



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

21-LM-60-3007

# **Heart Butte Reservoir Resource Management Plan**



## **Mission Statements**

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

# **Heart Butte Reservoir Resource Management Plan**

## 21-LM-60-3007

### Dakotas Area Office Missouri Basin Region

Approved: JOSEPH HALL Digitally signed by JOSEPH HALL  
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Cover Photo: Sunset view of Lake Tschida (Heart Butte Reservoir) by Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA).

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# Section 1 Introduction and Overview

## Section 1.1 Introduction and Purpose

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) is the federal agency responsible for administering lands and resources associated with Heart Butte Reservoir. The Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA) and Reclamation's Dakotas Area Office (DKAO) is preparing this Resource Management Plan (RMP) for the Heart Butte Reservoir. This RMP documents current management practices and policies at Heart Butte Reservoir and surrounding Reclamation lands (Project Area).

Reclamation's mission has shifted from an agency whose responsibility was primarily one of constructing and developing water resource projects to a role of managing, developing, and protecting water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American people. The RMP will help ensure future management decisions are consistent with Reclamation's management objectives, authorized purposes, and growing public demand for recreation, water development, and environmental protection.

This RMP is prepared to help guide the management of lands and waters and assist in the preparation of annual work plans that reflect sound management decisions. The RMP shall be in sufficient detail as to direct future development and use of resources while flexible enough to allow for the resolution of day-to-day operational issues. This RMP is designed to be used, referenced, revised, and updated annually as needed.

### Authorities

The Heart Butte Project was authorized under the Flood Control Act of 1944 for construction by P.L. 534 for the primary purpose of flood control and irrigation. Project construction was started in 1948 and completed in 1949. The Act also provided construction appropriations for secondary benefits such as recreation and fish and wildlife.

The Federal Water Project Recreation Act of July 9, 1965 (P.L. 89-72) allows Reclamation to seek qualified non-Federal government partners to manage recreation at its water projects through a management agreement and to cost share in planning, developing, operating, and maintaining those areas. In 2013, TCJJDA signed a 20-year management agreement with Reclamation to manage the recreation lands at Heart Butte Reservoir.

Public Law 89-72 was amended by Title XXVIII of Public Law 102-575, Section 2805 (106 Statute 4690, Reclamation Recreation Management Act of October 30, 1992) authorizing Reclamation to prepare RMPs and increased the federal government cost share requirements to 50 percent for recreation development and management, when funding is available. The Act further provides that each RMP shall be consistent with applicable laws (including any applicable statute, regulation, or Executive Order), shall be developed in consultation with appropriate heads of federal and non-federal departments or agencies, the authorized beneficiaries of any Reclamation project, and with appropriate public participation. Each RMP shall provide for the development, use, conservation, protection, enhancement, and management of resources of Reclamation lands in a manner that is compatible with the authorized purposes.

## Section 1.2 Project Location, History, and Purpose

Heart Butte Reservoir, or Lake Tschida as it was renamed in 1958, is in Grant County in southwestern North Dakota. The reservoir is approximately 70 miles southwest of Bismarck, North Dakota, and about 65 miles north of the South Dakota State border. Lake Tschida is located on the Heart River approximately 18 miles south of Glen Ullin, North Dakota.

The total area within the boundary of Heart Butte Reservoir is 10,975 acres of acquired lands. In addition, there are 1,807 permanent easement acres. Water surface area at elevation 2,064.5 m.s.l. is 3,400 acres and the remaining upland habitat encompasses 7,575 acres. Reclamation manages these upland acres for:

- Project operation: 34 acres
- Recreation: 327 acres
- Multiple resource management: 6,430 acres
- Group use: 207 acres
- Cabins and trailers: 382 acres
- Miscellaneous area: 195

### History

Lake Tschida derives its name from Michael Tschida Sr., born in Vienna, Austria, in 1866, who immigrated to the United States in 1890. He settled in Mandan, North Dakota, and began work for the Northern Pacific Railroad. In 1900 he moved to Glen Ullin, worked in real estate, and was elected the first mayor of Glen Ullin in 1906. He advocated for the construction of the dam knowing the potential benefits. He passed away in 1956 in a Minot nursing home at the age of 90.

The National Park Service developed the recreation plan for Heart Butte Reservoir and lands in 1952. Thirteen wildlife management areas were identified and ultimately developed and managed by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department (NDGF). In addition to identifying 13 wildlife areas, the recreation plan identified approximately 4,150 acres of "project lands" adjacent to the reservoir or Heart River, but were not designated for wildlife, recreation, or reservoir management purposes. There are "other" lands that were previously deemed unnecessary for wildlife or other recreation needs at the time and were made available for livestock grazing permits that continue to be issued today.

Public use of Heart Butte Reservoir had been administered by the NDGF for recreation and wildlife development from February 22, 1952 through May 25, 1979. NDGF discontinued recreation management on May 25, 1979, but continued wildlife management until 1994. The Grant County Job Development Authority, later renamed as the Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA), became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

### Scope

This RMP should achieve the following:

- Set 10-year goals for managing the Project Area
- Review and revise, as needed, each management unit and classification category in accordance with the authorized purpose for which it is to be managed.

- Future planning for recreation development around the Project Area.

Section 5 includes maps showing all the management units.

This RMP will be a working resource document and tool for managers and staff. It will be a useful reference for the day-to-day operations of the Heart Butte Reservoir facilities and associated land and water resources. The information in this document shall permit the continuous management, development, and operation and maintenance work whenever personnel transition changes occur at the reservoir headquarters. The RMP describes the present operations of 36 management units identified within five land resource codes, which include:

- (01) - Project operation
- (02) - Recreation
- (03) - Multiple resource management
- (04) - Group use
- (05) - Cabins and trailers.

All 36 management units and locations are identified in Figure 1 below.



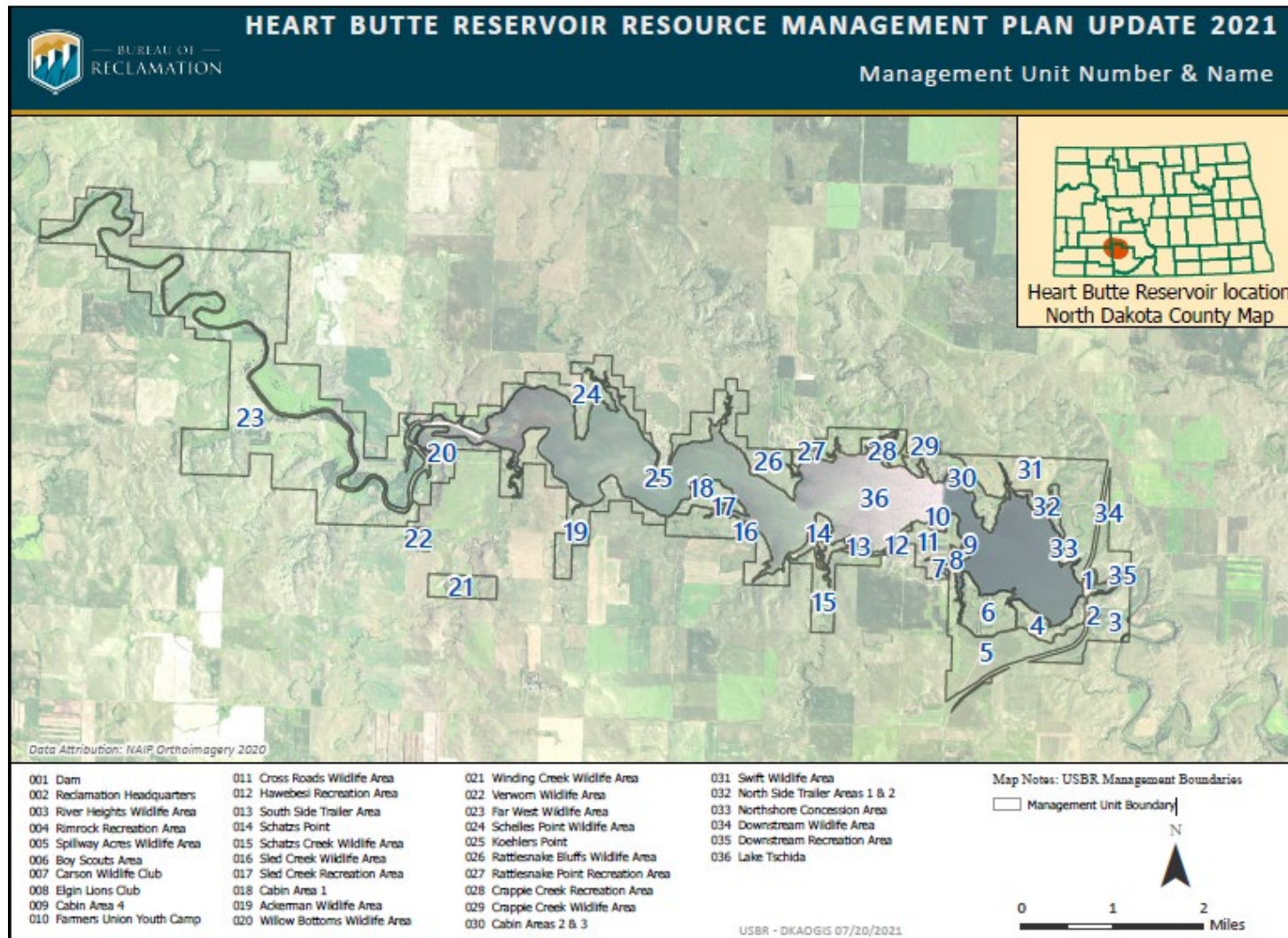


Figure 1. Heart Butte Reservoir Location Map with Management Units and Names.

## **Planning Process and Public Involvement**

The National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969 (P.L. 91-190 as amended) is the basic national charter for protection of the environment. NEPA requirements direct government agencies to assess the effects of their actions. The regulations implementing NEPA provide several procedural avenues to determine if or how this requirement applies to a particular federal action. Reclamation's and TCJJDA activities at Heart Butte Reservoir include the continuation of normal operations in managing the natural resources and facilities.

A Categorical Exclusion (DK-5000-21-35) was completed for the RMP on November 19, 2021. Project revisions and project concepts that differ from those already considered under this RMP will be considered under separate NEPA and National Historic Preservation Act (NHPA) compliance. TCJJDA must consult with DKAO Resources Division staff prior to altering approved project plans or amending approved project plans with additional project elements.

Heart Butte Reservoir has been a popular public use area and the demand for public use has increased over the years. Public involvement is a tool to gather information on the desires the public has in future development at the Heart Butte Reservoir. Public input increases the scope of the issues by ensuring a diverse examination of the resource.

Reclamation and TCJJDA organized a variety of public involvement activities in order to gather data. Three newsletters were released regarding the RMP process and public involvement opportunities and can be found in Appendix A. A User Survey was available from January to April through Reclamation DKAO's website, newsletter, QR code with a cell phone, or in paper format upon request. A copy of the User Survey is provided in Appendix B. An interested parties list was compiled for federal, tribal, state, and local entities, as well as email addresses sourced from camping registrations at Heart Butte Reservoir. A total of 278 surveys were received by Reclamation and TCJJDA. Verbal and written feedback was received throughout the 2021 recreation season from area residents, landowners, and recreation users, and during cabin association meetings to TCJJDA and Reclamation staff. All comments were compiled and reviewed by Reclamation and TCJJDA. The information provided by the public is used to help make management decisions and to plan future recreation developments within the constraints of our authority. Summaries of the User Survey responses are discussed in Section 2.1. The results from the User Survey are provided in Appendix C.

The Draft RMP was released on September 13, 2021 and made available to the public along with tribal, federal, state, and local organizations for more than 30 days. Reclamation received 24 substantive comments from the general public, NGO's, and state and local entities for the RMP. The public entity scoping list, January 2021 scoping letter, and September 2021 Draft RMP release letter are provided in Appendix D. Reclamation's responses to the public comments received during the release of the Draft RMP are provided in Appendix E.

## **Section 1.3 Land Use and Management Framework**

Reclamation uses management agreements, permits, and contracts with private individuals, state and federal agencies to manage the lands per Reclamation's regulations. Table 1 contains a description of the current regulations, guidelines, plans, management agreements, permits, and contracts that affect

Reclamation land management. Any specific discussion required of the following categories for a particular management unit will be further described in the management unit section.

*Table 1 Land Management Framework*

Document Name	Description
Federal Water Project Recreation Act of 1965 (Public Law 89-72)	This Act authorizes recreation and fish and wildlife enhancement and encourages non-Federal public bodies to administer project land and water areas for such purposes.
Reclamation Recreation Management Act (Title XXVIII)	Title 28 authorizes Reclamation to cost share with non-federal public entities for the planning, development, and replacement costs of recreation facilities up to 50% and up to 75% for wildlife habitat development.
Recreation Program Management (LND 01-03)	Under this Directive and Standards (D&S), Reclamation is guided to ensure effective management of public outdoor recreation on Reclamation lands and waterbodies. This D&S follows Pub. L. 89-72, as amended.
Reclamation Safety of Dams Act	This project concerns the construction, restoration, operation, and maintenance for new and existing features at Reclamation dams and related facilities.
ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities (ADAAG)	This document contains scoping and technical requirements for accessibility to buildings and facilities by individuals with disabilities under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) of 1990.
Safety and Health Standards	The safety program for Heart Butte Reservoir follows the guidelines prescribed by the Reclamation Safety and Health Standards Manual. It incorporates the procedures prescribed in the Emergency Action and the Standing Operations Plans. All facility features such as the dam, outlet works, river immediately below the dam, and the emergency spillway are routinely monitored to ensure the safety of the public and Reclamation employees.
Sign Guidelines for Planning, Designing, Fabricating, Procuring, Installing, and Maintaining Signs for Outdoor Public Use Areas	The intent of this document is to provide needed direction that will facilitate uniform application of the signing guidelines on a Reclamation-wide basis.

43 CFR Part 429: Use of Bureau of Reclamation Land, Facilities, and Waterbodies	43 CFR Part 429: Use of Bureau of Reclamation Land, Facilities, and Waterbodies
43 CFR Part 423: Public Conduct on Bureau of Reclamation Facilities, Lands, and Waterbodies	This regulation intends to maintain law and order to protect persons and properties at Reclamation property.
Site Security Plan	Reclamation entered into a cooperative agreement with the Grant County Sheriff's Department on September 11, 2001, for additional patrols/surveillance of the dam during elevated threat levels. Other security upgrades during elevated threat levels included placement of additional signage and buoys to keep people away from the dam and closure of the downstream recreation area. The purpose of the Site Security Plan is to document existing security systems, specific implementations of Reclamation's Threat Condition Protective Measures.
Standard Operating Procedures	Reclamation has a standard operating procedure for the Heart Butte Dam.
North Dakota Fire Management Plan	<p>Reclamation developed a Fire Management Plan for North Dakota (NDFMP), updated in 2021 (available upon request). In accordance with the NDFMP, structures located on Heart Butte Reservoir lands are protected from fire by gravel or groomed (mowed) surfaces. Cabin and trailer permit holders are expected to keep their lots free of debris and well-manicured to prevent fire spread. Reclamation does not have any firefighting authority; all wildfire and structural (cabin and trailer areas) suppression will be performed by either the Glen Ullin or Elgin Rural Fire Departments. Emergency 911 services are also available at Heart Butte.</p> <p>Prescribed burning is a viable option through Bureau of Land Management, US Fish and Wildlife Service, and other certified agencies.</p>

Biological Assessment for the Operations and Routine Maintenance for Heart Butte Dam and Reservoir (Lake Tschida), North Dakota	This document determined the effects of routine operation and maintenance of the Dam and land and recreation management at Heart Butte Reservoir on listed species. Concurrence was received from USFWS on January 17, 2018 for may effect, but are not likely to adversely affect, determinations for the northern long-eared bat and whooping crane. A no effect determination was made for gray wolf.
Dakotas Area Office 2020 Integrated Pest Management Plan (DKAO IPM Plan)	This plan deals with control of noxious weeds and other pests on Reclamation lands and waters. Under guidance of the DKAO IPM (available upon request), Reclamation staff annually control ND and Grant County listed noxious weeds through spraying of pesticides and use of biological agents.
Management Agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation and the Tri-Counties Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA)	Under the current Management Agreement with the Bureau of Reclamation (R14MU6001), Tri-Counties Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA) administers recreation areas along Lake Tschida for recreational uses until 2033
Permits	
Exclusive Use – Cabin and Trailers	<p>TCJJDA staff administer season long (April through October) exclusive use permits for 4 cabin areas (110 cabins) and 3 trailer areas (114 trailers).</p> <p>Regulation of these areas is guided by 43 CFR 21- Occupancy of Cabin Sites on Public Conservation and Recreation Areas and by 43 CFR Part 429. Under these guidelines, no new exclusive use of cabin and trailer sites beyond those now in existence will occur. Also, periodic review of rental fees is required to ensure the fees reflect current fair market value for benefits received and administrative cost recovery. In addition, Public Law 114-322, Section 3602 pertain to the cabin and trailer permit transfers and anchoring requirements</p> <p>All three trailer areas are located within the flood control zone, below 2094.5 m.s.l., and the majority of trailers would be partially or totally flooded at 2094.5 m.s.l. Reclamation requires that all trailers be properly anchored meeting the standards of both National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) Regulations and Housing and Urban Development (HUD) model manufactured home installation standards.</p>

	Reclamation and TCJJDA staff participate in the annual cabin association meetings to ensure open communication.
Group Use	<p>TCJJDA issues group-use permits to the Boy Scouts of America, Farmers Union Camp, Elgin Lions Club, and the Carson Wildlife Club.</p> <p>Continued communication between TCJJDA and the group-use permit holder occur throughout the recreation season. Additionally, yearly meetings with the group-use permit holders are scheduled to ensure communication is maintained.</p>
Concessionaire Agreement	<p>The North Shore concession area is managed by a concessionaire through the TCJJDA. Concession agreement available upon request. The concession agreement is put out for bid and the successful bidder is issued a 5-year agreement.</p> <p>The current concession contract was renewed in 2021 and will be maintained until approximately 2024, after dam repairs are completed. After dam repairs are completed, TCJJDA would return to the standard term for a concession bid.</p>
Grazing	Reclamation administers a rotational grazing program to improve the habitat and create a healthy environment for the public's use. A copy of a sample agreement is available upon request.
Haying	Contractor haying of certain grasslands is performed once every three years to maintain plant vigor and improve wildlife habitat. A copy of a sample agreement is available upon request.
Special Use Permits	<p>Under 43 CFR Part 429, DKAO administers numerous types of permits to our external customers, including agricultural, mining (general, seismic, burrow), crossings (lands, utilities), and training activities (i.e., National Guard). Special use customers are required to enter into a special use permit; an initial application fee is required for special use permits.</p> <p>Guidance and the process are described in the document "DKAO Guidance for Obtaining a Special Use Permit and the NEPA Process" September 30, 2003. The document is available upon request.</p>

## Supporting Programs

### ***Vegetation Management***

Vegetation throughout the Project Area is managed in multiple ways, including through fire management, grazing, haying, food plots, tree plantings, and weed control.

In areas of grazing, an external (four-strand barbwire) fence exists around the entire boundary of the Project Area. Additionally, several miles of three-strand barbwire was constructed to separate pastures in the grazing program and to protect natural resources from public encroachment. The repair and maintenance of many fences is the responsibility of the grazing permit holder, as outlined in the grazing permit. Pastures are rotationally grazed for 21 days or less. Riparian pastures will be rested more frequently beginning in 2023 to allow for regeneration of riparian vegetation.

Temporary electric fence at the shoreline will be considered for proposal in the 2023 grazing permit cycle to reduce loafing in the reservoir, but still allow a path for drinking water access. For areas where there is no grazing, Reclamation staff will maintain the fencing to proper working condition or remove if the fencing is no longer necessary.

Reclamation staff annually plants up to 50 acres of food plots in multiple areas to provide additional winter food sources and enhance existing wildlife habitat. Crops planted include corn, soybeans, millets, milo, sunflowers, and barley.

Trees may be planted in wildlife and recreation areas to enhance wildlife habitat and recreation experience. Individual management units will deal with specific tree plantings in their plans.

Weed control is conducted in accordance with the DKAO Integrated Pest Management Plan (2020). Fire management is conducted in accordance with the DKAO ND Fire Management Plan (2021).

### ***Cultural/Historic Resource Plan***

Reclamation's DKAO archaeologist and the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer (NDSHPO), have developed a list of actions and activities which can be exempted from formal consultation [*Programmatic Agreement between the Bureau of Reclamation, the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation, and the North Dakota State Historic Preservation Officer for the Implementation of Reclamation Undertakings in North Dakota (MOU No. 3-FC-60-03300)*, Part II(c) and Appendix I (B)]. The Heart Butte Reservoir has been 100% surveyed for cultural resources. As such, a project in a previously surveyed or disturbed area with a lack of historic properties also represents an exempted activity under the Programmatic Agreement (PA). However, some locations may be marked as exempt from shallow disturbance type projects but may require monitoring of deeper ground disturbing undertakings such as constructing or replacing a drain field or foundation. Reclamation's DKAO archaeologist will assist the Heart Butte manager in identifying exempted actions and determining if additional work, such as monitoring, will be required for project locations. Additionally, Reclamation's DKAO archaeologist and the NDSHPO will update the PA periodically and will include input from the Heart Butte Manager. All places will still be subject to the archaeological standards of notification if cultural resources are discovered.

In order to determine which prehistoric and historic sites on Reclamation lands are significant, or should be protected, they need to be evaluated for eligibility for nomination to the National Register of Historic Places (NRHP) according to specific criteria. If a site has integrity, is associated with a prominent person, has unique characteristics, or is typical of a certain style, it may be eligible. All the historic sites at Heart Butte are in various stages of disrepair, lack integrity, and are not eligible for nomination to the NRHP.

Prehistoric sites, however, are more often judged on their ability to provide information or answer research questions. Evaluations normally require archaeological testing to determine eligibility. Until a site has been tested, it is assumed that it is eligible. Over the last 10 years, Reclamation has worked to survey the lands for cultural resources and has contracted with the University of North Dakota to test a number of sites that potentially meet the criteria for nomination eligibility. Approximately a dozen of those tested meet the qualifications and require protection. Some of these sites are in or near cabin and trailer or recreation areas; however, a majority of cabin and trailer areas either have no known cultural resource properties or have sites that are not eligible for nomination to the NRHP.

Annually, "home improvement" projects around cabins and trailers may require that the NDSHPO be consulted if they are not part of the exempted activities list and/or in a location where historic properties have been identified. Some sites along the reservoir shoreline have been impacted by the reservoir itself. The rising and lowering water levels, wave action, and resultant erosion have washed away some artifacts and stratigraphy (soil and artifact layers). Some sites, which were significant before erosion destroyed cultural deposits, may still have intact deposits below the water line. One riverside site (Beadmaker) that was eroding has been effectively stabilized. Other sites can be similarly protected or excavated. As part of the cultural resource plan for Heart Butte, Reclamation staff will continue to examine which sites would benefit from protective measures, including additional testing, excavation, stabilization, or monitoring.

Vandalism and looting damage cultural resource properties. Collection of artifacts was common before the land became federal property, and at least one rock shelter was destroyed after trailers were moved in and cabins built. Over time several local collectors have provided useful information to archaeologists working in the area. Signage is one method of deterring destructive behaviors, and Reclamation has recently completed designing signs which can be used at Heart Butte and other Reclamation lands. Heart Butte Reservoir brochures, which are available at the kiosk, state that collection of artifacts or paleontological specimens is against Federal and State laws. While vandalism and looting of cultural sites do not appear to pose a risk to cultural sites at present, there is evidence of such activities at Heart Butte Reservoir. Training of management personnel and periodic monitoring of sites is another part of the cultural resources plan to maintain the necessary level of protection. Those caught collecting fossils or cultural resources or vandalizing such sites will be prosecuted. The final facet of the cultural resource plan would emphasize public education. An interpretive sign is part of the kiosk at the entrance to the southern area of the lake, which explains some of the cultural history of the area, and additional interpretive information will be included at the proposed Lake Tschida Welcome Center. There may be other opportunities to heighten public awareness of the prehistoric and historic cultural heritage, our function, and mission of reservoir lands elsewhere in the cabin and trailer or camping areas.

### ***Law Enforcement and Facilities Security***

TCJJDA currently contracts with Grant County Sheriff's department for law enforcement surrounding the Project Area. Per legislation (42. U.S.C. 1962d-19), TCJJDA is authorized to cooperate with regulatory and law enforcement officials for the enforcement of laws or ordinances of the Project Area. For additional support, TCJJDA has contracted with a private security company to provide additional enforcement focused on laws and ordinances specific to the Project Area. The addition of the private security has provided more certainty for families and recreationists, ultimately resulting in a safer environment for those enjoying Lake Tschida.



Hunting and fishing regulations are governed by State law and are enforced by NDGF Conservation Officers.

Law enforcement policy and issues should be coordinated with the Regional Law Enforcement Officer, who is in the Missouri Basin Regional Office in Billings, Montana. The phone number is 406-247-7617.

The Law Enforcement Contract is available upon request.

### **Maintenance**

TCJJDA provides annual funding to maintain Heart Butte recreation areas and develop associated facilities such as vault toilets, picnic tables, shelters, and universally accessible facilities. Some funds are used for contracts to collect trash and pump vault toilets. The TCJJDA staff mow recreation areas, clean and maintain facilities, pick up trash, and plant and care for trees as needed.

### **Roads**

There are approximately 11.5 miles of gravel roads within the boundaries of the Heart Butte Reservoir lands. Reclamation and TCJJDA have maintenance personnel who grade the roads on average of five times a year, depending on weather and road conditions. Some of the heavier use roads require additional grading during the recreation season (April through October). No winter road maintenance is performed, although the road leading into the Northshore Concession area is kept plowed for ice fishing lake access. Roads leading up to Reclamation lands are maintained by Grant County. Reclamation also adds additional gravel to these roads on an as needed basis if gravel supply is available and when budgets allow.

### **Waste Management**

TCJJDA contracts for garbage collection services. Campground garbage collections begin in early May and continue through early November. Cabin and trailer area garbage collections begin the first Tuesday in May and are performed weekly through the first Tuesday in November. All garbage collection is for household garbage only. No furniture, appliances, building materials, etc., will be picked up. Materials other than household garbage must be taken to an approved landfill. The nearest landfill to Lake Tschida is in Glen Ullin, North Dakota.

### **Volunteers**

Reclamation and TCJJDA use public interaction and Public Service Announcements to encourage and heighten public volunteer participation to improve public lands. Volunteers help to manage and enhance recreation. Historically, volunteers have helped with tree plantings and litter control of recreation areas and camp sites. These activities are typically associated with planned Earth Day and Public Lands Day events. Volunteers are used as campground hosts in the Rimrock, Schatz's, Downstream, and Crappie Creek Recreation Areas. TCJJDA will continue to evaluate the need for additional camp host sites based on campground utilization, growth, and need over the life of the RMP.

