



Mountain Reservoirs Land Management Plan

General Information

TVA develops reservoir land management plans to facilitate management of 293,000 acres of public land around its reservoirs. By providing a clear vision of how TVA will manage public land and by identifying land for specific uses, a reservoir land management plan guides decisions on requests for use of public land. Land plans include an environmental review conducted in accordance with the *National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)*. The level of environmental review of the Mountain Reservoirs Land Management Plan (Land Plan) is an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS). The scope of the Land Plan includes all of the TVA land, approximately 6,200 acres, along nine mountain reservoirs: Apalachia, Blue Ridge, Chatuge, Fontana, Hiwassee, Nottely, Ocoee 1, Ocoee 2, and Ocoee 3.

August 2008

TVA has prepared a Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) to assess the potential effects of alternative ways of managing its public lands on the nine mountain reservoirs included in the study. Throughout the planning process, TVA has sought public input to identify use patterns, define alternative uses, and define issues and concerns associated with the lands. The information derived from public input has been used in the development and analysis of the alternatives. All alternatives allocate various parcels of TVA public land to specific uses. These allocations are the foundation of a reservoir land management plan that will support TVA goals, balance competing demands for reservoir lands, respond to the needs of TVA stakeholders, and meet TVA responsibilities to protect natural and cultural resources.

The Alternatives

TVA has identified three alternatives for analysis and comparison in the DEIS:

- Alternative A is the No Action/Forecast System under which TVA would continue to use a previous land planning system that placed some TVA land into “forecast” land use designations in order to guide land use decisions.
- Alternative B would allow management of reservoir lands consistent with TVA’s current reservoir land planning process and would allocate parcels based on existing land use.
- Alternative C is similar to Alternative B in that it would allocate most of the parcels consistent with their existing uses; however, it also includes consideration of land use requests submitted to TVA during the public scoping process. There are five parcels (three parcels on Chatuge and two on Hiwassee), comprising about 105 acres, that are being considered for new land use allocations in Alternative C.

The reservoir land management plan maps, including individual maps of the five parcels being considered for new allocations, are available at www.tva.com/environment/reports/mtnres/.

How can the public review and provide comments on the DEIS alternatives?

The DEIS is available at www.tva.gov/environment/reports/mtnres/. Written copies can be reviewed at the Chickamauga-Hiwassee Watershed Team Office, located in Murphy, North Carolina, and at local libraries. Comments can be submitted at www.tva.gov/environment/reports/mtnres/. You may also submit comments by: mailing written comments to Mountain Reservoirs Land Management Plan c/o TVA NEPA Resources (Attention: Kenneth P. Parr, NEPA Specialist), 1101 Market Street (LP 5U-C), Chattanooga, Tennessee 37402-3230; calling the comment line at 1-866-601-4612; or by sending an e-mail to Mountain_Reservoirs@tva.gov.

Next Steps

Following the draft EIS comment period that runs from August 15 to September 29, TVA will use the input gathered from the public to assist in the development of a preferred alternative to be included in a Final Environmental Impact Statement. The preferred alternative will be presented to the TVA Board of Directors at a future Board Meeting, and, with the Board’s approval, the alternative will be implemented.