applicable guidance and regulations. Public sidewalks are also a viable alternative which would provide public access along established roadways and meet Metro Nashville's Strategic Plan for Sidewalks & Bikeways, dated March 2003.*

- Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) provided comments on November 9, 2007 supporting full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update alternative. TWRA is not opposed to greenways and trails, but has concerns regarding the potential loss of public hunting opportunities due to the reallocation of land for these purposes. TWRA believes the process described in the Master Plan Update provides a mechanism for resolving potential land use conflicts. *Response: As TWRA has been outgranted much of the JPP lands for wildlife management, any proposals for greenways or other outgrants for use of lands within their license would be coordinated with the agency.*
- By letter dated November 12, 2007, District 33 Metro Councilman Robert Duvall stated he supports the Proposed Master Plan Update and the response from Ms. Karen Johnson. Councilman Duvall believes the proposed plan would be vital to the physical and healthy living of residents and would enhance the natural resources. *Response: None required.*
- On November 12, the Town of Smyrna stated it has concerns with the following as outlined in the Master Plan Update:
  - Section 4.05 Implementation of Recreation Area Development. The Town does not believe it appropriate for the Corps to require cost sharing. At any time it were to be proposed, the Town believes there should be an opportunity to comment and ability to challenge such costs. *Response: Cost sharing is one method available to the Corps as a means to continue to provide recreational opportunities at J. Percy Priest Reservoir. Cost sharing would be a voluntary action between the Corps and interested organization. Potential implementation of a cost sharing project would be evaluated on a case by case basis.*
  - Section 7.10 Water Withdrawal Requests. The Town believes the statement that “current rates are considered to be at the limit of what the project resource can provide” is not supported and appears to be in contradiction to past reports for J. Percy Priest. It further believes that requiring other sources for water withdrawal requests is contrary to the Water Supply Act of 1958. *Response: The intent of discussion in this section is to provide an overview of management issues occurring at J. Percy Priest. Specific actions or requests specific to addressing water withdrawal are beyond the scope of this Master Plan Update and Environmental Assessment and would be addressed individually or in a reallocation study..*
  - Section 7.10 Water Withdrawal Requests. The Town is uncertain as to what is meant in the discussion of water quality improvements to the Stones River below the dam. *Response: Statement refers to maintaining additional waters in the reservoir for release into the tailwaters during summer months to provide oxygenated waters for water quality downstream of the dam.*

- The Town also outlined areas where it has an interest in use of Corps managed public lands for greenways and recreational use. *Response: Requests for use of public lands can be further discussed with the J. Percy Priest Resource Management staff and would be evaluated in accordance with the Master Plan and other applicable guidance and regulations.*
- The Tennessee Wildlife Federation (TWF) provided correspondence on November 12, 2007 supporting the alternative for the Master Plan Update with a Revised Scope. Referencing Section 11.07 Impacts to Established Recreational Opportunities in the Master Plan Update and Sections 4.9/5.7.1 Recreation Resources in the EA, TWF requests consideration that the Corps ensure lands designated to be returned to wildlife habitat and public hunting (offset for mitigation) be of equal or higher in wildlife value than those being lost. *Response: TWF's comment regarding the value of offset lands can be considered in evaluations of proposed actions. Although some lands have been set aside for replacement of acreage lost to another use, replacement with equal habitat value may not be possible. There are limited lands available for replacement. For those areas mentioned in Section 11.07, lands that would be placed in TWRA wildlife management areas are currently public recreation areas, but are undeveloped. Therefore there would be no facilities to remove to enhance wildlife habitat values.*
- US Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) provided comments on November 19, 2007. Reference was made to Section 5 Guidelines for Issuance of Real Estate Outgrants of the Master Plan Update. The Service requested that in addition to coordination with Tennessee Division of Environment and Conservation for potential impacts to threatened or endangered species, coordination also include the Service. The Service also commented it appreciates proactive efforts to exclude areas with threatened or endangered species by designating them as “Environmentally Sensitive Areas.” In addition, based on the efforts to minimize adverse impacts to listed species, it is unlikely that formal consultation on future outgrant requests will be needed. *Response: In addition to the state, the Service will be included for coordination on outgrant requests.*

## **8.0 CONCLUSIONS**

This Environmental Assessment did not reveal significant onsite impacts with the preferred alternative, full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update. By adopting this preferred alternative, the resources at J. Percy Priest Reservoir would be allocated to best provide services for public recreation as well as ensuring environmental protection and conservation. In addition the classification and inventory of the resources would be updated to reflect the most accurate use of project lands. The Master Plan Update has evaluated past, present, and anticipated future uses of project lands and resources. Implementation of this proposed update would provide the best representation of the project can best carry out its authorized purposes while ensuring best use and conservation of all resources, natural, cultural, and man-made.

This EA identifies impacts that would occur with proposed and future requests for project lands for activities such as utility lines, roads, and greenways. The proposed Master Plan has identified corridors where these activities would be allowed. In addition, levels of impacts are outlined based on previous disturbance for utility lines and design features (such as surface material, trail width, etc) for greenways. Requests will be evaluated to ensure proposed design

location and layout meet criteria outlined in the Master Plan and this EA. Those meeting criteria may require additional coordination with agencies such as US Fish and Wildlife Service and Tennessee Historical Commission to ensure compliance with applicable Acts. Proposals that do not meet the criteria will be further evaluated and may require additional environmental assessments.

## 9.0 REFERENCES

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## **10.0 LIST OF PREPARERS**

Kim Franklin, Biologist  
EA Preparation

Tim Higgs, Environmental Engineer  
EA Review

Maurice Simpson, Conservation Biologist  
EA Review for Natural Resources Management Branch

Mark Vaughan, Conservation Biologist  
Master Plan Preparation

# APPENDIX 1

Environmental Assessment Review Responses  
Scoping Letter and Responses  
Mailing Lists



Scoping Letter and Responses  
Mailing Lists





DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS  
P. O. BOX 1070  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37202-1070

FEB 26 2007

IN REPLY REFER TO

Project Planning Branch

To All Interested Parties:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Nashville District, in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) is preparing an Environmental Assessment (EA) to assess impacts of a proposed supplement to the J. Percy Priest (JPP) Master Plan.

The original JPP Master Plan was approved in 1966 and last updated in 1986. This document serves as a guide for coordination of project development and management of all land and water resources. The intent of an updated Master plan is to present a current inventory and assessment of resources, provide an analysis of resource use, and evaluate existing and future needs required to protect and improve the value of resources at J. Percy Priest.

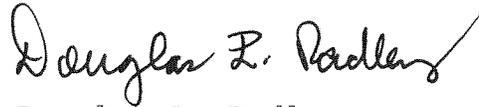
By way of this letter, we are soliciting public and agency comments concerning environmental issues that should be addressed. We encourage comments not only about JPP lands and waters, but also of plans or proposals for any other development that may impact or influence project resources.

Two alternatives will be evaluated: No action and updating the Master Plan. No Action means that there would be no supplement to the existing Master Plan and no new resource classification, assessment, and inventory would occur. Updating the Master Plan would mean permanent changes to the existing document.

This letter serves to initiate public involvement requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. Section 106, implemented by regulations at 36CFR800, requires the Corps of Engineers to consider the effects of its undertakings on historic properties. Updating the Master Plan will not constitute an undertaking; however implementation of any changes in land use may require further coordination and consultation with the Tennessee State Historic Preservation Officer. This letter also serves to initiate public involvement that is an integral part of supplementing or updating Nashville District project master plans.

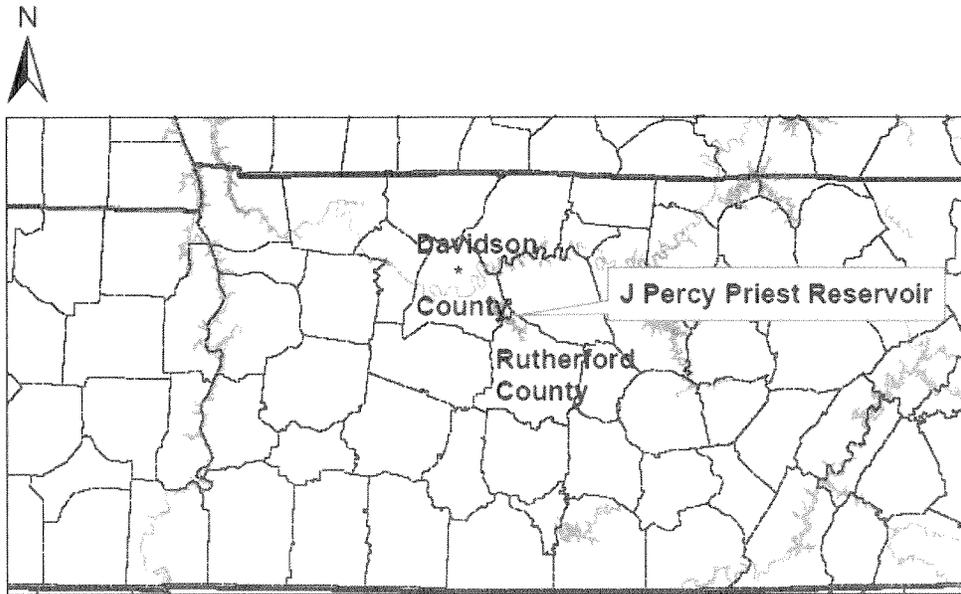
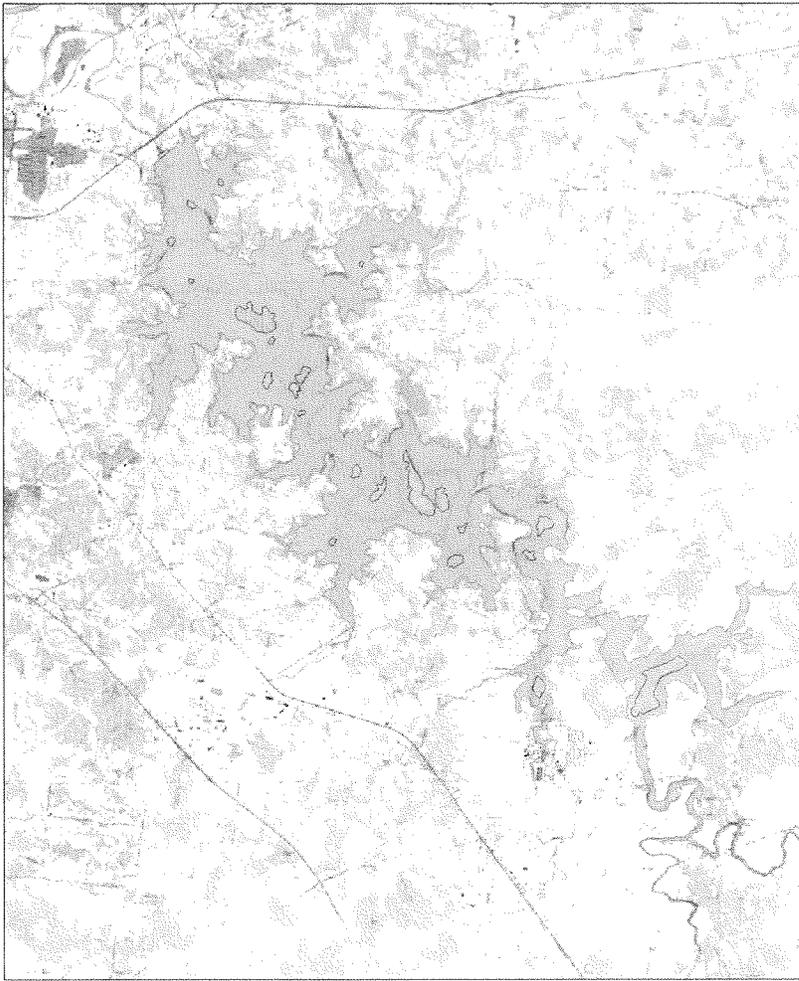
If you have any information, comments, or questions, please contact Kim Franklin by writing to the above address or calling (615) 736-7954. Please submit your comments no later than March 30, 2007, to assure evaluation and inclusion in the process. Your participation is appreciated.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Douglas L. Radley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a prominent initial "D" and a long, sweeping underline.