### **Rules and Regulations**

Rules and regulations governing behavior/conduct and activities on Heart Butte Reservoir lands and waters are posted on signs and kiosks around the project and within the lake "Rules and Regulations" brochure. They do not supersede or negate any applicable State or Federal regulations.

A copy of the rules and regulations is available at the TCJJDA office or website.

### ***Collection of Natural Resources***

Collection of natural resources such as, but not limited to, rocks, gems, artifacts, or animal remains is not allowed on project lands without permission by Reclamation. This may include the issuance of a special use permit (refer to section on special use permits).

### ***Firewood Collection***

Only dead, downed tree branches within the recreation areas may be picked up and used as camp firewood and may only be burned inside fire rings and grills. Firewood may be purchased at the concession, when available. No cutting of live trees or branches is allowed. As some older tree plantings age and die, special use permits may be issued to allow the public to salvage usable firewood and cleanup tree plantings in preparation of replanting the tree rows. If wood cutting permits become available, they will be advertised and issued by the Heart Butte Facilities Manager.

### ***Lost, Found, or Abandoned Property***

Lost property should immediately be reported to the TCJJDA lake office, the Heart Butte Reservoir Manager's Office and/or the Grant County Sheriff's Office. Found items can also be turned in at these offices. Lost and Found items can be located at the TCJJDA office, as a TCJJDA staff member is present all year round. Lost and Found items will remain for the remainder of the season it is found, along with the entire following rec season before it is disposed of.

### ***Maintaining Natural and Primitive Areas***

Currently, no lands are designated as natural or primitive. Access to project lands is restricted to developed roads and trails, and some areas have only walk-in access.

### ***Guided Hunting and Fishing***

The State standards for guiding hunters or anglers in North Dakota are in the document "North Dakota Guide and Outfitter Handbook and Test Guide." It states that "A person may not act as a hunting/fishing guide or hunting/fishing outfitter on federal land without being authorized or permitted as required by the appropriate federal agency." Reclamation procedure states that guided/outfitted hunting and fishing will be handled through a concessions policy. The concessions policy requires:

- Determination of a public need for the service.
- Demonstrate that the same services cannot be provided on adjacent public lands.
- Determination of how many outfitter/guides is appropriate for the area.
- The contract to operate on the area is put up for public bid.

This action would also trigger NEPA compliance at the expense of the applicant.

### ***Signage***

Numerous signs are used to help manage Heart Butte Reservoir lands. New signs must follow Reclamation policy which is contained in the publication "Sign Guidelines for Planning, Designing, Fabricating, Procuring, Installing, and Maintaining Signs for Outdoor Public Use Areas" Draft March 2021.

### **Day Use Area Management**

ADA accessible picnic shelters which provide grills and tables are available for public use on a first-come first-served basis. The shelters may not be used for more than 6 hours within any 24-hour period. These shelters may be reserved for a special event by utilizing the online reservation system or by contacting the office for \$25.00 per day.

### **Hazardous Waste Management**

The responsibility for proper management of hazardous waste generated by Reclamation and TCJDA lies with every involved employee. Laws and regulations specifically impose liability upon those employees who have direct involvement in generation and management of hazardous waste. Specific responsibilities are outlined in the "Handbook for Hazardous Waste Management" produced by Reclamation. A copy is on file at the Heart Butte Reservoir headquarters for reference. Hazardous chemicals used at Heart Butte are listed in the Integrated Pest Management Plan. A Spill Prevention Control and Cleanup (SPCC) plan has been completed for the Heart Butte Reservoir Shop area and for the Northshore Concession area. A copy of these plans can be found in the Heart Butte Reservoir Shop.

## **Existing Resource Inventory**

### **Geology/Paleontology**

Heart Butte Reservoir is located in the Missouri Plateau section of the Great Plains Province (Fenneman 1931), which is characterized by rolling uplands, isolated buttes, sections of badlands, and terraced stream valleys. The topography was affected by the movement of glacial ice and streams. This area is less affected by glaciation than the terrain east and north of the Missouri River. The Heart River is a perennial stream whose valley floor lies about 200 feet below the uplands. The river channel is cut into alluvium, but where it meanders against the main valley walls there are bluffs of bedrock.

Outcroppings of bedrock in the reservoir area belong to the Paleocene Bullion Creek Formation which is part of the Fort Union Group. This consists of a basal zone of fine sand overlaid by zones of shale, clay, and sand. Large deposits of lignite coal are present in the Fort Union Group. The natural burning of these deposits produces "clinker" or "scoria," a brick-red porous rock commonly found in the area. Knife River flint, formed by the silicification of lignite, is reported to be associated with Fort Union beds, although in small quantities. Knife River flint and other sedimentary rock that were important to indigenous cultures are present as outcroppings and gravels. In some areas the basal sands of the formation are cemented and more resilient than the surrounding materials. This results in occasional shallow rock overhangs.

Paleontological resources are defined as any fossilized remains, traces, or imprints of organisms, preserved in or on the earth's crust. Paleontological Resources are protected under the Paleontological Resources Preservation Act of 2009. The act outlines the importance of paleontological resources located on Federal lands as well as outlines criminal penalties for the unauthorized removal of resources from Federal lands.

Two paleontological resources surveys have been undertaken at the Heart Butte Reservoir. The first survey was done as part of the Smithsonian River Basin Survey in 1946 (Cooper 1947) and consisted of only a brief study of the area; no fossils were identified during the survey. A recommendation was made in the Cooper (1947) report to have a paleontologist perform a more comprehensive survey of

the reservoir; however, no additional surveys were performed until the early 2000s. An in-depth paleontological assessment of the Heart Butte Reservoir was undertaken by the North Dakota Geological Survey in 2001 (Hoganson and Campbell 2002). The 2001 assessment identified 30 fossil localities during the inventory. Identified fauna and flora include freshwater mollusks (*Sphaerium*, *Campeloma nebrascensis*, *Liplacodes*), freshwater fish (*Lepisosteus*), turtle remains (*Plastomenus*), a crocodile like reptile (*Champsosaurus*), petrified wood, and an unidentified mammal bone. Twenty-one of the 30 recorded localities were determined to be significant, and it was recommended that the fossil sites be visited periodically to determine if unauthorized collecting is occurring and whether natural causes are impacting the sites.

Evidence was found of looting, particularly at two of the floral fossil sites. Fossil plants are being removed from one site, and chips off the petrified wood log are apparent. It is likely that fossil mollusks and vertebrates may be affected as well. Although paleontology is part of geology, illegal looting and vandalism of paleontological sites is similar to that of cultural sites. Both are non-renewable resources from which important information can be lost through such activities. Training of management personnel and monitoring of paleontological sites will be accomplished in conjunction with completion of the cultural resource plan. Signage specific to paleontological resources will also be installed at the reservoir.

Anyone wishing to collect fossils on Reclamation land must first obtain a permit. Permits are only issued for scientific research and are only issued to individuals that meet the applicable qualifications defined by the Secretary of Interior. Prior to receiving a permit, applicants must also demonstrate that a Federal or Reclamation approved repository has agreed to accept any collected fossils. All collected items remain the property of the Federal Government and cannot be kept by the collector.

### **Geography and Climate**

Missouri Plateau, Level IV Ecoregion Heart Butte Reservoir, on the Heart River, lies within the Missouri Plateau, west of the Missouri River in the Northwestern Great Plains ecoregion (US EPA, 2021). This area of southwestern North Dakota totals nearly 20,000 square miles of unglaciated land mass. Elevation of the area ranges from 1750 to 3300 above m.s.l. Temperatures exhibit the "frigid" regime and range from a mean January high of 21 °F and mean minimum of -3 °F. July temperatures range from a mean high of 83 to a mean minimum of 55. Moisture regime is ustic with a mean annual precipitation of 15 to 17 inches. Mean annual frost-free days within the region range from 95 to 130.

### **Soils**

Soils in the Heart Butte Reservoir watershed are moderately deep to shallow, formed from weathered, loamy glacial till or soft bedrock. In general, soils are moderately fertile to fertile, well drained, and susceptible to wind and water erosion (USDA NRCS, 2019). A small percentage of the Heart Butte Reservoir watershed is composed of badlands. Badlands are eroded formations composed of buttes and steeply eroded drainages. Soils are generally thin, formed from sandy and clayey materials. Badland areas are highly susceptible to wind and water erosion.

### **Hydrology**

Heart Butte Reservoir is fed by the mainstream Heart River. Located about midway on the streams meandering journey to the Missouri River, the reservoir collects runoff from 1810 square miles. Ground water is available from aquifers in bedrock formations of the late Cretaceous age, 140 to 65 million years ago, (Fox Hills Aquifer) and the Tertiary age, 65 to 1.6 million years ago (Tongue River

Aquifer). They are recharged by precipitation in the higher elevations and movement is generally downward and to the north east. The water becomes increasingly saline as it moves from recharge areas toward discharge areas in the drainage valleys. The Heart River Valley Aquifer is in alluvial deposits of the Holocene age, 10,000 years ago to the present. It is in the flood plain and terraces of the Heart River. The aquifer is recharged by precipitation and high stream flows (Randich, 1979).

### **Vegetation**

The Heart Butte Reservoir is located within the vegetative community labeled Missouri Slope. This is a semiarid, unglaciated region of North Dakota which includes level to rolling plains topography with isolated sandstone buttes or badlands formations (NDGF, 2019a). About 75 percent of the mixed and short-grass prairie of the Missouri Slope has been converted to other uses (NDGF, 2019a). This is likely due to the conversion of land use to modern agricultural uses. The historical dominate vegetation includes grasses such as blue grama (*Bouteloua gracilis*), western wheatgrass (*Pascopyrum smithii*), little bluestem (*Schizachyrium scoparium*), and needle-and-thread (*Hesperostipa comata*). Additionally, the historical dominate forbs in the Missouri Slope community include, common yarrow (*Achillea millefolium*), curlycup gumweed (*Grindelia squarrosa*), purple coneflower (*Echinacea angustifolia*), death camas (*Zigadenus venenosus*), fringed sagewart (*Artemisia frigida*), and plains pricklypear (*Opuntia polyacantha*) (NDGF, 2019a). The reservoir lands within the recreation and cabin and trailer areas are dominated by smooth brome (*Bromus inermis*), a highly successful invader species. The western reservoir lands are primarily undulating, mixed grass prairie. Cottonwood (*Populus deltoides*) and willow (*Salix sp.*) are present along the river shoreline above the reservoir. Several woody draws adjacent to the reservoir have bur oak (*Quercus macrocarpa*) and green ash (*Fraxinus pennsylvanica*), with an interspersed of silver buffaloberry (*Shepherdia argentea*) and chokecherry shrubs (*Prunus virginiana*). The land surrounding the Heart Butte Reservoir Project is dominated by dry land farming, haying, and grazing operations. Alfalfa (*Fabaceae sp.*), spring wheat (*Triticum sp.*), barley (*Hordeum vulgare*), oats (*Avena sativa*), and sunflowers (*Helianthus sp.*) are the predominant crops. Project lands provide a broad range of habitat types that include lake, river, stream, prairie wetland, and woody draw environments within the Heart Butte Reservoir Project and vary as the observer progresses upstream from the dam. Cultivated tree plantings and food plots are associated with managed wildlife and recreation areas within the Heart Butte Reservoir Project. While native woody draws and riparian timber stands, associated with the unmodified Heart River, can be found as the observer proceeds upstream from the west end of the lake.

### **Wildlife**

Regardless of the relatively dry and cool climate, the Heart Butte Reservoir supports a diverse mixture of primarily mixed grassland and steppe habitats. Vertebrates of the ecoregion range in size from big game species such as white-tailed deer (*Odocoileus virginianus*) and mule deer (*Odocoileus hemionus*) and American pronghorn (*Antilocapra americana*) to the small mammals of the area such as pygmy shrew (*Sorex hoyi*) and the little brown bat (*Myotis lucifugus*). No site-specific species surveys have been done at the Heart Butte Reservoir; therefore, the following is based off of observations made and information provided from credible sources. Endangered or threatened species are discussed separately below.

### **Mammals**

According to the American Society of Mammalogists, 78 species of mammals occur in North Dakota; however, it does not specify the location those species have been observed. It is likely that a majority of these species exist around the Heart Butte Reservoir. It is likely dominated by common

species such as American badger (*Taxidea taxus*), coyote (*Canis latrans*), mule deer, white-tailed deer, north American porcupine (*Erethizon dorsatum*), Richardson's ground squirrel (*Uroditellus richardsonii*), and meadow jumping mouse (*Zapus hudsonius*) (ASM, 2021).

### **Birds**

The North Dakota Game and Fish (NDGF) has a list of 66 common bird species in North Dakota. The species are broken into five different categories: songbirds and other woodland birds, waterfowl, shorebirds and water birds, grassland birds, and raptors (NDGF, 2019b). Much like the mammals, it is likely that a majority of these species exist at the Heart Butte Reservoir. The list provided by the NDGF does not include game birds such as wild turkey (*Meleagris gallopavo*) or the ring-necked pheasant (*Phasianus colchicus*). Birds occupy virtually all areas and habitats of the Project Area, including grassland, wetland, lake, river, wooded, and woody draw habitats. The area is occupied by grassland ground nesters, brush nesters, and tree nesters. Common game birds present include turkeys, sharp-tail grouse (*Tympanuchus phasianellus*), and ring-neck pheasants. Common non-game bird groups of the area include vireos, grassland sparrows, warblers, various waterfowl species, and a broad variety of both ground and tree nesting hawks and owls (NDGF, 2019b).

### **Reptiles and Amphibians**

According to the NDGF Amphibians and Reptiles of North Dakota website, there is one salamander species, two frog/toad species, two turtle species, and five snake species known to occur or potentially occur within the project area (NDGF, 2019c). There has been little site-specific field effort to locate specific representatives in the project area. A broad range of habitat types supporting amphibians and reptiles are exhibited across the Project Area.

### **Invertebrates/Mollusks**

Invertebrates/Mollusks - Invertebrates and mollusks commonly reflect environmental conditions on a local basis. No invertebrate information specific to the Heart Butte Reservoir has been identified. The absence of invertebrate information is likely due to the lack of survey efforts at the Heart Butte Reservoir. However, recently there has been an increase in interest for mollusks identified as aquatic nuisance species (AIS) such as the zebra mussels. At the time of this publishing, no AIS species have been identified at the Heart Butte Reservoir.

### **Fish**

According to the TCJDA website, there are eight fish species present within the lake. These species include the popular sport fish such as northern pike (*Esox lucius*), walleye (*Sander vitreus*), and smallmouth bass (*Micropterus dolomieu*) (Lake Tschida Recreation, 2018). Further discussion of fisheries is below.

### **Wildlife Management**

Hunters use project lands, typically, during the fall hunting seasons. Considerable project acreage is available for nature observation. However, the relative distance of the reservoir to a population center leaves this resource relatively untapped by naturalists. Including the 15 management units listed as wildlife areas, there are approximately 4,150 acres of grazing permit lands adjacent to the reservoir that Reclamation actively manages for increased benefit to wildlife. Such diversity in habitats supports a diversity of wildlife species. Project lands habitat types include lake, river, stream,

prairie wetland, and woody draw habitats within the Heart Butte Reservoir Project and vary as the observer progresses upstream from the dam. Cultivated tree plantings and food plots are associated with managed wildlife and recreation areas while native woody draws and riparian timber stands are associated with the unmodified Heart River upstream from the west end of the lake into the river region of the project.

### ***Threatened and Endangered Species***

The Biological Assessment for the Operations and Routine Maintenance for Heart Butte Dam and Reservoir (Lake Tschida), North Dakota determined the effects of routine operation and maintenance of the Dam and land and recreation management at Heart Butte Reservoir on listed species. Concurrence was received from USFWS on January 17, 2018 for may effect, not likely to adversely affect determinations for the northern long-eared bat and whooping crane. A no effect determination was made for gray wolf. Document is available upon request.

### ***Cultural Resources***

#### **Historic and Prehistoric Cultural Resources**

The NHPA and other laws, regulations, Executive Orders, and guidelines specify Reclamation's role and responsibility in the management and protection of cultural resources on public lands such as those being addressed in the Heart Butte Reservoir RMP. Cultural resources, as defined in the NHPA, are archaeological, historical, or architectural sites, buildings, structures, objects, and districts, or properties of traditional religious and cultural importance to Native Americans.

An archaeological site may be defined as containing "material remains of past human life, such as artifacts, structures, plant and animal remains, and other archeological resources (Hutt et.al. 1992). Items or features at a site may be dated to a single episode within prehistory or history, or more than one occupation may be represented, labeling the site multi-component.

Some multi-component sites contain both prehistoric and historic elements. Archaeological sites that consist of artifacts spread over an area, rather than structures, are defined as artifact scatters. The State Historical Society of North Dakota defines sites with less than six artifacts and no possibility of buried cultural deposits or other remains as isolated finds and reported but unconfirmed sites are labeled as site leads.

#### **Overview of Pre-history and History of the Area**

The State of North Dakota's archaeological plan, The North Dakota Comprehensive Plan for Historic Preservation: Archeological Component, divides the State into regions and describes the archaeological context of each region. Study units are usually defined by river drainage patterns and, predictably, the Heart Butte Reservoir is contained within the Heart River Study Unit (Gregg et al. 2016).

The earliest recorded cultural resource survey in the area was done by Cooper in 1946 in connection with the Smithsonian Institution River Basin Surveys along the Missouri and its tributaries before the reservoir was complete. Historic Research Associates (HRA), the University of North Dakota (UND), past Reclamation archaeologists, and a vocational archaeologist have also played important roles in developing the reservoir's cultural timeline.

While some sites were inundated by the reservoir, inventory and protection of significant cultural resources continues to be an ongoing concern on Reclamation lands. Some places have been covered more than once, test excavations have been done on selected sites, and an eroding prehistoric site along the bank of the Heart River was stabilized

<b>Period</b>	<b>Duration*</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Site Characteristics</b>
Paleo-Indian	9,500 – 5,500 BCE	Nomadic hunter-gatherers who hunted extinct species of animals.	Sites contain plant and animal remains and distinctive tools and projectile points.
Archaic	Early 5,500 – 2,800 BCE Middle 2,800 – 1,000 BCE Late 1,000 – 400 BCE	Nomadic, generalized hunter-gatherers who hunted “modern” animals and gathered plants. Used the spear thrower (atlatl).	Includes occupation sites and lithic scatters.
Plains Woodland	Early 400 – 100 BCE Middle 100 BCE – 600 CE Late 600 – 1200 CE	Increased sedentism, introduction of horticulture, ceramics, and bow and arrow.	Includes earthen mortuary mounds, artifact scatters, rock shelters, tepee rings.
Plains Village	1200 – 1780 CE	Increase in horticulture and seasonal bison hunts and resource acquisition trips.	Exemplified by earth lodge villages along rivers.
Nomadic Equestrian and Fur Trade	1780 - 1880	Non-Indian trade goods. Introduction the horse and equestrianism.	Sites contain manufactured metal artifacts obtained through trade.
Historic	~1880 to Present	Non-Indian immigration and technology into the area. Intensive agriculture, ranching and early irrigation systems.	Railroads, farmsteads, small towns. Irrigation canals.

\*BEC – Before Common Era; CE – Common Era

Four prehistoric time periods as well as proto-historic and historic periods have been classified through studies of archaeological sites. The periods are Paleo-Indian, Archaic, Plains Woodland, Plains Village, Proto-Historic (includes Equestrian), and Historic. The below table contains a



generalized description of past lifestyles and the types of sites that are found associated with each period, followed by a brief overview of what is known about the prehistoric use of the study units.

### **Cultural Resource Properties**

Most of the major periods in the cultural timeline are represented by one or more sites on Reclamation lands around the reservoir. There are no known sites for the very early Paleo- Indian, the beginning of the Archaic, and the Early Plains Woodland time periods. These breaks in the prehistoric record may be explained by severe drought, thick soil deposition, or sites may have been found, but no diagnostics were recovered and so their time period is listed as unknown. The last reason is why Equestrian is not listed with the other three time periods.

Given the number of sites which generally appear to date within the Plains Village and Equestrian time periods, there is a reasonable certainty that some are Equestrian, even though no diagnostics specific to Equestrian Tribes have been found.

Certainly, the Reclamation lands that now comprise Reclamation's Heart Butte project attracted people throughout prehistory. Waterways were used as transportation avenues before the arrival of the horse. The area had herds of bison and other game animals and lithic resources for tools, and, except during severe droughts, the present reservoir area would have been important for hunting and resource extraction. Most of the sites found would have served as short-term campsites or for specialized occupations like stone tool manufacture. Some sites were inhabited more than once. No residential bases have been found.

The information at present indicates that longer term occupations of the Plains Woodland and Plains Village Tribes were elsewhere. The sites here reveal how people lived away from their horticultural villages. Nomadic Tribes with horses also made use of the same resources as their more sedentary neighbors. Based on historical, archaeological, and ethnographic evidence for the last several hundred years, Mandan, Hidatsa, and later Arikara, and Dakota, Lakota, and Yanktonai Sioux were seasonal and nomadic occupants along the Heart River. Other Tribes may have traveled through occasionally as well (Gregg et al. 2016).

In the early 1900's the grasslands, river, and proximity to the railroad encouraged historic settlement. Although most of the sites located within Reclamation lands have been prehistoric, there are a few historic sites. One of them was a store/post office named Worms for the German city by that name, but the others were all homesteads for farmers and ranchers. All are in various stages of disrepair.

### **Properties of Traditional Religious and Cultural Importance to Native Americans**

In 1992 the NHPA was amended to address the concerns of Native Americans regarding sites that have religious or cultural importance. The common term for such sites is Traditional Cultural Properties (TCPs). Such sites often differ from other cultural resource sites because they may lack material remains such as artifacts or they may be of recent origin. Such sites often can only be identified through interviews of tribal elders and keepers of traditional knowledge. Other sources of information are the accounts of explorers and traders and the research of historians, ethnographers, and anthropologists. Some tribal members may differentiate between traditional sacred sites and contemporary sacred sites to distinguish between areas of historical use and those of current use. NHPA does not recognize this distinction.

Heart Butte located to the north of Reclamation's project lands around the Heart River qualifies as a TCP. According to Mandan tradition as reported to Bowers in 1950 by Scattercorn, a female Mandan priest, the creator Lone Man named Heart Butte and called it the heart, or center, of the world. In addition, Plochman (et al. 1982) reports that an informant described a turtle rock effigy for HRA that was destroyed by highway construction about 1 mile north of the dam. Toom (et al. 1999) states that such forms can be attributable to the Hidatsa tradition. No TCPs are known to exist within Reclamation's protect lands. Allen Demarray, the Director Mandan, Hidatsa, and Arikara (MHA) Nation Tribal Historic Preservation Office (THPO), works with Reclamation on cultural issues at this reservoir.

## ***Recreation Resources***

### **Facilities**

Recreation lands (326.6 acres) at Heart Butte Reservoir are managed by TCJJDA. In that 326.6 acres there are nine recreation areas that provide opportunities for camping, fishing, swimming, picnicking, and hiking. All four major recreation areas (Rimrock, Downstream, Crappie Creek, and Schatz's Point) have picnic shelters and universally-accessible facilities.

Refer to the recreation management unit descriptions in Section 5 for detailed description of facilities provided at each recreation area.

### **Concession**

North Shore Concession:

This area has a boat ramp, dock, and vault toilet. This area also houses the TCJJDA boat slips where 8 slips are yearly lease slips and two are ADA and available for public use of those utilizing the North Shore area. It also has a full-service fish cleaning table with electric and water services. The concession provides fuel with a courtesy boat dock for fueling. Bait and some fishing tackle are available. The concession provides a limited variety of food, drinks, and other sundry items. The concession meets all ADA requirements.

## Section 2 Opportunities and Constraints

### Section 2.1 Opportunities for Recreation Development and Management

Prior to 2010, development and management of Heart Butte Reservoir was constrained primarily by absence of a management partner. Therefore, Reclamation was restricted to providing only minimum basic facilities for health and safety reasons as described in P.L. 8972 (section 1.1.1 for definition of minimum basic facilities). In 2010, the Grant County Job Development Authority became a managing partner with Reclamation at Heart Butte Reservoir and in 2013 the Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA) was formed and assumed primary management of all the recreation facilities. The managing partner may develop facilities beyond basic minimum facilities with up to a 50% match in funding from Reclamation. The managing partner may also collect fees to fund management and development activities. Table 2 includes additional funding opportunities available for future development.

*Table 2 Funding Opportunities*

Funding Opportunity	Description
Public Law 102-575, Title 28	Title 28 authorizes Reclamation to cost-share with non-federal public entities for the planning, development, and replacement costs of recreation facilities up to 50% and wildlife habitat improvements up to 75%.
Federal Lands Transportation Program (FLTP)	FLTP supports the improvement of transportation infrastructure owned and maintained by federal land management agencies.
Federal Lands Access Program (FLAP)	FLAP funds projects that provide access to, are adjacent to, or are located within Federal lands. It supplements state and local resources for public roads, bridges, paved trails, and other transit systems, and other transportation facilities—with an emphasis on high-use recreation sites and economic generators.
Replacements, Additions & Extraordinary Maintenance Program (RAX)	RAX funds are annually provided to each region and may provide funding for non-routine, major items.
Sport Fish Restoration Program (SFR)	SFR provides funding to states for fishery projects, boating access, and aquatic education.

Funding Opportunity	Description
	SFR is authorized by the Sport Fish Restoration Act of 1950.
Bring Back the Natives	The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation invests in conservation activities that restore, protect and enhance native populations of sensitive or listed fish species across the US, especially in areas on or adjacent to federal agency lands.

## Recreation Needs and Demands

Review of the User Survey data gathered during the public involvement efforts discussed in Section 1.2 indicated most people who camped at Heart Butte Reservoir stayed at Rimrock Recreation Area, followed by Koehlers Point Recreation Area. The facilities most used during their stay were the Rimrock campgrounds, beaches, and boat ramp, and the Koehlers Point Recreation Area boat ramp.

The recreation activities most participated in include relaxing, swimming, sunbathing, and walking/hiking. For people who fished, a majority (65%) fished from a boat, while 57% fished from the shore. A majority of respondents (60%) took more than 6 camping trips, stayed in a travel trailer or motorhome (85%), and spent more than 8 nights camping (77%) in the last year. Well-spaced and shady campsites were voted most important campsite amenities, while close to the lake was voted most important campground location.

A majority of respondents indicated they were mostly satisfied with the recreation facilities and visitor services offered at Lake Tschida. The highest number of dissatisfied respondents was for the commercial services (47) and boating facilities (42).

