

## CHAPTER 5

# Recreation Management

<b>5.1 Goal</b>	<b>114</b>
<b>5.2 Benefits</b>	<b>115</b>
<b>5.3 Implementation Strategy</b>	<b>115</b>
Innovation	116
Enhancement/Expansion	117
Data Management	118
Public Outreach and Awareness	119
<b>5.4 Measures of Success</b>	<b>119</b>
<b>5.5 Resource Area Programs</b>	<b>120</b>
5.5.1 Management of Campgrounds on Dam or Power Plant Reservations	121
5.5.2 Management of Campgrounds off Dam or Power Plant Reservations	122
5.5.3 Day-Use Areas on Dam Reservations	123
5.5.4 Day-Use Areas off Dam Reservations	124
5.5.5 Stream Access Sites	125
5.5.6 Annual Tours	126
5.5.7 Recreation Information Management	127
5.5.8 Boating Density Assessments	128
5.5.9 Reservoir Lands Recreation Inventory Management	129
5.5.10 Recreation Design Principles	130
5.5.11 Recreation Planning, Assistance, and Technical Support	131
5.5.12 Tennessee Valley Camp-Right Campground Program	132
5.5.13 Dispersed Recreation Management	133
5.5.14 Trails Management	133
5.5.15 Leave No Trace	133
5.5.16 Tennessee Valley Clean Marina Program	133



From its beginning, TVA has encouraged the development of a wide variety of outdoor recreation opportunities, particularly on TVA reservoirs and shorelines. As part of these efforts, TVA transferred forestlands to the National Park Service and the U.S. Forest Service for those agencies to manage them and make them available for recreational use. Other lands under TVA's control were made available for recreation purposes through auctions, easements and other means. The table at right provides a summary of land conveyed by TVA to other agencies or nongovernmental organizations for wildlife management and recreation use.





Type of Recreation Area	Number of Areas (approximate)	Acres (approximate)
<b>Public Parks</b>	<b>213</b>	<b>40,900</b>
State	77	33,300
County	61	3,900
Municipal	74	3,500
Fair Association	1	200
<b>Public Access Areas and Roadside Parks</b>	<b>178</b>	<b>1,120</b>
Federal (U.S. Forest Service)	17	40
State	116	1,000
Local	45	80
<b>Wildlife Refuges</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>202,000</b>
National Wildlife Refuges	2	115,900
State Management Areas and Refuges	28	86,100
<b>National Forests and Parks</b>	<b>6</b>	<b>232,400</b>
National Forests	4	62,000
National Park	1	170,000
National Parkway	1	400
<b>Other</b>	<b>332</b>	<b>9,000</b>
Group Camps and Clubs	32	3,500
Commercial Recreation Areas	300	5,500
<b>Totals</b>	<b>759</b>	<b>485,420</b>

**Figure 5.1** Land conveyed by TVA for recreation management

For further information, a detailed chronology of TVA's recreation history is provided in Appendix B of the Natural Resource Plan Environmental Impact Statement ([www.tva.com/environment/nrp](http://www.tva.com/environment/nrp)).

TVA continues to provide public lands for developed recreational purposes through the reservoir lands planning process described in Chapter 8. During a reservoir lands planning effort, tracts of TVA-managed lands around a reservoir or groups of reservoirs are categorized based upon a suitable use that is consistent with TVA policy and guidelines and applicable laws and regulations. Over the years, TVA has allocated approximately 21,200 acres for developed recreational purposes. Nearly 90 percent of these lands are currently committed under existing contractual agreements. TVA continues to entertain commercial or public recreation requests for development of remaining lands.



When the TVA board approved the Land Policy Assessment for Recreation Development, it directed staff to review TVA-managed lands designated for recreational development to verify the suitability and capability of lands assigned this classification. This assessment evaluated needs for public boat access, commercial marinas, campgrounds, recreational visitor lodging, developed land-based day-use facilities, water access, and dispersed land-based opportunities. The conclusions of these assessments can be viewed at [www.tva.com/environment/land/assessment/recreation.htm](http://www.tva.com/environment/land/assessment/recreation.htm).