Douglas L. Radley, AICP  
Chief, Project Planning Branch

# J. Percy Priest Reservoir



J Percy Priest Vicinity Map

30 April 2007

**MEMORANDUM FOR RECORD**

**SUBJECT:** J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update

1. On 26 April 2007 an open house was held at the Resource Manager's Office from 5PM until 8PM. The public was invited to attend and discuss the 2007 revision to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan and any other issues of concern.
2. Approximately six people attended the open house. Questions and comments were general in nature. There were no specific issues related to the Master Plan nor where there concerns expressed that should be addressed in the Environmental Assessment (EA) for the Master Plan Update.
3. A copy of this memorandum will be included in the EA Appendix for Scoping and Public Involvement.

*Kim Franklin*

**Kim Franklin**  
Biologist  
Project Planning Branch  
(615) 736-7954

## Franklin, Kimberly S LRN

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**From:** Robin Grubb [rgrubb@lavergne.org]  
**Sent:** Friday, April 20, 2007 5:38 PM  
**To:** Franklin, Kimberly S LRN  
**Subject:** City of La Vergne and J. Percy Priest

Hello Kim,

Thank you for taking the time to speak with me earlier this week.

The City of La Vergne would like to make sure we are included as a consideration for future partnership and development around Hurricane Creek Boat Ramp area.

We are in the early discussion stages of our plan and therefore don't have specific requests at this time. We do however have some general guidelines and ideas as to the kinds of low-impact improvements we might elect to include.

Here is a non-inclusive list of some of the items of consideration:

- Greenway
- Greenway Trail Head
- Restrooms
- Picnic Shelter(s)
- Playground Area
- Parking Area
- Outdoor Amphitheatre
- Nature Center
- Nature Trail
- Canoe Ramp/Access
- Dog Off-Leash Area
- Disc Golf

An initial Greenway request has been submitted to the Corp for this area, and as we update our Greenway Master Plan, we may also want to consider some of the Corp property on the other side of La Vergne towards Poole Knob. It is part of the overall plan that we link to the Smyrna Greenway System, but this connection point has not been determined at this time, so we may also need to negotiate with the Corp on some Greenway Trails in this area as well.

We are excited about the opportunity to have a positive working relationship with the Corp as we collaborate our resources to meet the needs of the citizens and user groups in the area. The City of La Vergne is well aware of the extensive environmental concerns and approval procedures of the Corp, and we are looking forward to submitting our plans and requests to the Corp in the near future so that we can begin the process of hashing out a great plan.

Thank you so much for your time and consideration on this matter, and if you have any questions please feel free to call.

***Robin Grubb, CPRP***

Director

La Vergne Parks & Recreation

5093 Murfreesboro Road

La Vergne, TN 37086

Phone: (615)793-3224

Fax: (615)793-9213

4/23/2007

<b>Date:</b> 30 March 2007		<b>Telephone Number:</b> 615.459.9773	
<b>Visit:</b>		<b>Incoming:</b> XX	<b>Outgoing:</b>
<b>NAME OF CONTACT:</b> Mike Moss			
<b>ORGANIZATION:</b> City of Smyrna, Dept of Parks			
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>Street:</b>	100 Sam Ridley Pkwy	
	<b>Street 2:</b>	Town Centre	
	<b>City, State,</b>	Smyrna, TN 37167	
	<b>Zip:</b>		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>		<a href="mailto:Mike.moss@townofsmyrna.org">Mike.moss@townofsmyrna.org</a>	
<b>SUBJECT:</b>		JPP Master Plan Update	

**SUMMARY:** Mr. Moss was responding to the scoping notice his office had received. Parks main concern is continued execution of outgrant proposals by Smyrna. Areas where Parks has specific interest include: 1)greenway corridor to connect Sharp Springs to Jefferson Springs; 2)greenways along the river—connect with Florence Rd and City of Murfreesboro system; Parks also sees Jefferson Springs as possible connector; 3)parcel of land at Florence Road in vicinity of Nissan and new subdivision. Parks has interest in parcel if Corps willing to consider. Area is currently agriculture; Parks has identified in its Master Plan.

Mr. Moss may follow up conversation with letter. He is also providing a copy of Smyrna's Parks and Recreation Master Plan.

*Kim Franklin*

\_\_\_\_\_  
Kim Franklin

4 Apr 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
Date

<b>Date:</b> 29 March 2007		<b>Telephone Number:</b>	
<b>Visit:</b>		<b>Incoming:</b> xx	<b>Outgoing:</b>
<b>NAME OF CONTACT:</b> Al Majors			
<b>ORGANIZATION:</b> TDEC Div of Solid Waste			
<b>ADDRESS:</b>	<b>Street:</b>		
	<b>Street 2:</b>		
	<b>City, State, Zip:</b> Nashville, TN		
	<b>Zip:</b>		
<b>E-MAIL:</b>			
<b>SUBJECT:</b> Responding to JPP Master Plan Scoping Letter			

**SUMMARY:**

Mr. Majors acknowledged a scoping letter had been received by the Division of Solid Waste, attention Mr. Mike Apple.

Per review, this office did not see anything of concern regarding a proposed master plan update for J. Percy Priest Reservoir.

I informed Mr. Majors I would make a record of our conversation to be included as Division of Solid Waste's comment during the scoping period.

*Kim Franklin*

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Kim Franklin**

30 March 2007

\_\_\_\_\_  
**Date**



TENNESSEE WILDLIFE FEDERATION  
Conserving Our Wildlife & Natural Resources Since 1946

29 March 2007

Attn: Project Planning Branch  
Department of the Army  
Nashville District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

RE: Scoping letter soliciting comment for EA on J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update

This letter is in reference to the scoping process, required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and to voice those issues which the Tennessee Wildlife Federation (TWF) has concern about and would like to see individually addressed in the Environmental Assessment.

TWF's mission is champion the conservation, sound management and enjoyment of Tennessee's wildlife and natural resources for current and future generations through stewardship, advocacy, and education. We at the Federation have been heavily engaged with the J. Percy Priest (JPP) resource staff in the development of the master plan draft, and offer the following comment.

We believe it is in the best interest of wildlife, sportsmen and women, the USACE, all lease holders and the other property users that the **Alternative: "Updating the Master Plan"** be drafted and adopted as the document that will guide the resource into the years ahead. For example, it has been over 20 years since the last update to the JPP plan and many new techniques, research and policies have changed/improved. Thus, we strongly support this update.

It is evident that the JPP resource is being impacted by the growth occurring in surrounding cities and counties. We would ask that the Environmental Assessment take special note to address several issues which we will outline below.

*1. Impacts of land uses on the resource:*

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has long been the major partner and lease holder of lands within this resource. Nearly 11,000 acres of land and over 14,000 surface acres of water are currently managed by the TWRA and are available to the sportsmen and women of Tennessee to use for the purpose of

recreational hunting and fishing (which has been defined as the two major land uses of importance to this resource.)

With adjacent undeveloped private lands being lost as a direct result of development, not having a place to hunt and fish is becoming a reality. In recent years, sportsmen of middle Tennessee have fallen victim to other uses that have resulted in the loss of public hunting and fishing lands within this resource. We ask that the EA take measures to identify the impacts of future land uses upon existing hunting and fishing lands owned by USACE. Additionally, we would ask that these analyses consider economical, social and natural resource (e.g., fish, wildlife, and their habitats) factors.

More specifically, municipalities that request use of existing USACE lands for other recreational activities are creating a dramatic effect upon USACE public lands, those who use the lands, and those who live near the lands. We ask that the impacts of past supplements to the JPP Master plan since 1986, which grant land to these municipalities and has created a net loss of hunting and fishing opportunities and wildlife habitat, be reviewed. We also request that the dramatic effect upon USACE public lands, those who use the lands, and those who live near the lands be reviewed from financial, social and natural resource management perspective.

Other impacts that surrounding growth is creating such as water withdrawal, sewage treatment effluent, storm water run-off, carrying capacity of recreational watercraft and marina expansion, should also be addressed in depth.

In regards to the marinas currently using the resource, we feel that it is necessary to address practices which could have negative impact on the water resource such as sewage dumping, gasoline and oil leakage, and other normal operating procedures that routinely take place with a marina.

## **2. *Impacts on Natural Resources Management:***

As previously stated, TWRA has been a long time partner with the USACE and has provided a sound wildlife and fisheries management. As a result of this management, TWRA and USACE have engaged sportsmen as the primary tool used to apply management strategies.

Without public land access for hunting and fishing, the managing partner (TWRA) has a difficult time managing the resource. Furthermore, when lands are taken out of management and placed into other public or private entities, where the attention to wildlife and their habitats are not a priority consideration, the loss of habitat is a foregone conclusion.

The most effective method for conserving our natural lands is to do just that, conserve them in their original state and not alter or permanently remove habitat

or the ability to manage habitat. Additionally, we also believe managing natural landscapes can be more cost effective long-term, when compared to managing properties with recreational amenities.

The loss of management tools, and the ability to manage, coupled with the loss of habitat will have long-reaching effects on the habitat itself, the wildlife and the users of the resource. Without these tools, TWRA and USACE cannot effectively manage the resource. A fragmented habitat intertwined with open, park like areas, trails, concrete paths and other amenities invite further human disturbance as well as exotic and invasive species.

**3. JPP Greenway Connection Corridors as proposed:**

It is widely known that plans are being developed to design, propose, and construct a series of greenways and their extensions in an effort to connect from Nashville through La Verne and Smyrna and into Murfreesboro.

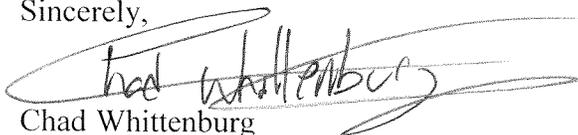
Through many conversations and correspondence with many of the stakeholders, we feel it imperative this Environmental Assessment address the entire project, as opposed to small scale proposals that are submitted from each of the individual stakeholders. As you may be aware, NEPA specifically forbids federal agencies from “piecemealing” the application of environmental reviews that it (NEPA) requires. We view small scale individual review of these greenways proposals on a case by case basis, as a potential “piecemealing” in the application of NEPA.

