

# GALISTEO DAM MASTER PLAN: PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT PRESENTATION

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers  
Albuquerque District  
Galisteo Dam

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US Army Corps  
of Engineers \*



Welcome to the Public Involvement Presentation for the master plan at **Galisteo Dam**. As the country is responding to the COVID-19 outbreak, public meetings and workshops which accompany the master plan development process are all cancelled.

The presentation you are viewing is the alternative to the Corps hosting face-to-face public meetings or workshops. Public and stakeholder involvement is critical to the success of the master plan. Thank you for taking the time to participate.

# Purpose of Presentation

- Inform the public and stakeholders that a master plan has started
- **Define** a master plan
- **Describe** the master plan **process**
- **Provide instructions** on how to participate in the process
- **Encourage** participation
- **Provide links** to documents



The purpose of this presentation is to inform the public and stakeholders that a master plan has started at Galisteo Dam. This presentation will define a master plan, describe the master plan process, provide instructions on how to participate in the process, and encourage participation. It will also provide links to documents and details about how to contact the Corps to ask questions.

The information provided through public and stakeholder comments is essential to the decision-making process of how project lands will be classified and managed. The Corps wants your ideas and comments. After watching this presentation, review the other material on the project website and send in comments and participate in planning the future of Galisteo Dam.

# Presentation Topics

What is a master plan?

Why do a master plan now?

What is the master plan process?

What is not part of a master plan?

How can I participate?

Who can I talk to about the plan?

When will the master plan be done?



Topics to be covered in this presentation are summed up under these 7 questions that are often asked in a public meeting or workshop:

- What is a master plan?
- Why do a master plan now?
- What is the master plan process?
- What is not part of a master plan?
- How can I participate?
- Who can I talk to about the plan?
- When will the master plan be done?

Under each of these 7 topics, this presentation will provide details to help you better understand the master plan project and your role in the process.

## What is a master plan?

- The master plan is a **25 year comprehensive land use management guide** for recreational, natural, and cultural resources
- **Adheres to Federal laws** to preserve, conserve, restore, maintain, manage, and develop project lands, waters, and associated resources, including the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) for environmental stewardship and outdoor recreation
- Provides **land classifications** and **resource management objectives** that are broad and adaptive over time
- Requires and encourages **public involvement**



You might be wondering, what is a master plan?

The master plan is the document that will guide the land use and management of the project for the next 25 years, while adhering to all applicable Federal laws including the National Environmental Policy Act, or NEPA. The focus of the plan is the designation of land classifications with corresponding management plans, as well as establishing resource management objectives.

The key to a successful master plan is public involvement.

Participation, in the form of providing written comments, is how you can help.

## Why do a master plan now?

- **Galisteo Dam is in need of a Master Plan** to address regional land use, population, outdoor recreation trends, and USACE management policy.
- Army Corps of Engineers **regulations require that Master Plans be developed for all civil works projects** operated and maintained by the Corps, and kept current to support the operations and authorized missions of the project.
- The master plan **provides long-term goals and consistent management objectives** to guide balanced management of resources and public recreation



Why is the Corps developing a master plan at this time?

Army Corps of Engineers regulations require that Master Plans be developed at all civil works projects operated and maintained by the Corps and kept current to support the operations and authorized missions of the project.

Projects are influenced by the surrounding environment and regional land uses, including population growth through urbanization, or changes in rural patterns of land use.

As change is ever constant, a plan is needed to capture how the project land classifications meet the current and future projected uses and outdoor recreation trends while adhering to CORPS management policies.

Not only does land use change, but also management resources in terms of personnel over time, the master plan provides stability, with long-term goals, and a consistent management strategy, for project resources.

## What is the master plan process?

The master plan process is established through Corps regulations (Engineering Pamphlet or EP 1130-2-550) and is accomplished by:

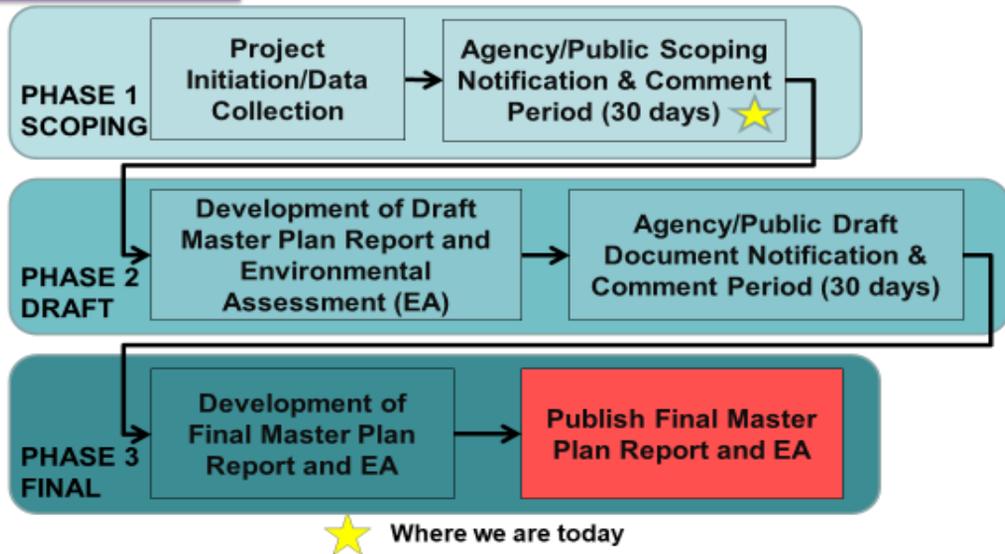
- **A team of Corps employees** including Operations, Real Estate, Master Planning, and Environmental Compliance subject matter experts
- **Receive input from** and **collaboration with** partners, neighbors, stakeholders, elected officials, resource agencies, and the public
- An analysis and review of **land and water surface classifications**
- Developing appropriate **NEPA compliance** documents



The master plan process is established through Corps regulations. The master plan process involves input from the public and stakeholders but is compiled and completed by a team of Corps employees from a wide array of disciplines. Operations, Real Estate, Master Planning and Environmental Compliance are a few of the subjects where expertise is needed.

The process will develop land classifications and recommend management plans based on current and projected use. The master plan process is a federal action that requires compliance with NEPA, and the appropriate documentation will be a part of the plan.

## What is the master plan process?



The master plan process includes 3 phases: (scoping, draft and final)

The scoping phase is when the federal agency asks for initial input from other agencies, citizens and organizations regarding project area, resources and uses. This is the phase we are currently in, as noted by the yellow star on the chart.

The draft phase is when the Corps asks for public comments on the proposed recommendations in the draft master plan document.

The final phase is when the Corps incorporates public comments from the draft review into a final master plan document.

The plan is published after formal approval by the District Commander.

# Land Classifications

Source: Engineering Pamphlet or EP 1130-2-550

Land Classification	Definition
<b>Project Operations</b>	Lands required for the dam, spillway, levees, office, maintenance facilities and other areas that are used solely for project operations.
<b>High Density Recreation</b>	Land developed for intensive recreational activities for the visiting public, including day use areas and campgrounds also areas for commercial concessions, and quasi-public development.
<b>Multiple Resource Management Lands</b>	<b>Recreation - Low Density:</b> Lands with minimal development or infrastructure that support passive public recreational use (e.g. trails, primitive camping, wildlife observation, fishing and hunting)
	<b>Wildlife Management:</b> Lands designated for the stewardship of fish and wildlife resources.
	<b>Vegetative Management:</b> Lands designated for the stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover.
<b>Inactive and/or Future Recreation Areas:</b> Recreation areas planned for the future or that have been temporarily closed	
<b>Environmentally Sensitive Areas</b>	Areas where scientific, ecological, cultural or aesthetic features have been identified. These areas must be considered by management to ensure they are not adversely impacted.

The Corps defines land classification as the primary use for which project lands are managed. All Federally owned lands are zoned for development and resource management consistent with project purposes.

Utilizing the current Federal guidance, the land classifications are defined as shown in this table.

The Project Operations classification is used solely for lands dedicated for the operation of the project, including the dam, spillway, levees, project office, and other operational features.

The classification High Density Recreation is assigned to lands that are being used for intensive recreational activities, including day use and campground areas.

The Multiple Resource Management Lands allows for the designation of a predominate use and are subdivided into 4 classifications. All 4 classifications essentially allow for similar activities to occur, but are managed with a particular emphasis, including low density recreation, wildlife management, vegetative management, and inactive or future recreation areas.

The protection of Environmentally Sensitive Areas is given priority, and are for lands with unique scientific, ecological, cultural, or aesthetic features. Examples include endangered species habitat, scenic shorelines, and rare and unique plant communities to mention a few.

The Galisteo Dam project is a dry dam with no permanent pool so water surface classifications will not apply.

# NEPA Compliance

## National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA)

### Purpose of NEPA is to:

- Ensure federal agencies give proper **consideration to the environment** prior to undertaking a federal action
- **Involve the Public** (scoping) in the decision-making process
- **Document the process** by which agencies make informed decisions

### NEPA Scoping Process:

- Opportunity for **Public comments and questions** on the potential impacts of proposed federal actions
- Includes comments from other federal, state, and local governments, and Tribal Nations



NEPA is the National Environmental Policy Act.

Compliance with NEPA is required during the master plan process. NEPA is required so that federal agencies give proper consideration to the environment prior to undertaking a federal action. Scoping during NEPA involves the public in the decision-making process, while documenting the process by which federal agencies make informed decision.