In 2005, TVA developed a recreation strategy aimed at collaboratively enhancing recreational opportunities and addressing unmet recreational needs while managing the resources of the Tennessee River system. This strategy laid out guiding principles for how to best design and develop recreation programs. These principles were used in developing NRP programs, and the guiding principles are reflected in the success measures for recreation management listed below.

## 5.1 Goal

TVA will protect and conserve natural resources while providing recreational opportunities across the region. TVA is committed to maintaining and enhancing recreation opportunities and addressing unmet needs through comprehensive recreation programs and strategic partnerships.

## 5.2 Benefits

Through management efforts in this resource area, TVA expects to realize the following benefits:

- Increased recreation opportunities on TVA-managed lands
- Improved and up-to-date recreation information to support TVA and regional planning efforts
- Greater diversity of recreation opportunities through collaboration and partnerships
- Promotion of sustainable resource technologies on recreation properties (e.g., Melton Hill campground site)
- Integrated operation activities and partnerships that support outdoor recreation opportunities to more effectively manage lands and waters under TVA's stewardship

## 5.3 Implementation Strategy

TVA's recreation management programs are designed to facilitate a wide range of recreational opportunities across all resource areas. An ongoing challenge in recreation management is the ability to meet current and future user demand. TVA manages a total of 12 campgrounds (eight on-dam and four off-dam properties), 63 day-use areas (30 on-dam and 33 off-dam properties), and 81 stream access sites. Meeting user demand requires both a comprehensive data collection effort and a collaborative operations and communications effort. As such, TVA will continue to actively plan, collect and manage recreation information to ensure it is meeting public needs. In addition, TVA will foster an integrated approach toward recreation management, building on opportunities



outside of formal recreation facilities such as cultural (e.g., archaeological sites), water quality (e.g., shared locations for sampling stations), and biological resources (e.g., bird-watching).

Within recreation management, TVA has structured its implementation strategy based on the following characteristics:

- Innovation
- Enhancement/Expansion
- Data Management
- Public Outreach and Awareness

## Innovation

Recreation best management practices are evolving alongside the drive toward “green and clean” technologies. Currently, TVA is in the forefront of innovative recreation facilities, as seen at the Melton Hill Lake campground area. At this site, TVA is demonstrating how renewable energy, energy efficiency measures, water conservation, and recycled coal combustion products can be integrated into a sustainable campground and recreation area. The area is powered by a wind and solar energy “microgrid” with battery systems for energy storage. It is currently in a test phase, but TVA is collecting data to validate the cost-effectiveness and feasibility of building more flagship facilities throughout the Tennessee Valley. TVA will continue to evaluate and improve its Camp-Right Program, building on other resource area success such as the Clean Marina Initiative within water resources. Also, the data collected during the test phase of Melton Hill will be shared with partners throughout the region to help highlight the

importance of sustainable, energy efficient campground facilities.





## Enhancement/Expansion

TVA, in coordination with its partners, will continue to look for recreation opportunities within all activities. This may be in the form of new recreational opportunities, facility improvements, or new facility construction. At a minimum, TVA will make proactive upgrades to its facilities consistent with universal accessibility design standards and the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) accessibility guidelines. TVA will leverage recreational data, both collected internally and shared, to support decision-making processes for expansion opportunities. Also,

new recreational opportunities are not limited to facilities. For example, these may include coordination with other resource areas, such as biological and water resources, to provide access roads to new blueway or stream access sites. These efforts will include day-use areas, which are additional facilities that TVA provides for public use, both on and off the dam reservations, such as boat ramps, picnic sites, pavilions, and fishing piers. Enhancement efforts will also piggy-back on TVA's innovative technologies, with a long-term goal of bringing management of its on-dam campground and day-use facilities to a higher level.

## Data Management

Currently, TVA manages recreation information to create awareness within the user base of recreational opportunities and to support future resource management decision-making processes.