This is one basis for requesting a wholistic approach to this project and a NEPA process that takes into account the entirety of the project and its cumulative impacts. The impact that a project of this magnitude will have on the resource is large enough that we believe it warrants this approach.

While we support greenways and trails and we realize their importance especially in a growing community. We also believe that a majority of these proposed systems on the USACE lands must be carefully considered and designed, so that not to interfere with existing habitat needs and recreational uses.

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation would like to thank the staff of the JPP resource for their courteous correspondence regarding this matter, and the attention to our previous comments regarding this and other issues. We feel that this resource is a valuable asset to the fish and wildlife and sportsmen and women of Tennessee. Major alteration or loss of these habitats or lands is a drastic measure that should be fully reviewed via the NEPA process.

Sincerely,

  
Chad Whittenburg



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**  
**WATER SUPPLY**

9th Floor, 401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1549  
Phone: (615) 532-0191; Fax: (615) 532-0503

March 29, 2007

Mr. Douglas L Radley AICP  
Chief Project Planning Branch  
Department of the Army  
Nashville District, Corps of engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

RE: Request for Comments, J. Percy priest (JPP) Master Plan, Nashville (Davidson County)  
Tennessee

Mr. Radley:

The Division of Water Supply thanks you for the opportunity to provide comments on the J. Percy Priest Master Plan. We have received and reviewed the Request for Comments, on the plan.

Safe Dams Program:

A file review was conducted of all registered sites in the Safe Dam Program. None were located within this proposed location. If at any time Mr. Lyle Bentley of the Division of Water Supply needs to be contacted he can be reached at [Lyle.Bentley@state.tn.us](mailto:Lyle.Bentley@state.tn.us) or by telephone at 615-532-0154.

Wellhead Protection Program:

A file review was conducted of all registered sites in the Wellhead Protection/Source Water Protection Area Program. You will be located within the Source Water Protection Areas for LaVergne Water Department, Smyrna Water Department, and Consolidated Utility District. These systems should be notified of any activity that may produce any discharge to surface or ground water in that area. For additional information please contact Mr. Scotty Sorrells at [scotty.sorrells@state.tn.us](mailto:scotty.sorrells@state.tn.us) or by telephone at 615-532-9224.

Water Well Program:

A file review was conducted of all the registered private water wells within this proposed location. A copy of the file is attached to this letter. Please be advised that not all the water wells that are in existence are on this database and that there may be older wells that we have no record of as well as hand dug wells whose existence we would not have recorded. Please be advised that there are several springs in the area that may also be used as private water supplies.

Please see Attachment A for a list of wells in the area. All water wells that are encountered should be plugged and abandoned by a licensed well contractor.

The plan for the proposed project locates the project in a karst area, the county you are working in is in mature karst terrain and has abundant sinkholes and other karst features. The plan should address construction and drainage around/through sinkholes.

In Tennessee the modification of sinkholes is regulated under the Underground Injection Control (UIC) Program, which is housed in the Ground Water Management Section. If there is to be a modification of any sinkhole on this project it will be necessary for you to have a letter of authorization from the UIC program to proceed. You will need to contact Scotty Sorrells of my staff to file the application and obtain the authorization.

Our requirements for erosion control in the vicinity of sinkholes is basically the same as erosion control plan around streams required by, the Division of Water Pollution Control. The erosion control plan for sinkholes will need to show a similar work way corridor as for streams. The following are what we require for those entities we regulate:

- 1) If at any time during the clearing or construction of the property a karst feature is discovered then all work around the area is to stop. Erosion control devices straw bales and silt fence are to be placed and this Division is to be notified within twenty-four (24) hours of the discovery.
- 2) Install silt fence and straw bales along the entire edge of the sinkhole and around any potential conduit that the water may use to enter the ground water prior to any construction.
- 3) Note that silt fences are used as a temporary diversion features and generally have a life expectancy of three (3) months.
- 4) All straw bales shall be placed in a single row, with ends of adjacent bales tightly abutting on another. The barrier shall be entrenched and back filled. A trench shall be excavated the width of a bale and the length of the proposed barrier to a minimum depth of four (4) inches. After the bales are staked and chinked, the excavated soil shall conform to the ground level on the down gradient side and shall be built up to four (4) inches against the up gradient side of the barrier.

- 5) After every storm event the entire silt fence must be inspected and any needed repairs done at that time. Should any damage occur due to traffic or any other activity the fence must be repaired before the end of each work day.
- 6) Straw bale barriers shall be inspected immediately after each rainfall and at least daily during prolonged rainfall. Necessary repairs to barriers or replacement of bales shall be accomplished promptly. Sediment deposits must be removed when the level of deposition reaches approximately one-half the height of the barrier. Any sediment deposits remaining in place after the straw bale barrier is no longer required shall be dressed to conform to the existing grade, prepared and seeded.
- 7) The silt fence and straw bales must remain in place and in good working condition throughout the entire development of the property, and until the disturbed area has been stabilized.

Once any construction project around sinkholes has been determined, we will also need a map(s) showing the sinkholes identified before construction that will be modified. At the completion of construction we will also need a map with all the sinkholes that have been modified showing notations with latitudes and longitudes as to the modification performed on the sinkhole. Note that the sinkholes which show on a 7 ½ minute quadrangle topographic map are by no means a complete representation (they typically represent about 5 - 20% of the actual sinkholes).

Please be advised that the sinkhole is considered the entire closed depression whether there is an open throat or not and not just the area near an open throat.

Extreme caution should be used in the filling and construction on or in a sinkhole. It may be necessary to add extra support over the expanse of a sinkhole, even after the sinkhole has been filled. A sinkhole by nature is an unstable geologic area, which has no permanent means of stabilization and is subject to times of movement and settling. This uncontrollable movement may cause some damage to any permanent structure placed on or around the karst feature. The State of Tennessee assumes no responsibility in potential consequences of building on filled depressions of any kind at any time.

Please note also that you may encounter other Class V systems in the form of Large Capacity Subsurface Fluid Disposal Systems (SFDS) at various commercial businesses you may encounter. If any business along the route are being relocated or are connecting to the system that are currently using a SFDS then they should be properly plugged and abandoned.

If you have any questions, feel free to call me at (615) 532-0170 or Scotty Sorrells at (615) 532-9224.

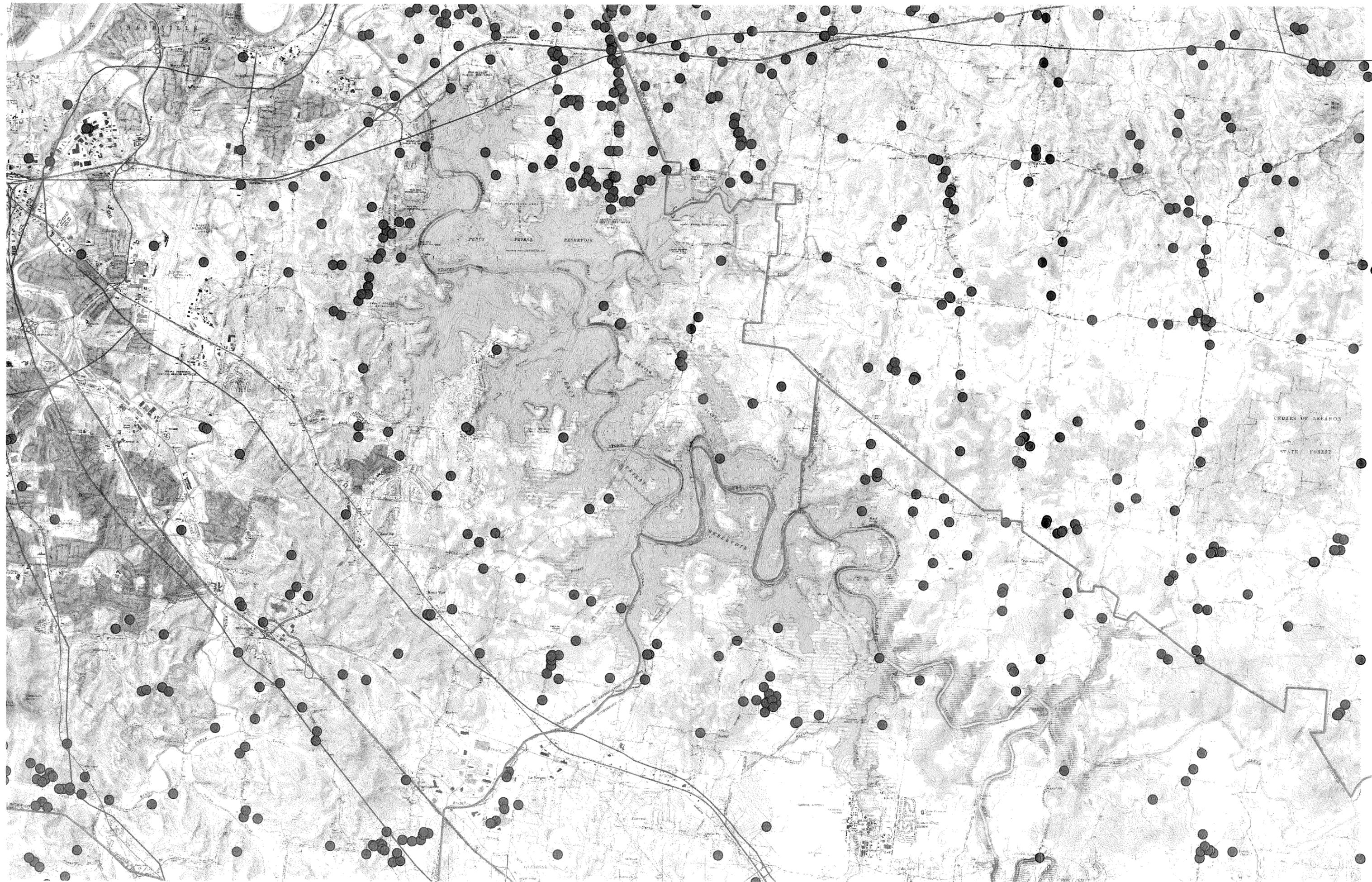
Sincerely,



Thomas A Moss  
Deputy Director  
Division of Water Supply

cc: Scotty Sorrells, DWS-GWMS UIC Coordinator  
Luke Ewing, DWS Manager Water Well Program  
Lyle Bentley, DWS Manager Safe Dams Program

ATTACHMENT A  
WATER WELLS





STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

Recreation Educational Services  
10th floor - L&C Tower  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

March 28, 2007

Mr. Douglas L. Radley, AICP  
Chief, Project Planning Branch  
Department of the Army  
Nashville District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

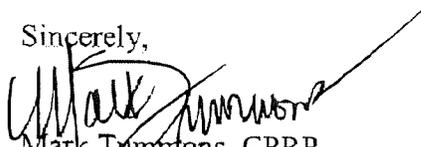
**RE: Environmental Assessment (EA) comments proposed supplement to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan**

Dear Mr. Radley:

Thank you for including this agency on your contact list for the above referenced document.

After a research of our office's files, we can locate no occasion where a grant administrated by this division would be impacted by the proposed supplement to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan. Therefore, we have no involvement in the subject area from a state or federal level.