Two-thirds of respondents who visit Heart Butte Reservoir own a boat and less than half of the people who own boats would consider renting a marina space; a majority of those respondents preferred an open slip. If a marina was provided at Lake Tschida, a majority of respondents would use a restaurant or snack bar (83%) and bait, tackle, and fishing supplies (74%). Boat fuel (63%), boat launch ramp access (62%), alcohol (61%), and groceries (61%) would also be used at a marina. Additional fishing access of all types was preferred at Koehlers Point Recreation Area, followed by Rimrock Recreation Area.

Additions that would be supported by the public include canoe or kayak rentals (56%), additional walking/biking trails (52%), freshwater activities, such as a splash pad (49%), and paddleboat rentals (45%). The results and comments from the User Survey are provided in Appendix C.

### **Anticipated Visitation**

Visitor use hours have been tracked since 1987 and are broken into Recreation Areas and Cabin and Trailer Areas. Since 1987, the Project Area has seen an increase at Recreation Areas and Cabin and Trailer Areas. However, since 1997, the Cabin and Trailer Areas increased well over 3 million use-hours and have fluctuated between 3.5 million to near 4.3 million use-hours. The use-hours at the Recreation Areas has fluctuated over the years. The highest use-hours occurred most recently in 2020. With 2020 seeing a 600,000 use-hour increase from 2019, likely due to the COVID-19 pandemic. As TCJJDA continues to make improvements around the Project Area, it is anticipated that reservoir activity will continue to grow and that an increase in use-hours is expected.

## **Section 2.2 Constraints to Recreation Development and Management**

Historic land uses have been primarily agricultural. Livestock grazing, haying, and farming small grains and row crops are the dominant uses. Development of recreation and other facilities has been limited by two major factors - slope and soil type. The slope and soil types vary throughout the management area. These subjects are summarized in Section 1.3 Geology/Paleontology and Soils, respectively. Development is also restricted by the elevation of the flood pool and authority.

### **Environmental Commitments (Management Actions)**

Reclamation and its managing partner recognize the responsibility that comes with being a steward of the land. This responsibility includes managing the area to meet environmental commitments. To ensure environmental compliance Reclamation and TCJJDA will follow these guidelines:

- Native prairie will not be broken without additional NEPA analysis.
- Dead trees will be allowed to deteriorate and/or will be replaced with native tree species common to the Heart Butte area with special attention to the use of woody shrubs such as buffalo berry, choke cherry, wild plum, snow berry, willow, and trees best associated with the available soils such as bur oak, green ash, cottonwood, Juniperus spp., using expertise available from the Natural Resource Conservation Service. Effects and purposes of tree plantings will be considered prior to adding trees.
- Fifteen wildlife areas will be maintained to continue or improve existing wildlife values.
- Cultural resources will be avoided to the extent possible. Projects different from those described and analyzed herein, after completion of the Heart Butte RMP, will be considered in separate Section 106 consultation by DKAO's archaeologist.
- Projects and management issues that arise after completion of the Heart Butte RMP and/or differ substantively from those described and analyzed herein will be considered under separate NEPA analysis.
- No work will be conducted in waters of the United States without compliance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

## **Multiple Resources Management**

Heart Butte has 6,575 upland acres managed for multiple resources. Reclamation will strive to improve the vegetation and water quality in the Heart Butte area to enhance fish and wildlife needs. Native grass pasture makes up most of these acres. Pastures will be rotationally grazed to promote plant vigor and health and to allow annual regrowth to provide wildlife cover. This grazing system should also allow woody draws to rejuvenate and regenerate, providing additional cover and food for wildlife. Some areas deemed "environmentally sensitive" may only receive grazing treatments once every several years. Annual monitoring of the pastures will be performed, and adjustments will be implemented if necessary. An example copy of a grazing permit is available upon request.

## **Tree Planting**

Tree plantings were established in the 1950s by NDGF. These plantings are becoming old and many of the trees are dead or dying. Reclamation adopted practices to address this natural deterioration of woody cover and mature trees. These practices are outlined in the specific management units.

## **Food Plots**

Numerous food plots have been established in the wildlife areas and are being cropped by Reclamation for wildlife use. Trees have been planted along the north and west edges of the food plots to provide winter wildlife cover and protection for the food plots. All food plots are being planted and left in their entirety as a winter food source for wildlife.

## **Haying**

600 acres of idle grasslands also exist and will be hayed approximately once every 3 years to rejuvenate the grass stands. An example of a haying agreement is available upon request.

## **Noxious Weeds**

Noxious weeds (leafy spurge, wormwood, Canada thistle) currently infest approximately 1,800 acres. Annual spraying and use of biological agents are being used and will continue to be used in the future to control these infestations. The use of flea beetles on leafy spurge was introduced in 1991. They have reduced the densities of the weed and allowed spraying operations to be concentrated on preventing the spread to non-infested areas. Canada thistle is also a problem and is being controlled with chemical spray and two biological agents (gall flies and stern weevils). Salt cedar plants were first discovered growing along the lake shoreline in 2008 and have occasionally been found since then. Shoreline searches are now performed annually to locate and eradicate any salt cedar plants before they become established. The Integrated Pest Management Plan for Heart Butte Reservoir lands is available upon request.

## **Fisheries**

Fisheries management of Lake Tschida is performed by NDGF.

## **Cabins and Trailer Sites**

Currently, three trailer areas and four cabin areas are located along the shoreline of Heart Butte Reservoir. The trailer areas consist of 114 lots and cover approximately 50 acres; the cabin areas contain 110 lots and cover approximately 150 acres. The TCJJDA administers the cabin and trailer permits with Reclamation oversight. Permits may be renewed every 5 years if permittees adhere to permit rules and requirements. Permits may be transferred to another party upon purchase of the trailer or cabin with TCJJDA and Reclamation approval. The lot remains the property of the United

States Government and may not be sold or bartered. These cabin and trailer lots are seasonal, to be occupied between April 1 and October 31 of each year. Administration of Heart Butte cabin and trailer permits is conducted under 43 CFR Part 429.32. In addition, Public Law 114-322, Section 3602 pertain to the cabin and trailer permit transfers and anchoring requirements.

### ***Health and Safety Concerns at Cabin Sites***

Regulation of many health and safety concerns at cabin and trailer sites are covered in the special use permit. Boat docks, stairways, and general site safety are subject to inspection by TCJJDA and Reclamation staff. Septic systems are regulated by the Custer District Health Department.

### **Group Use Areas**

Four group-use areas have been established at Heart Butte. These areas provide recreation opportunities for organizational group activities. The four organizations currently holding these permits are the Northern Lights Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Carson Wildlife Club, Elgin Lions Club, and North Dakota Farmers Union. Group-use area permits are renewed on a 5-year basis and are not transferable.

### **Land Use Authorizations**

Land-use authorizations include easements, leases, licenses, and permits, which allow others to use Reclamation lands, facilities, and water surfaces. Land-use authorizations are discretionary and must conform to the requirements contained in 43 CFR 429 and Reclamation Directives and Standards for Land Use Authorizations (LND 08-01). Issuance of land use authorizations require that Reclamation collect application, administrative and land use fees to ensure the Government is receiving fair market value for the use of its lands.

If a use authorization is granted, it is the policy of Reclamation to grant the least estate necessary to accommodate the intended use. Generally, this means that Reclamation will only issue a permit or a license and will not issue leases or easements or other contractual documents that convey an interest in real property.

Reclamation will not issue any land-use authorizations for roads, telecommunication sites, microwave towers, transmission lines, and linear facilities, or uses that do not clearly compliment the goals and recommendations contained in this plan. When permitted, Reclamation would require that electrical utilities be buried, or if constructed above ground they would be constructed and permitted only if they do not interfere with the visual and aesthetic components of the landscape. All above ground utilities would provide measures of safety for the public and for wildlife species. All land use authorizations would be considered on a case-by-case basis and issued at the sole discretion of Reclamation.

The descriptions of land use authorizations are defined in the individual contracts or agreements.

### **Land Disposal**

All reservoir lands are currently needed for project purposes and are not available for disposal through sale, lease, or transfer to any other person, agency, or entity. If any reservoir lands are determined by Reclamation to be excess to project needs, Reclamation would follow standard General Service Administration procedures to dispose of the lands. This process requires that any excess lands be offered to other federal or state agencies first, then to local counties or

municipalities, and last through sale at public auction to the highest bidder. In the absence of enabling legislation, and until such time as the land is no longer needed for these authorized project purposes, they cannot be disposed of or transferred out of federal ownership.

### **No New Exclusive Use**

Exclusive use is any use that excludes other appropriate public recreation use or users for extended periods of time. Exclusive use includes, but is not limited to, boat docks, cabins, trailers, manufactured or mobile homes, structures, roads, or other amenities that are determined by Reclamation to be exclusive use. Reclamation's Recreation Management Policy (LND PO4) states "Prohibit new exclusive uses and eliminate existing exclusive uses, as allowed by current use agreements, to maximize public recreation opportunities, facilities, and services. Any new use, facility, service or site determined by Reclamation to be exclusive use shall not be allowed."

### **Determination of Facility Requirements**

#### ***ADA Accessibility***

Heart Butte facilities have been audited for accessibility. Every campground around the Project Area complies with the minimum American Disabilities Act (ADA) Accessibility Guidelines. A list of the facilities and their compliance is available at TCJJDA office or TCJJDA website.

All areas of newly designed or newly constructed buildings and facilities and altered portions of existing buildings and facilities shall comply with the minimum requirements of the "ADA Accessibility Guidelines for Buildings and Facilities (A)AAG)."

### **Land Use Issues**

#### ***Off Road Vehicles***

The operation and use of off-road vehicles (snowmobiles, 4-wheelers, etc.) on Heart Butte Reservoir lands is prohibited with the following exceptions:

1. Off road vehicles may be used by government employees in conjunction with performance of their official duties.
2. Off road vehicles may be operated on gravel roads if properly licensed and equipped according to North Dakota century code 39-20.
3. Off road vehicles may be operated on the lake only when winter ice conditions permit, in conjunction with ice-fishing activities.
4. Off road vehicles may be used by grazing permit holders to move cattle and check fences.

#### ***Access***

Access to public lands at Heart Butte is restricted by the condition of existing roads and the slope of the terrain. Many of the lands, especially in the western management units, are only accessible by foot. Access across public lands will not be granted to benefit private interests.



### ***Oil, Gas, and Mineral Exploration***

Consumer demands for oil, gas, and other mineral resources have the potential to increase in the future. As a result, it is possible there may be requests from the oil and gas industry to explore and/or develop available minerals within the Heart Butte RMP area. Requests to lease federal oil and gas resources are administered by the Bureau of Land Management in coordination with the surface management agency. Reclamation follows the NEPA process to assess impacts from oil and gas leasing on Reclamation lands. Following a complete assessment of a potential project, permits would be awarded unless the proposed oil and gas project would interfere with or adversely affect authorized project purposes. In cases where Reclamation's consent is given, Reclamation requires that the lessee adhere to its GP-135 Special Stipulations and Form 3109-1 Lease Stipulations. These stipulations are provided to Bureau of Land Management in advance of their approval of the oil and gas lease. Pursuant to Section 10 of the August 4, 1939, Reclamation Project Act (53 Stat. 1187), Reclamation has authority to administer project sand and gravel mineral resources, and may issue permits for removal of these resources, at its sole discretion.

### ***Economic Analysis***

The RMP focuses on recreation development for future use as well as updates regarding current management practices as well. Existing practices are not being significantly changed; therefore, no significant change to the current economic trend is expected to occur due to the implementation of this RMP.

### ***Surrounding Land Ownership and Land Use***

Land surrounding the Heart Butte management units is privately owned. It is primarily used for agricultural purposes such as livestock grazing, hay land, farming of small grains and row crops, and Conservation Reserve Program. There are three private cabin areas - the Red Rock Resort development and the Rock Hills development that border the north side of the reservoir lands, and the Henry Schatz development, which borders the south side of the reservoir.

Surrounding lands do not have any impact on the decisions to manage Reclamation's lands. Reclamation has no obligation to manage public lands in the interest of adjoining landowners unless it supports the interests of the general public and is in the scope of Reclamation's mission.

### ***Other Studies***

In the past there have been studies conducted at Heart Butte Reservoir. Currently, no Reclamation studies are underway at Heart Butte.

The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality conducts periodic water quality monitoring on Lake Tschida as well as monitoring of the water quality above and below the reservoir. Reports for Lake Tschida water quality can be found at the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality – Division of Water Quality at [Water Quality Home \(nd.gov\)](http://WaterQualityHome.nd.gov).

Reclamation is currently working on proposed repairs to the Heart Butte Dam. Ongoing studies continue to be done as more information is needed regarding repair techniques. At this time the repairs are anticipated to occur in 2024, however, that is a projected date and is only an estimate.

## **Section 3 Implementation Procedures-Monitoring, Plan Amendments, and Standards and Guides**

The implementation of the RMP by Reclamation and TCJJDA will be guided by existing and future laws, Executive Orders, regulations, policies, and guidelines. The RMP is designed to supplement existing direction provided by these sources.

The RMP will be monitored annually at the end of the federal fiscal year (September 30). Completed projects will be added to the document each year in the Accomplishments Section. If projects are currently in progress at the end of the fiscal year, those projects will be added upon completion in the following fiscal year. RMP revisions, amendments, or updates mutually agreed upon by Reclamation and TCJJDA will occur annually at the end of the federal fiscal year. Any new or substantive changes will be addressed through the NEPA process, at which time any environmental impacts will be addressed.

Reclamation's Recreation Management Policy (LND PO4) defines Reclamation's overall responsibilities and establishes the basic principles for planning, development, management, and protection of public recreation resources on Reclamation lands and waters. One of the principles outlined in this policy is to: "Conduct necessary planning studies, research, assessment, and public involvement processes, in conjunction with managing partners where possible, to provide recreation facilities commensurate with public needs and Reclamation responsibilities and objectives."

## **Section 4 Designation of Land Uses**

### **Section 4.1 Resource Codes**

The RMP describes the present operations of 36 management units identified within 5 land resource codes. The five land resource codes include:

- (01) - Project operation
- (02) - Recreation
- (03) - Multiple resources management
- (04) - Group use and
- (05) - Cabins and trailers.

## **Section 4.2 Operation Units (Land Use Code 01)**

There are two units managed as Operations Units at Heart Butte. Operations units are primarily used in operations of the reservoir. The Operations Units are:

MU 001 - Dam

MU 002 - Headquarters

Specific descriptions of the units, the 5-year management plan, and the long-term plan are included in Section 5.1.

## **Section 4.3 Recreation Units (Land Use Code 02)**

There are ten units managed as recreation units at Heart Butte Reservoir. Recreation units are managed specifically for recreation opportunities for the public. The units included as recreation units are:

MU 004- Rimrock Recreation Area

MU 012- Hawebesi Recreation Area

MU 014- Schatzs Point Recreation Area

MU 017- Sled Creek Recreation Area

MU 025- Koehlers Point Recreation Area

MU 027- Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area

MU 028- Crappie Creek South Recreation Area

MU 033- Northshore Concession Area

MU 038- Downstream Recreation Area

MU 039- Lake Tschida

Specific descriptions of the units, the 5-year management plan, and the long-term plan are included in Section 5.2.

## **Section 4.4 Multiple Use Units (Land Use 03)**

There are 15 units managed as Multiple Use Units at Heart Butte. Multiple Use Units are managed for wildlife and recreation purposes. The units included as Multiple Use Units are:

MU 003- River Heights Wildlife Area

MU 005- Spillway Acres Wildlife Area

MU 011- Cross Roads Wildlife Area

MU 015- Schatz Creek Wildlife Area

MU 016- Sled Creek Wildlife Area

MU 019- Ackerman Wildlife Area

MU 020- Willow Bottoms Wildlife Area

MU 021- Winding Creek Wildlife Area

MU 022- Verworn Wildlife Area

MU 023- Far West Wildlife Area

MU 024- Schelles Wildlife Area

MU 026- Rattlesnake Bluffs Wildlife Area

MU 029- Crappie Creek Wildlife Area

MU 031- Swift Wildlife Area

MU 034- Downstream Wildlife Area

Specific descriptions of the units, the 5-year management plan, and the long-term plan are included in Section 5.3.

## **Section 4.5 Group Use Units (Land Use Code 04)**

There are four Group Use Units at Heart Butte. These areas provide recreation opportunities for organizational group activities. The permits are renewed on a five-year basis and are not transferable. The Group Use Units are:

MU 006- Boy Scouts Area

MU 007- Carson Wildlife Club

MU 008- Elgin Lions Club

MU 010- Farmers Union Camp

Specific descriptions of the units, the 5-year management plan, and the long-term plan are included in Section 5.4.

## Section 4.6 Cabin and Trailer Site Units (Land Use Code 05)

There are five units managed as cabin and trailer site units at Heart Butte. Included in the units are three trailer areas and four cabin areas located along the shoreline of the Heart Butte Reservoir. The trailer areas contain 114 lots and cover approximately 50 acres, while the cabin areas contain 110 lots and cover approximately 200 acres. Permits for these permittees may be renewed every 5 years if permittees adhere to permit rules and requirements. Permits may be transferred to another upon purchase of the trailer or cabin, though the lot itself is the property of the United States Government and may not be sold or bartered. These cabin and trailer lots are considered seasonal and may only be occupied between April 1 and October 31 of each year.

The cabin and trailer management units are:

MU 009- Cabin Area 4

MU 013- South Side Trailer Area

MU 018- Cabin Area 1

MU 030- Cabin Areas 2 and 3

MU 032- Trailer Areas 1 and 2

Specific descriptions of the units, the 5-year management plan, and the long-term plan are included in Section 5.5.

## Section 5 Management Unit Descriptions

### Section 5.1 Operation Units

Land Use Code 01

<b>MU001</b>	<b>Dam</b>
<b>MU002</b>	<b>Headquarters</b>

#### Environmental Commitments

Project revisions and project concepts that differ from those already considered under this Management Unit Packet will be considered under separate NEPA and NHPA compliance. Heart Butte Reservoir Manager must consult with DKAO Resources Division staff prior to altering approved project plans or amending approved project plans with additional project elements. Projects described in this Management Unit Packet that have not been considered under the Categorical Exclusion Checklist – DK-5000-21-35 or have been conceived following the completion of the Heart Butte RMP will be considered under separate NEPA analysis.

**MU001 Dam**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 001 Dam

**Land Use Codes:** 01

**Goal**

To provide flood control and water for irrigation as the primary purpose. Secondary benefits include recreation and fish and wildlife.

**Location**

The Dam is located at the crossing of Highway 49 and the Heart River.

21.4 acres in Section 13 of T.136 N., R. 89 W.

See map below for exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

No recreation or public use is allowed in this management unit.

**Vegetation**

No unique vegetation. See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

**Facilities Inventory**

The MU facilities include the earthen dam, control house, well house, piezometer pit, morning glory and the spillway. Eight observation wells, three porous-tube piezometers, twenty-two slotted pipe piezometers and four seepage weirs are also located along the sides and below the dam.

**Historical Background**

Construction of the dam was started in 1948 and was completed in 1949.

**RMP Five Year Plan**

MU 001 (Dam)

**2022**

- Obtain periodic instrumentation readings according to monitoring schedule L-23.
- Conduct Periodic Facility Review (PFR) of the Dam.
- Denver, Region and AO to continue planning Dam repair work.
- Spray face of Dam and backside of Dam with herbicide to control vegetation.
- Control woody vegetation around weirs and mow around outlet works.

**2023**

- Obtain periodic instrumentation readings according to monitoring schedule L-23.
- Conduct Annual Facility Review of the Dam.
- Denver, Region and AO to continue planning Dam repair work.

- Spray face of Dam and backside of Dam with herbicide to control vegetation.
- Control woody vegetation around weirs and mow around outlet works.

#### **2024**

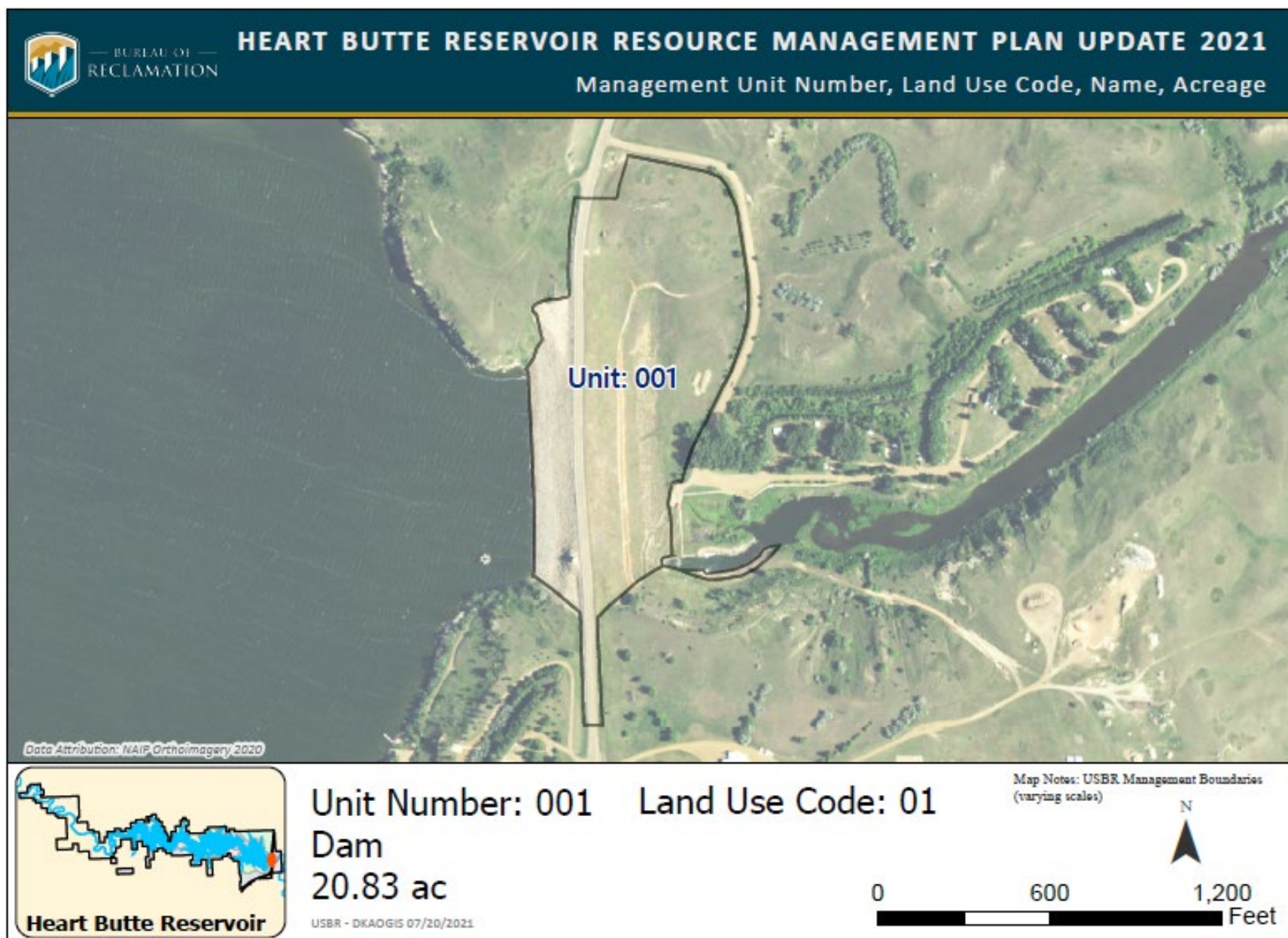
- Obtain periodic instrumentation readings according to monitoring schedule L-23.
- Spray face of Dam and backside of Dam with herbicide to control vegetation.
- Control woody vegetation around weirs and mow around outlet works.
- Proposed lake drawdown in fall for next year's dam repair work.

#### **2025**

- Obtain periodic instrumentation readings according to monitoring schedule L-23.
- Conduct Comprehensive Facility Review (CFR) of the Dam
- Conduct Annual Facility Review of the Dam SOD contract to perform Dam repair work.
- Spray face of Dam and backside of Dam with herbicide to control vegetation.
- Control woody vegetation around weirs and mow around outlet works.
- Proposed dam repair work to begin with completion anticipated in 2026

#### **Long range planning**

- 2026 – conduct CFR on the Dam
- No additional non-routine activities are planned.





## **MU002 Headquarters**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 002 Headquarters

**Land Use Codes:** 01

### ***Goal***

To operate and maintain the headquarters to support the management of the Heart Butte Reservoir and the surrounding area.

### ***Location***

The headquarters is located southeast of the dam.

12.4 acres in Section 13 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

### ***Recreation and Use***

No recreation or public use is allowed in this management unit.

### ***Vegetation***

No unique vegetation. See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### ***Facilities Inventory The headquarters include:***

Housing for the Facility Manager, a shop with office, fuel storage, and several buildings for equipment and supplies storage.

### ***Historical Background***

Many of the small storage buildings were constructed by the Young Adults Conservation Corp (YACC) in the late 1970's.

The facility manager residence was built in 1980.

The shop was built in 1982, and the office addition in 2009. The large pole barn was moved to its current site in 1986.