TVA posts much of its recreation data to its website ([www.tva.com/river/recreation](http://www.tva.com/river/recreation)). However, this information is not comprehensive of all TVA reservoir properties and is not always up-to-date. TVA's database was last updated in 2006. In the future, TVA will maintain this information on a biannual cycle. In addition, TVA will further the support of all recreation facilities through its recreation inventory management program. This program facilitates the creation and maintenance of an up-to-date, easily accessible database on recreation facilities and services available

on TVA-managed reservoirs. It will allow access to web-based and hand-held device information in real time while helping evaluate potential impacts and stakeholder input on future recreation needs and upgrades.

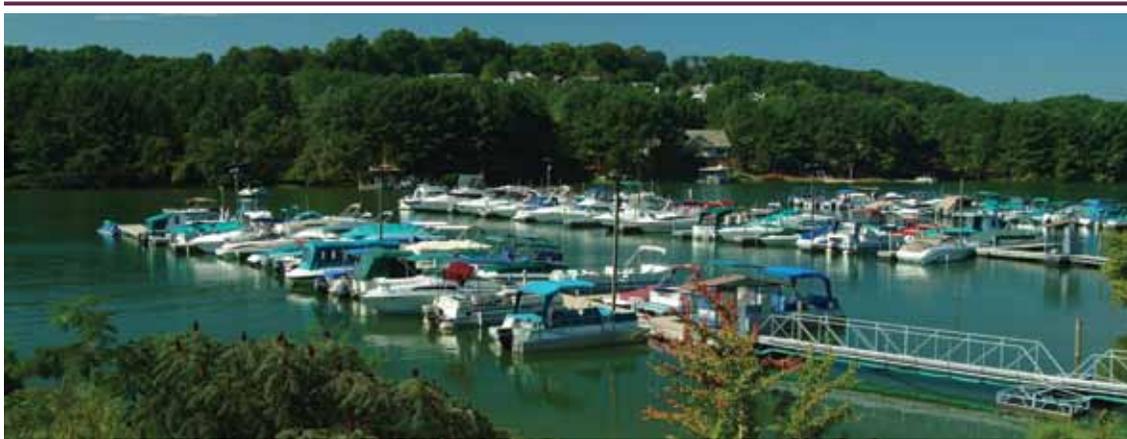
In support of its decision-making processes, TVA uses data from impact analyses associated with environmental reviews of TVA actions to perform recreation demand analyses and provide information to partners and stakeholders on usage and demand trends. TVA will continue to create and maintain an up-to-date, easily accessible database of recreation facilities and services on TVA-managed lands. This information will be compatible with data from other federal and state agencies as well as nongovernmental organizations, helping to foster partnerships and collaborative data sharing opportunities.



## Public Outreach and Awareness

Developed recreation facilities and the associated TVA signage often represent the public face of TVA's nonpower operations. As such, it is important for TVA to be viewed positively in the area of recreation management, enhancing both public enjoyment of the lands and increasing the opportunity to promote other natural resource programs and messages at recreation facilities. TVA recognizes that recreation management is an integral component of its education and outreach efforts. TVA is committed to maintaining

and enhancing recreation opportunities and addressing unmet recreation needs through comprehensive recreation programs and strategic partnerships. Public outreach campaigns help lead awareness efforts that directly influence the ability of TVA to manage its natural resources. For example, TVA will implement an annual tours program to provide an opportunity to showcase its integration of innovative technologies into recreation areas as well as new recreational opportunities across resource areas. These programs will align with public engagement programs to ensure coordination in education, communication, and volunteer efforts.



## 5.4 Measures of Success

Implementation efforts in this resource area will be regularly evaluated to track progress using the following measures of success:

Resource Area	Measures of Success	Time Frame
Recreation	Certify 80-100 campgrounds in "Camp-Right Campground" program	20 years
	Ensure 70-90% of day-use areas meet "good" criteria	20 years
	Continue management of 30-35 stream access sites	Annually

## 5.5 Resource Area Programs

When developing the NRP, TVA identified programs and activities to support the goals of each resource area. The following

sections discuss each program in more detail, highlighting current activities, NRP activities, and expected implementation benefits. In addition, relationships between resource areas and other programs are discussed to help show linkages throughout the NRP.