Sincerely,

  
Mark Timmons, CPRP  
Director

MT/lh

cc: Kim Franklin, COE, Nashville District



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
**DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION**

Division of Natural Areas  
14th Floor L&C Tower  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-0447  
Phone 615/532-0431 Fax 615/532-0231

March 21, 2007

Kim Franklin  
USACE, Nashville District  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

Re: EA for Impacts from Proposed Supplement to J. Percy Priest Master Plan

Dear Ms. Franklin:

The Division of Natural Areas (DNA) has reviewed information regarding the environmental assessment for the proposed supplement to the J. Percy Priest Master Plan, and we offer the following comments.

DNA favors updating the Master Plan, given that the last update was over 20 years ago, and given recent growth and land use change in the Stones River Watershed. Also since the last Master Plan update, several populations of rare species have been identified near J. Percy Priest Lake.

Management activities at Priest Lake have the potential to impact several rare species habitat types, most notably cedar glades. DNA currently tracks 14 conservation sites located within a one-mile radius of the Lake. Overall, in the 8-digit HUC Stones River watershed we track a total of 48 conservation sites; many of these sites are cedar glades that provide habitat for rare species endemic only to Middle Tennessee. The locations for populations of these rare species are regularly sent to the Corps. We ask that Corps use this data and the enclosed list of sites to consider rare species habitat protection in the supplement to the Priest Master Plan. For guidance regarding specific species or sites please contact DNA (Reggie Reeves, 615-532-0434).

Thank you for considering Tennessee's rare species and their habitats throughout the planning of this project. For additional information regarding Tennessee's rare and endangered species, please visit our website at <http://state.tn.us/environment/na/>. Should you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (615) 532-0440.

Sincerely,

Silas Mathes  
Natural Heritage Data Manager

enclosure



709 New Salem Highway ♦ P.O. Box 249 ♦ Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133-0249  
Telephone 615-893-7225 ♦ Facsimile 615-893-4913

March 12, 2007

Ms. Kim Franklin  
Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

**Via Certified Mail**  
**7004 2510 0000 8840 6559**

**RE: Environmental Assessment - J. Percy Priest Lake Master Plan**

Dear Ms. Franklin:

With regard to your February 26, 2007 letter, Consolidated Utility District (CUD) would have three major concerns.

Our first concern is water supply. J. Percy Priest (JPP) is the only source of water for Rutherford County. Presently, there are four water systems withdrawing water to supply the fastest growing county in Tennessee. CUD is the largest of these systems serving approximately 40,000 customers and adding 2,500 plus each year. Our current withdrawal permit is for 16 mgd. We have a request to withdraw an additional 14 mgd. At the rate we are growing, we will need the additional supply within the next five years.

Everyone knows the lake is shallow and the actual volume is also a concern. Because the lake is shallow, sedimentation could be a real problem. I know many people think sedimentation comes from construction and agriculture runoff. I believe most sedimentation comes from streams and short turns where water erodes the bank away. I am a strong advocate of a sound stream channelization program to help control erosion and sedimentation.

A smaller concern related to water supply is 840. I have a huge fear of the waters of JPP becoming contaminated by chemical spills caused by a truck wreck along the section of 840 and tributaries to JPP.

I would be glad to discuss these concerns further. Feel free to contact me at 615-225-3310.

Thanking You,

Larry K. McElroy  
General Manager

p/c: James C. Hailey



**TENNESSEE HISTORICAL COMMISSION**  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
2941 LEBANON ROAD  
NASHVILLE, TN 37243-0442  
(615) 532-1550

March 5, 2007

Mr. Douglas L. Radley  
Coe-Nashville  
Post Office Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee, 37202-1070

RE: COE-N, J. PERCY PRIEST MASTER PLAN/SUPP, UNINCORPORATED, DAVIDSON COUNTY

Dear Mr. Radley:

In response to your request, received on Tuesday, February 27, 2007, we have reviewed the documents you submitted regarding your proposed undertaking. Our review of and comment on your proposed undertaking are among the requirements of Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act. This Act requires federal agencies or applicant for federal assistance to consult with the appropriate State Historic Preservation Office before they carry out their proposed undertakings. The Advisory Council on Historic Preservation has codified procedures for carrying out Section 106 review in 36 CFR 800. You may wish to familiarize yourself with these procedures (Federal Register, December 12, 2000, pages 77698-77739) if you are unsure about the Section 106 process.

Considering available information, we find that the project as currently proposed MAY AFFECT PROPERTIES THAT ARE ELIGIBLE FOR LISTING IN THE NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES. You should continue consultation with our office, designated consulting parties and invite them to participate in consultation, and provide us with appropriate survey documentation for review and comment. Please direct questions and comments to Joe Garrison (615) 532-1550-103. We appreciate your cooperation.

Sincerely,

Richard G. Tune  
Interim Executive Director and  
Deputy State Historic  
Preservation Officer

RGT/jyg



STATE OF TENNESSEE  
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENT AND CONSERVATION  
AIR POLLUTION CONTROL DIVISION  
9th Floor - L&C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243-1531

Mr. Douglas L. Radley, AICP  
Chief, Project Planning Branch  
DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
Nashville District, Corp of Engineers  
P. O. Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

March 1, 2007

Dear Mr. Radley:



This letter is in response to your request for environmental impact assessment in compliance with the following requirements:

**Subpart A-- Purpose, Legal Authority, Federal Laws and Authorities**

*Sec. 58.5 Related Federal Laws and Authorities*  
(g) Air Quality. (1) **The Clean Air Act** (42 U.S.C. 7401 et. seq.) as amended; particularly **section 176(c) and (d)** (42 U.S.C. 7506 (c) and (d))

**Subpart D--Environmental Review Process: Documentation, Range of Activities, Project Aggregation and Classification**

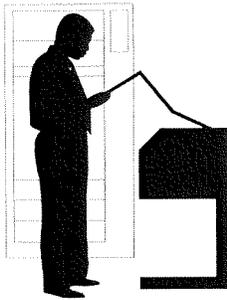
Sec. 58.38 Environmental Review Record

**Subpart E--Environmental Review Process: Environmental Assessments (EA's)**

Sec. 58.40 Preparing the Environmental Assessment  
(1) A Finding of No Significant Impact on the quality of the human environment.

(Continued on next page)

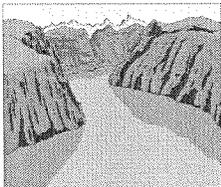
In reference to your request for Air Quality Data concerning the *Proposed Supplement to the J. Percy Priest (JPP) Master Plan Project* dated February 26, 2007. Please note that **Rutherford County** is currently **in attainment** for all Air Quality Standards in accordance with Rules of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Bureau of Environment/Division of Air Pollution Control Chapter 1200-3-3 Ambient Air Quality Standards. Including the 1 hour Ozone National Ambient Air Standard.



Available air quality data from the current monitoring station(s) either within the project area or, if none exist, nearest to the project area (neighboring county). Monitoring status is subject to change.

County	Monitoring Station(s) in Cty	Type of Monitoring	Location of Nearest Monitor(s)
Rutherford	One	Ozone	Eagleville Area

See the report submitted with this letter.



Micro meteorological conditions influenced by topography that may hinder the dispersal of air emissions are listed below.

County	Topographical Conditions	Locations
Rutherford	Along land and water boundaries - Valleys Mountains	East, West & Middle Stone Rivers J. Percy Priest Lake

(Continued on next page)

Sufficient information is not available to indicate projected emissions from *the Proposed Supplement to the J. Percy Priest (JPP) Master Plan Project*. However, the proposed project is not expected to adversely impact the local air quality provided adequate measures are employed to control fugitive emissions and waste is properly disposed.

Other Rules of the Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation Bureau of Environment/Division of Air Pollution Control that **may** apply to your project are:

Chapter 1200-3-4 Open Burning  
Chapter 1200-3-8 Fugitive Dust  
Chapter 1200-3-9 Construction and Operating Permits  
Chapter 1200-3-11.02 Hazardous Air Contaminants (Asbestos)

The Division directly serves 91 counties within the state and oversees and assists in the actions of Davidson, Hamilton, Knox, and Shelby counties, which have their own local air pollution control programs. **If you have a question, concern or complaint about air pollution in Davidson, Hamilton, Knox or Shelby counties, please contact the appropriate local air program.**

## **County Air Pollution Control Agencies - Local Programs**

- Nashville/Davidson  
Rob Raney, P.E., Director  
Air Pollution Control Division  
Metropolitan Nashville-Davidson County Health Department  
311 23rd Avenue, North  
Nashville, TN 37203  
Phone: (615) 340-5653  
FAX: (615) 340-2142
- Chattanooga/Hamilton  
Chattanooga-Hamilton County Air Pollution Control Bureau  
6125 Preservation Drive  
Chattanooga, TN 37416-3638  
Phone: (423) 643-5970  
FAX: (423) 643-5972
- Knoxville/Knox  
Ms. Lynne A. Liddington, Director  
Knox County Department of Air Quality Management  
140 Dameron Ave., Suite 242

(Continued on next page)

Page 4

Knoxville, TN 37917  
Phone: (865) 215-5900  
FAX: (865) 215-5902

- Memphis/Shelby

Robert Rogers, P. E., Acting Manager  
Pollution Control Section  
Memphis/Shelby County Health Department  
814 Jefferson Avenue  
Memphis, TN 38105  
Phone: (901) 544-7775 or (901) 544-7653  
Fax: (901) 544-7310

Please contact me at phone number (615) 532-0550 should you need further assistance concerning Air Quality.