### ***RMP Five Year Plan***

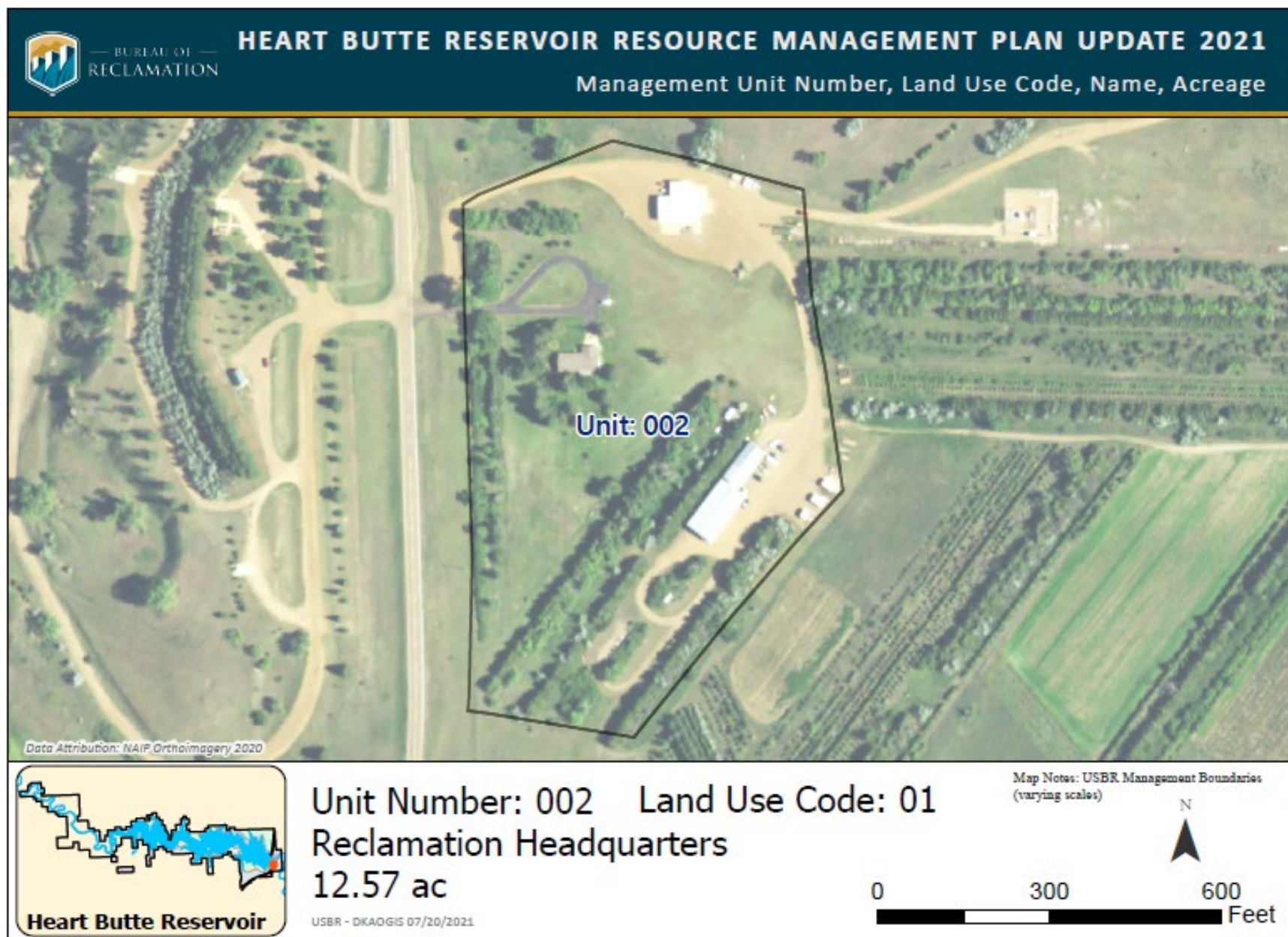
**MU 002 Headquarters**

#### **2022-2027**

- No non-routine work is expected.
- General maintenance, lawn mowing, and upkeep.

#### **Long range planning**

- No non-routine work is expected.



## Section 5.2 Recreation Units Management and Development

Land Use Code 02

<b>MU004</b>	<b>Rimrock Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0012</b>	<b>Hawebesi Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0014</b>	<b>Schatzs Point Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0017</b>	<b>Sled Creek Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0025</b>	<b>Koehlers Point Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0027</b>	<b>Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0028</b>	<b>Crappie Creek Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0033</b>	<b>Northshore Concession Area</b>
<b>MU0035</b>	<b>Downstream Recreation Area</b>
<b>MU0036</b>	<b>Lake Tschida</b>

### Environmental Commitments

Project revisions and project concepts that differ from those already considered under this Management Unit Packet will be considered under separate NEPA and NHPA compliance. Heart Butte Reservoir Manager must consult with DKAO Resources Division staff prior to altering approved project plans or amending approved project plans with additional project elements. Projects described in this Management Unit Packet that have not been considered under the Categorical Exclusion Checklist- DK-5000-21-35 or have been conceived following the completion of the Heart Butte RMP will be considered under separate NEPA analysis.

## **MU 004 Rimrock Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 004 Rimrock Recreation Area

**Land Use Codes:** 02

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation resources to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The area is south and west of the Heart Butte Dam and is known as Rimrock Recreation Area.

69.8 acres in Sections 13, 14 and 24 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are swimming, fishing, picnicking, and camping.

### ***Vegetation***

A mixture of tame and native grasses, along with numerous trees and shrubs are found in this area.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

This area has

- 4 vault type, restroom facilities (ADA compliant).
- 1 ADA compliant Comfort Station with flush toilets and showers.
- 1 RV dump station.
- 2 boat ramps with courtesy docks are available for use (1 is ADA accessible); a third dock is also available for loading and unloading passengers near Loop A of the campground.
- Large swim beach.
- Sand volleyball court.
- 6 shelters (1 for day use, 1 for camp host, 2 in loop D and 2 in loop E for group use camping).
- 42 electric camping sites (two are ADA compliant) and 22 primitive camping sites.
- Area kiosk (ADA) that provides historical information.
- Overlook (ADA) that provides a view of the reservoir.
- 2 potable water wells (1 pressurized and 1 hand pump) available for public use (ADA compliant).
- Campground host site, constructed in 2008 (ADA).
- Temporary TCJJDA office (ADA), built in 2010.
- 3 sleep cabins

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. Accessible Disability Act (ADA) facilities are available for use by challenged recreation users. The TCJJDA became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

### ***RMP Five Year Plan***

#### **MU 004 Rimrock Recreation Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access roads.
  - b. Set and remove beach buoy lines and bay buoys.
  - c. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner (JDA) responsibilities
  - a. Contract for Garbage Collection (9 dumpsters)
  - b. Manage Campground Maintenance
    1. Clean comfort station and restrooms
    2. Clean picnic tables, empty garbage cans and clean out fire-rings
    3. Pressure-wash dumpsters
    4. Mow 16 acres of grass (as needed)
    5. Pick up trash from grounds.
  - c. Contract for the pumping of the dump station and vault toilets (annually or as needed)
  - d. Placement, removal and repair docks as needed.
  - e. Water seal picnic tables, steps and overlook annually (repair as needed)
  - f. Groom beach, playground and volleyball court as needed.
  - g. Maintain kiosks and registration station.
  - h. Repairs to toilets, shelters, fire-rings, etc. as needed.
  - i. Spray noxious weeds (spurge, dandelion, etc.)
  - j. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - k. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - l. Water grass and trees where practical.
  - m. Repair roads, parking areas and camping pads inside campground
  - n. Enlist Campground Host and oversee their duties.
  - o. Administer and oversee recreation activities in the area.
  - p. Have toilet vaults pumped out as needed.
  - q. Take water samples and send them to ND Dept. of Health as required.
  - r. Remove picnic tables from floodplain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.

#### **2022-2025**

- Begin construction of Welcome Center to include Lake Tschida Offices, information and education center, public restrooms (possibly

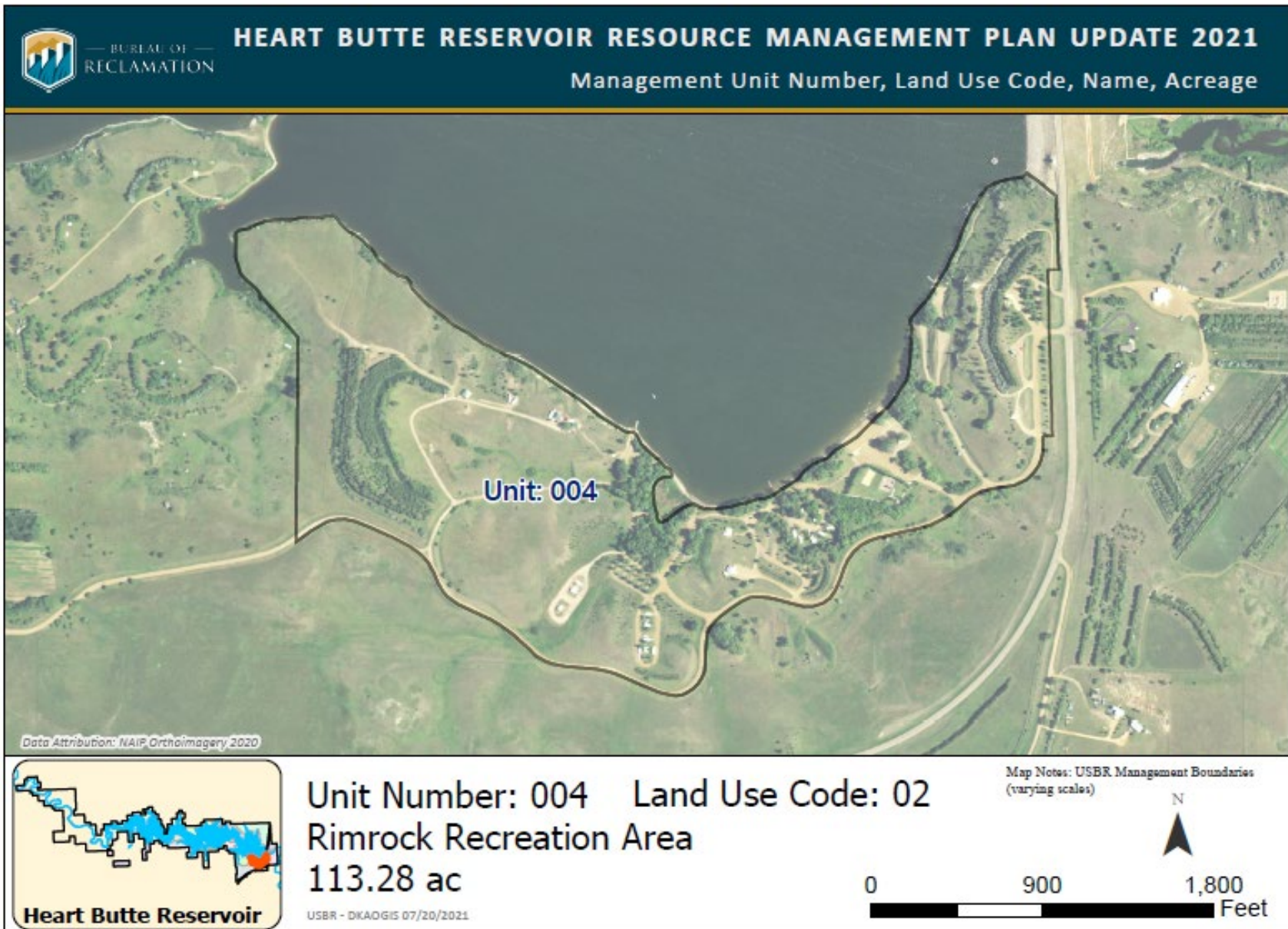
with showers), kitchen, entertainment center/hall with a 200 person capacity, sleeping quarters for Security/Staff. Explore allowing adequate space to accommodate a small café/eatery/bar and grill.

- Complete landscaping needs and additional parking areas for Welcome Center.
- Complete outdoor day use/eating/seating area near Welcome Center.
- Develop hiking/biking trails. Connect one trail to the Boy Scouts nature trail.
- Explore connecting to and through Carson Wildlife to Hawabesi Campground and eventually connect to Schatz Point Trails.
- Add a day use fishing pier area to east of Carson Wildlife, near hiking/biking trail.

### **Long range planning**

- Complete construction of 2 “full service” cabins on the Rimrock Hilltop.
- Repurpose existing small office cabin as a rental cabin on the Rimrock Hilltop.
- Complete landscaping on lake side of Rimrock Hilltop Cabins to allow for better shoreline access. Add docks for Cabin and Campsite users to allow for better water access.
- Construct a Splash Pad South of Welcome Center off the Highway. To include bathrooms with flushing water and changing areas as well as a small office space for wristband sales and vending machines. Building would have a larger sheltered area to accommodate day users of Splash Pad. Put road in from Splash pad site to public beach area.
- Explore the need for a large day use shelter near the Rimrock campground; to include electrical and water amenities.
- Add water to existing campsites in Loop A and possibly Loop B.
- Landscaping as needed in campgrounds and around new developments.





## **MU 012 Hawebesi Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 012 Hawebesi Recreation Area (includes SSTA public area)

**Land Use Codes:** 02

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation resources to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The area is west of the Heart Butte Dam and is known as Hawebesi Recreation Area. 3.7 acres in Sections 10 and 15 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W. Refer to the map below for exact location.

### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are fishing, swimming, picnicking, and camping.

### ***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 3.1.5.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

This area has the following:

- one vault toilet;
- one shelter;
- Another vault toilet is located at the South Side Trailer Area (SSTA) public use area;
- Also, to the NE near the Public Boat Ramp is a camp host site;
- 3 campsites that are full service with water, septic, and electric;
- 10 primitive sites; and
- There is one cabin (Gilligan's cabin) which is a full service 3 bedroom, 1 bath, living and sunroom cabin.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. There are no Accessible Disability Act (ADA) facilities in this area; those with special needs are directed to Schatzs Point. The TCJDA became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.



**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 012 Hawebesi Recreation Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade access roads.
  - b. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner (JJDA) responsibilities
  - a. Administer Campground Maintenance
    1. Clean toilet
    2. Clean picnic tables
    3. Clean out fire-rings
    4. Mow 3 acre of grass (as needed)
    5. Pick up trash from grounds
  - b. Administer Garbage Collection Contract-no dumpsters in this recreation area at this time but some may be added in the future.
  - c. Make any needed repairs to toilets and fire rings
  - d. Water seal picnic tables (repair as needed)
  - e. Spray noxious weeds
  - f. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - g. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - h. Have vault toilet pumped out as needed.
  - i. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.

Research the possibility of annexing the southwest corner of Management Unit 011 located to the southeast of Hawebesi Campground. This area would be used as the location for the proposed Southside RV dump and fish cleaning station.

**2022-2025**

- Plant additional trees in the camping areas.
- Monitor vault toilets and have pumped when needed.
- Develop hiking/biking trails to the south of Hawebesi Campground connecting to the Schatzs Point trails.
- Improve swim beach located NW of the boat ramp.
- Implement day use area by adding picnic tables, benches, garbage cans, and possibly a shelter to the swim beach area.

**Long range planning**

- Install a comfort station with running water and showers.
- Replace the vault toilet and picnic shelter.
- Plant and replace trees as needed.

- Add hiking and biking trail to connect to the Rimrock Trail, connecting all trails together where possible.
- Explore utilization and need for a Shower House.
  - Implement if utilization supports.



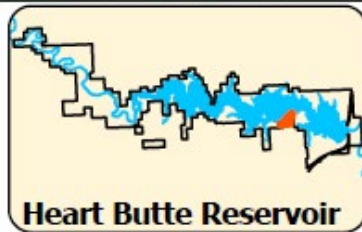
BUREAU OF  
RECLAMATION

# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 012    Land Use Code: 02  
Hawebesi Recreation Area  
30.40 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0                      600                      1,200  
Feet

## **MU 014 Schatzs Point Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 014 Schatzs Point Recreation Area

**Land Use Codes:** 02

### **Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and public recreation opportunities.

### **Location**

The area is south and west of the Heart Butte Dam and is known as Schatzs Point Recreation Area 66.1 acres in Sections 9 and 16 located in T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### **Recreation and use**

Recreation activities are fishing, swimming, picnicking, boating and camping.

### **Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Leafy spurge and Canada thistle are present in the unit.

### **Facilities Inventory**

This area has three restroom facilities (two ADA compliant), one boat ramp, and one courtesy dock available for use (ADA compliant). Additionally, this area has two shelters (one ADA compliant) and one ADA fishing pier site.

Schatzs Point Recreation Area has 21 camping sites (one ADA compliant), no electric or water. There is one potable water well with hand pump available for public use.

### **Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. Accessible Disability Act (ADA) facilities have been constructed in recent years to be used by challenged recreation users. The TCJJDA became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 014 Schatzs Point Recreation Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access roads.
  - b. Set and remove bay buoy with managing partner's assistance.
  - c. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner responsibilities
  - a. Administer garbage collection contract (2 dumpsters)
  - b. Administer campground maintenance
    1. Clean comfort stations
    2. Clean picnic tables
    3. Pressure wash dumpsters
    4. Clean out fire-rings
    5. Mow 8 acres of grass (as needed)
    6. Pick up trash from grounds
  - c. Put in and take out one dock (make repairs as needed).
  - d. Waterproof picnic tables (repair as needed).
  - e. Repair toilets, shelters and fire rings as needed.
  - f. Spray noxious weeds.
  - g. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - h. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - i. Have vault toilets pumped out as needed.
  - j. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.
  - k. Take water samples and send them to ND Dept. of Health as required.

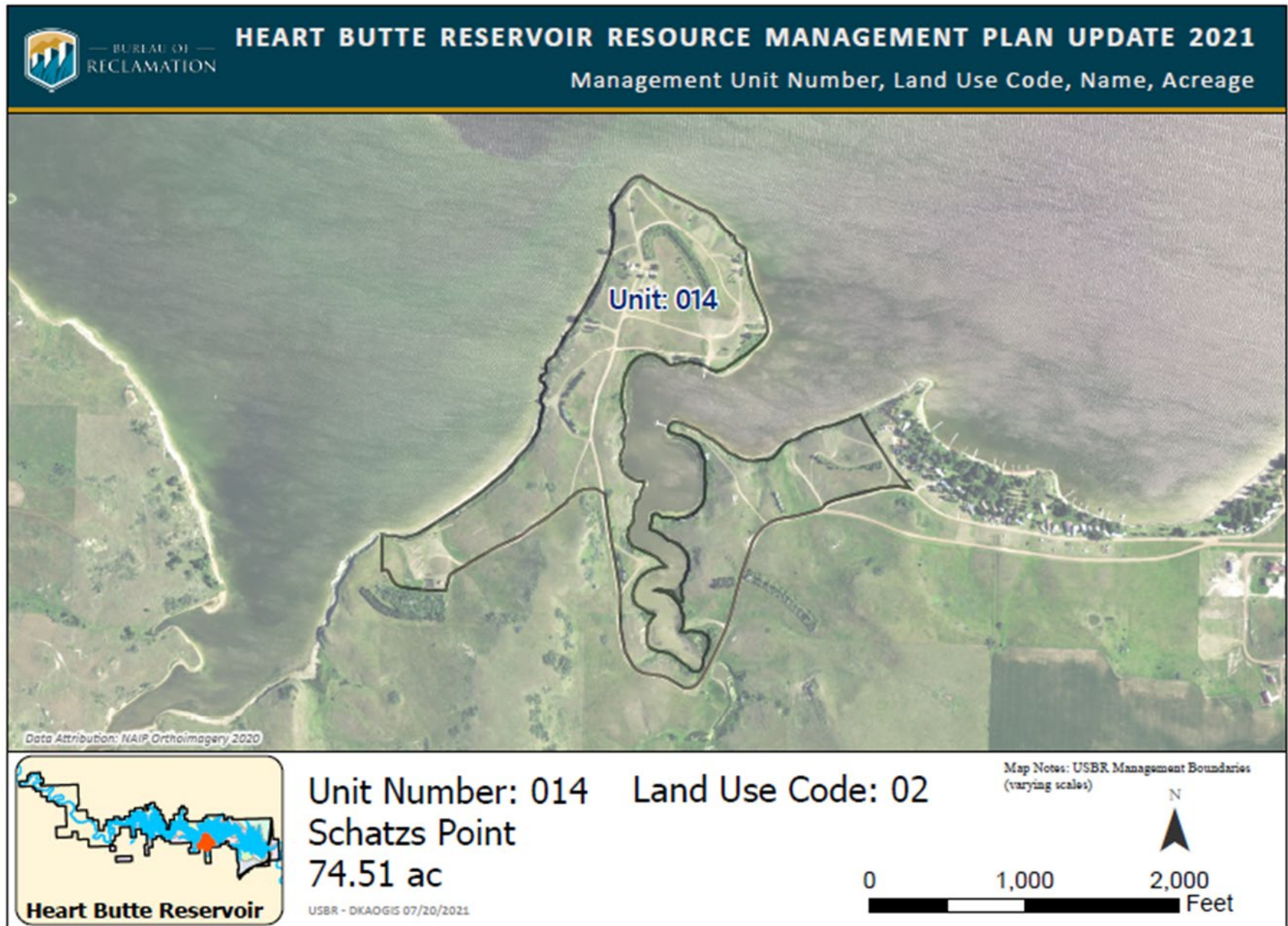
**2022-2025**

- Implement a day use area to include shelter(s) and picnic tables near the fishing pier to accommodate day use.
- Improve hiking/biking trails to potentially connect to Hawebesi trails.
- Plant additional trees for wind protection and additional beauty.
- Modify Hidden Shelter by adding fencing, gates, solar well, and possibly upgrading vault toilet to accommodate equestrian group camping.
- Complete improvements to landscaping as needed.
- Add shelters or leans if utilization deems needed.

**Long range planning**

- Install a comfort station with running water and showers.
- Develop an equestrian camping area with riding trails.
- Plant and replace trees as needed.
- Explore options for addition of a boat ramp and courtesy dock.
- Add a full service 2-3 bedroom ADA Cabin.
  - Would be constructed in the site now known as Schatz Point #1.
  - Services brought to site include well, septic, and electrical.
  - Complete all necessary landscaping and add trees, garbage, and picnic tables as needed.
- Stabilize shoreline by Hidden Shelter (re-slope and riprap).





## **MU 017 Sled Creek Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 017 Sled Creek Recreation Area

**Land Use Codes:** 02

### **Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

### **Location**

The 2.2-acre area is located in the central portion of Section 8, T. 136 N., R. 89 W. MU 018 is bordered on the north and east by MU019, by Heart Butte Reservoir, on the south and by MU 017 on the west.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### **Recreation and Use**

Recreation activities are camping, swimming, hiking/biking, and fishing.

### **Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### **Facilities Inventory**

This area has a restroom, 5 campsites with fire rings and picnic tables, and a concrete boat landing with dock.

### **Historical Background**

The first permitted agreement between the New Leipzig Town and Country Boosters Club and the NDGF was issued January 20, 1977. Reclamation began issuing the permit on January 1, 1979, for group use activities at \$75.00 per year. The use fee in 2006 was \$60. The unit was turned back to Reclamation in January 2007. The TCJJDA became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.



**RMP Five Year Plan****Unit 017 Sled Creek Recreation Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the roads.
  - b. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner responsibilities
  - a. Administer Campground Maintenance
    1. Clean comfort station
    2. Clean picnic tables (repair as needed)
    3. Clean out fire rings
    4. Mow 1 acres of grass (as needed)
    5. Pick up trash from grounds
  - b. Waterproof picnic tables.
  - c. Make any needed repairs to toilet and fire rings.
  - d. Spray noxious weeds (spurge, thistle, etc.).
  - e. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - f. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - g. Have toilet vault pumped out as needed.
  - h. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.

**2022-2023**

- General maintenance

**Long Range Planning**

- Construct an ADA picnic shelter.
- Construct up to 10 campsites that could be full-service sites to include water, sewer, and power.
- Construct one camp host site.



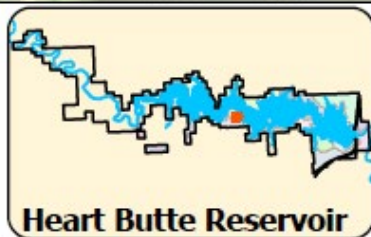
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthomagery 2020



Unit Number: 017 Land Use Code: 02  
Sled Creek Recreation Area  
3.10 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0 100 200 Feet

## **MU 025 Koehlers Point Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 025 Koehlers Point Recreation Area

**Land Use Codes:** 02

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

Koehler's Point Recreation Area is north and west of the Heart Butte Dam.

9.2 acres located in Section 7 of T. 136 N., R. 90 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

Recreation and Use

Recreation activities are fishing, swimming, picnicking and camping.

### ***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

This area has one restroom facility, one boat ramp with courtesy dock, and ten campsites with fire rings and picnic tables. There is no electric or potable water.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. This area has no ADA facilities; challenged recreation users are directed to Crappie Creek Recreation Area. The adjacent landowner (Cory Roth) continues to add leased cabin sites and camper parking sites at his private trailer park just north of the campground which is impacting the numbers of users at this campground. These users may significantly increase in the future. The TCJJDA became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 025 Koehlers Point Recreation Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access roads
  - b. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual managing partner responsibilities
  - a. Administer campground maintenance
    1. Clean comfort station
    2. Clean picnic tables
    3. Clean out fire rings
    4. Mow 2 acres of grass (as needed)
    5. Pick up trash from grounds
  - b. Put in and take out one dock (make repairs as needed).
  - c. Waterproof and repair picnic tables.
  - d. Make any needed repairs to toilet and fire rings.
  - e. Spray noxious weeds (spurge, thistle, etc.).
  - f. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - g. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - h. Have vault toilets pumped out as needed.
  - i. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.

**2022-2025**

- Explore utilizing the proposed water source provided by Southwest Water.
- Offer water to sites or facilities throughout Koehlers Point.

**Long range planning**

- Modify the existing vault toilets to meet ADA specifications.
- Plant and replace trees as needed.
- Construct a second boat ramp next to the existing ramp if user numbers continue to increase.
- Construct additional boat trailer parking if user numbers continue to increase.
- Explore potential for up to ten full-service sites to include water, electrical, and septic.
  - Would then add a camp host sites.
- Explore the possibility of providing boat slips for public use and for rental.



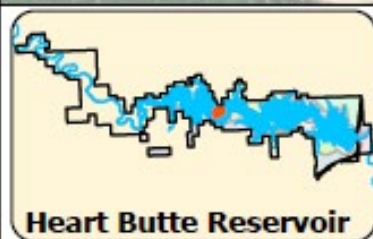
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RECLAMATION

# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 025  
Koehlers Point  
9.41 ac

Land Use Code: 02

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0 200 400 Feet

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

## **MU 027 Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 027 Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area

**Land Use Codes:** 02

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area is north and west of the Heart Butte Dam.

15.9 acres in Section 9 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are fishing, swimming, picnicking, hiking/biking, and camping.

### ***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

This area has no restroom facilities. There is an information kiosk available at this site.

Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area has 2 camping sites, no electric or water. Users are required to take out what they bring in. JDA does not provide garbage collection.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. This area has no Accessible Disability Act (ADA) facilities. Challenged recreation users are directed to Crappie Creek Recreation Area.

The TCJJDA became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 027 (Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area)**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access road.
  - b. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner responsibilities:
  - a. Waterproof and repair picnic tables.
  - b. Mow grass as needed.
  - c. Spray noxious weeds.
  - d. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - e. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - f. Pick up trash from grounds.
  - g. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.

**2022-2025**

- Remove two campsites from the reservation system and convert the area into day use. This will alleviate conflicts between the 2 campsites and day users.

**Long range planning**

- Continue planting additional trees to provide beauty and wind protection.
- Pending the need for more campsites at Lake Tschida, add up to 20 additional campsites, which could be full-service sites; to include water, septic, and electrical and a camp host site.
- Provide ADA shoreline accessibility.
- Add one ADA accessible restroom to the area.
- Explore options for addition of a boat ramp and courtesy dock.
- Explore boat mooring options for the area.
- Construct an ADA accessible picnic shelter.
- Plant small groups of trees between the campsites.
- Plant shelter tree groves to the north of the campsites.
- Construct a concrete boat ramp on the existing unauthorized gravel boat ramp.
- Install a concrete vault restroom that is ADA accessible.
- Install an information kiosk and registration post.
- Install hiking/biking trails.