### 5.5.1 Management of Campgrounds on Dam or Power Plant Reservations

The campground management program on dam and power plant reservations manages eight campgrounds in Alabama and Tennessee.

Campground areas and associated day-use recreation facilities on these reservations encompass approximately 1,085 acres and annually support between 750,000 and one million visitors. These facilities have an in-season (Memorial Day to Labor Day) occupancy rate of around 80 percent. User fees provide an average of \$500,000 in TVA revenue annually. TVA's Facilities Management maintenance compounds and staff are located on these properties and support TVA's recreation program by providing operations, maintenance and repairs to these facilities.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Volunteer Program (Public Engagement)
- Foundation and Trust Fund (Public Engagement)
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Compliance (Cultural)
- Nonnative Invasive Plant Management (Biological)
- Nuisance Animal Control (Biological)

**Scope:** This program includes recreation areas on TVA managed dam and power plant reservations.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control over the eight campgrounds on dam or power plant reservations including the ability to execute a secure lockdown, and enhanced information management to allow testing of campsite reservations

#### Current Activities

TVA currently operates and manages eight campgrounds located on dam or power plant reservations. Annually, TVA proactively upgrades two campground facilities and amenities consistent with ADA accessibility guidelines, building codes, and emerging technologies. TVA has established the Melton Hill Dam Campground and associated day-use areas as a flagship “sustainable recreation area” to test emerging technologies and provide results to agencies and other recreation facility owners or operators. Where appropriate, items deemed cost effective are upgraded at TVA's other developed recreation areas.

#### NRP Activities

- Manage eight campgrounds
- Make one to eight proactive upgrades to campgrounds consistent with Americans with Disabilities Act accessibility guidelines, and provide new or upgraded fixed assets with best available sustainable technologies
- Establish and maintain one flagship campground for installation and testing of emerging technologies with innovative design and efficiency measures

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Revenue generated for TVA through the management of the campgrounds and making the ADA upgrades
- Reduced carbon emissions with the development of a flagship campground
- Increased enjoyment of these recreation areas by between 750,000 and 1 million visitors annually with educational information and recreational events (e.g., fishing tournaments, fall foliage events, family gatherings)

## 5.5.2 Management of Campgrounds off Dam or Power Plant Reservations

This campground management program manages TVA's four campgrounds not associated with dam or power plant reservations. They are located on reservoir shoreline properties in Alabama and Tennessee.

Campground areas and associated day-use recreation facilities in this program encompass approximately 724 acres and annually support around 200,000 visitors with an in-season (Memorial Day to Labor Day) occupancy rate of around 80 percent. Fees from these campgrounds average around \$350,000 annually. With one exception, TVA's Facilities Management maintenance compounds and staff are located in reasonable proximity to these properties and support TVA's recreation program by providing operations, maintenance and repairs to these facilities.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Volunteer Program (Public Engagement)
- Foundation and Trust Fund (Public Engagement)
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Compliance (Cultural)
- Nonnative Invasive Plant Management (Biological)
- Nuisance Animal Control (Biological)

**Scope:** This program includes recreation areas on TVA-managed land that are not on dam or power plant reservations.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control over these four campgrounds in this program, including enhanced information management to allow testing of campsite reservations

### Current Activities

TVA continually evaluates options for contractual agreements for the future management of these four facilities, along with the potential closure of these facilities. Annually, TVA proactively upgrades one campground facility and amenities consistent with ADA standards, building codes and emerging technologies.

### NRP Activities

- Seek third-party agreements for four campgrounds or consider closure for at least one if a third-party agreement is unavailable.
- Make up to three proactive upgrades to campgrounds consistent with ADA guidelines and provide new or upgraded fixed assets with best tested sustainable technologies
- Seek and implement contractual agreements to manage campgrounds located on other reservoir properties

### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Generated revenue for TVA through the management of the campgrounds and making the ADA upgrades
- Increased enjoyment of these recreation areas by approximately 300,000 visitors annually



### 5.5.3 Day-Use Areas on Dam Reservations

This program manages 30 day-use areas on TVA dam reservations. Various types of recreational facilities are available to the public free of charge, including pavilions, picnic sites, visitor centers, swimming beaches, bathhouses, boat ramps and courtesy docks, restrooms, trails, fishing berms and piers, playgrounds, and associated signage and infrastructure.

