



**US Army Corps
of Engineers** ®
Sacramento District

**Hidden Dam -
Hensley Lake
Project Master Plan
Update FACT SHEET**
July 2017

PURPOSE AND OBJECTIVE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) Sacramento District is revising the 1968 Hensley Lake Master Plan and is seeking public input.

The Master Plan guides the development and management of environmental resources and recreation-related facilities in and around the reservoir. The Master Plan **does not** address reservoir water levels and should not be confused with the Water Control Manual. The original Master Plan for Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake was completed in 1968. Since then, new laws and regulations have been passed to enhance recreation facilities, protect valuable natural and cultural resources, and to better manage project resources. This Master Plan update is an opportunity for the public to provide input and help shape and guide future management actions for recreation and environmental resources at Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake. The updated Master Plan will include proposals for improved recreation facilities, measures preserving and protecting natural and cultural resources, and is being conducted in three phases:



- **Phase One** is the information gathering process. The Corps will solicit input from the public, Tribes, Federal and State land management agencies, and other governmental agencies to help define the present and potential future uses of the lands under Corps management responsibility.
- **Phase Two** includes the preparation of a Draft Master Plan and meeting the necessary requirements of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).
- **Phase Three** will be the preparation and presentation of the Final Master Plan and Final NEPA Document, which is anticipated to be complete by 2018.

BACKGROUND

Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake Project on the Fresno River was authorized by the 1962 Flood Control Act, Public Law 87-474 as part of the Comprehensive Flood Control Survey Report and Plan of Development for the San Joaquin River Basin. The project was authorized for flood control, irrigation, recreation, and other purposes. The Corps manages the public land and water to protect and conserve natural and cultural resources, and to provide quality outdoor recreation opportunities.

Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake also provides flood protection to more than 145,000 acres of urban and rural land, including the City of Madera, and suburban, industrial and agricultural areas along the Fresno River. In addition to flood control, Hensley Lake provides an irrigation supply of 25,000 to 50,000 acre-feet of water per year. The average annual run-off of the Fresno River is 81,604 acre-feet (1912 to 2004).

WHAT MIGHT BE UPDATED IN THE NEW MASTER PLAN?

The new Master Plan will update the management of Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake, currently guided by the 1968 Master Plan. It may include additional improvements and expansions, as well as propose a variety of recreation improvements and natural resource protection measures including, but not limited to:

- Increased recreation opportunities
- Redesigning camping or day use facilities
- Restoration of native vegetation, wildlife habitat, and wetlands
- Management of areas for optimum use by threatened and endangered species
- Protection of cultural and historic resources
- Control of noxious weeds and other invasive species such as Zebra/Quagga mussels
- Improved erosion control and land management plans

The Draft Master Plan will evaluate the impacts of the improvements and protection measures.

AGENCY, STAKEHOLDER, AND PUBLIC INVOLVEMENT

Meetings will be held at the Department of Social Services, 700 East Yosemite Ave. in Madera to provide all interested parties an initial opportunity to participate in the update of the Master Plan. Corps staff will be present to hear public input on desired recreational improvements, natural resource and environmental enhancements, and land management needs. All interested parties are invited to share their ideas on the future land management of Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake. There will be two separate meetings; an Agency/Stakeholder meeting for Tribes, Federal, State, and Local governments, and a public meeting where everyone is welcome to attend.

Agency/Stakeholder Meeting
Tribes, Federal, State, and Local Agencies
July 20, 2017, from 10am-12pm

Public Meeting
Members of the community
July 20, 2017, from 5pm-7pm

The meetings will commence with a brief overview followed by an open house. Participants are encouraged to review materials, ask questions, and provide written comments.

Public Input Form

To provide input for the development of the Draft Master Plan, fill out the Public Input Form attached to this document. Your comments, ideas, questions, and/or concerns may be submitted through postal or e-mail to the address listed below. If you have any questions, you may call the number listed below to obtain any clarification. Your input will be accepted until close of business on **Monday, 28 August, 2017**.

Public Affairs: Paul Bruton
1325 J Street, Room 1513
Sacramento, CA 95814
916-557-5166
Email: paul.j.bruton@usace.army.mil