## **MU 028 Crappie Creek Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 028 Crappie Creek Recreation Area

**Land Use Code:** 02

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

Crappie Creek Recreation Area is north and west of the Heart Butte Dam.

49.2 acres in Sections 3 and 10 located in T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are boating, fishing, swimming, picnicking, hiking/biking and camping.

### ***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

The Crappie Creek Recreation Area facilities include the following:

- This area has three restroom facilities (ADA compliant).
- ADA boat ramp with courtesy dock is available for use.
- Four picnic shelters (ADA).
- 31 camp sites, including two that are ADA compliant.
- 15 electrical campsites, one is ADA compliant.
- Camp host site.
- Two potable water wells available for use,
  - one is a hand put and the other has a hydrant.
- RV Dump Station.
- Fish Cleaning Station.
- Boat Washer Station.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. ADA facilities have been constructed over the last few years, to be used by challenged recreation users. The TCJJDA, became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 028** (Crappie Creek Recreation Area)

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access roads.
  - b. Place and remove bay buoy with JDA assistance.
  - c. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner responsibilities
  - a. Administer garbage collection (3 dumpsters).
  - b. Administer campground maintenance,
    1. Clean comfort stations
    2. Clean picnic tables
    3. Pressure wash dumpsters
    4. Clean out fire-rings
    5. Mow 6 acres of grass (as needed)
    6. Pick-up trash from grounds
  - c. Installation and removal of dock (make repairs to dock and landing as needed).
  - d. Waterproof picnic tables (make any needed repairs).
  - e. Make any needed repairs to toilets, shelters, fire rings, etc.
  - f. Spray noxious weeds (spurge, dandelion, etc.).
  - g. Contract to have vault toilets pumped out as needed.
  - h. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - i. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - j. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.
  - k. Take water samples and send them to ND Dept. of Health as required.

**2022-2024**

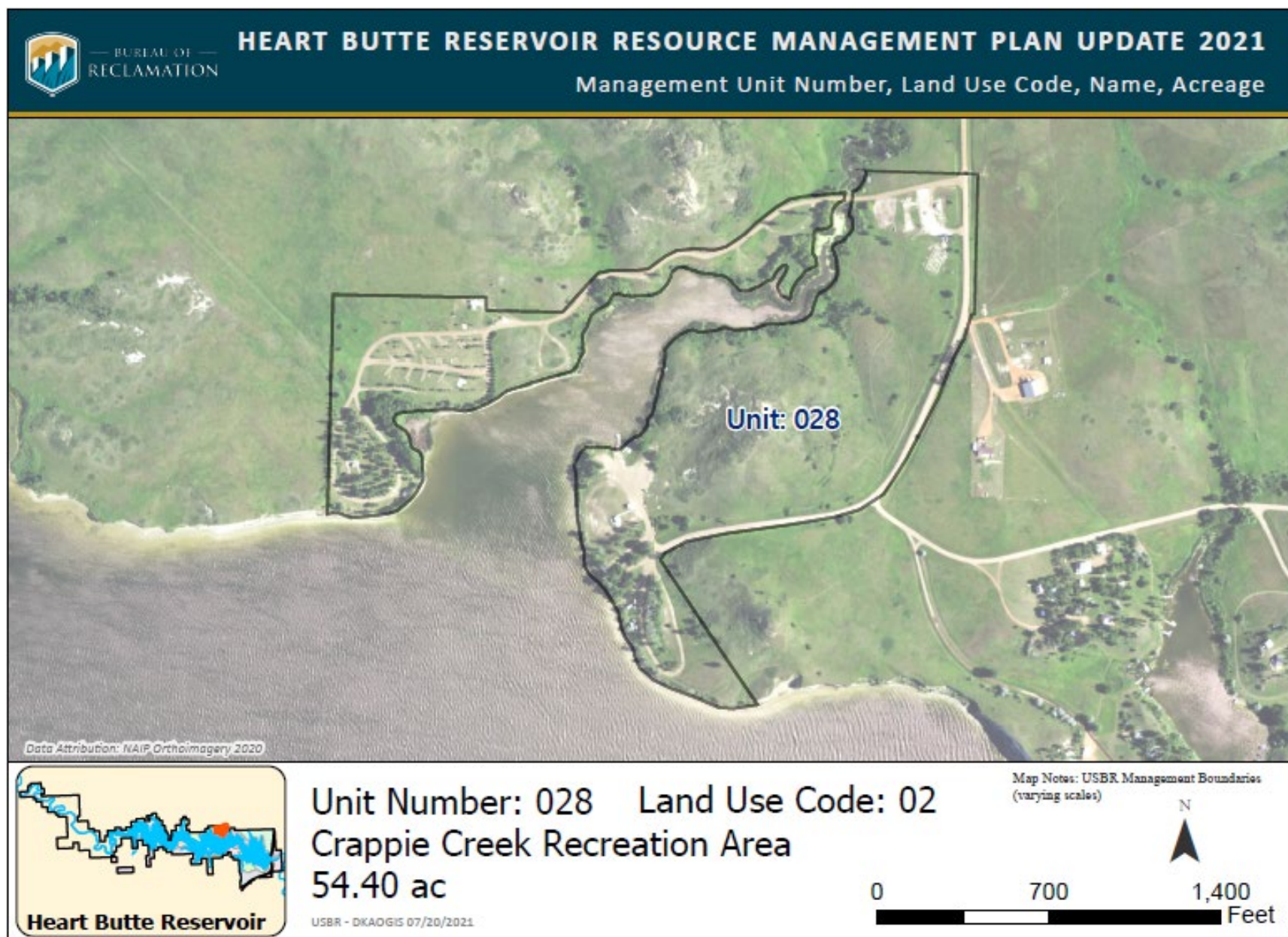
Construct a shower house facility that will include two shower stalls and two restrooms with flushing toilets.

**2024-2025**

- Implement family friendly activities which could include the following:
  - concrete game tables
  - playground
  - mini golf
- Develop new campsites to the west of the camp host site to include water, electrical, and septic hookups.
  - This would include 2 or more ADA compliant campsites.
- Install waterlines to each electric campsite.
- Construct 3 or more picnic shelters.
- Develop swimming beach at N. Crappie Creek.

**Long range planning**

- Construct a boat ramp and a day use area east of the main shoreline camping area if justified by increased recreation use of this area. **This action will require separate NEPA/NHPA.**
- Continue to plant and replace trees as needed.



**MU 033 Northshore Concession Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 036 Northshore Concession Area

**Land Use Code:** 02

***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

***Location***

Northshore Concession Area is north and west of the Heart Butte Dam.

13.4 acres in Section 13 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are boating, fishing, swimming, picnicking and limited camping.

***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

***Facilities Inventory***

This area has one restroom facility, and one fish cleaning station (ADA). One boat ramp with courtesy dock and boat fuel dock are available for use. There is one (ADA) fishing dock. This area has one shelter and has picnic tables for day use. Two ADA boat piers available for public use and six boat slips are available for rent through TCJJDA. The area has a concession which provides gas, bait, beverages, and food. Two designated camp sites, with electric and water may be available through the concessionaire. The concession may also provide limited boat slips for rent.

***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA) facilities have been constructed in the past few years to be used by challenged recreation users. The TCJJDA took over recreation management responsibilities in 2010.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 033 Northshore Concession Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access roads.
  - b. Set and remove bay buoy with TCJJDA assistance.
  - c. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner responsibilities
  - a. Administer Garbage Collection (1 dumpster).
  - b. Administer Campground Maintenance,
    1. Clean vault type restroom.
    2. Pressure-wash dumpster.
    3. Mow grass in trailer parking lot.
    4. Pick up trash from grounds.
  - c. Put in and take out two docks with Reclamation assistance (make repairs as needed).
  - d. Waterproof picnic tables.
  - e. Set up, maintain, and winterize fish cleaning station.
  - f. Contract to pump fish station and toilet vaults as needed.
  - g. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - h. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - i. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.
  - j. Take water samples and send them to ND Dept. of Health as required.

**2022-2023**

Annual maintenance.

Sign up and plan for SWPP Water lines.

**Long range planning**

- Construct a new concession building on higher ground that would include a lunchroom and an outdoor picnic area.
- Continue to plant and replace trees as needed.
- Construct a second boat ramp next to the existing boat ramp if it is justified by increased use.
- Improve parking areas to accommodate increase utilization.
- Explore implementation of an outdoor/drive up movie theater in this location.
- Explore implementation of Pedal Boat and other recreation rentals in this location.





## **MU 035 Downstream Recreation Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 033 Downstream Recreation Area

**Land Use Code:** 02

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide safe and convenient public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

Downstream Recreation Area is east and directly below the Heart Butte Dam.

20.2 acres in Section 13 of T. 136 N., R. 89W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are fishing, picnicking, hiking/biking and camping.

### ***Vegetation***

Tree plantings have been added in the camping areas.

Additional vegetation description is provided in Section 1.3.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

The Downstream Recreation Area facilities include the following:

- Two ADA restroom facilities.
- Two sleeper cabins, one ADA compliant.
- Twelve picnic shelters and 2ADA compliant.
- Twenty-two electric camping sites (1 ADA compliant), nine primitive campsites (2 that are ADA compliant).

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation area. ADA facilities have been constructed at this area over the last few years to be used by challenged recreation users. The TCJJDA, became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.



## **RMP Five Year Plan**

### **MU 035 Downstream Recreation Area**

1. Annual Reclamation maintenance
  - a. Blade the access roads.
  - b. Winterize and maintain well.
  - c. Assist managing partner when pertinent.
2. Annual Managing Partner responsibilities
  - a. Administer garbage collection contract (2 dumpsters).
  - b. Administer campground maintenance,
    1. Clean vault restrooms
    2. Clean picnic tables
    3. Pressure wash dumpsters
    4. Clean out fire-rings
    5. Mow 12 acres of grass (as needed)
    6. Pick-up trash from grounds
  - c. Make any needed repairs to toilets, shelters, fire rings, etc.
  - d. Waterproof picnic tables (repair as needed).
  - e. Trim trees, remove dead, dying or hazardous trees as needed.
  - f. Plant replacement trees and additional trees that would improve the beauty and function of the area.
  - g. Spray noxious weeds (spurge, dandelion, etc.)
  - h. Contract to have toilets pumped as needed
  - i. Remove picnic tables from flood plain each fall and replace after spring flood danger.
  - j. Take water samples and send them to ND Dept. of Health as required.

### **2022-2023**

Apply for SWPP service to be implemented when SWPP completes water upgrades in the area.

### **2023-2025**

- Continue to remove and replant Siberian Elm trees being killed by Dutch Elm disease.
- Install and connect waterlines to the electric campsites, the campground host site, and the future site for the camping lodge once Southwest Water is available.

### **Long range planning**

- Build an ADA camping lodge that would include a bathroom and shower.
- Continue to plant and replace trees as needed.



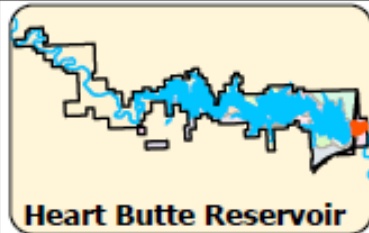
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 035    Land Use Code: 02  
Downstream Recreation Area  
23.20 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0                      500                      1,000  
Feet

**MU 036 Lake Tschida**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 036 Lake Tschida

**Land Use Code:** 02

***Goal***

Flood control storage and providing water for irrigation is the primary purpose for Lake Tschida. Secondary benefits include recreation and fish and wildlife.

***Location***

The water behind Heart Butte Dam and is known as Lake Tschida.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities are swimming, boating, water skiing, fishing, ice fishing, and snowmobiling (on the lake only) in winter.

***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

***Facilities Inventory***

The glory hole is located in the southeast portion of the lake.

***Historical Background***

The lake was created by the construction of Heart Butte dam in 1949. The fishery is managed by the NDGF.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 036 Lake Tschida**

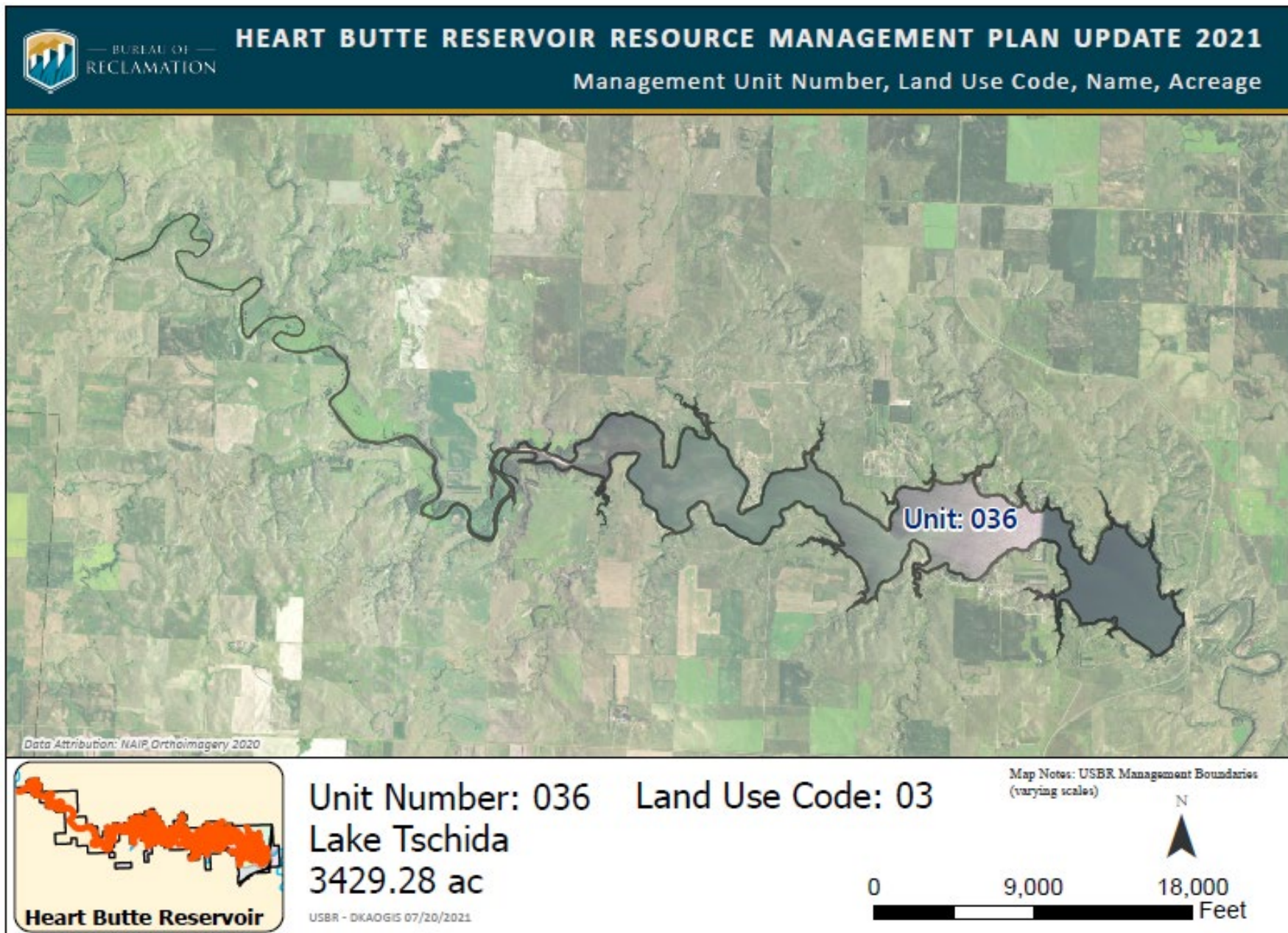
**2022-2026**

- The Reservoir will be managed in accordance with our authority.
- Reclamation will follow NDGF recommendations for fisheries.
- Dam repairs proposed from 2024-2026. Drawdown to begin in fall of 2024, with dam repairs proposed to occur in 2025 and 2026.

**Long range planning**

No long-range plans currently.





## Section 5.3 Multiple Use Units Management and Development

Land Use Code: 03

<b>MU 003</b>	<b>River Heights Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 005</b>	<b>Spillway Acres Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 011</b>	<b>Cross Roads Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 015</b>	<b>Schatz Creek Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 016</b>	<b>Sled Creek Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 019</b>	<b>Ackerman Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 020</b>	<b>Willow Bottoms Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 021</b>	<b>Winding Creek Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 022</b>	<b>Verworn Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 023</b>	<b>Far West Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 024</b>	<b>Schelles Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 026</b>	<b>Rattlesnake Bluffs Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 029</b>	<b>Crappie Creek Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 031</b>	<b>Swift Wildlife Area</b>
<b>MU 034</b>	<b>Downstream Wildlife Area</b>

### Environmental Commitments

Project revisions and project concepts that differ from those already considered under this Management Unit Packet will be considered under separate NEPA and NHPA compliance. Heart Butte Reservoir Manager must consult with DKAO Resources Division staff prior to altering approved project plans or amending approved project plans with additional project elements. Projects described in this Management Unit Packet that have not been considered under the Categorical Exclusion Checklist – DK-5000-21-35 or have been conceived following the completion of the Heart Butte RMP will be considered under separate NEPA analysis.

**MU 003 River Heights Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 003 River Heights Wildlife Area

**Land Use Code:** 03

**Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

**Location**

The area surrounds the headquarters located in the Southeast portion of the Reservoir public land boundary. 211.8 acres in Sections 13, 24 and 23 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

See map below for exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

Recreation use centers on bird watching and hunting. Some areas are used for grazing, haying and as a gravel pit.

**Vegetation**

This MU contains managed food plots, planted tree rows, tame grass plantings and native grass pasture. Several wooded draws run down to the Heart River, which passes along the east edge of the unit. These draws contain bur oak, chokecherry, buffalo berry and other native tree species. Leafy spurge has infested much of this unit.

**Facilities Inventory**

No additional facilities.

**Historical Background**

The MU has primarily been managed as a wildlife area. Food plots FP3A, FP3B and FP4 are located on the MU. The southwest corner of the MU contains an area of tame grass which is occasionally hayed. The northeast portion of the MU contains native pasture which is managed as part of a grazing program. This pasture also includes a gravel pit, where various sized rock and gravel is piled and stored. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 003 River Heights Wildlife Area**

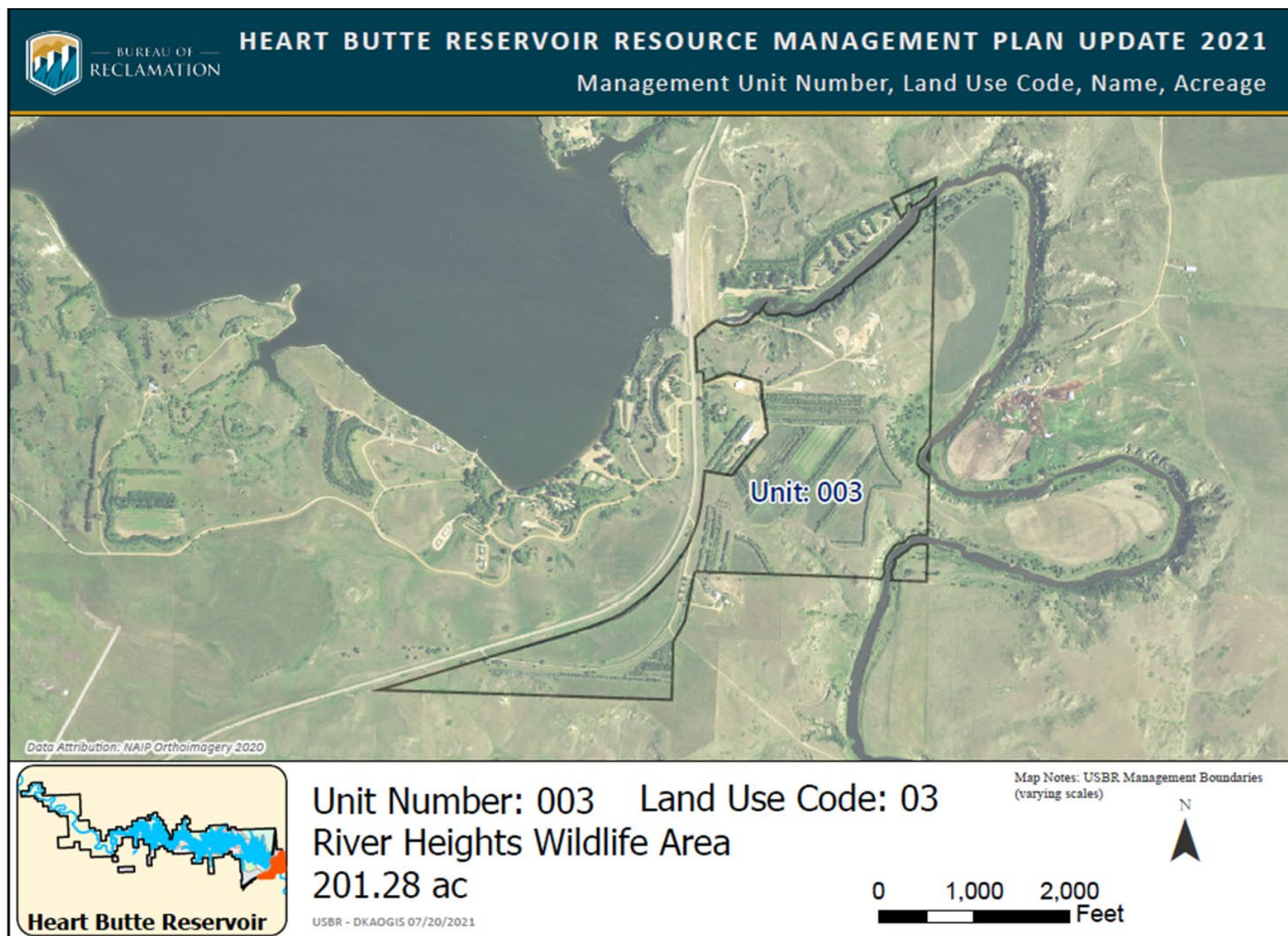
**2022-2025**

- No non-routine activities are planned.
- Continue noxious weed control operations.
- Continue the rotational grazing contract.
- Continue to plant food plots.
- Continue haying grass fields as needed.

**Long range planning**

- Continue noxious weed control operations.
- Continue the rotational grazing contract.
- Continue to plant food plots.
- Continue haying grass fields as needed.





**MU 005 Spillway Acres Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 005 Spillway Acres Wildlife Area

**Land Use Code:** 003

**Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

**Location**

The area encompasses the auxiliary spillway located in the southeast portion of the Reservoir public land boundary, bordered on the south by Highway 49.

459.3 acres in Sections 13, 14, 23 and 24 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting. Most of the area is hayed on a rotational basis.

**Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Leafy spurge can be found in scattered areas throughout the unit.

**Facilities inventory**

The auxiliary spillway is in the south east portion of the unit.

**Historical Background**

MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. Most of the MU has been hayed on an as needed basis to stimulate plant growth.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 005 Spillway Acres Wildlife Area**

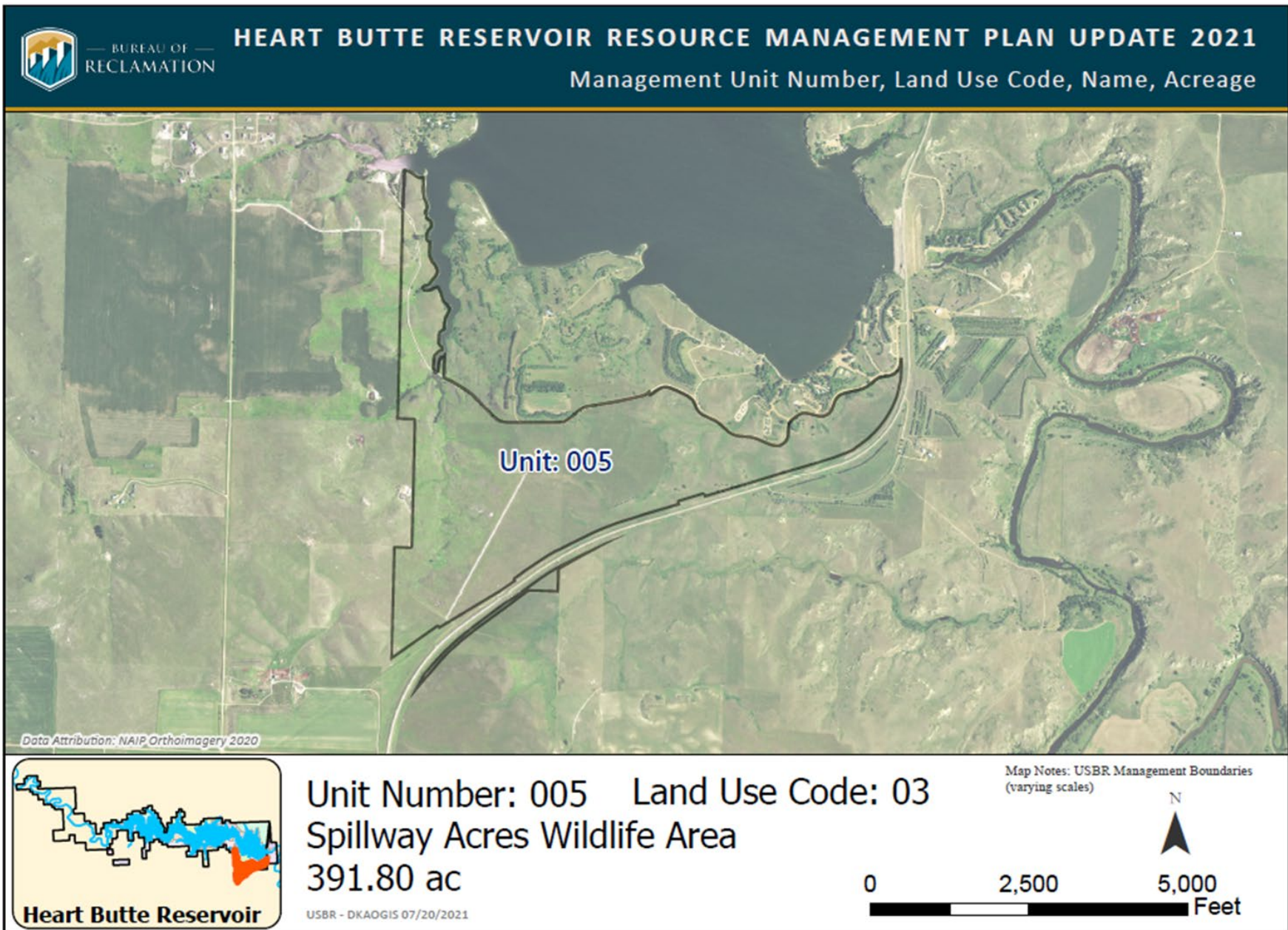
**2022-2025**

- Continue the haying permit (bid contract).
- Inspect and maintain the emergency spillway. Monitor and control noxious weeds.