Sincerely,



Ms. Pamela J. Stephens  
Environmental Specialist  
Mobile and Air Resources Management Program  
Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation  
Air Pollution Control Division

UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY  
 AIR QUALITY SYSTEM  
 QUICK LOOK REPORT (AMP450)

Jun. 22, 2005

PPM (007)

Tennessee

Ozone (44201)

1-HOUR

SITE ID	P O C	REP ORG	CITY	COUNTY	ADDRESS	YEAR	METH	VALID DAYS	NUM DAYS	REQ	1ST		2ND		3RD		4TH		DAY MAX	EST DAYS	MISS DAYS	CERT	EDT	
											MAX	1-HR	MAX	1-HR	MAX	1-HR	MAX	1-HR						MAX
47-001-0101	1	1025	Not in a city	Anderson	FREELS BEND STU	2004	087	242	245	245	.094	.091	.089	.083	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	3	0	0
47-009-0101	1	0745	Not in a city	Blount	GREAT SMOKY MOU	2004	047	244	245	245	.094	.091	.089	.087	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	0	0
47-009-0102	1	0745	Not in a city	Blount	GREAT SMOKY MOU	2004	053	232	245	245	.079	.075	.074	.073	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	0	0
47-031-0004	1	1029	Not in a city	Coffee	SUMMITVILLE RD.	2004	014	238	245	245	.083	.078	.075	.075	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-037-0011	1	0682	Nashville	Davidson	1015 TRINITY LAI	2004	056	245	245	245	.084	.076	.074	.073	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-037-0026	1	0682	Nashville	Davidson	PERCY PRIEST	2004	056	244	245	245	.096	.091	.087	.085	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	0	0
47-065-1011	1	0170	Not in a city	Hamilton	SODDY DAISY H.S	2004	047	245	245	245	.097	.096	.096	.094	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-065-4003	1	0170	Chattanooga	Hamilton	6200 BONNY OAKS	2004	047	245	245	245	.118	.101	.091	.087	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-089-0002	1	1025	Not in a city	Jefferson	1188 LOST CREEK	2004	087	243	245	245	.109	.100	.094	.093	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	2	0	0
47-093-0021	1	0581	Not in a city	Knox	9315 RUTLEDGE P.	2004	047	245	245	245	.115	.092	.091	.089	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-093-1020	1	0581	Knoxville	Knox	4625 MILDRED DR.	2004	047	237	245	245	.114	.090	.089	.089	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-099-0002	1	1025	Not in a city	Lawrence	BUSBY RD	2004	019	245	245	245	.083	.083	.082	.077	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-105-0108	1	1025	Loudon	Loudon	130 WEBB DRIVE	2004	087	241	245	245	.097	.091	.089	.087	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-121-0104	1	1025	Not in a city	Meigs	8401 HIGHWAY 60	2004	053	242	245	245	.106	.094	.093	.089	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-149-0101	1	1025	Not in a city	Rutherford	EAGLEVILLE PUCKI	2004	019	245	245	245	.098	.079	.078	.078	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-155-0101	1	0745	Not in a city	Sevier	GREAT SMOKY MOU	2004	047	229	245	245	.097	.088	.087	.085	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	5	0	0
47-155-0102	1	0745	Not in a city	Sevier	CLINGSMANS DOME	2004	019	183	245	245	.089	.087	.084	.083	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	0	0
47-157-0021	1	0673	Memphis	Shelby	1330 FRAYSER BL	2004	087	244	245	245	.095	.086	.081	.081	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	1	0	0
47-157-1004	1	0673	Not in a city	Shelby	6855 MUDVILLE R	2004	087	245	245	245	.095	.093	.089	.086	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-163-2002	1	1025	Not in a city	Sullivan	HILL ROAD	2004	053	245	245	245	.101	.089	.089	.087	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-163-2003	1	1025	Kingsport	Sullivan	KETRON MIDDLE S	2004	053	243	245	245	.087	.085	.083	.081	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-165-0007	1	1025	Not in a city	Sumner	ROCKLAND RECREA	2004	087	245	245	245	.095	.093	.092	.088	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-165-0101	1	1025	Not in a city	Sumner	COTTONTOWN WRIG	2004	047	241	245	245	.104	.099	.093	.091	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	0	0	0
47-187-0106	1	1025	Fairview	Williamson	FAIRVIEW MIDDLE	2004	047	233	245	245	.081	.081	.079	.079	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	3	0	0
47-189-0103	1	1025	Lebanon	Wilson	CEDARS OF LEBAN	2004	053	238	245	245	.098	.089	.083	.082	0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0	0.0	0.0	3	0	0

Note: The \* indicates that the mean does not satisfy summary criteria.

TENNESSEE AMBIENT AIR QUALITY STANDARDS for Total Suspended Particulates (TSP), PM10, Sulfur Dioxide, Carbon Monoxide, Ozone and Nitrogen Dioxide.

All values are maximum concentrations not to be exceeded more than once per year. Parts per billion (PPB) and parts per million (PPM) by volume values are approximate only. All concentrations relate to air standard conditions of 25 degrees centigrade temperature and 760 millimeters mercury pressure.

ug/m<sup>3</sup> - Micrograms per cubic meter  
 AAM - Annual arithmetic mean

Contaminants	Primary Standard Concentration		Averaging Interval	Secondary Standard Concentration		Averaging Interval
	ug/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm by vol.		ug/m <sup>3</sup>	ppm by vol.	
TSP				150		24 hr.
PM10	150		24 hr.			
SO <sub>2</sub>	365		24 hr.	1,300	(0.5)	3 HR.
CO		9.0	8 hr.		35	1 hr.
Ozone		125 (ppb)	1hr.			
NO <sub>2</sub>		0.05	AAM			
Lead	1.5		Calendar Quarter	1.5		Calendar Quarter

In July 1997, EPA promulgated the National Ambient Air Quality Standards for Fine Particles (PM-2.5). The annual standard is a level of 15 micrograms per cubic meter, based on the 3-year average of annual mean PM2.5 concentrations. The 24-hour standard is a level of 65 micrograms per cubic meter, based on the 3-year average of the 98th percentile of 24-hour concentrations.

Metro Public Works  
Attn: Mr. Billy Davis  
720 South Fifth Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37206

Metro Nashville Public Works Dept.  
Attn: Ms. Anita McCaig  
730 Second Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

Smyrna Parks and Recreation Department  
Attn: Mr. Mike Moss  
315 South Lowery Street  
Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

Middle Tennessee Electric Membership  
Attn: Mr. Joe Mankin  
555 New Salem Road  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Councilwoman Vivian Wilhoite  
1029 Flintlock Court  
Nashville, Tennessee 37217

Metro Police Department  
Hermitage Sector  
Attn: Sgt. Todd Leach  
3701 James Kaye Lane  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37976

Long Hunter State Park  
Attn: Ranger Matt Blakeney  
2910 Hobson Pike  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency  
Attn: Mr. Brian James  
TWRA Region II Hqtrs.  
P.O. Box 41489  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

Elm Hill Marina  
Attn: Mr. Jim Short  
3361 Bell Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

County Mayor Robert Dedman  
228 East Main Street  
Lebanon, Tennessee 37087

Cumberland River Compact  
Attn: Ms. Margo Farnsworth  
5301 Minnis Road  
Springfield, Tennessee 37172

Tennessee Wildlife Federation  
Attn: Mr. Chad Whittenburg  
300 Orlando Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37209

Mr. Tim O'Connell  
Old Hickory Lake  
Resource Managers Office  
No 5 Power Plant Road  
Hendersonville, Tennessee 37075

Mr. Jim Schroeder  
1730 Wiltshire Drive  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Four Corners Marina  
Attn: Mr. Jim Fisher  
4027 Lavergne-Couchville Pike  
Antioch, Tennessee 37013

Fate Sanders Marina  
Attn Mr. Roland Hopkins  
PO Box 125  
Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

Nashville Shores  
Attn: Mr. Martin Strobel  
4001 Bell Road  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

Hamilton Creek  
Attn: Rusty Clanton  
2901 Bell Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

Youth Incorporated  
Attn: Ms Sue Ownby  
Suite 209  
Prof. Plaza Blvd  
Madison, Tennessee 37115

Stones River Hunter Education Center  
Attn: Mr. Danny Montgomery  
2618 Hobson Pike  
Antioch, Tennessee 37013

Lose and Associates  
Attn: Mr. Lee Davidson  
Suite 200  
1314 5<sup>th</sup> Ave North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37205

Metro Park Police  
Attn: Lt. Copeland  
Centennial Park Office  
222 25<sup>th</sup> Ave North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

TWRA  
Attn: Mr. Ed Carter  
TWRA Region II  
PO Box 40747  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

TWRA  
Attn: Mr. Todd St. John  
TWRA Region II  
PO Box 41489  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

MDHA  
Attn: Mr. Jim Thiltgen  
701 S. 6<sup>th</sup> St  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202

TN Dept of Environment & Conservation  
Attn: Mr. Mike Thorton  
711 RS Gass Blvd  
Nashville, Tennessee 37243

LaVergne Parks  
Attn: Robin Grubb  
5093 Murfreesboro Road  
LaVergne, Tennessee 37086

Rutherford County Parks Dept  
Attn: Mr. Jerry Rainer  
697 Barfield Crescent Road  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37128

Metro Office of Emergency Management  
Attn: Richard Byrd  
2060 15<sup>th</sup> Avenue South  
Nashville, Tennessee 37212

~~USCGA Flotilla 11 A  
Attn: Frances Carpenter  
5008 Brewer Court  
Nashville, Tennessee 37211~~

Metro Parks  
Attn: Mr. John Lavender  
Centennial Park Office  
222 25<sup>th</sup> Ave North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

TWRA  
Attn: Mr. Steve Patrick  
TWRA Region II  
PO Box 40747  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

TWRA  
Attn: Mr. Tim Churchill  
TWRA Region II  
PO Box 40747  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

Long Hunter State Park  
Attn: Mr. Thurman Mullins  
2910 Hobson Pike  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

YMCA  
Attn: Mr. Mark Weller  
3088 Smith Springs Road  
Antioch, Tennessee 37013

Metro Water Services  
Attn: Stephen Gorham  
1600 2<sup>nd</sup> Ave North  
Nashville, Tennessee 37208

Friends of Long Hunter State Park  
2970 Hobson Pike  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

Cumberland Valley Girl Scouts  
Attn: Dare Bible  
4522 Granny White Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37204

JPP Sport Fishing Club  
Attn: Michelle Griggs  
4781 Jones Road  
Christiana, Tennessee 37037

~~Al Bayt Al Iraqi Nashville  
Attn: Ali Mahmoud  
Suite 206  
3221 Nolensville Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37211~~

Federal Aviation Administration  
Attn Mr. Bob Hill  
Suite 700  
2 International Plaza Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37217

Mr. Jim Gotto  
Metro Council, District 12  
5108 John Hagar Road  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

Mr. Harold White  
Metro Council, District 14  
2942 Leatherwood Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37124

Mayor Robert Spivey  
315 South Lowery Street  
Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

Mayor Bill Purcell  
225 Polk Avenue  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Congressman Jim Cooper  
Attn: Mr. Phil Ponder  
Suite 101  
706 Church Street  
Nashville, Tennessee 37203

Rutherford County Highway Department  
Attn: Mike Williams  
PO Box 1519  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133-1519

Colonial Pipeline Company  
Attn: Gene Aldridge  
1455 North 51<sup>st</sup> Ave  
Nashville, Tennessee 37209

Boy Scouts of America  
3414 Hillsboro Pike  
Nashville, Tennessee 37215

Deputy to the Governor for Policy  
Attention: Director of Policy  
Environmental Policy Office  
401 Church Street; 21<sup>st</sup> Floor, L&C Tower  
Nashville, TN 37243-1530

~~Bureau of Indian Affairs  
District VI HQ  
Attn: Clark Leach  
41 Century Blvd, Suite 250  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214~~

Mr. Carl Birch  
Metro Council, District 13  
4024 Windwood Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

Mr. Tommy Bradley  
Metro Council, District 33  
144 2<sup>nd</sup> Avenue, North #133  
Nashville, Tennessee 37201

Mayor Ronnie Erwin  
123 Parrish Street  
LaVergne, Tennessee 37086

Congressman Bart Gordon  
Attn: Mr. Jim Stubblefield  
PO Box 1986  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37133

Percy Priest Yacht Club  
PO Box 150642  
Nashville, Tennessee 37215-0642

Consolidated Utility District  
709 New Salem Road  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Environmental Monitoring Solutions  
Attn: Billy Dranes  
PO Box 1335  
Mt. Juliet, Tennessee 37122

Division of Local Planning  
Mr. Don Waller, Director  
312 8<sup>th</sup> Avenue North, 10<sup>th</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243-0405