Day-use areas on dam and power plant reservations encompass approximately 3,000 acres and annually support around one million visitors. TVA's Facilities Management maintenance compounds and staff are located on these properties and support TVA's recreation program by providing operations, maintenance and repairs to these areas and facilities.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Volunteer Program (Public Engagement)
- Foundation and Trust Fund (Public Engagement)
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Compliance (Cultural)
- Nonnative Invasive Plant Management (Biological)
- Nuisance Animal Control (Biological)

**Scope:** This program includes recreation day-use areas on TVA-managed dam and power plant reservations.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control over these 30 day-use areas located on dam or power plant reservations, including the ability to execute a secure lockdown

#### Current Activities

TVA proactively upgrades one day-use area



consistent with ADA guidelines, building codes, and emerging technologies while implementing one sustainable initiative per year. TVA manages 13 picnic pavilions at these areas that can be reserved for a small fee. TVA continually evaluates contractual agreements for the future management of these facilities as well as the potential closure of these facilities.

#### NRP Activities

- Continue to operate and manage 30 day-use areas located on dam reservations
- Implement up to two best tested sustainable initiatives per year plus upgrades to meet ADA guidelines

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Generated revenue for TVA through management of the campgrounds and making the ADA upgrades
- Reduced carbon emissions based on sustainable initiatives
- Increased enjoyment of these day-use areas by approximately one million visitors annually

### 5.5.4 Day-Use Areas off Dam Reservations

TVA manages 33 day-use recreation areas located off dam reservations. They offer various types of recreational facilities that are available to the public free of charge. TVA maintains these areas on an as-needed basis and utilizes TVA's Facilities Management and local contractors to provide upgrades, maintenance and repairs.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Volunteer Program (Public Engagement)
- Foundation and Trust Fund (Public Engagement)
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Compliance (Cultural)
- Nonnative Invasive Plant Management (Biological)
- Nuisance Animal Control (Biological)

**Scope:** This program includes recreation day-use areas on TVA-managed dam and power plant reservations.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control over the 33 areas and facilities in this program

#### Current Activities

Currently, TVA proactively upgrades one day-use area consistent with ADA guidelines, building codes, and emerging technologies while implementing one sustainable initiative per year. TVA manages three picnic pavilions that can be reserved for a small fee on these areas. TVA continually evaluates contractual agreements for the future management of these facilities as well as the potential closure of these facilities.

#### NRP Activities

- Continue to operate and manage 33 day-use areas located off dam reservations
- Proactively upgrade one or two day-use areas per year consistent with ADA guidelines
- Seek, develop and implement contractual agreements to manage up to 33 off dam reservation areas or review the areas for closure

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Generated revenue for TVA through management of the campgrounds and making the ADA upgrades
- Increased enjoyment of these day-use areas by between 800,000 and one million visitors annually



### 5.5.5 Stream Access Sites

TVA manages stream access sites and supports blueways partnerships. A stream access site consists of an access road, parking area, picnic sites and developed access to the stream. A blueway is a water path or trail developed with launch points, camping locations, and points of interest for canoeists and kayakers. In the late 1970s and early 1980s, TVA's recreation program was administered under Board Policy Code Title XII. TVA reviewed 62 Valley streams with over 1,800 stream miles, evaluated some 260 possible stream access sites, and recommended acquisition for future public access of around 140 sites. Some sites were acquired for public use by state and local agencies.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Dispersed Recreation (Biological)
- Public Engagement (General)

**Scope:** TVA owns fee title to 105 parcels comprising 81 stream access sites, which consist of approximately 125 acres on 24 streams and rivers. On an as-needed basis, TVA manages, maintains and repairs some 31 sites. Other sites are managed under third-party agreements.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control over the 31 sites not currently in third-party agreements and partial control over the 50 sites included in contractual agreements

#### Current Activities

TVA owns 81 stream access sites. It has entered into contractual, fee-based agreements for the management of 50 sites and manages the remaining 31 sites. The agency continues to entertain requests from stakeholders for the management of stream access sites not



currently under contract. All stream access areas are available to the public at no charge.