**Long range planning**

- Continue the haying program. Monitor and control noxious weeds.
- Continue inspecting and maintaining the emergency spillway.
- Rimrock Campground could expand into this unit if recreation demands warrant.





**MU 011 Cross Roads Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 011 Cross Roads Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 03

***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

***Location***

The 178-acre area is located in the northeast portion of Section 15, the southeast portion of Section 10, the southwest portion of Section 11 and the northwest portion of Section 14 in T. 136 N., R. 89 W. MU 011 is bordered on the north by Heart Butte Reservoir and MU 010, on the east by Heart Butte Reservoir and MU's 007, 008, and 009, on the west by Heart Butte Reservoir and MU's 012, 013, and 014, and on the south by private land. Refer to the map below for an exact location.

***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, shore fishing and hunting.

***Vegetation***

This MU contains tree plantings, food plots, tame grass plantings and native grasses.

***Facilities Inventory***

A public boat landing is located just east of MU 012.

***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. It contains food plots FP6 and FP7 which are planted annually by Reclamation staff. Haying of grassland is conducted every three years to rejuvenate grasses.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 011 Cross Roads Wildlife Area**

**2022-2025**

- Continue planting food plots.
- Continue grasslands haying contract.
- Perform noxious weed control operations.

**Long range planning**

- Continue planting food plots.
- Continue grasslands haying contract.
- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.





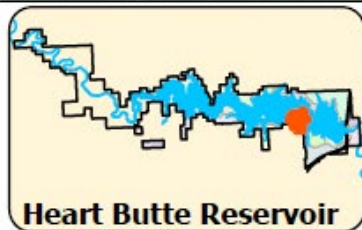
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 011    Land Use Code: 03  
Cross Roads Wildlife Area  
158.71 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0    1,000    2,000  
Feet

## **MU 015 Schatzs Creek Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 015 Schatzs Creek Wildlife Area

**Land Use Code:** 003

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The 180-acre area is located in Section 16 in T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### ***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

### ***Vegetation***

Native pasture and idle tame grass fields.

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Leafy spurge can be found throughout the unit.

Some Canada thistle can also be found along the creek.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

A parking area with walk-thru is located where the road crosses Schatzs creek.

Two stop-log water control structures exist along the creek, which create two small ponds.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU has a pasture which has been grazed in previous years, and mixed tame/native grasslands that have sat idle. The idle grass areas were fenced in 2012 and have been grazed since.

Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge.

Gall flies and stem weevils have been introduced to help control Canada thistle.



***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 015** Schatzs Creek Wildlife Area

**2022-2025**

- Continue rotational grazing contract.
- Continue noxious weed control operations.
- Maintain and operate water control structures.

**Long range planning**

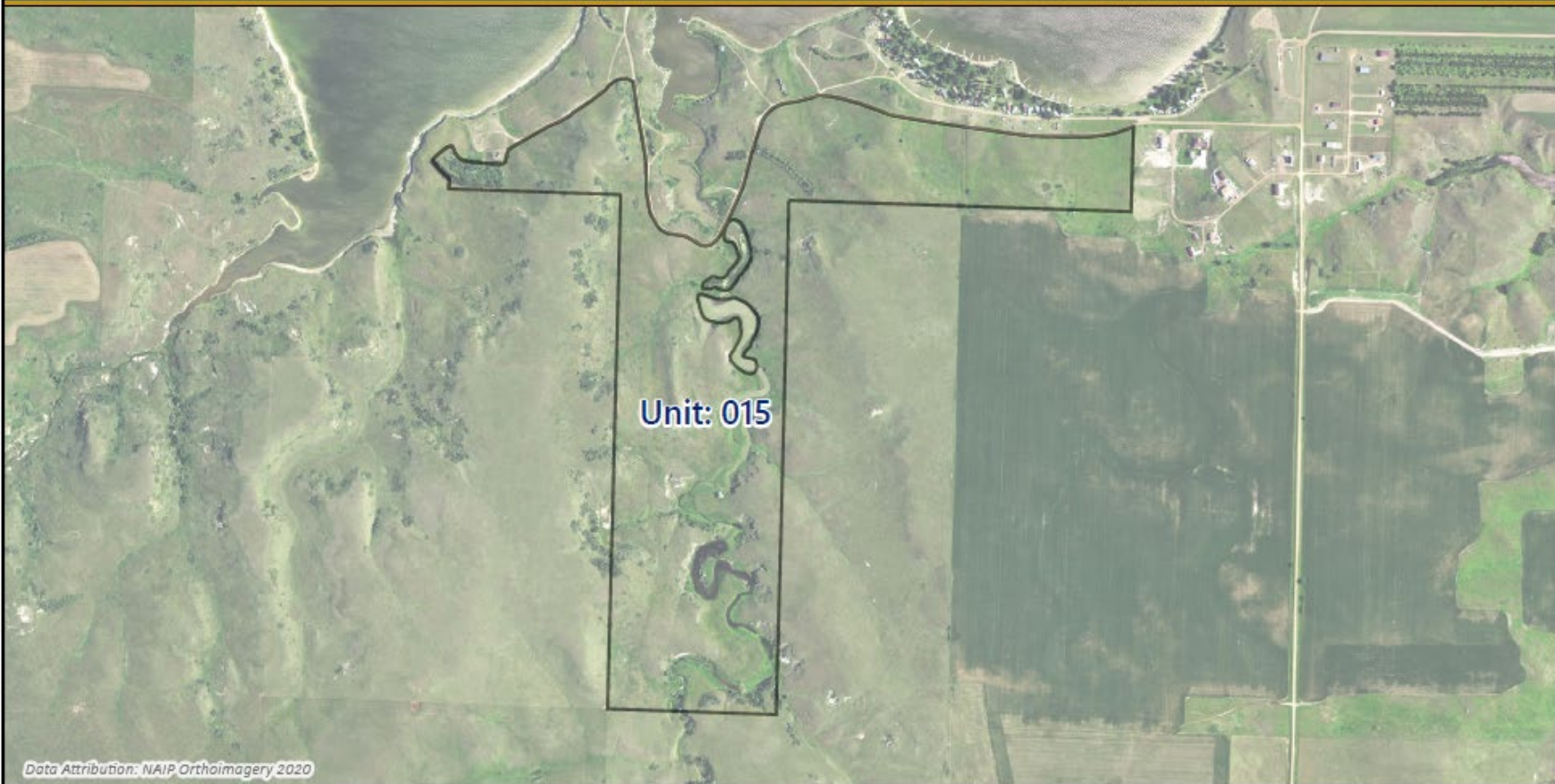
- Continue rotational grazing contract.
- Continue noxious weed control operations.
- Maintain and operate water control structures.



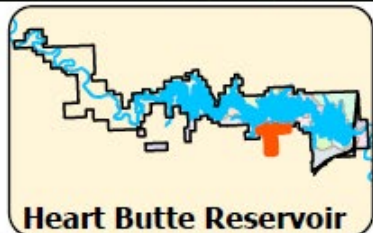
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Heart Butte Reservoir

Unit Number: 015    Land Use Code: 03  
Schatzs Creek Wildlife Area  
177.95 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0    1,000    2,000  
Feet

**MU 016 Sled Creek Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 016 Sled Creek Wildlife Area

**Land Use Code:** 03

***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

***Location***

The 320-acre area is located in Sections 16, 17 and 8 in T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below.

***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

***Vegetation***

Native pastures with idle mixed grass fields.

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Leafy spurge is found throughout the area.

***Facilities Inventory***

Two dikes with water control structures are located between the cabin area access road and the west boundary.

***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU is managed as part of a haying/grazing plan. In the past, the two ponds formed by the dikes were used as rearing ponds by the NDGF.

Leafy spurge flea beetles have been released into this area.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 016 Sled Creek Wildlife Area**

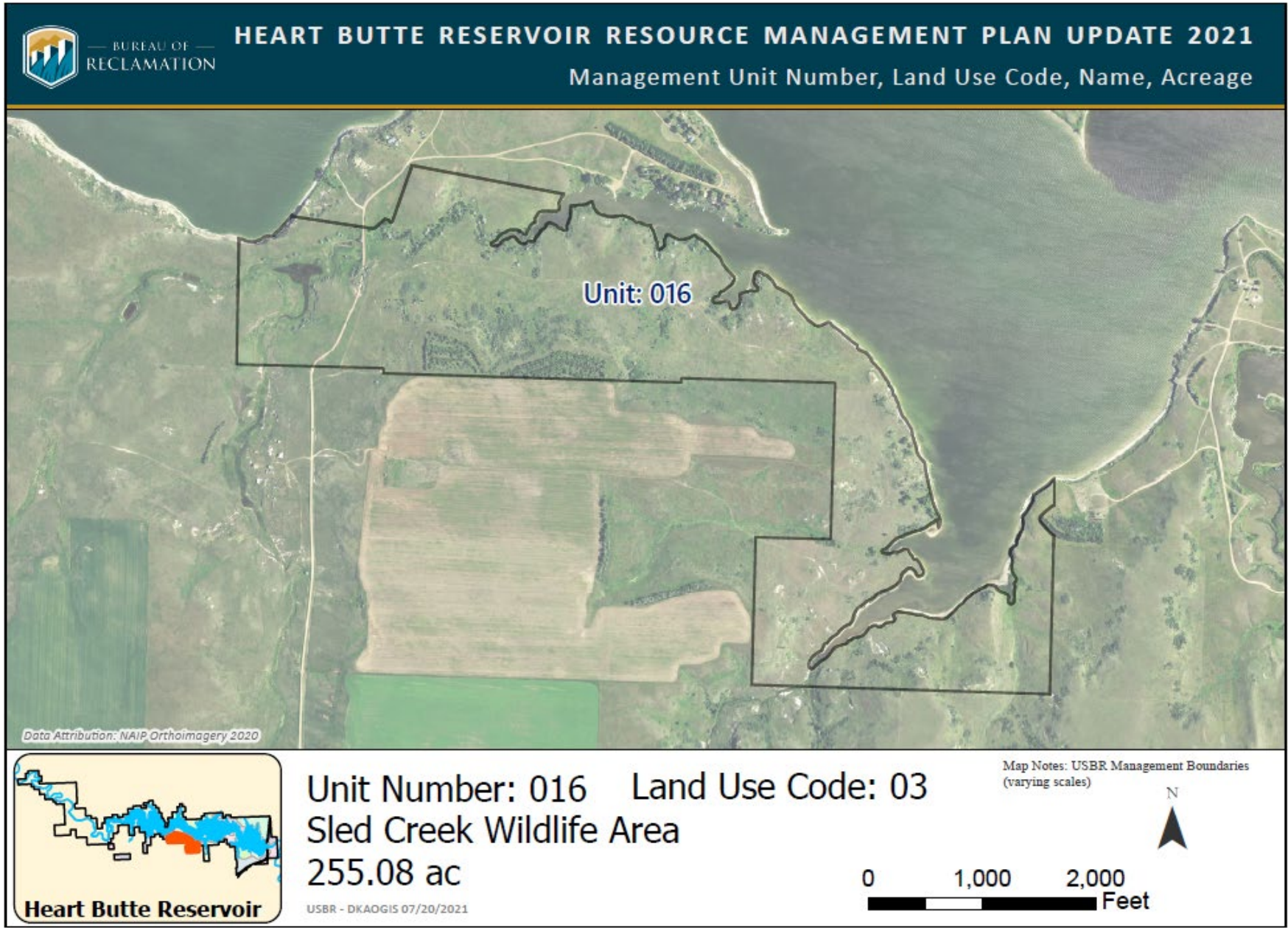
**2022-2025**

- Continue rotational grazing contract.
- Continue rotational haying permit.
- Continue noxious weed control operations.

**Long range planning**

- Continue rotational grazing contract and haying permit.
- Continue noxious weed control operations.





## **MU 019 Ackerman Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 019 Ackerman Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 03

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The 350-acre area is located in Sections 1, 12, and 13 in T. 136 N., R. 90 W. and Section 7, T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### ***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

### ***Vegetation***

Native grass pastures with wooded draws.

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Leafy spurge is found throughout the unit.

Food plot FP8 is in the SE corner of the unit.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

No additional facilities.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU has been grazed for many years and is now part of a rotational grazing management plan. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge. Food plot FP8 (0.8 ac.) was established in 2017. Two old washed out dikes in the drainage were restored in 2018 and hold water for wetland habitat.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 019 Ackerman Wildlife Area**

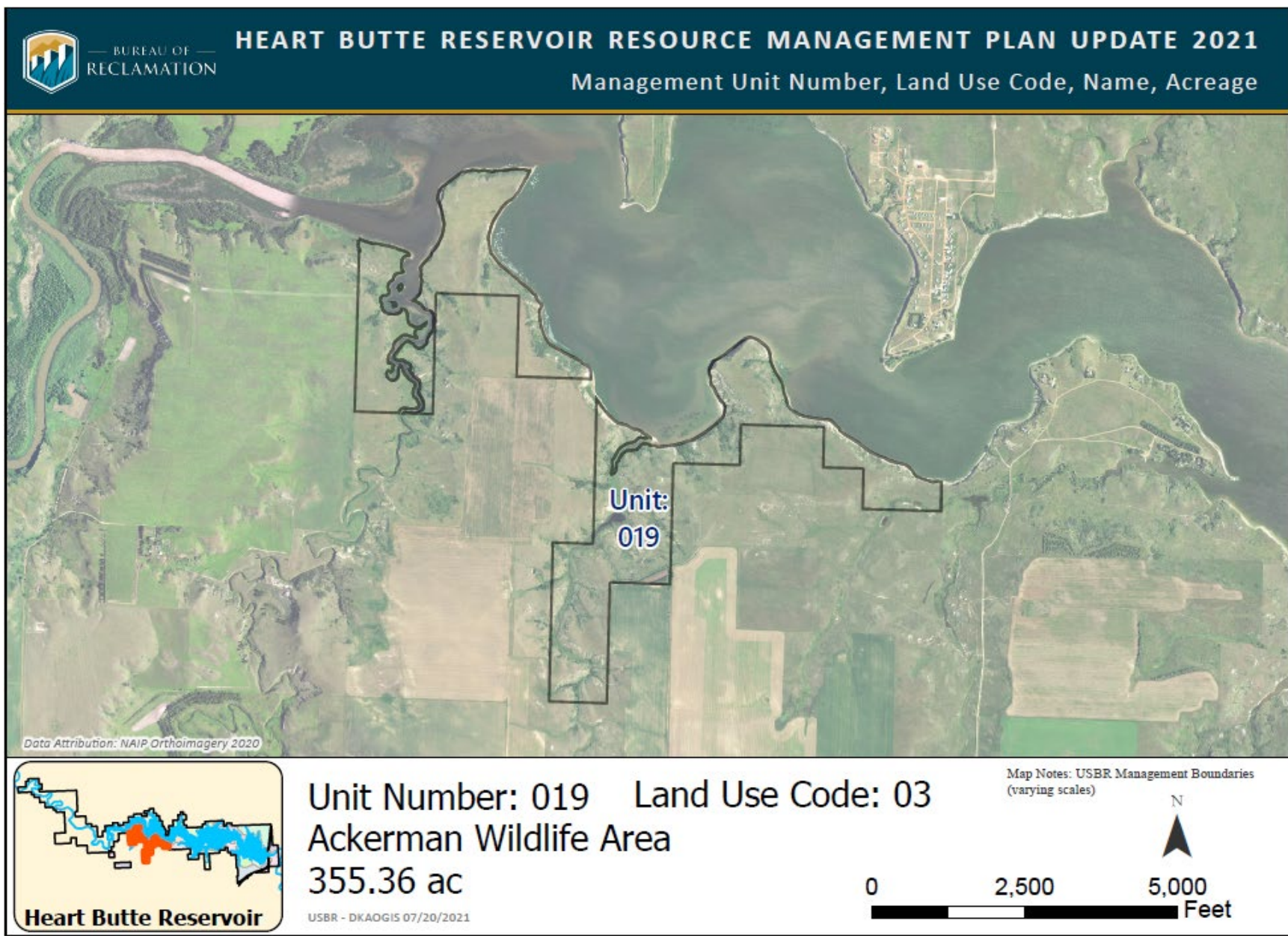
**2022-2025**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue rotational grazing program.
- Continue to plant FP8.

**Long range planning**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue rotational grazing program.
- Continue to plant FP8.
- Drainage may have potential for future dike construction and wetland creation.







## **MU 020 Willow Bottoms Wildlife Area**

Management Unit Number (MU): 020 Willow Bottoms Wildlife Area

Land Use Codes: 003

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The 201.2-acre area is located in Sections 2 and 11 in T. 136 N., R. 90 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### ***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, shore fishing, canoeing/kayaking, and hunting.

### ***Vegetation***

This MU contains a significant amount of riparian habitat along river bottom and native grasses with several woody draws in the uplands.

Food plots FP10, FP11A and FP11B are located on the tract. Leafy Spurge and Canada thistle is found throughout the unit.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

No additional facilities.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU has occasionally been grazed. Flea beetles have been introduced to control leafy spurge. Gall flies and stem weevils have been introduced to help control Canada thistle. FP11A and B were established in 2018 and are close enough to the river to irrigate if desired.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

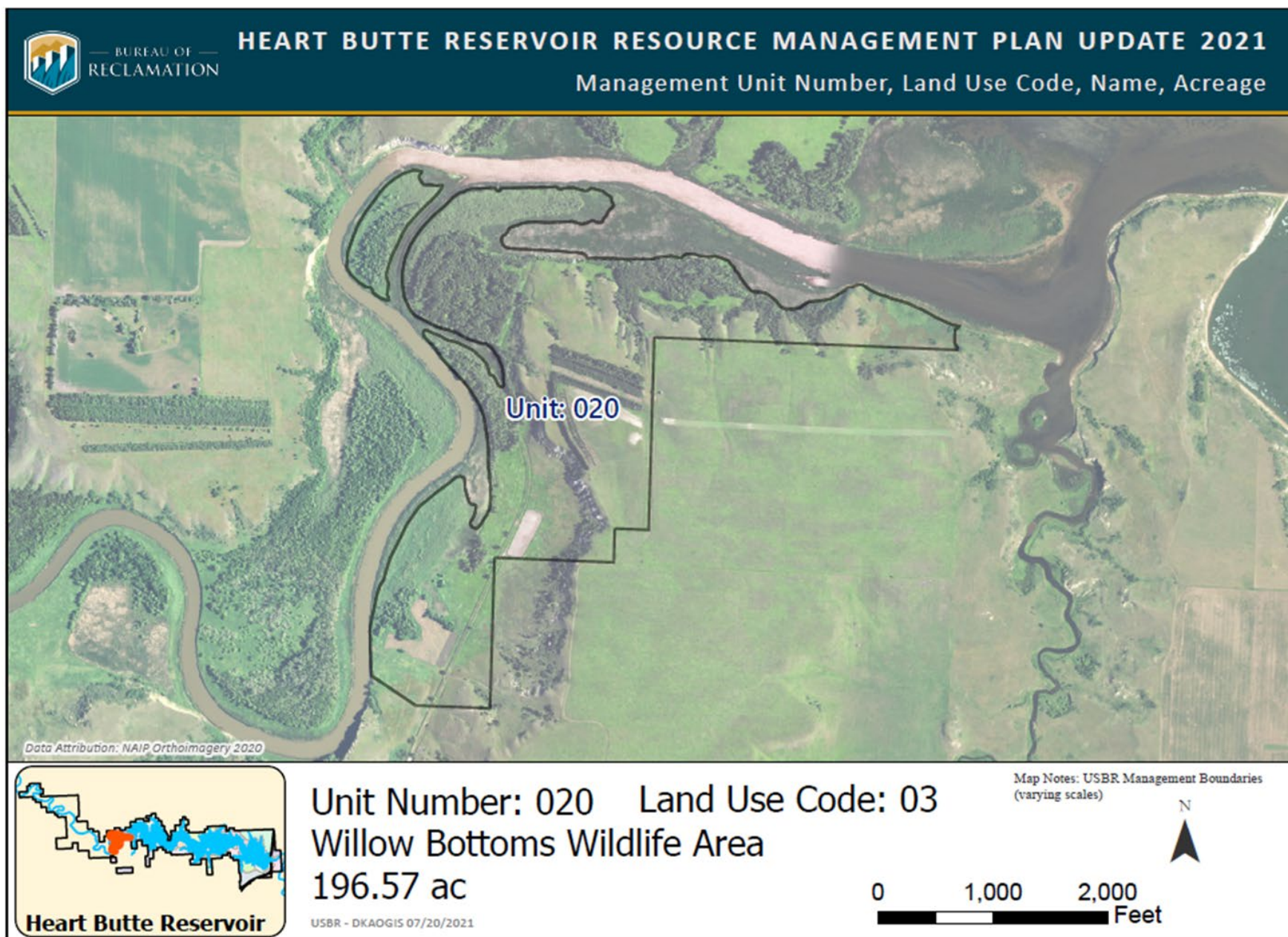
**MU 020 Willow Bottoms Wildlife Area**

**2022-2025**

- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue to plant food plots for wildlife.
- Irrigate FP11A and B if desired.

**Long range planning**

- Continue to plant food plots.
- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue to irrigate FP11A and B if desired.



**MU 021 Winding Creek Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 021 Winding Creek Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 003

**Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

**Location**

The 120-acre area is located in Section 14 in T. 136 N., R. 90 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

**Vegetation**

This MU contains native grasses with plentiful snowberry, chokecherry and buffalo berry. An old tree planting also exists in which many of the trees are dead or dying.

Four acres of addition trees were planted in 2009.

A 5-acre food plot (FP09) is also located west of the tree planting. Leafy spurge and Canada thistle can be found on the unit.

**Facilities Inventory**

A cross fence was constructed in 2012 along the east side of the old tree planting to allow grazing of the east 2/3 of the MU.

**Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU had sat idle for many years but is now managed as part of the rotational grazing program. The food plot is now being planted by Reclamation and left in its entirety for wildlife. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge.

## ***RMP Five Year Plan***

### **MU 021 Winding Creek Wildlife Area**

#### **2022-2025**

- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Graze the east 2/3 of the MU as part of the rotational grazing program.
- Reclamation will cultivate and plant food plot for wildlife unless a cooperator can be found.

#### **Long range planning**

- Continue planting food plot.
- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue to graze the east 2/3 of the MU as part of the rotational grazing program.
- Creek may have potential for wetland creation by constructing dikes.

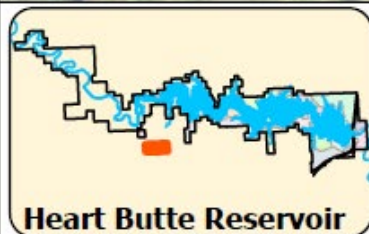




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## HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Unit Number: 021    Land Use Code: 03  
Winding Creek Wildlife Area  
121.03 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0                      600                      1,200  
Feet

## **MU 022 Verworn Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 022 Verworn Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 003

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The 38-acre area is located in the northwest corner of Section 14 in T. 136 N., R. 90 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### ***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

### ***Vegetation***

A couple rows of evergreen trees exist along the east boundary of the unit and a significant number of buffalo berry patches are also scattered throughout the tract.

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Leafy spurge and Canada thistle can be found on the unit.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

No additional facilities.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU has sat idle for many years but could be managed as part of a rotational grazing program. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge. A dugout exists in the SW corner of the area but doesn't always hold water.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 022** Verworn Wildlife Area

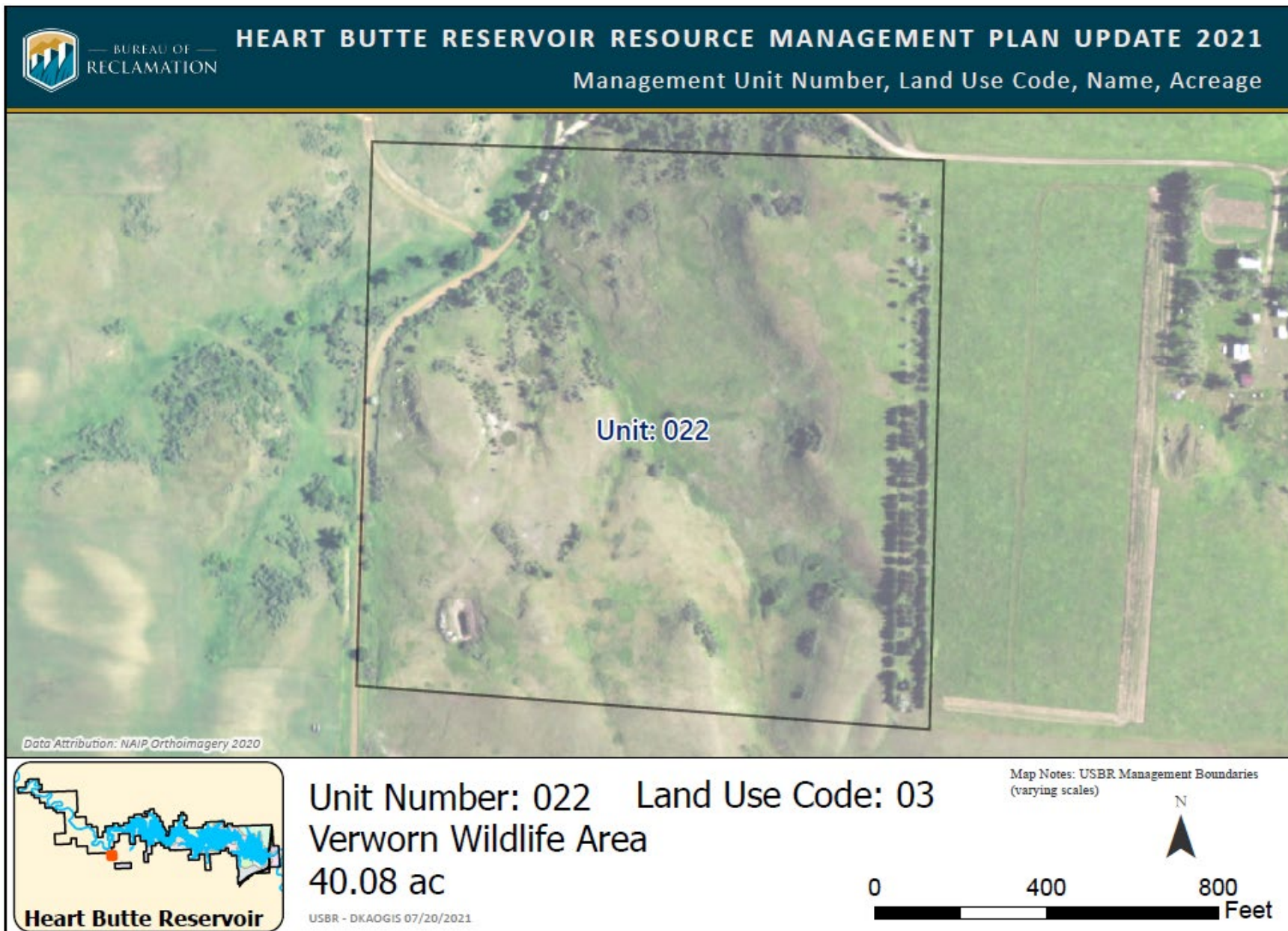
**2022-2025**

- Perform noxious weed control operations.