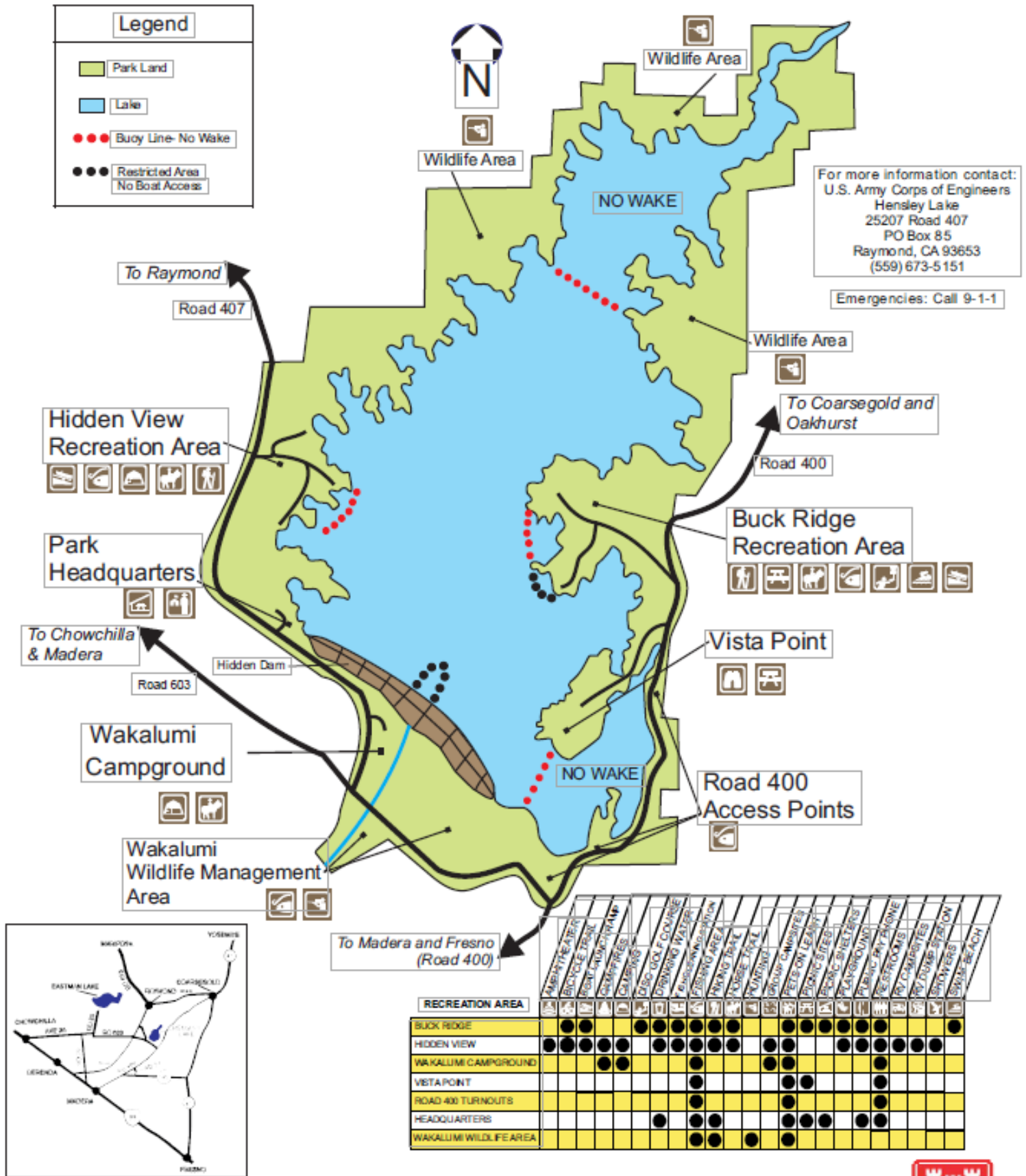
Please visit the Hidden Dam-Hensley Lake website for additional information about the current Master Plan. New and updated information will be posted at this website so check back often.

<http://www.spk.usace.army.mil/Locations/Sacramento-District-Parks/Hensley-Lake/>

HIDDEN DAM-HENSLEY LAKE PROJECT LOCATION MAP

HENSLEY LAKE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS





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Public Input Form**

1. What makes Hensley Lake special or unique for you? What do you like about it?

2. How often do you visit Hensley Lake in a year? (How many days?)

3. Do you typically visit Hensley Lake on the weekdays or weekends? Why?

4. What activities bring you to Hensley Lake and what is of most interest to you?(Hunting, Fishing, Boating/ Water sports, Bird watching, Walking/Running, Camp/picnicking, Other) (please specify).

5. In what town and state do you reside (please include your zip code)?

6. What do you like or dislike about other recreation areas/lakes that you visit?

7. What improvements would you recommend for Hensley Lake?

8. Are there any issues you would like to see addressed in the Master Plan, from either a conservation of environmental resources, a public safety point of view, or recreational use point of view?

9. Any additional thoughts, suggestions, or comments that you would like to share with us?

If you need additional room, please feel free attach a supplemental paper with your responses.

Your questions, comments, and suggestions will be accepted until close of business on **Monday, 28 August, 2017**. They may be submitted in writing to the address below or by emailing them.

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