Mr. Reggie Reeves  
Div of Natural Heritage & Scenic Rivers  
14 Floor, L&C Tower  
401 Church Steet  
Nashville, TN 37243-0447

Mr. Gregory M. Denton  
TDEC - Division of Water Pollution Control  
401 Church Street  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor L&C Annex  
Nashville, TN 37243-1534

Governor's Council on Greenways & Trails  
401 Church Street, 21<sup>st</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37243-0435

The Wildlife Society - Tennessee Chapter  
UT Martin - Department of Biological  
Sciences  
Martin, TN 38238-5008

Mr. Paul E. Davis  
Division of Water Pollution Control  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor L&C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1534

Mr. Dan Eagar, NRS Manager  
TDEC - Division of Water Pollution Control  
401 Church Street  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor L&C Annex  
Nashville, TN 37243-1534

Mr. David Draughon, Director,  
Division of Water Supply  
6<sup>th</sup> Floor, L&C Tower  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1549

Mr. Jim Haynes, Director  
Division of Superfund  
4<sup>th</sup> Floor, L&C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1538

Mr. Mike Apple  
Division of Solid/Hazardous Waste Mgmt  
5<sup>th</sup> Floor, L&C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-0780

Mr. Herbert L. Harper, Director  
Attn: Mr. Joe Garrison  
Tennessee Historic Commission  
2941 Lebanon Road  
Nashville, TN 37243-0442

Rutherford County Sheriffs Office  
Attn: Truman Jones  
940 New Salem Highway  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

Sierra Club  
Tennessee State Chapter  
2021 21st Ave. S, Suite 436  
Nashville, TN 37212

Mr. Ron Gatlin  
U. S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Regulatory Branch  
3701 Bell Road  
Nashville, TN 37214

Ms. Joyce Hoyle  
Division of Recreation Services  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, L&C Tower  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-0439

Mr. Barry Stephens  
Division of Air Pollution Control  
9<sup>th</sup> Floor L&C Annex  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1531

Mr. Joey Holland, WPC Manager  
711 R. S. Gass Blvd.  
Nashville, TN 37243

Mr. Kent Taylor, Director  
Division of Ground Water Protection  
10<sup>th</sup> Floor, L&C Tower  
401 Church Street  
Nashville, TN 37243-1540

~~Mr. Nick Fielder, Director  
TDEC - Division of Archaeology  
5103 Edmonson Pike  
Nashville, TN 37211-5129~~

Dr. Lee A. Barclay, Field Supervisor  
Ecological Services  
US Fish and Wildlife Service  
446 Neal Street  
Cookeville, TN 38501

Tennessee Department of Transportation  
Mr. Glen Beckwith, Planning Division  
TDOT NEPA Contact  
Suite 900, James K. Polk Building  
Nashville, TN 37243-0334

Mr. Wilton Burnette  
TN Dept. of Economic & Community Dev  
7<sup>th</sup> Floor, Rachel Jackson Building  
320 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue North  
Nashville, TN 37243-0405

Tennessee Department of Agriculture (TDA)  
Mr. Terry J. Oliver, Deputy Commissioner,  
TDA NEPA Contact  
P.O. Box 40627, Melrose Station  
Nashville, TN 37204

Mr. Robert Todd  
TWRA NEPA Contact  
TWRA - Ellington Agricultural Center  
P.O. Box 40747  
Nashville, TN 37204

The Nature Conservancy of Tennessee  
2021 21st Avenue South, Suite C-400  
Nashville, TN 37212

EPA NEPA Contact  
USEPA - Region 4  
Office of Environmental Assessment  
61 Forsyth Street, S.W., Federal Center  
Atlanta, GA 30303

Honorable Carol Cook, Commissioner  
132 Bain Drive  
LaVergne, TN 37086

Honorable Susan Lynn  
Tennessee State Representative  
510 Barton Shore Court  
Lebanon, TN 37087

Honorable Joe Haynes  
Tennessee State Senator  
219 Moss Trail  
Goodlettsville, TN 37072

Honorable Donna Rowland,  
Tennessee House Representative, District 34  
5858 Franklin Road  
Murfreesboro, TN 37128-4601

The Tennessean  
1100 Broadway  
Nashville, TN 37203

Honorable Rick Hall, Commissioner  
323 Andy John Drive  
Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

USDA - NRCS, Division 2  
Area Conservationist  
410 New Salem Highway  
Suite 105  
Murfreesboro, TN 37129

TN Department of Agriculture (TDA)  
Mr. Mike Countess, Deputy Commissioner  
TDA NEPA Contact  
Ellington Agricultural Center  
Box 40627, Nashville, TN 37204

Tennessee Governor's Office  
State Capitol Building  
Nashville, TN 37219

Honorable Anthony Johnson, Commissioner  
401 Pioneer Drive  
Smyrna, TN 37167

Honorable Ben West, Jr  
Tennessee State Representative  
4013 Port Cleburne Lane  
Hermitage, TN 37076

Honorable Jim Tracy  
Tennessee State Senator  
106 Finch Lane  
Shelbyville, TN 37160

Honorable Mae Beavers  
Tennessee State Senator  
PO Box 432  
Mt. Juliet, TN 37121

Honorable Kent Coleman  
Tennessee State Representative  
933 E. Main Street  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

County Mayer Ernest G. Burgess  
Rutherford County Courthouse, Suite 101  
Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Honorable Steve Sandlin, Commissioner  
3407 Valley Bend Road  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37129

Honorable Doug Shafer, Commissioner  
192 Morningside Drive  
LaVergne, Tennessee 37086

Honorable Mike Sparks, Commissioner  
114 Woodland Drive  
Smyrna, Tennessee 37167

WSMV-TV  
5700 Knob Road  
Nashville, Tennessee 37209

WZTV-TV  
631 Mainstream Drive  
Nashville, Tennessee 37228

Greater Nashville Regional Council  
501 Union Street, 6<sup>TH</sup> Floor  
Nashville, TN 37219-1705

WKRN-TV  
441 Murfreesboro Road  
Nashville, TN 37210

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Nashville, Tennessee 37214

Davidson County Library  
2325 Hickory Highlands Drive  
Antioch, Tennessee 37013

Smyrna Public Library  
400 Enon Springs Road W  
Smyrna, TN 37167

Hermitage Library  
3700 James Kay Lane  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

Linbaugh Public Library  
105 West Vine Street  
Murfreesboro, Tennessee 37130

Mt. Juliet-Wilson County Library  
2765 N. Mt. Juliet Road  
Mt. Juliet, Tennessee 37122

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Murfreesboro, TN 37130

Postmaster  
United States Post Office  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

U. S. Coast Guard Auxiliary  
Flotilla 11-04  
Commander Jim Williamson  
105 Belgium Court  
Hermitage, Tennessee 37076

Mr. James T. Martin, Exec Director  
United South and Eastern Tribes, Inc.  
711 Stewarts Ferry Pike, Suite 100  
Nashville, Tennessee 37214

## Environmental Assessment Review Responses





**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P. O. BOX 1070**  
**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37202-1070**

October 12, 2007

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Project Planning Branch

To All Interested Parties:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Nashville District has prepared the enclosed Environmental Assessment (EA), unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and Master Plan Update for J. Percy Priest Reservoir, Davidson, Rutherford, Wilson, and Cannon Counties, Tennessee. Three alternatives are considered in the EA:

1. No action, which means there would be no supplement to the existing Master Plan and no new resource classification, assessment, and inventory would occur;

2. Full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update, which would incorporate three actions: a) outdated information would be revised to reflect current status and classification of project facilities and lands, conditions, and usage, b) future uses and demands would be outlined, and c) corridors would be designated for existing and future outgrants of project lands; and

3. Implementation of a revised scope of the proposed Master Plan update which would include evaluating actions, comments, or requests that result from public review of the EA and Master Plan update.

Please provide any comments concerning the EA, FONSI, and Master Plan Update prior to November 13, 2007. Responses should be mailed to the above address. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kim Franklin, Biologist, at (615) 369-7511.

Sincerely,

*William R. Barron, Jr., P.E.*  
William R. Barron, Jr., P.E.  
Acting Chief, Project  
Planning Branch



**DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY**  
**NASHVILLE DISTRICT, CORPS OF ENGINEERS**  
**P. O. BOX 1070**  
**NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37202-1070**

October 12, 2007

IN REPLY REFER TO  
Project Planning Branch

To All Interested Parties:

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Nashville District has prepared an Environmental Assessment (EA), unsigned Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and Master Plan Update for J. Percy Priest Reservoir, Davidson, Rutherford, Wilson, and Cannon Counties, Tennessee. Three alternatives are considered in the EA:

1. No action, which means there would be no supplement to the existing Master Plan and no new resource classification, assessment, and inventory would occur;

2. Full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update, which would incorporate three actions: a) outdated information would be revised to reflect current status and classification of project facilities and lands, conditions, and usage, b) future uses and demands would be outlined, and c) corridors would be designated for existing and future outgrants of project lands.

3. Implementation of a revised scope of the proposed Master Plan update which would include evaluating actions, comments, or requests that result from public review of the EA and Master Plan update.

These documents are available on the Corps website at [http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pmgmt/Environmental/public\\_notices.htm](http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/pmgmt/Environmental/public_notices.htm), the J. Percy Priest Lake webpage at <http://www.lrn.usace.army.mil/op/jpp/rec/events-activities-news.htm>, or a copy may be requested from the contact below. Please provide any comments concerning the EA, FONSI, and Master Plan Update prior to November 13, 2007. Responses should be mailed to the above address. If you have any questions, please contact Ms. Kim Franklin, Biologist, at (615) 369-7511.

Sincerely,

*William R. Barron, Jr., P.E.*

William R. Barron, Jr., P.E.  
Acting Chief, Project  
Planning Branch

**From:** Karwedsky, Robert A LRN  
**To:** Franklin, Kimberly S LRN;  
**Subject:** JPP Master Plan Update and EA  
**Date:** Thursday, October 18, 2007 2:01:39 PM

---

Kim,

I talked to SHPO staff about the update. We agreed to call it a planning document with no stated implementation of an undertaking. She (Jennifer Barnett) said there was no need to send it to them for review or buy in. I don't know how that fits with the SHPO response to scoping, but to send a copy now would just be a paperwork exercise to get the same response again. We already know that undertakings may have an effect on historic properties and we address that effect on an undertaking by undertaking basis.

Rob

Archeologist

Project Planning Branch

US Army Corps of Engineers

Nashville District

**From:** kvettej@aol.com [mailto:kvettej@aol.com]  
**Sent:** Thursday, November 08, 2007 10:12 PM  
**To:** Franklin, Kimberly S LRN  
**Cc:** rduvall71@comcast.net  
**Subject:** 2007 J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update

KAREN Y. JOHNSON  
2928 Moss Spring Drive  
Antioch, TN 37013  
615-367-3010  
615-977-6721

---

November 8, 2007

Kim Franklin  
US Army Corps of Engineers  
Nashville District  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

Dear Ms. Franklin,

In response to our conversation regarding your public comment period on the proposed 2007 J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update which is scheduled to close on November 13, 2007, I would like to submit the following citizen comment/request to be included for consideration.