**Long range planning**

- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Attempt to have a local rancher graze the unit once every few years.





**MU 023 Far West Wildlife Area****Management Unit Number (MU):** 023**Land Use Codes:** 03***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

***Location***

The 2,687-acre area is located in Sections 10, 9, 8, 4, and 3 in T. 136 N., R. 90 W. as well as Sections 27, 28, 33, 34 and 35 in T137 N., R. 90 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, river fishing, canoeing/kayaking, and hunting.

***Vegetation***

This MU contains food plots, tree plantings, and some idle grasslands, as well as native grassland pastures.

Numerous woody draws extend along drainages to the river. Cottonwood and willow are numerous along the river.

Woody draws are made up of buffalo berry, chokecherry, hawthorn, green ash, etc. A small aspen grove is located south of the river in Section 4.

Leafy spurge and some Canada thistle infest the area.

***Facilities Inventory***

A dike with water control structure is located along the river in Section 10 and creates "willow pond". Two other dikes in drainages create wetland habitat. Beavers also occasionally build dams and create ponds in the various drainages coming into the river.

***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. Most of the MU is grazed as part of the rotational grazing program. Food plots FP12, FP13, and FP14 located within the unit and are planted annually by Reclamation staff. Fishermen frequent various spots along the river. Flea beetles have been introduced throughout the MU to help control leafy spurge.

Gall flies and stem weevils were introduced in several sites to help control Canada thistle.

## ***RMP Five Year Plan***

### **MU 023 Far West Wildlife Area**

#### **2022-2025**

- Continue rotational grazing contracts.
- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue planting food plots.
- Maintain tree plantings as needed.

#### **Long range planning**

- Monitor and make any necessary changes to grazing program.
- Continue planting food plots.
- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Check boundary fences and signs and replace as needed.
- Look for any potential wetland restoration/construction opportunities.
- Maintain roads/trails within the unit and improve as necessary.

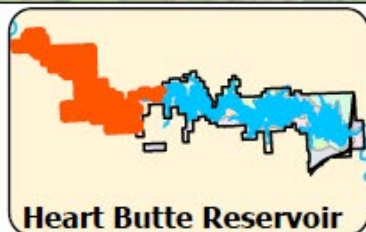
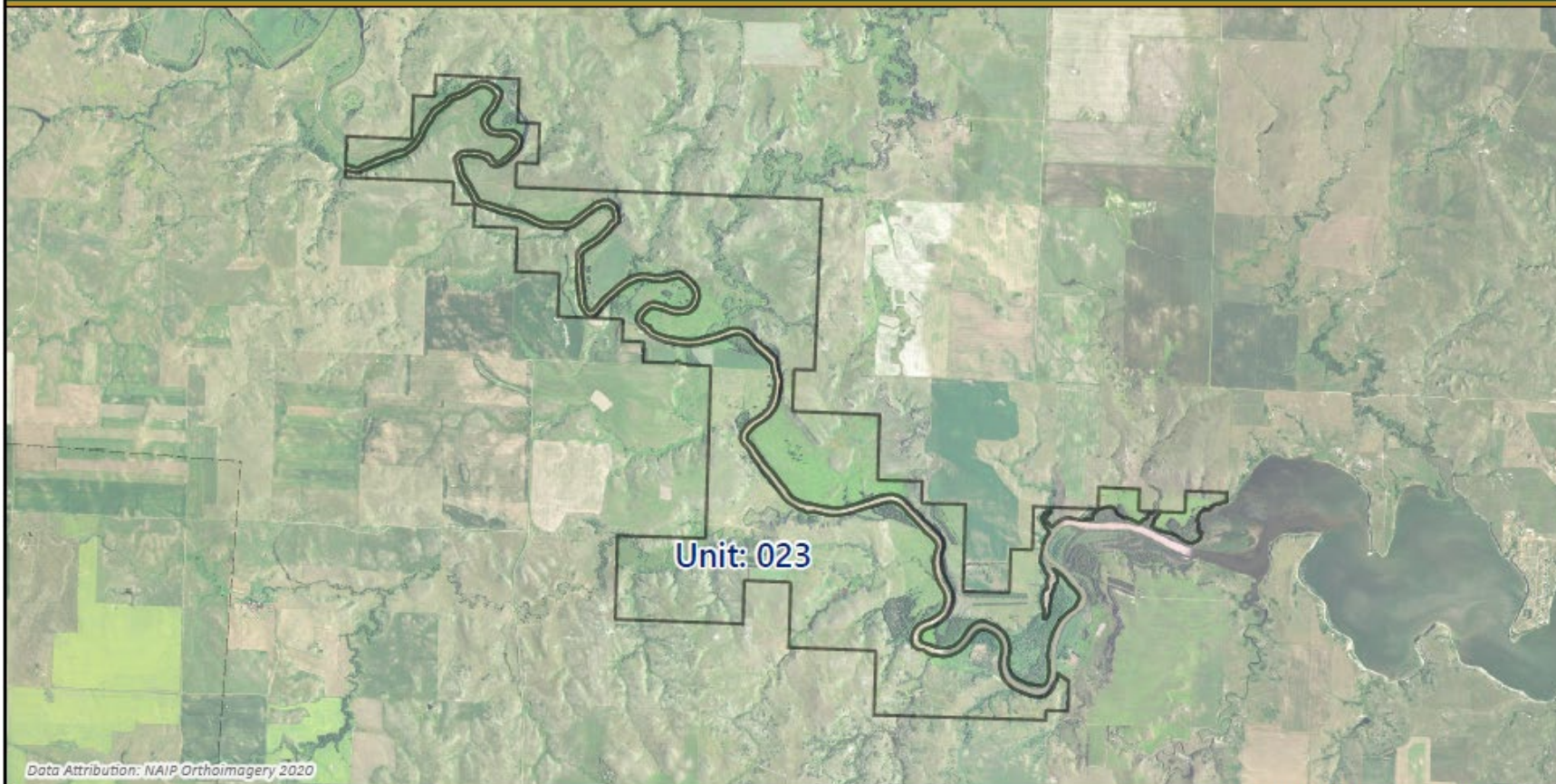




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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

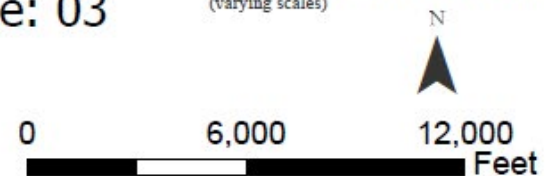
Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Unit Number: 023 Land Use Code: 03  
Far West Wildlife Area  
3074.27 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



## **MU 024 Schelles Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 024 Schelles Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 003

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

### ***Location***

The 298-acre area is located in Section 1 of T. 136 N., R. 90 W. and Sections 6 and 7 in T. 136 N., R. 89W. Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### ***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on camping, bird watching, hiking, shore fishing, and hunting.

### ***Vegetation***

This MU contains a food plot and two tree plantings.

Uplands are a mixture of native and tame grasses.

A heavily wooded drainage comes in from the north which contains cottonwood, bur oak, green ash and various brushy species.

Scattered buffalo berry patches can also be found in the unit. Leafy spurge and Canada thistle are found on the unit.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

No additional facilities.

### ***Historical Background***

This area was occasionally used by campers years ago but is now managed primarily as a wildlife area. Shoreline fishing also remains popular. The MU is managed as part of the rotational grazing program. The food plot was idle for many years but is now being maintained by Reclamation. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge. Canada thistle control gall flies and stem weevils were released in this area in 2009.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 024 Schelles Wildlife Area**

**2022-2025**

- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue the grazing contract.
- Continue to plant the food plot.
- Continue maintaining access to shoreline fishing areas.

**Long range planning**

- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue grazing contract.
- Continue to plant the food plot.
- Continue maintaining access to shoreline fishing areas.





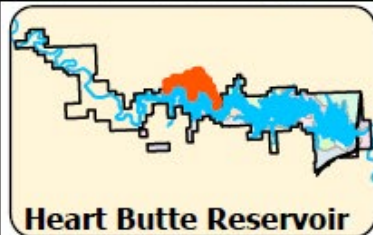
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## HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



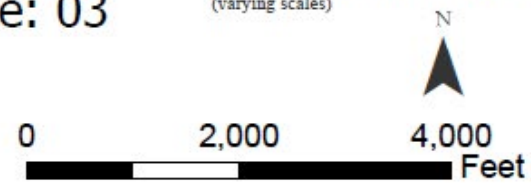
Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 024    Land Use Code: 03  
Schelles Point Wildlife Area  
299.10 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)





**MU 026 Rattlesnake Bluffs Wildlife Area**

Management Unit Number (MU): 026

Land Use Codes: 03

**Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

**Location**

The 427-acre area is in Sections 3, 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 9 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, shore fishing and hunting.

**Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3. Some areas of leafy spurge exist on the unit.

**Facilities Inventory**

No additional facilities.

**Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge. Many steep bluffs occur along the lake shoreline. Additional fence was constructed in 2010 so that the entire unit can be grazed (except for the recreation area).

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 026 Rattlesnake Bluffs Wildlife Area**

**2022-2025**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue rotational grazing program.

**Long range planning**

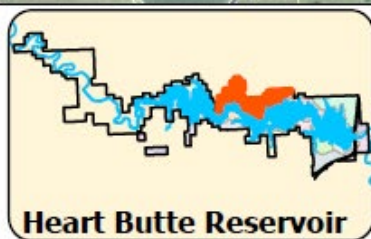
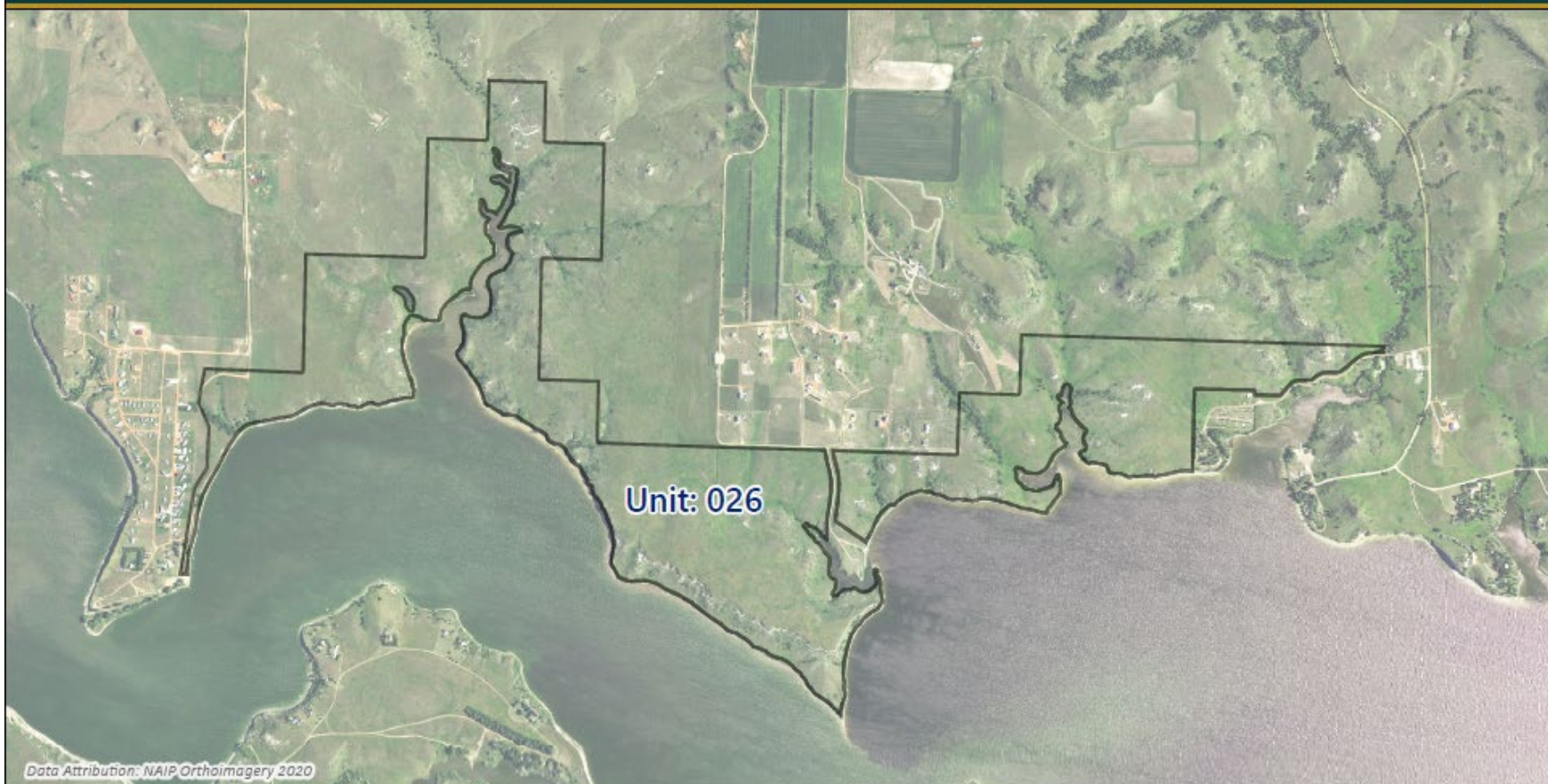
- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue rotational grazing program.
- Some lands adjacent to the Crappie Creek Recreation Area and Rattlesnake Point Recreation Area could be used for additional campground areas, if expansion is ever warranted.



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## HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Unit Number: 026    Land Use Code: 03  
Rattlesnake Bluffs Wildlife Area  
438.99 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0      2,000      4,000  
Feet

**MU 029 Crappie Creek Wildlife Area**

**Management Units Number (MU):** 029 Crappie Creek Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 003

***Goal***

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

***Location***

The 42-acre area is located in Section 3 and 10 in T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

***Recreation and Use***

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

***Vegetation***

This MU contains a mixture of native/tame idle grasslands. See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

This MU does contain some leafy spurge and Canada thistle.

***Facilities Inventory***

No additional facilities.

***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area.

Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 029** Crappie Creek Wildlife Area

**2022-2025**

- Perform noxious weed control operations as needed.

**Long range planning**

- Perform noxious weed control operations as needed.
- Potential to fence and graze portions of the area or hay the area.





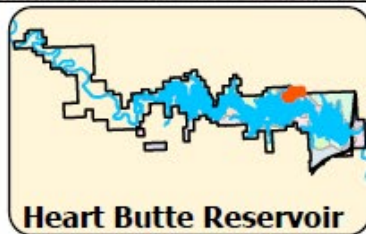
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 029    Land Use Code: 03  
Crappie Creek Wildlife Area  
41.91 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0                      500                      1,000  
Feet

**MU 031 Swift Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 031 Swift Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 003

**Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

**Location**

This 412-acre area is located in Sections 10, 11, and 12 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

**Vegetation**

Native pasture.

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Several older and newer tree plantings are in the unit.

Food plots FP1 (7 ac) and FP2 (4 ac) are located within the unit.

Some leafy spurge can be found in unit.

**Facilities Inventory**

A private stock water tank is located in pasture #1. It is fed by an underground line running from the private property to the north.

**Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The MU has been grazed for many years and is included in a rotational grazing program. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge. The access road to trailer areas 1 and 2 runs through the unit.



## ***RMP Five Year Plan***

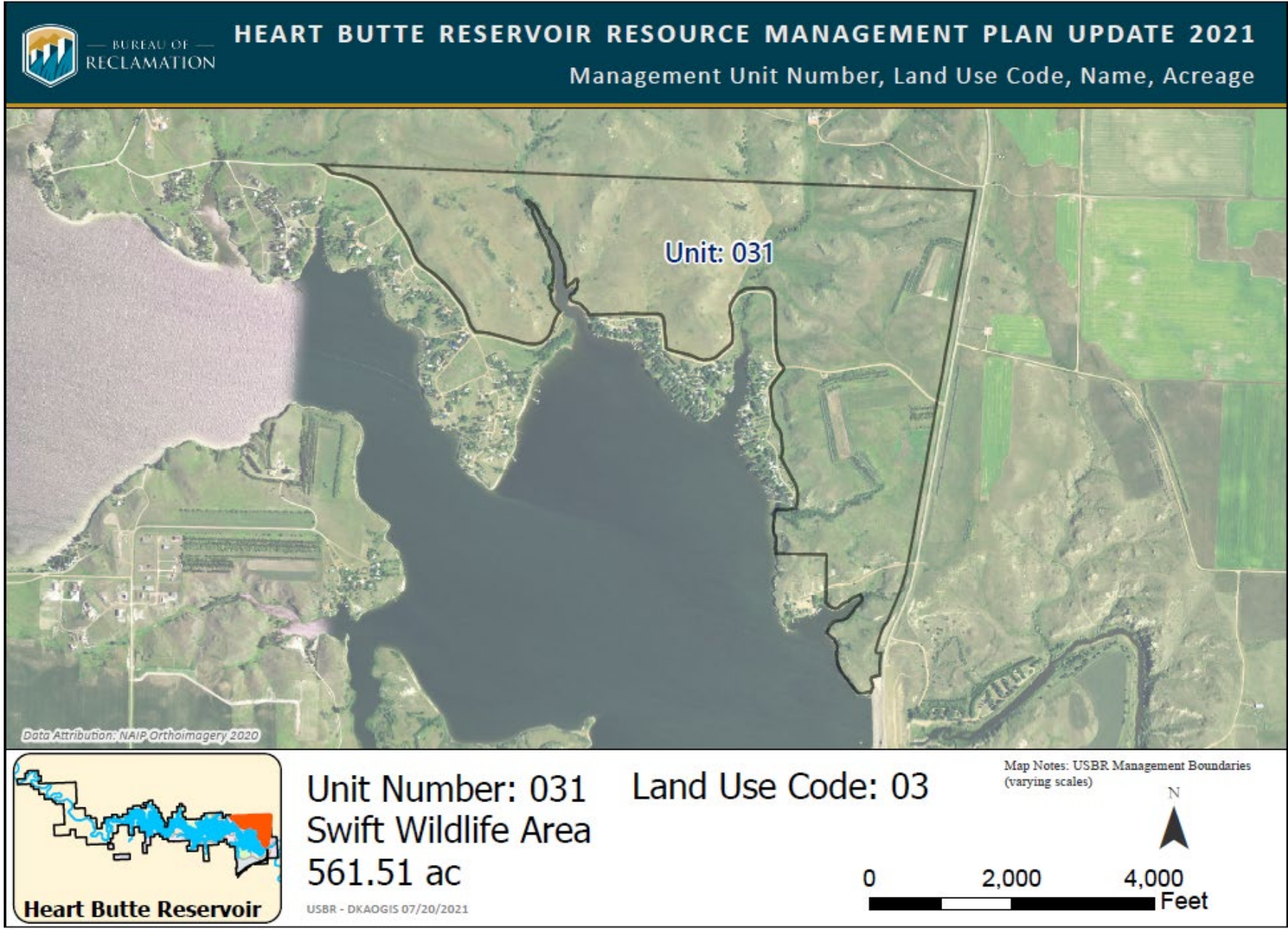
### **MU 031 Swift Wildlife Area**

#### **2022-2025**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue the rotational grazing program.
- Continue to plant food plots.

#### **Long range planning**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue the rotational grazing program.
- Continue to plant food plots.
- Consider constructing a public road to connect Trailer Area 2 to Cabin Area 3 to provide a shorter distance and safer access compared to traveling Highway 49.
  - If access road is constructed, some fence in pastures 2 and 3 would have to be relocated.



**MU 034 Downstream Wildlife Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 034 Downstream Wildlife Area

**Land Use Codes:** 003

**Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities

**Location**

The 132-acre area is located in Sections 12 and 13 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

Recreation use centers on bird watching, hiking, and hunting.

**Vegetation**

Native pasture and tame grass plantings.

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

Some leafy spurge is found in the MU.

**Facilities Inventory**

No additional facilities.

**Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a wildlife area. The south half of the MU has been grazed and is now part of a rotational grazing program. The north half was a crop share food plot but was planted to grasses (DNC) in 2007 and is now hayed every third year. Flea beetles have been introduced to help control leafy spurge. Several bluebird houses have been erected and are being maintained by the Downstream campground host.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**MU 034 Downstream Wildlife Area**

**2022-2025**

- Continue rotational grazing program.
- Continue haying contract.
- Perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue bluebird house program.

**Long range planning**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.
- Continue haying contract.
- Continue rotational grazing program.





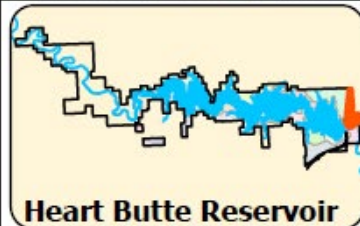
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



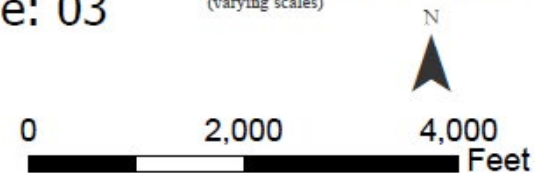
Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 034    Land Use Code: 03  
Downstream Wildlife Area  
116.69 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



## Section 5.4 Group Use Units Management and Development

Land Use Code: 04

<b>MU 006</b>	<b>Boy Scouts Area</b>
<b>MU 007</b>	<b>Carson Wildlife Club</b>
<b>MU 008</b>	<b>Elgin Lions Club</b>
<b>MU 010</b>	<b>Farmers Union Camp</b>
<b>MU 012</b>	<b>Prairie Learning Center</b>

### Environmental Commitments

Project revisions and project concepts that differ from those already considered under this Management Unit Packet will be considered under separate NEPA and NHP A compliance. Heart Butte Reservoir Manager must consult with DKAO Resources Division staff prior to altering approved project plans or amending approved project plans with additional project elements. Projects described in this Management Unit Packet that have not been considered under the Categorical Exclusion Checklist – DK-5000-21-35 or have been conceived following the completion of the Heart Butte RMP will be considered under separate NEPA analysis.

## **MU 006 Boy Scouts Area**

**Management Unit Number (MU) :**006 Boy Scouts Area

**Land Use Codes:** 04

### **Goal**

To manage the unit's land and vegetation to provide a diversity of wildlife and their associated habitat; this in turn provides public recreation opportunities.

### **Location**

The area is located in the southeast portion of the Reservoir public land boundary, bordered on the north and west by Heart Butte Reservoir and the south and east by MU 005 (Spillway Acres Wildlife Area).

179.6 acres of Section 14 in T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

### **Recreation and Use**

The entire area, with the exception of an approximately 10-acre area immediately east of the main lodge, will be open to the general public when scouting activities are not scheduled. The 10-acre tract will be reserved for small scout group activities without the need to schedule through Reclamation.

Public use includes bird watching, camping, hiking, and shore fishing. The area is closed to hunting. Mature tree shelterbelts and planted wildlife food plots provide cover and food for resident wildlife, throughout the winter months.

Portions of the area requiring ground cover maintenance and litter removal may be contracted out to local landowners for grazing, and/or haying.

### **Vegetation**

This MU contains a managed food plot and tree rows. Leafy spurge is abundant in this unit and attempts to control leafy spurge through biological controls are ongoing.

### **Facilities Inventory**

Boy Scouts of America (BSA) facilities include a main lodge, storage building, chapel, archery range, several shelters and outhouses. ADA fishing pier and vault toilets are available for use by the public in this unit.

### **Historical Background**

An agreement to permit BSA activities was issued by the North Dakota Game and Fish Department, the managing agency at that time, on April 23, 1957. It was a 24-year lease of 200 acres for \$1.00 per year. Beginning Jan.1, 1979 the area was permitted between BSA and Reclamation. Five-year contracts for \$100.00 have been issued with no annual fee.

The MU was originally managed primarily for organized Boy Scouts activities. Public use of the area, with the exception of an approximately 10-acre area immediately east of the main lodge, has been



permitted since mid-1990's when adjacent camping areas became overcrowded, especially during the Memorial Day and Labor Day holiday weekends.

The area also serves as a wildlife shelter as no hunting is permitted.

Extreme noxious weed infestation, primarily leafy spurge, has been controlled biologically with flea beetles in conjunction with spraying by Reclamation staff.

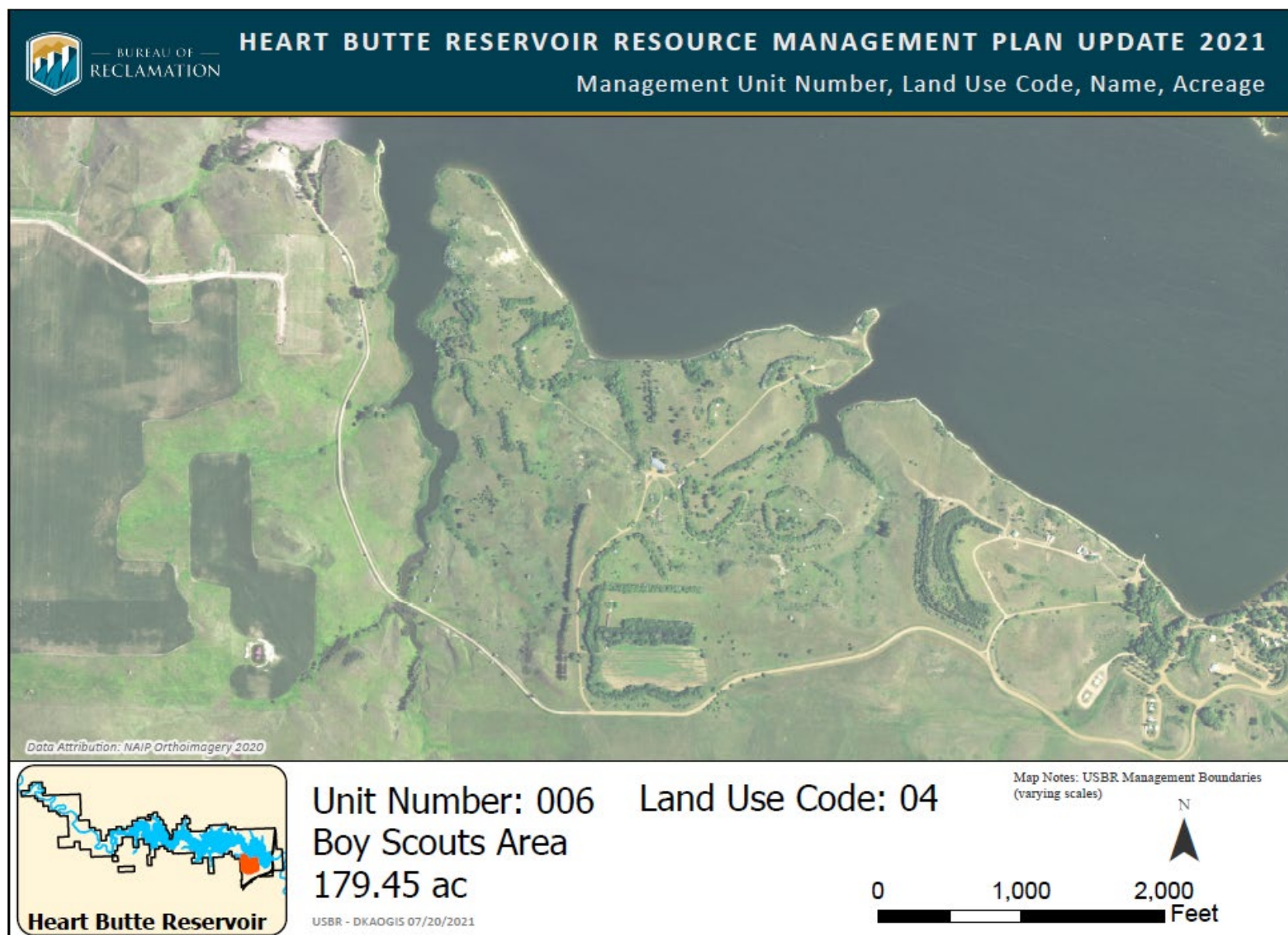
The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA) became a managing partner in 2010, renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA) and took over recreation (group use) management responsibilities.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 006: Boy Scouts Area****2022-2025**

- Continue the haying permit that exchanges haying for planting wildlife food plots on public land.
- Review permit renewal for best use of area currently included in permit.
  - If areas are under-utilized, there is potential for future development (likely on the western portion of the Boy Scouts Area), away from Boy Scout Facilities.
- Reclamation and JJDA staff will inspect the site annually for permit compliance, which includes safety related measures since this is a publicly used facility. Any project applications will be reviewed and approved by JJDA and Reclamation.
- Perform noxious weed control operations.