#### NRP Activities

- Manage fee ownership of 81 stream access sites comprising 105 parcels
- Manage 31 stream access sites and investigate blueways partnerships on TVA land
- Continue to manage and/or seek, develop and implement additional third-party agreements for up to 81 stream access sites. Includes options to close sites.

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Increased enjoyment of these stream access sites by fishermen, paddle sport enthusiasts, and other local tourists
- Increased potential for partnerships with state park agencies

### 5.5.6 Annual Tours

TVA plans to lead annual media and technology transfer tours to showcase its technology integration and efforts to promote sustainability at recreation areas.

TVA will develop communications plans and tour packages tailored for a spring media event and fall technology transfer tour. The tours will review the innovative technologies integrated with recreation areas and facilities and review the benefits and knowledge gained from various technologies being studied. The spring media tour will announce the upcoming recreation season and highlight the benefits from TVA's recreation resources, including technology upgrades, lands made available to commercial and public recreation providers, and public information outlets such as TVA's website and hand-held device applications. Technology transfer tours will be designed for an audience of commercial and public owners and operators and will share plans, specifications, costs and benefits of technologies featured and tested at the Melton Hill Sustainable Recreation Area.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource area and program:

- Public Engagement (General)

**Scope:** The annual tours program will take place at TVA's commercial recreation areas.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control of the program

#### Current Activities

There are no current activities. As part of the NRP, this will be a new program designed to help promote TVA's stewardship innovation and efforts.

#### NRP Activities

- Conduct up to four annual tours that feature emerging green technologies on recreation areas

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Enhanced public understanding of TVA recreational resources
- Showcasing of TVA as a leader in technology innovations integrated with sustainable recreation areas





### 5.5.7 Recreation Information Management

The recreation information management program manages onsite sources, such as signage, and offsite sources, such as website information. TVA uses the information for impact analyses associated with environmental reviews of TVA actions, to perform recreation demand analyses, and to provide information to partners and stakeholders.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource area and program:

- Volunteer Program (Public Engagement)

**Scope:** This program extends to all TVA properties allocated for developed recreation, recreation areas associated with dam and power plant reservations, and fee-owned stream access sites.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control of this recreation information management program, including collection, messaging, media and dissemination. This information supports TVA partnerships and environmental reviews.

#### Current Activities

TVA provides educational presentations to the public while maintaining and enhancing the existing signage, Internet, and hand-held device presence. TVA is currently engaged in on-site education programs and outreach efforts pertaining to those lands allocated for developed recreation through the reservoir lands planning process.

#### NRP Activities

- Maintain and strive to enhance existing Internet presence in support of the Environmental Information Center, partners and stakeholders

#### Expected Benefits

A key benefit of this program is:

- Delivery of accurate and understandable information to a greater number of partners and stakeholders in real time with self-service capability from enhanced signage, Internet presence and functionality, and hand-held device applications
- Improved database functionality and comprehensiveness

## 5.5.8 Boating Density Assessments

TVA conducts boating density assessments for internal projects or for external proposals requiring its approval.

This program is a planning tool that provides TVA with a desktop level estimate of recreational boating impacts from proposed boat access (marina, community dock and



boat ramp) projects on TVA reservoirs. This tool provides information to facilitate the estimated impact analyses associated with environmental reviews of TVA actions and is shared with the state boating law administrators.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Water Resources (General)
- Reservoir Lands Planning (General)

**Scope:** All TVA Reservoirs

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control for boating density assessments as the background information is generated from internal inventories and databases in support of TVA environmental reviews and 26a permitting.

### Current Activities

When reviewing certain requests for new or expanded water-based recreational facilities, TVA completes boating density assessments as a planning tool in support of the associated environmental review.