In keeping with your trend in the construction of greenway trails and corridors, please consider a possible greenway to connect Corps Parcel 90000000949/Corps Parcel 90000002105 off the Smith Springs road corridor. Currently there is a shelter i.e. Smith Springs Shelter in the area requested for consideration. Long term transportation plans for the Smith Springs Parkway/Road area is to open access to Hobson Pike. Should this occur, I would like to also ask that consideration be given to working with the YMCA and the Chatham Pointe Estates neighborhood which backs up to Parcel 13700001700 in connecting a greenway to the nearby neighborhood. It is understood that private land is situated between these areas and the Corps of Engineers boundaries.

In closing, additionally this request is to address public health and welfare which could enable physical/healthy living activities for seniors, children, and families in the area which currently has no known greenways in existence which enhance the natural, environmental resources, vegetation and wildlife for citizens to enjoy. I am aware that this is a small scale individual request and that the Corps of Engineers does not support piecemealing in your efforts to advance the benefits of preserving natural resources. This request simply is to ask if careful consideration can be made in reviewing on a case by case basis the need for a greenway in this vicinity so that every quadrant within the Corps

property boundary/scope has equal access to the same enjoyment and health and welfare proposals/projects that are currently being considered for Smyrna, LaVergne and other areas of Nashville.

Thank you for your time in reviewing this request for consideration and allowing me the opportunity as a citizen within close proximity to provide comment to your plan.

Sincerely,

Karen Y. Johnson  
Citizen  
Smith Springs Area  
Antioch, TN

cc: Councilman Robert Duvall  
Former Councilman Tommy Bradley  
Jennifer E. Regan, Metro Nashville Planning Department  
Roy Wilson, Director, Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation  
Shain Dennison, Metro Nashville Parks and Recreation, Greenways  
Mark Weller, YMCA Camp Widjiwagan  
Roseanne Hayes, Chatham Pointe Neighborhood Association

Note: Please reply to let me know you received. Thank you.

---

Email and AIM finally together. You've gotta check out free [AOL Mail!](#)



# TENNESSEE WILDLIFE RESOURCES AGENCY

ELLINGTON AGRICULTURAL CENTER  
P. O. BOX 40747  
NASHVILLE, TENNESSEE 37204

November 9, 2007

Kim Franklin  
Department of the Army  
Nashville District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

Re: Environmental Assessment, Finding of No Significant Impact, Master Plan Update for J.  
Percy Priest Reservoir  
Davidson, Rutherford, Wilson, and Cannon Counties, Tennessee

Dear Ms. Franklin:

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency has received and reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA), Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and the Master Plan Update for J. Percy Priest Reservoir located in Davidson, Rutherford, Wilson, and Cannon Counties in Tennessee which your office sent to us.

The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency supports the full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update alternative. The Master Plan Update alternative provides a mechanism to address in land management at J. Percy Priest Reservoir in a changing environment.

We do have concerns regarding potential loss of hunting opportunity on U.S. Army Corps of Engineers properties that could occur due to allocation of areas for greenways and trails. We do not oppose greenways and trails; and generally encourage their development as a mechanism to provide vegetative buffers to improve water quality, maintain corridors for wildlife, and provide an opportunity for wildlife viewing especially in an urban environment. The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency is the largest outgrant shareholder in terms of acreage and coordinates management activities with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. We are encouraged by the inclusion of language in the Master Plan Update alluding to "Presidential Executive Order: Facilitation of Hunting Heritage and Wildlife Conservation dated August 16, 2007, directs Federal agencies to consider the economic and recreational values that public hunting provides, manage wildlife habitat on public lands to promote public hunting, and to collaborate with State Wildlife agencies to provide public hunting opportunities." We also approve of the process which determines criteria for greenway trail evaluation and requires that the application must include a "Letter of No Objection" from all existing outgrantees. It is our opinion that the process described in the Master Plan Update provides a mechanism for the resolution of land use conflicts.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment.

**The State of Tennessee**

IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY, EQUAL ACCESS, AFFIRMATIVE ACTION EMPLOYER

NOV 14 2007

Sincerely,

*Robert M. Todd*

Robert M. Todd  
Fish and Wildlife Environmentalist

cc: David Sims, Region II Habitat Biologist  
Steve Patrick, Region II Manager  
Andrea English, Region II Wildlife Diversity Coordinator  
Dr. Lee Barkley, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service  
Darryl Williams, Environmental Protection Agency  
Dan Eagar, Division of Water Pollution Control



## METROPOLITAN COUNCIL

Member of Council

November 12, 2007

Ms. Kim Franklin  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Nashville District  
P. O. Box 1070  
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

Dear Ms. Franklin:

As Councilman for District 33, I want to go on record in support of the J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update and the letter from Ms. Karen Johnson concerning the Master Plan.

This proposed plan will be vital to the physical and healthy living of residents in the area and will enhance the natural and environmental resources. Your full consideration of the J. Percy Priest Master Plan Update will be greatly appreciated.

If you need to discuss this further, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Robert Duvall  
Councilman, District 33

RD/rh



November 12, 2007

William R. Barron, Jr., PE  
Department of the Army  
Nashville District Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, TN 37202-1070

**Re: Comments on Master Plan Update, Environmental Assessment and FONSI**

Dear Mr. Barron:

The Town has reviewed the Master Plan Update, EA and FONSI for J. Percy Priest Lake and has the following comments:

1. Section 4, page 7 of the Master Plan Update states that this Master Plan does not contain any cost sharing proposals but may in the future service as a basis for initiating such actions. The Town does not believe it is appropriate to charge in the future based upon this documentation. There are no proposals for specific charges, who would be charged or amounts that would be charged in this document. There is no legal authority cited for imposing such charges other than Corps "regulations," which is in fact a guidance document and not promulgated regulations that have been subject to public notice and comment. At the time any charges are sought to be imposed, there should be an opportunity for comment and the ability to challenge such costs by any party upon whom such charges are sought to be imposed.
2. Section 7, page 7 of the Master Plan Update states that current water withdrawal rates are considered to be at the limit of what the project resources can provide. Support for this statement is not provided and this statement appears to be directly contrary to past reports on J. Percy Priest, including without limitation the Final Environmental Assessment and FONSI for Surplus Water Determination dated November 1998 and the Reallocation Report and Environmental Assessment for J. Percy Priest dated January 2003. The document further states that future water withdrawals requests will have to consider other sources for water. The Town believes that this is contrary to the Water Supply Act of 1958 which requires the Corps to cooperate with local entities seeking to use federal projects for water supply. The Town believes that a blanket statement that the project will not support future requests for water withdrawal and that other sources will have to be looked to may have a significant impact on the environment. The Corps states as much in the November 1998 document cited above.
3. Section 7, page 8 of the Master Plan Update states "recent water quality improvements to the Stones River downstream from J. Percy Priest have also required an adjustment to summer pool levels to hold

William R. Barron, Jr., PE  
Department of the Army  
November 12, 2007  
Page 2

back additional water in the summer to allow for minimal controlled releases throughout the summer months." It is unclear: (a) what water quality improvements are being discussed, (b) what is meant by this statement, and (c) what impact may result upon project resources or the environment.

4. In addition to the comments provided on March 30 to Kim Franklin (USCOE) by Mr. Mike Moss, Director of Parks and Recreation, the Town of Smyrna has interest in the property once known as Old Jefferson. Old Jefferson was once the capital of Rutherford County (1804-1811). The Town believes this area has significant historical and recreational value to the Smyrna community.

Again, we would also like to express our interest in providing additional recreational opportunities for the community through USCOE properties for greenways and potential park properties. The areas are as follows:

Greenways

- A. Sharp Springs to Jefferson Springs (in Greenway Master Plan)
- B. Sharp Springs to park property (Westfork Subdivision) along Florence Road and eventually to Nice's Mill (in Greenway Master Plan).
- C. Sharp Springs to Old Jefferson area

**NOTE:** Connect Smyrna to Murfreesboro via greenway.

Properties

- A. Property on south side of Florence Road in vicinity of Nissan and new subdivisions (in Parks Master Plan 2006-2020).
- B. Old Jefferson Area along Stones River near the East Fork Recreation Area.

Of course, we want to continue to operate and maintain existing outgrants.

The Town considers J. Percy Priest Lake a tremendous resource for Middle Tennessee and would maintain these properties at high standards while also considering the importance of natural areas in our area. We truly feel we can balance recreation for town citizens while protecting one of Middle Tennessee's greatest resources.

Sincerely,



Mark O'Neal  
Town Manager



**TENNESSEE WILDLIFE FEDERATION**  
Conserving Our Wildlife & Natural Resources Since 1946

12 November 2007

Attn: Project Planning Branch  
Department of the Army  
Nashville District, Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

RE: EA, FONSI, and Master Plan Update Comments for J. Percy Priest Reservoir

This letter is in reference to the scoping process, required by the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and to voice our support "**Proposed Master Plan Update.**" We do wish however to provide the below comments for consideration by JPP staff when considering comments regarding the EA currently under public comment.

TWF's mission is champion the conservation, sound management and enjoyment of Tennessee's wildlife and natural resources for current and future generations through stewardship, advocacy, and education. We at the Federation have been heavily engaged with the J. Percy Priest (JPP) resource staff in the development of the master plan draft, and offer the following comment.

We believe it is in the best interest of wildlife, sportsmen and women, the USACE, all lease holders and the other property users that the **Alternative: "Implementation of a revised scope of the Proposed Master Plan"** is drafted with the following considerations added.

It is evident and appreciated that the USACE staff in drafting this EA took heavy consideration of the loss of important wildlife habitat and public hunting lands within Middle Tennessee; and the fact that many adjacent municipalities have used or plan to propose use of project lands to build recreational facilities and or trails.

While the mitigation efforts to put lands that are currently in recreational status to that of TWRA managed lands, as referenced in section 4.9 of the EA and 11.07 of the Master Plan Update, are a step in the right direction, the fact remains that while loss of wildlife habitat and public hunting lands is evident, the need to ensure that future lands hold the same value for wildlife and sportsmen is crucial.

We would ask that the additional efforts be put forth to ensure that when mitigation actions are taken in reference to the EA in Section 5.7.1 and the Master Plan Update in

Section 11.07 that the offset lands involved in the mitigation be equal to or in higher wildlife value than the lands lost at 1:1 ratio. While, if the offset lands are in fact not equal to or exceeding the wildlife habitat value, that the outgrantee responsible for the mitigation be required to fund a restoration of project lands at a 2:1 ratio and additionally be put back into the TWRA managed grant.

Project lands being restored from recreational to a high quality habitat is in the best interest of both the natural resource and the sportsmen. Specifically removable of picnic tables, fire pits, grills, barricades, bath houses, restrooms etc and the addition of habitat restoration wildlife friendly plantings under BMP's should be implemented at cost of the grantee responsible for the mitigation.

The Tennessee Wildlife Federation would like to thank the staff of the JPP resource for their courteous correspondence regarding this matter, and the attention to our previous comments regarding this and other issues. We feel that this resource is a valuable asset to the fish and wildlife and sportsmen and women of Tennessee. Major alteration or loss of these habitats or lands is a drastic measure that should be fully reviewed via the NEPA process.

