

# Master Plan Updates: Land and Water Classification & Allocation

As part of updating the master plan, land allocation and land use classifications were updated in order to ensure consistency with the land's authorized purpose. The following are the updated classifications used in the master plan.

## Land Allocation

### Land Allocation

Land allocations identify the authorized purposes for which Corps lands were acquired. There are four categories of allocation:

**1. Operations:** These are the lands acquired for the congressionally authorized purpose of constructing and operating the project. All land at the Lakes are included in this allocation.

**2. Recreation:** These lands were acquired specifically for the congressionally authorized purpose of recreation. These lands are referred to as separable recreation lands. Lands in this allocation can only be given a land classification of "Recreation".

**3. Fish and Wildlife:** These lands were acquired specifically for the congressionally authorized purpose of fish and wildlife management. These lands are referred to as separable fish and wildlife lands. Lands in this allocation can only be given a land classification of "Wildlife Management".

**4. Mitigation:** These lands were acquired specifically for the congressionally authorized purpose of offsetting losses associated with development of the project. These lands are referred to as separable mitigation lands. Lands in this allocation can only be given a land classification of "Mitigation".



### Land Classification

The guidance further defines land classifications to provide for development and resource management consistent with authorized purposes and other Federal laws. The previous Master Plan uses an obsolete classification scheme that has been rectified in this document to meet current standards. Currently, there are six categories of classification identified as:

**1. Project Operations:** lands required for the dam, spillway, offices, and other areas used solely for the operation of the reservoir.

**2. High Density Recreation:** lands acquired and designated for use as parks or other areas for intensive recreational activities by the visiting public. New private floating facilities would not be allowed in these areas.

**3. Environmentally Sensitive Areas:** lands designated for areas where scientific, ecological, cultural, or aesthetic features have been identified. These areas are managed to protect environmental resources.

**4. Multiple Resource Management Lands:** This classification allows for the designation of a predominant use with the understanding that other compatible uses may also occur on these lands; these additional uses may include:

a. Low Density Recreation: lands classified for use for activities such as hiking trails, primitive camping, limited lake access points, and other similar activities by the visiting public. New private floating facilities may be permitted in these areas in accordance with the shoreline management plan.

b. Wildlife Management: lands allocated as habitat for fish and wildlife, and are generally open for hunting and fishing.

c. Future/Inactive Recreation Areas: Lands intended for recreation, but which were never developed or have been closed.

d. Vegetative Management: Lands designated for stewardship of forest, prairie, and other native vegetative cover.

**5. Water Surface:** For those projects that administer a surface water zoning program, this will be included in the Master plan revision process.

a. Restricted: Water areas restricted for project operations, safety, and security purposes.

b. Designated No-Wake: To protect environmentally sensitive shoreline areas, recreational water access areas from disturbance, and for public safety.

c. Fish and Wildlife Sanctuary: Annual or seasonal restrictions on areas to protect fish and wildlife species during periods of migrations, resting, feeding, nesting, and/or spawning.

d. Open Recreation: Those waters available for year round or seasonal water-based recreational use.



# Master Plan: Land and Water Classifications & Allocation Changes

The revision changes the land and water classifications, most notably the addition of sensitive area and water surface classifications which were not included in the original Master Plans.

Additional land class changes include conversion of project lands to Low Density Recreation (previously labeled as Agricultural Lands, Game Management, Natural and Wild Areas).

## Conversion Of Land And Water Classifications

| ORIGINAL  | PROPOSED                        |
|---|---------------------------------|
| Archeological Historical Area   | Environmentally Sensitive Areas |
| Recreation Blairville Community Park  | High Density Recreation         |
| Agricultural Lands<br>Game Management<br>Natural Area<br>Wild Area<br>Unknown | Low Density Recreation          |
| Administrative  | Operations                      |
| N/A   | Water Surface                   |

\*Water Surfaces were never previously classified

## Existing And Proposed Land Classification Categories

| LOYALHANNA   |                           |                                 |                         |
|--|---------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Existing Land Use Class  | Existing Land Use Acres   | Proposed Land Use Class         | Proposed Land Use Acres |
| Archeological  | 14                        | Environmentally Sensitive Areas | 19                      |
| Recreation   | 62                        | High Density Recreation         | 64                      |
| Agricultural Lands<br>Game Management<br>Natural Area<br>Wild Area | 480<br>1010<br>435<br>976 | Low Density Recreation          | 3532                    |
| Administrative   | 13                        | Operations                      | 14                      |
| <b>Total</b>   | <b>2990</b>               | <b>Total</b>                    | <b>3629</b>             |

| CONEMAUGH                               |                         |                                 |                         |
|---|-------------------------|---------------------------------|-------------------------|
| Existing Land Use Class                 | Existing Land Use Acres | Proposed Land Use Class         | Proposed Land Use Acres |
| Archeological<br>Historical             | 29<br>42                | Environmentally Sensitive Areas | 68                      |
| Blairville Community Park               | 62                      | High Density Recreation         | 55                      |
| Game Management<br>Unknown<br>Wild Area | 2283<br>60<br>4237      | Low Density Recreation          | 7375                    |
| Administrative                          | 17                      | Operations                      | 13                      |
| <b>Total</b>                            | <b>6693</b>             | <b>Total</b>                    | <b>7511</b>             |

\*Inconsistencies in total acreages are based on the technology used for each plan. Acreages presented are for planning purposes only and not intended for real estate or survey use.





# US Army Corps of Engineers Pittsburgh District

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## LOYALHANNA LAKE WESTMORELAND COUNTY, PA LAND USE CLASSIFICATION