### NRP Activities

- Conduct assessments as needed to support evaluation of permit requests and land use proposals

### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Increased management knowledge and potential for increased protection of resources and increased value of recreation experience
- Enhanced image for TVA as a leading agency in developing new planning and management tools for recreational boating

### 5.5.9 Reservoir Lands Recreation Inventory Management

The reservoir lands recreation inventory management program creates and maintains an up-to-date, easily accessible database on recreation facilities and services available on TVA-managed reservoirs, both TVA and non-TVA, along with stakeholder and user input concerning TVA's recreation areas and facilities.

**Scope:** This program covers all TVA recreation land and links information directly to TVA's external website, hand-held applications, and the federal Recreation One-Stop program ([www.recreation.gov](http://www.recreation.gov)), and it supports inquiries to the Environmental Information Center.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control of the database inventory collection, update, and dissemination to partners and stakeholders and the recreation user surveys

#### Current Activities

TVA maintains an up-to-date inventory of all public, private and quasi-public recreational facilities on or near shoreline properties. The inventory is currently updated on a three-year cycle. The updates include basic and noncyclical visitor use and satisfaction surveys, assessments of the condition of recreational facilities and areas, and campground evaluations. TVA also conducts field reconnaissance of recreation facilities located on TVA-managed lands to ensure ongoing compliance with applicable requirements under TVA's control. TVA shares recreational information and provides technical support to other agencies and stakeholders as requested.

#### NRP Activities

- Update recreation inventory for up to 23 TVA-managed reservoirs per year



- Conduct user surveys, field reconnaissance and assessments to ensure ongoing compliance with regulations

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Increased enjoyment for recreationists through improved reservoir management, management knowledge of recreation areas, and potential protection of resources and value of recreation experience

### 5.5.10 Recreation Design Principles

The recreation design principles program implements standard construction designs and products that promote compliance with ADA guidelines, principles of universal design, or other accredited design standards, as appropriate. This process ensures that TVA recreation facilities and amenities are usable by all people, to the greatest extent



possible, without the need for adaptation or specialized design.

Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Dispersed Recreation (Biological)
- Tennessee Valley Clean Marina (Water)

**Scope:** This program will take place on TVA recreation properties.

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control for final design and construction of developed recreation areas operated by TVA on TVA fee-owned lands

#### Current Activities

TVA involves teams of professionals from various engineering disciplines, landscape architects, and architects in developing design plans for upgrades, renovations, and new construction to reflect the latest in accepted universal design principles and incorporate recycled building materials, technology innovations, and resource conservation measures and systems.

#### NRP Activities

- Implement standard construction designs that promote compliance with the ADA accessibility guidelines, principles of universal design, or other accredited design standards.

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Increased management knowledge, shared knowledge, and potential for increased protection of resources
- Increased value of recreation experience



### 5.5.11 Recreation Planning, Assistance and Technical Support

The recreation planning, assistance and technical support program provides planning and technical services to third parties for new or existing parks, recreational programs and other reservoir-oriented facilities on a fee or sponsorship basis. TVA's recreation program supports TVA's broader mission of economic development and allows for TVA to provide recreation consultation when requested. TVA maintains a library of standard plans and site plans for over 170 public and community parks in support of planned projects in the region.

**Scope:** Agencies in the Tennessee Valley can get help from TVA with recreation properties on their lands

**TVA Span of Control:** Direct control of information shared under this program to ensure accuracy and success of project design, implementation, and construction.

#### Current Activities

TVA utilizes regional recreational data to guide

potential expansion of new campgrounds on TVA-managed lands allocated for developed recreation via the reservoir lands planning process. On a fee basis, TVA utilizes its technical staff, existing and emerging standards, and plan library to share knowledge with agencies and commercial operators in planning upgrades, renovations, expansions, or new facilities around the reservoir system on non-TVA lands (generally on municipal or public lands).

