DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, TULSA DISTRICT
1645 SOUTH 101ST EAST AVENUE
TULSA, OKLAHOMA 74128-4609

Application No. TXR2013625

PUBLIC NOTICE

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps), Tulsa District

(20-DAY COMMENT PERIOD)

Interested parties are hereby notified that the District Engineer (DE) has received an application for a Department of the Army Permit under Section 404 of the Clean Water Act (CWA). The application is a request for placement of fill material below the ordinary high water mark (normal pool elevation) of Lake Meredith. The purpose of the work is to extend an existing boat ramp in order to provide continued boating access.

Name of Applicant: Ms. Karren C. Brown
Lake Meredith National Recreation Area
National Park Service
Post Office Box 140
Fritch, TX 79036

Location: The proposed project is located at the existing Sanford-Yake Boat Ramp, on Lake Meredith, near Sanford Dam, northeast of Fritch, in Hutchinson County, Texas. The project site can be found on the Sanford, Texas, 7.5 Minute USGS Quadrangle map.

Description of Work: The applicant proposes to extend the existing multi-lane boat ramp by 200 feet out into Lake Meredith. Gravel and/or crushed rock would first be positioned to serve as a 6-inch sub-base for the extension. Next, a 65- by 200-foot concrete slab would be poured and tied into the existing segment of concrete ramp. The poured concrete would contain fiberglass fibers for reinforcement strength. It is estimated that approximately 482 cubic yards of materials (concrete and rock) would be placed within the jurisdictional limits of Lake Meredith. As a result, approximately 13,000 square feet (0.30 acre) of waters of the Untied States would be permanently displaced for construction of the project.

Due to current drought conditions within this area, the majority of area surrounding the existing boat ramp is generally dry, barren, and void of any recognizable vegetation.

Plans and Other Data: Plans showing the location of the proposed activity and other data are enclosed with this notice (Enclosures 1 through 3). The application is on file and may be viewed during normal working hours at the Tulsa District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 1645 South 101st East Avenue, Tulsa, Oklahoma. If

additional information is desired, it may be obtained from Mr. Allen Ryan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Tulsa District, ATTN: Regulatory Branch, 1645 South 101st East Avenue, Tulsa, OK 74128-4609, or telephone 918-669-7400.

Cultural Resources: The DE has consulted the National Register of Historic Places (Register), and it has been determined that there are no properties currently listed in the Register nor any properties which have been determined eligible for listing in the Register which would be directly affected by the proposed work. If we are made aware, as a result of comments received in response to this notice, or by other means, of specific archeological or other historic properties which might be affected by the proposed work, the DE will immediately take the appropriate action necessary pursuant to the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966 (Public Law 89-665), as amended, and 36 CFR 800, in accordance with implementing regulations 33 CFR 325, Appendix C.

Environmental Considerations: Our preliminary determination is that the proposed activity will not affect listed Endangered Species or their critical habitat. A copy of this notice is being furnished the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and appropriate State agencies and constitutes a request to those agencies for information on whether any listed or proposed-to-be-listed endangered or threatened species may be present in the area which would be affected by the proposed activity.

Authorization from other Agencies: This project incorporates the requirements necessary to comply with the Texas Commission on Environmental Quality's (TCEQ) Tier I project criteria. Tier I projects are those which result in a direct impact of three acres or less of waters of the state or 1,500 linear feet of streams (or a combination of the two is below the threshold) for which the applicant is willing to incorporate best management practices (BMPs) and other provisions designed to safeguard water quality. The Corps has received a completed checklist and signed statement fulfilling Tier I criteria for the project. Accordingly, a request for CWA Section 401 water quality certification is not necessary and there will be no additional TCEQ review.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact, including cumulative impacts, of the proposed activity and its intended use on the public interest. That decision will reflect the National concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments.

All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns,

wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shore erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownerships, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people. A permit will be denied if the discharge does not comply with the Environmental Protection Agency's 404(b)(1) guidelines. Subject to the 404(b)(1) guidelines and any other applicable guidelines or criteria, a permit will be granted unless the DE determines that it would be contrary to the public interest.

Comments: The Corps is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Comments concerning the issuance of this permit should be received by the DE not later than 20 days from the date of this public notice. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition, or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity. Any person may request in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

Larry D. Hogue, P.E.
Chief, Planning, Environmental,
and Regulatory Division

Enclosures