The NEPA process provides the public with the opportunity to ask questions and comment on the potential impacts of proposed federal actions. It also includes comments from other federal, state and local governments, and Tribal Nations.

## What is NOT part of a master plan?

- Facility **design details**
- Details of **daily project administration**
- Technical aspects of:
  - Water management for **flood risk management**
  - Regional **water quality**
  - **Water supply**
  - **Shoreline management**
  - **Water level management**
  - **Hydropower**
  - **Navigation**



There are topics of public interest that will not be part of the master plan. The master plan does not include facility designs, daily project administration details, or any technical discussion regarding flood risk management, water quality, water supply, shoreline management, water level management, hydropower, or navigation. Note that Galisteo Dam does not have a permanent flood pool.

## How can I participate?

### **Submit written comments!**

**Review all documents** available on the USACE website:

<https://www.spa.usace.army.mil/missions/civilworks/recreation/galisteo-dam/master-plan-update/>

**Documents available** for review on the website include:

- Master Plan documents
- Project maps
- Comment form
- Presentation

**Spread the word** by telling your colleagues, friends and neighbors to participate



You can participate in the process by reviewing the documents available on the website and submit written comments. The Corps will only accept comments in written format.

The project website is hosting all the documents relevant to the master plan, including project maps, comment forms with instructions on how to submit a comment, and copies of this presentation for your review.

As the project progresses, and new information is developed, it will be posted to this project website, so you may want to bookmark the site for future reference.

We are asking for your help to spread the word to others, letting them know the master plan has been initiated, and this is the opportunity to participate in the process.

## How can I participate?

Comments will be accepted only in writing, some of the methods for submitting a comment include:

- You may **download the comment form** provided on the website, fill it out electronically, and email it to the Corps using the submit button on the comment form
- Or you may **print the comment form** provided on the website, fill it out by hand, and mail it to the Corps at the address on the comment form
- Or you may **write a comment or send an email** without using the comment form, and mail or email it to the Corps at the address provided on the website
- Comments are due by close of business on **December 14, 2020**



The Corps can accept any form of written comments and we have provided a few methods that may make it easier to submit.

A comment form has been prepared and is available on the website which you can download and fill out electronically. Hit the submit button on the form, and it will autofill the email address, and you can send it in.

Another method is to print the comment form provided on the website and fill it out by hand, or electronically, and mail it to the Corps.

Or you can write a comment in a letter, or email, and send it in. You don't have to use the comment form.

We will except all of these methods, and any other, as long as it's a written comment.

The comment period is open for 30 calendar days from the initial announcement.

## Who can I talk to about the plan?

Questions about the master plan can be addressed by:

Galisteo Dam Office at:

**Trevor Wallin**, Galisteo Dam Project Manager

**Email:** William.T.Wallin@usace.army.mil

**Phone:** 505-465-0307 extension 10

Albuquerque District Office at:

**Andrew Wastell**, Natural Resource Management Specialist

**Email:** Andrew.R.Wastell@usace.army.mil

**Phone:** 506-342-3214

Email address:

[cochiti@usace.army.mil](mailto:cochiti@usace.army.mil)



If you have questions regarding the master plan, please call or email the following Corps project office or district staff.

You can also send questions to the Email address setup for this project as listed on this slide.

If you need to review a printed copy of the information, please contact the project office to make your request.

## When will the master plan be done?

- The master plan will take **18-24 months** to complete
- Projected milestones/schedule

Milestones	Schedule
Public Notification for Scoping	<b>30 October 2020</b>
Public Comment Period (30 days)	<b>14 December 2020</b>
Draft Master Plan/EA Public Notification	<b>October 2021</b>
Public Comment Period (30 days)	<b>November 2021</b>
Final Master Plan/EA Approved	<b>January 2022</b>

The master plan will take 18-24 months to complete.

The schedule for the comment period and document submittals are presented here.

The public comment period for scoping, which is the phase we are currently in, is open for 30 calendar days.

The draft document is scheduled to be available for public review by **October 2021** followed by a public comment period.

The final approved master plan and EA is scheduled for **January 2022**

Thank you for viewing this presentation and participating  
in the master plan process at Galisteo Dam.

**Website address:**

<https://www.spa.usace.army.mil/missions/civil-works/recreation/galisteo-dam/master-plan-update/>

**Send comments to:**

**Email:**

[cochiti@usace.army.mil](mailto:cochiti@usace.army.mil)

**Galisteo Dam Office Address:**

82 Dam Crest Road, Pena Blanca, NM 87041



Thank you for viewing this presentation and participating in the master plan process  
at Galisteo Dam.

Project documents are available at this website.

Please send your comments to the Email address, or Galisteo Dam Office Address  
listed here.

Thank you.