Sincerely,

  
Chad Whittenburg



# United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE  
446 Neal Street  
Cookeville, TN 38501

November 19, 2007

Ms. Kim Franklin  
Project Planning Branch  
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
P.O. Box 1070  
Nashville, Tennessee 37202-1070

Subject: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Environmental Assessment and Finding of No Significant Impact for Proposed Master Plan Update for J. Percy Priest Reservoir, Davidson, Rutherford, Wilson, and Cannon counties, Tennessee.

Dear Ms. Franklin:

Fish and Wildlife Service (Service) personnel have reviewed the Environmental Assessment (EA), Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI), and the Master Plan Update for J. Percy Priest Reservoir located in Davidson, Rutherford, Wilson, and Cannon counties, Tennessee. Three alternatives were considered in this EA: (1) no action; (2) full implementation of the proposed Master Plan Update, which would revise the current status and classification of project facilities and lands, conditions, and usage; and (3) implementation of a revised scope of the proposed Master Plan Update.

In section 5, page 2 of the Master Plan Update, you state that requests for outgrants should include the following: "if a threatened or endangered plant or animal species is potentially impacted by outgrant request, coordination with the Tennessee Division of Environment and Conservation is necessary." We ask that you also have the applicant coordinate with the Service.

As you are aware, several endangered species occur within the project area. We appreciate your proactive efforts to exclude areas with threatened and endangered species from future outgrant proposals by designating them "Environmentally Sensitive Areas." It is our understanding that you will continue to work to minimize adverse affects to listed species as future outgrant opportunities arise at J. Percy Priest Reservoir.

Based on your efforts to minimize adverse affects to listed species, it is unlikely that you will need formal consultation on outgrant requests in the future. However, as you consider proposals, we remind you that section 7 allows the Service up to 90 calendar days to conclude formal consultation with your agency and an additional 45 calendar days to prepare our biological opinion (unless we mutually agree to an extension). Therefore, if formal consultation is necessary, our biological opinion might take 135 calendar days to complete after receipt of the initiation request.

Thank you for the opportunity to review this EA, FONSI, and updated Master Plan. Please contact Stephanie Chance of my staff at 931/528-6481 (ext. 211) if you have questions about these comments.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Lee A. Barclay". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Lee A. Barclay, Ph.D.  
Field Supervisor

## APPENDIX 2

### Species of Concern



SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LIST	STATE LIST
<b>PLANTS</b>			
<i>Acmella oppositifolia</i>	Creeping spot-flower	S	
<i>Allium stellatum</i>	Glade onion		E
<i>Ammoselinum popei</i>	Pope's sand-parsley		T
<i>Amsonia tabernaemontana</i> var. <i>gattinger</i>	Limestone blue star		S
<i>Anemone caroliniana</i>	Carolina anemone		E
<i>Apios priceana</i>	Price's potato-bean	LT	E
<i>Arabis glabra</i>	Tower-mustard		T
<i>Arabis hirsuta</i>	Western hairy rockcress		T
<i>Arabis perstellata</i>	Braun's rockcress	LE	E
<i>Arabis shortii</i>	Short's rockcress		S
<i>Arenaria fontinalis</i>	Water stitchwort		T
<i>Aster praealtus</i>	Willow aster		E
<i>Astragalus bibullatus</i>	Pyne's ground-plum	LE	E
<i>Astragalus tennesseensis</i>	Tennessee milk-vetch	S	
<i>Carex davisii</i>	Davis' sedge		S
<i>Carex hirtifolia</i>	Pubescent sedge		S
<i>Crataegus harbisonii</i>	Harbison's hawthorn		E
<i>Dalea candida</i>	White prairie-clover	S	
<i>Dalea foliosa</i>	Leafy prairie-clover	LE	E
<i>Dalea purpurea</i>	Purple prairie-clover	E	
<i>Echinacea simulata</i>	Wavy-leaf purple coneflower		T
<i>Echinacea tennesseensis</i>	Tennessee coneflower	LE	E
<i>Eleocharis equisetoides</i>	Horse-tail spike-rush		E
<i>Elymus svensonii</i>	Svenson's wild-rye	E	
<i>Erysimum capitatum</i>	Western wallflower		E
<i>Evolvulus nuttallianus</i>	Evolvulus		S
<i>Fimbristylis puberula</i>	Hairy fimbriatylis		T
<i>Helianthus eggertii</i>	Eggert's sunflower	LT	T
<i>Hydrastis canadensis</i>	Goldenseal		S-CE
<i>Juglans cinerea</i>	Butternut		T
<i>Leavenworthia exigua</i> var. <i>exugua</i>	Glade-cress		S
<i>Lesquerella densipila</i>	Duck river bladderpod	T	
<i>Lesquerella globosa</i>	Short's bladderpod		E
<i>Lesquerella perforata</i>	Spring creek bladderpod	LE	E
<i>Lesquerella stonensis</i>	Stones river bladderpod		E
<i>Liatris cylindracea</i>	Slender blazing-star	T	
<i>Lilium canadense</i>	Canada lily	T	
<i>Lilium michiganense</i>	Michigan lily		T
<i>Lonicera flava</i>	Yellow honeysuckle		T
<i>Lonicera prolifera</i>	Grape honeysuckle		E-P
<i>Mirabilis albidia</i>	Pale umbrella-wort		T

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LIST	STATE LIST
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**PLANTS (con't.)**

<i>Neviusia alabamensis</i>	Alabama snow-wreath	T	
<i>Oenothera macrocarpa</i>	Missouri primrose	T	
<i>Onosmodium molle</i> ssp. <i>subsetosum</i>	Smooth false gromwell	E	
<i>Panax quinquefolius</i>	American ginseng	S-CE	
<i>Perideridia americana</i>	Thicket parsley	E	
<i>Phlox bifida</i> ssp. <i>stellaria</i>	Glade cleft phlox	T	
<i>Polygala boykinii</i>	Boykin's milkwort	S	
<i>Polytaenia nuttallii</i>	Prairie parsley	T	
<i>Populus grandidentata</i>	Large-tooth aspen	S	
<i>Ranunculus longirostris</i>	Eastern white water-crowfoot	E	
<i>Sagittaria platyphylla</i>	Ovate-leaved arrowhead	S	
<i>Schoenolirion croceum</i>	Yellow sunnysbell	T	
<i>Scleria verticillata</i>	Low nutbush	S	
<i>Silphium pinnatifidum</i>	Southern prairie-dock	T	
<i>Talinum calcaricum</i>	Limestone fame-flower	S	
<i>Trifolium calcaricum</i>	Running glade clover	E	
<i>Veronica catenata</i>	Sessile water-speedwell	E	
<i>Vitis rupestris</i>	Sand grape	E	
<i>Zanthoxylum americanum</i>	Northern prickly-ash	S	

**INVERTEBRATES – MOLLUSKS**

<i>Epioblasma brevidens</i>	Cumberlandian combshell	LE	E
<i>Epioblasma florentina</i> <i>florentina</i>	Yellow-blossom	LE	E
<i>Epioblasma florentina</i> <i>walkeri</i>	Tan riffleshell	LE	E
<i>Lampsilis abrupta</i>	Pick mucket	LE	E
<i>Lithasia geniculata</i>	Ornate rocksnail		
<i>Obovaria retusa</i>	Ring pink	LE	E

**INVERTEBRATES - CRUSTACEANS**

<i>Orconectes shoupi</i>	Nashville crayfish	LE	E
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**VERTEBRATES – BIRDS**

<i>Accipiter cooperii</i>	Cooper's hawk	D	
<i>Actitis macularia</i>	Spotted sandpiper		
<i>Ammodramus savannarum</i>	Grasshopper sparrow	D	
<i>Buteo lineatus</i>	Red-shouldered hawk		
<i>Chondestes grammacus</i>	Lark sparrow	T	
<i>Falco peregrinus</i>	Peregrine falcon	(PS:LE)	E
<i>Ixobrychus exilis</i>	Least bittern	D	

SCIENTIFIC NAME	COMMON NAME	FED LIST	STATE LIST
<b>BIRDS (con't)</b>			
<i>Nyctanassa violacea</i>	Yellow-crowned night-heron		
<i>Nycticorax nycticorax</i>	Black-crowned night-heron		
<i>Thryomanes bewickii</i>	Bewick's wren	E	
<i>Tyto alba</i>	Common barn-owl	D	
<b>VERTEBRATES – MAMMALS</b>			
<i>Lutra canadensis</i>	Northern river otter	T	
<i>Myotis grisescens</i>	Gray bat	LE	E
<i>Neotoma magister</i>	Eastern woodrat	D	
<i>Zapus hudsonius</i>	Meadow jumping mouse	(PS)	D
<b>VERTEBRATES – REPTILES</b>			
<i>Macroclermys temminckii</i>	Alligator snapping turtle	D	
<i>Ophisaurus attenuatus longicaudus</i>	Eastern slender glass lizard	D	
<b>VERTEBRATES – AMPHIBIANS</b>			
<i>Cryptobranchus_ alleganiensis</i>	Hellbender	D	
<i>Gyrinophilus palleucus</i>	Tennessee cave Salamander	T	
<b>VERTEBRATES – FISH</b>			
<i>Acipenser fulvescens</i>	Lake sturgeon	E	
<i>Cycleptus elongatus</i>	Blue sucker	T	
<i>Etheostoma cinereum</i>	Ashy darter	T	
<i>Etheostoma luteovinctum</i>	Redband darter	D	
<i>Etheostoma microlepidum</i>	Finescale darter	D	
<i>Etheostoma olivaceum</i>	Sooty darter	D	
<i>Etheostoma tippecanoe</i>	Tippecanoe darter	D	
<i>Lagochila lacera</i>	Harelip sucker	D	
<i>Notropis rupestris</i>	Bedrock shiner	D	
<i>Percina phoxocephala</i>	Slenderhead darter	D	
<i>Typhlichthys subterraneus</i>	Southern cavefish	D	

Above information obtained from the Division of Natural Heritage, Tennessee Department of Environment and Conservation websites:

Tennessee Natural Heritage Program, Rare Plant List 2004,  
[www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/plant\\_list.pdf](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/plant_list.pdf)

A Guide to the Rare Animals of Tennessee, May 2004,  
[www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/animal\\_list\\_2004.pdf](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/animal_list_2004.pdf)

Rare Vascular Plant List, [www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/tnplants.php?type=vasc](http://www.state.tn.us/environment/nh/tnplants.php?type=vasc)

STATE STATUS CODES -

E - Endangered Species  
T - Threatened Species  
S - Special Concern Species  
PE - Proposed Endangered Species  
D - "Deemed in Need of Management"

STATE STATUS MODIFIERS  
following State Status

P - Possibly Extirpated  
CE – Commercially Exploited

FEDERAL STATUS CODES -

LE - Listed Endangered  
E/SA - Endangered by Similarity of Appearance  
LT - Listed Threatened  
T/SA - Threatened by Similarity of Appearance  
PE - Proposed Endangered  
PT - Proposed Threatened  
C - Candidate Species  
(PS) - Partial Status (based on taxonomy)  
(PS:status) - Partial Status (based on political boundaries)  
(status,XN) - Non-essential experimental population in portion range