#### NRP Activities

- Utilize regional recreation data to guide potential development of new campgrounds and marinas on TVA-managed lands allocated for developed recreation use
- Utilize TVA technical staff, existing and emerging standards, and plan library to support recreation plans and projects requested by local, state and other federal agencies on a fee basis

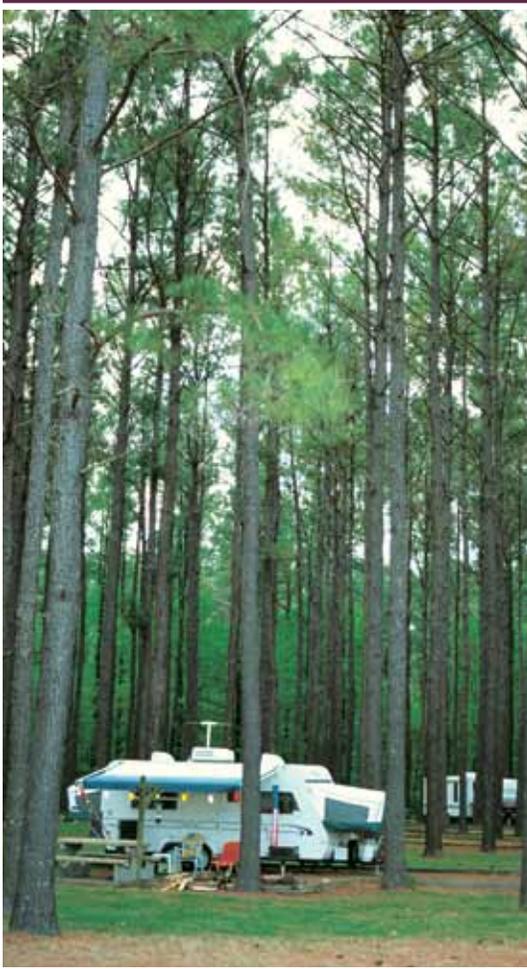
#### Expected Benefits

A key benefit of this program is:

- Increased management knowledge and protection of resources

### 5.5.12 Tennessee Valley Camp-Right Campground Program

The Tennessee Valley Camp-Right campground program is an initiative by TVA and partners to promote sustainable campgrounds that provide safe, high-quality camping experiences while demonstrating recycling and technology innovations, conserving the natural resources of the region, and providing universal accessibility. This will generally include community and commercial recreation facilities on TVA-leased land. This program has been modeled after the Tennessee Valley Clean Marina program (see Chapter 6 – Water Resources).



Within the NRP, this program aligns with the following resource areas and programs:

- Tennessee Valley Clean Marina (Water)
- Wildlife Habitat Enhancement Partnerships (Biological)
- Public Engagement (General)
- National Historic Preservation Act Section 106 Compliance (Cultural)

**Scope:** Recreation areas on TVA-leased lands

**TVA Span of Control:** TVA has direct control over the development and implementation of this program.

#### Current Activities

Currently this program does not exist at TVA. However, TVA and partners are developing this as a pilot program at five campgrounds by the end of the 2011 calendar year.

#### NRP Activities

- Establish certification program to promote environmentally responsible campgrounds and camping practices
- Certify one or two campgrounds per year

#### Expected Benefits

Key benefits of this program are:

- Reduced environmental impact and risk of campground infrastructure, operations and user activities
- Operational cost savings through responsible camper practices
- Heightened environmental awareness through camper education
- Increased enjoyment by campers, resulting in increased visitation
- Reduced regulatory noncompliance
- Conservation of resources for future generations
- Improved relationships with campground owners and operators



### **5.5.13 Dispersed Recreation Management**

The dispersed recreation management program is covered in Chapter 3 – Biological Resources. However, the implementation of this program will cross multiple resource areas, including recreation management.

### **5.5.14 Trails Management**

The trails management program is covered in Chapter 3 – Biological Resources. However, the implementation of this program will cross multiple resource areas, including recreation management.

### **5.5.15 Leave No Trace**

The Leave No Trace program is covered in Chapter 3 – Biological Resources. However, the implementation of this program will cross multiple resource areas, including recreation management.

### **5.5.16 Tennessee Valley Clean Marina Program**

The Tennessee Valley Clean Marina Program is covered in Chapter 6 – Water Resources. However, the implementation of this program will cross multiple resource areas, including recreation management.