**Long range planning**

- Continue to perform noxious weed control operations.



**MU 007 Carson Wildlife Club**

Management Unit Number (MU): 007

Land Use Codes: 04

**Goal**

The permittee shall continue to provide open membership public recreation opportunities at the site.

**Location**

The 4.1-acre area is located in the northeast portion of Section 15, T. 136 N., R. 89 W. MU 007 is bordered on the north by Heart Butte Reservoir, on the west and south by MU 011, and on the east by MU 005.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

The primary use of the premises is for organized group activities. The permittee shall maintain an open membership policy granting short term use of the area to other individuals. Members shall pay a fee, to use the electricity and constructed facilities. Camping and shore fishing are two main uses at the site.

**Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

**Facilities Inventory**

Permitted facilities include:

- Two shelters,
- an outhouse (needing to be updated),
- fire rings,
- electrical hookups, and boat ramps.

There are no additional Reclamation facilities in this unit.

**Historical Background**

An agreement was first permitted January 20, 1977 between the Carson Wildlife Club and the Department to use 8 acres for group use activities at \$75.00 per year. Reclamation began issuing the permit on January 1, 1979. The use fee in 2006 was \$145.00 per year. The use acreage for the permitted site was reduced to 4.1 acres in 2006 and the future use fee will be reduced to \$90.00.

The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA) became a managing partner in 2010, renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development (TCJJDA) and took over recreation (group use) management responsibilities.

**RMP Five Year Plan**

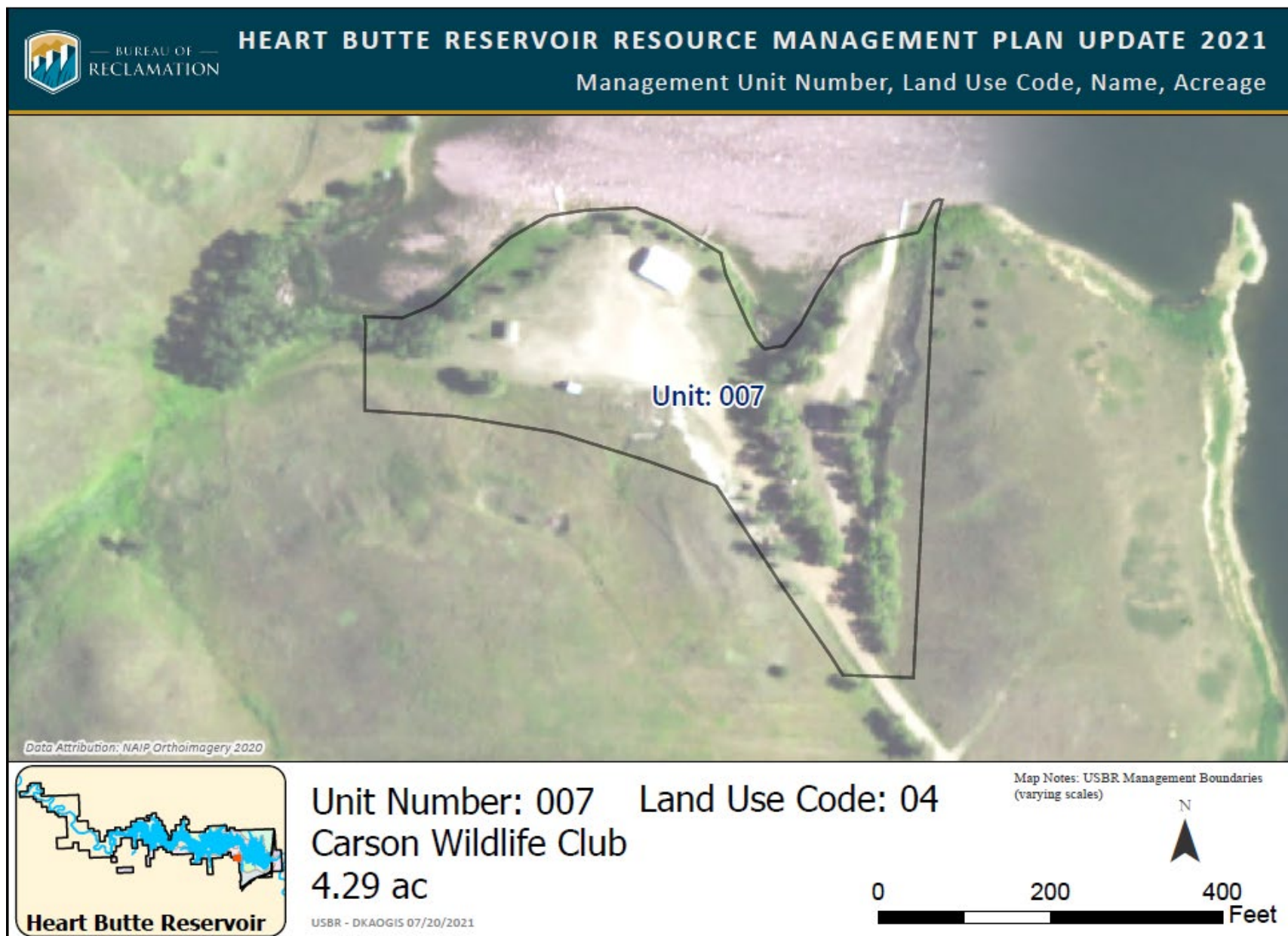
**MU 007: Carson Wildlife Club**

**2022 - 2025**

- Reclamation and TCJJDA will conduct a permit compliance inspection each year to ensure public safety. Any project applications will be reviewed and approved by TCJJDA and Reclamation.
- Permit compliance inspections would include reviewing proper use of the facility required under the permit agreement.
- Update outhouse facility so that it meets the standards of Reclamation and TCJJDA.
- Install ADA compliant fishing pier.

**Long range planning**

- Potential for installing shoreline trail to be connected to Elgin Lions group use area and Hawebesi Recreation Area



**MU 008 Elgin Lions Club**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 008 Elgin Lions Club

**Lands Use Code:** 04

**Goal**

The permittee shall continue to provide open membership public recreation opportunities at the site.

**Location**

The 2.6-acre area is located in the northeast portion of Section 14, T. 136 N., R. 89 W. MU 008 is bordered on the north by MU 009, on the east and south by Heart Butte Reservoir and on the west by MU 011.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

**Recreation and Use**

The primary use of the premises is for organized group activities. The permittee shall maintain an open membership policy granting short term use of the area to other individuals. Members shall pay a fee, to use the electricity and constructed facilities. Camping and shore fishing are two main uses at the site.

**Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

**Facilities Inventory**

Permitted facilities include:

- two shelters,
- ADA restroom,
- boat landing with dock, and
- electrical hookups.

There are no additional Reclamation facilities in this unit.

**Historical Background**

An agreement was first permitted January 20, 1977 between the Elgin Lions Club and the Bureau of Reclamation to use 5 acres for group use activities at \$75.00 per year.

Reclamation began issuing the permit on January 1, 1979. The use fee in 2006 was \$90.00 per year. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA) became a managing partner in 2010, renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Developmental Authority (TCJJDA), and took over recreation (group use) management responsibilities.



***RMP Five Year Plan***

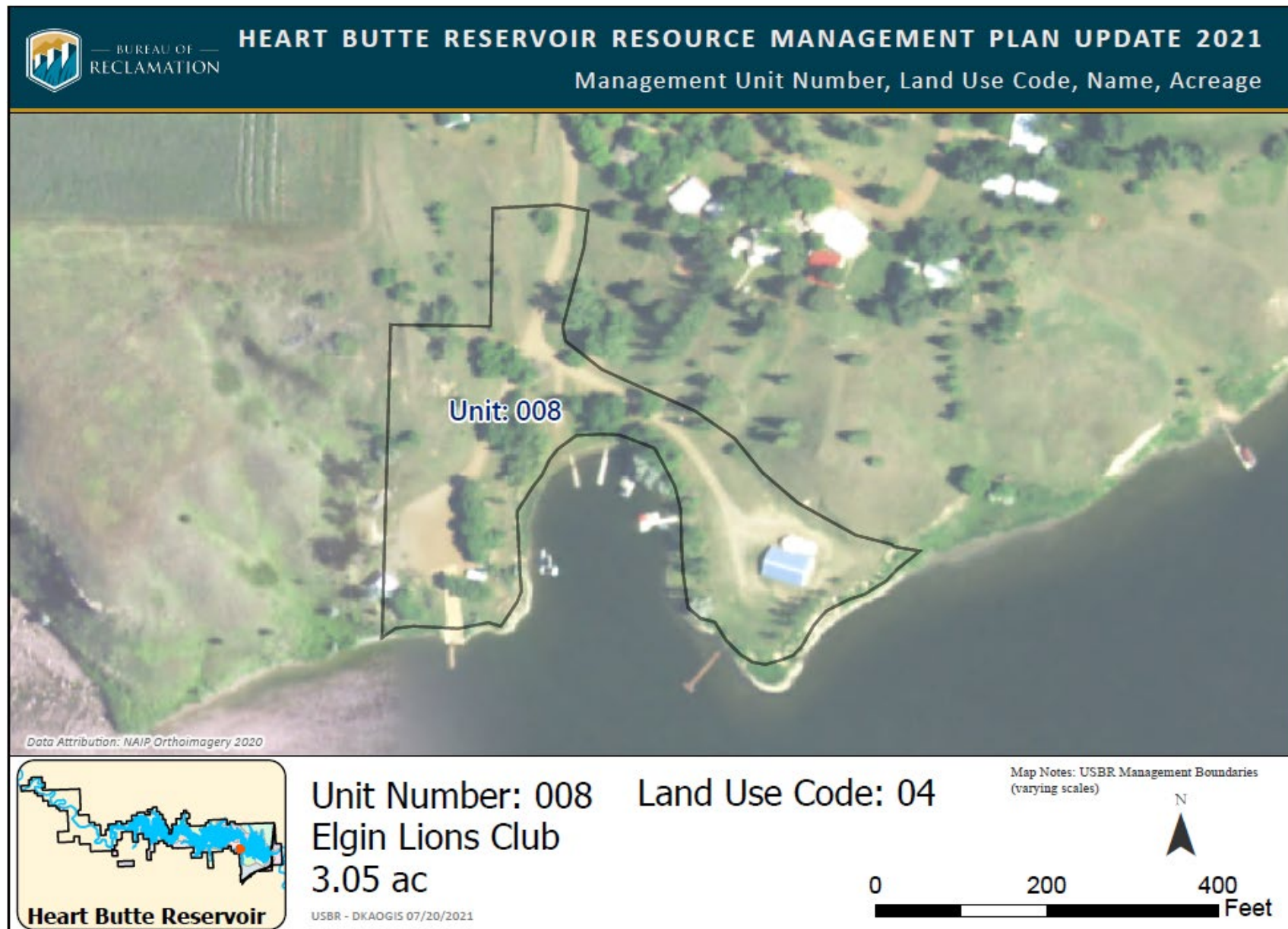
**MU 008 Elgin Lions Club**

**2022-2025**

- Reclamation and TCJJDA will conduct a permit compliance inspection each year to ensure public safety. Any project applications will be reviewed and approved by TCJJDA and Reclamation.
- Potential for development is minimal; however, some land is available for future development if warranted.

**Long Range Planning**

- Reclamation and TCJJDA will conduct a permit compliance inspection each year to ensure public safety. Any project applications will be reviewed and approved by TCJJDA and Reclamation.



## **MU 010 Farmers Union Camp**

### **Management Unit Numbers (MU): 010**

**Land Use Codes:** 04

#### **Goal**

The permittee shall continue to provide open membership public recreation opportunities at the site.

#### **Location**

The 17-acre unfenced area is located in the southeast portion of Section 10, T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

MU 010 is bordered on the north by Heart Butte Reservoir and on the remainder by MU 011.

Refer to the map below for an exact location.

#### **Recreation and Use**

The primary use of the premises is for organized youth activities. The permittee provides an organized summer camp for youth. Camping, volleyball, basketball, softball, miniature golf, swimming and shore fishing are a few of the activities available. The permittee is allowed to charge others to use its facilities and electricity.

#### **Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

#### **Facilities Inventory**

Permitted facilities includes:

- two bunkhouses,
- a counselor's cabin,
- mess hall,
- garage and
- storage shed.

There are no Reclamation facilities in this unit.

#### **Historical Background**

There is no known record of the first permitted agreement between the Farmers Union Camp and the NDGF. Reclamation began issuing the permit on January 1, 1979, for group use activities at \$75.00 per year. The use fee in 2006 was \$160. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA) became a managing partner in 2010, renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA) and took over recreation (group use) management responsibilities.

The area is operated as a summer camp for youth from across the entire state of North Dakota. The general public has access to the shoreline through the area.

***RMP Five Year Plan***

**Unit 010** Farmers Union Camp

**2022 -2025**

- Reclamation and TCJDA will conduct a permit compliance inspection each year to ensure public safety. Any project applications will be reviewed and approved by TCJDA and Reclamation.

**Long Range Planning**

- Continue inspections as above.



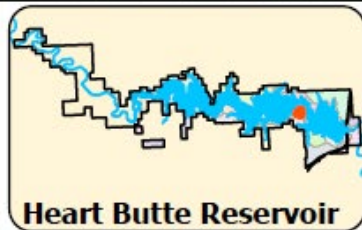
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## HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 010    Land Use Code: 04  
Farmers Union Youth Camp  
19.79 ac

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Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0                      400                      800  
Feet

## **Section 5.5 Cabin and Trailer Site Units Management and Development**

**Land Use Code: 05**

<b>MU 009</b>	<b>Cabin Area 4</b>
<b>MU 013</b>	<b>South Side Trailer Area</b>
<b>MU 018</b>	<b>Cabin Area 1</b>
<b>MU 030</b>	<b>Cabin Areas 2 and 3</b>
<b>MU 032</b>	<b>North Side Trailer Areas 1 and 2</b>

### **Environmental Commitments**

Project revisions and project concepts that differ from those already considered under this Management Unit Packet will be considered under separate NEPA and NHPA compliance. The TCJJDA Manager must consult with the Heart Butte Reservoir Manager and with Reclamation's DKAO Resources Division staff prior to altering approved project plans or amending approved project plans with additional project elements. Projects described in this Management Unit Packet that have not been considered under the Categorical Exclusion Checklist – DK-5000-21-35 or have been conceived following the completion of the Heart Butte Reservoir RMP will be considered under separate NEPA analysis.

**MU 009 Cabin Area 4****Management Unit Number (MU):** 009 Cabin Area 4**Land Use Code:** 05**Goal**

To manage the unit's land for 10 seasonal recreation cabin units by permit. The permit grants no vested property rights but affords only a limited license to occupy the land, pending a greater public use. The permittee shall use the land in such a manner to promote acceptable conservation of the land. Safety and land based environmental health considerations are enforced subject to the terms and condition of a permit. The shoreline and access to the shoreline will always be open to the public.

**Location**

Cabin Area 4 is west of the Heart Butte Dam on the south side of the Reservoir.

9.5 acres plus 6.4 access acres in Section 14 of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

**Recreation and use**

Recreation activities are wildlife viewing, fishing, swimming, picnicking, sailing and boating.

**Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

**Facilities Inventory**

There are no additional Reclamation facilities in this unit.

**Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation homesite/camping area occupied by ten permittees. The permittees purchased electrical water and sewer facilities for their private homes constructed on public lands. The NDGF began managing the cabin area for Reclamation in the 1950's. The NDGF discontinued recreation management on May 25, 1979. Reclamation continued issuing permits. Permits have been renewed every 5 years to 10 occupants. A copy of the permit is available upon request. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA), renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development (TCJJDA), became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

Detailed plans or drawings, a schedule for completion, and requests to construct buildings or undertake cabin site developments must be submitted by the permittee to TCJJDA at least 60 days prior to initiation of the proposed development activity.



## **RMP Five Year Plan**

### **MU 009 Cabin Area 4**

1. TCJJDA will administer the 10 cabin site permits.
  - a. Issue permits, collect annual fees, respond to customer correspondence dealing with Reclamation policy, directives and standards, and issue building and construction permits.
  - b. All ground disturbing construction activities to be conducted by the permittees or their contractors will require NEPA and NHPA compliance.**
2. TCJJDA will monitor use of the cabin sites.
  - a. Verify that cabin sites are visibly marked with cabin lot number.
  - b. Conduct routine spot inspections of electrical hookups of water systems that provide reservoir water to cabin sites for domestic purposes.
  - c. Check that off-site encroachment of private trailers, campers, and boats does not occur. Permittees can obtain off-site access permits from TCJJDA by written request.
3. Reclamation will perform road maintenance on interior roads leading to the cabin sites. Work will consist of blading roads, vegetation control on the roads, graveling the road surface when needed, seeding side slopes, repairing erosion, repairing or replacing culverts, and other general maintenance activities. Approximately four blading trips are conducted annually.

### **2022-2025**

- TCJJDA, with Reclamation review, will continue to administer cabin permits as required.

### **Long Range Planning**

- Continue to Administer cabin permits as required.



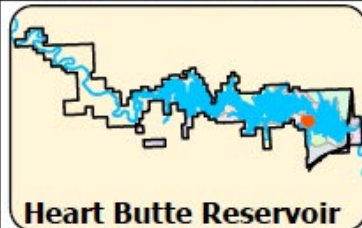
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## HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 009    Land Use Code: 05  
Cabin Area 4  
15.82 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0                      300                      600  
Feet

## **MU 013 South Side Trailer Area**

### **Management Unit Number (MU): 013**

**Land Use Code:** 05

#### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land for 32 seasonal recreation trailer units by permit. The permit grants no vested property rights but affords only a limited license to occupy the land, pending a greater public use. The permittee shall use the land in such a manner to promote acceptable conservation of the land. Safety and land based environmental health considerations are enforced subject to the terms and condition of a permit. The shoreline and access to the shoreline will always be open to the public.

#### ***Location***

South Side Trailer Area is west of the Heart Butte Dam on the south side of the Reservoir.

13.9 acres plus 16.2 access acres in Sections 9, 15, and 16, of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

#### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities include wildlife viewing, fishing, swimming, picnicking, sailing and boating.

#### ***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

#### ***Facilities Inventory***

Reclamation maintains one outhouse for public use in the public area across the road from trailer lot 20.

#### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation home site/camping area occupied by 32 permittees. The permittees purchased electrical water and sewer facilities for their private homes constructed on public lands. The NDGF began managing the cabin area for Reclamation in the 1950's. The NDGF discontinued recreation management on May 25, 1979. Reclamation continued issuing permits. Permits have been renewed every 5 years to 32 occupied users. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA) renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA) became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

Detailed plans or drawings, a schedule for completion, and requests to construct buildings or undertake cabin sit developments must be submitted by the permittee to TCJJDA at least 60 days prior to initiation of the proposed development activity.

## **RMP Five Year Plan**

### **MU 013 South Side Trailer Area**

1. TCJJDA will administer the 32 trailer site permits.
  - a. Issue permits, collect annual fees, respond to customer correspondence dealing with Reclamation policy, directives and standards, and issue building and construction permits.
  - b. All anticipated ground disturbing construction activities to be conducted by the permittees or their contractors will require NEPA and NHPA compliance.
2. TCJJDA will monitor use of the cabin sites.
  - a. Verify that cabin sites are visibly marked with cabin lot number.
  - b. Conduct routine spot inspections of electrical hookups of water systems that provide reservoir water to cabin sites for domestic purposes.
  - c. Check that off-site encroachment of private trailers, campers, and boats does not occur. Permittees can obtain off-site access permits from TCJJDA by written request.
3. Reclamation will perform road maintenance on interior roads leading to the cabin sites. Work will consist of blading roads, vegetation control on the roads, graveling the road surface when needed, seeding side slopes, repairing erosion, repairing, or replacing culverts, and other general maintenance activities. Approximately four blading trips are conducted annually.

### **2022-2025**

- One unused outhouse has potential for removal.
- TCJJDA, with Reclamation oversight, will administer trailer permits as required.

### **Long Range Planning**

- Roads will need additional gravel from time to time.





**MU 018 Cabin Area 1****Management Unit Number (MU):** 018 Cabin Area 1**Land Use Code:** 05***Goal***

The goal is to manage the unit's land for nineteen seasonal recreation cabin units by permit. The permit grants no vested property rights but affords only a limited license to occupy the land, pending a greater public use. The permittee shall use the land in such a manner to promote acceptable conservation of the land. Safety and land based environmental health considerations are enforced subject to the terms and condition of a permit. The shoreline and access to the shoreline will be open to the public at all times.

***Location***

Cabin Area 1 is west of the Heart Butte Dam on the south side of the Reservoir.

17.1 acres plus 24.6 access acres in Section 8, of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities include wildlife viewing, fishing, swimming, picnicking, sailing and boating.

***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

***Facilities Inventory***

There are no additional Reclamation facilities in this unit.

***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation home site/camping area occupied by nineteen permittees. The permittees purchased electrical water and sewer facilities for their private homes constructed on public lands. The NDGF began managing the cabin area for Reclamation in the 1950's. The NDGF discontinued recreation management on May 25, 1979. Reclamation continued issuing permits. Permits have been renewed every 5 years to 19 occupied users. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA), renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA), became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

Detailed plans or drawings, a schedule for completion, and requests to construct buildings or undertake cabin sit developments must be submitted by the permittee to TCJJDA at least 60 days prior to initiation of the proposed development activity.

## **RMP Five Year Plan**

### **MU 018 Cabin Area 1**

1. TCJJDA will administer the 19 cabin site permits.
  - a. Issue permits, collect annual fees, respond to customer correspondence dealing with Reclamation policy, directives and standards, and issue building and construction permits.
  - b. All anticipated ground disturbing construction activities to be conducted by the permittees or their contractors will require NEPA and NHPA compliance.
2. TCJJDA will monitor use of the cabin sites.
  - a. Verify that cabin sites are visibly marked with cabin lot number.
  - b. Conduct routine spot inspections of electrical hookups of water systems that provide reservoir water to cabin sites for domestic purposes.
  - c. Check that off-site encroachment of private trailers, campers, and boats does not occur.
  - d. Permittees can obtain off-site access permits from TCJJDA by written request.
3. Reclamation will perform road maintenance on interior roads leading to cabin sites. Work will consist of blading roads, vegetation control on the roads, graveling the road surface when needed, seeding side slopes, repairing erosion, repairing, or replacing culverts, and other general maintenance activities. Approximately four blading trips are conducted annually. Reclamation will also perform noxious weed control in public areas.

### **2022-2025**

- TCJJDA, with Reclamation oversight, will administer cabin permits as required.

### **Long Range Planning**

- Continue to administer and monitor cabin permits.
- Continue to hay every three years.
- Continue to monitor area for noxious weeds and control as needed.





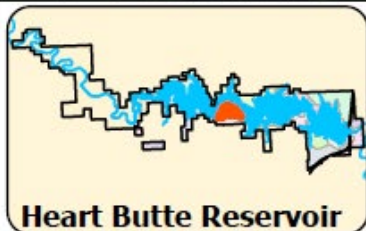
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# HEART BUTTE RESERVOIR RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN UPDATE 2021

Management Unit Number, Land Use Code, Name, Acreage



Data Attribution: NAIP Orthoimagery 2020



Unit Number: 018    Land Use Code: 05  
Cabin Area 1  
107.01 ac

USBR - DKAOGIS 07/20/2021

Map Notes: USBR Management Boundaries  
(varying scales)



0      800      1,600  
Feet

## **MU 030 Cabin Areas 2 and 3**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 030 Cabin Areas 2 and 3

**Land Use Code:** 05

### **Goal**

To manage the unit's land for 81 seasonal recreation cabin units by permit. The permit grants no vested property rights but affords only a limited license to occupy the land, pending a greater public use. The permittee shall use the land in such a manner to promote acceptable conservation of the land. Safety and land based environmental health considerations are enforced subject to the terms and conditions of a permit. The shoreline and access to the shoreline will be open to the public at all times.

### **Location**

Cabin Area 2 and Cabin Area 3 are west of the Heart Butte Dam on the North side of the Reservoir. 138.8 acres plus 39.6 access acres in Sections 10 and 11, of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### **Recreation and use**

Recreation activities include wildlife viewing, fishing, swimming, picnicking, sailing and boating.

### **Vegetation**

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### **Facilities Inventory**

There are no additional Reclamation facilities in this unit.

### **Historical Background**

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation home site/camping area occupied by eighty-one permittees. The permittees purchased electrical, water, and sewer facilities for their private cabins constructed on public lands. The NDGF began managing the cabin area for Reclamation in the 1950s. The NDGF discontinued recreation management on May 25, 1979. Reclamation continued issuing permits. Permits have been renewed every 5 years to 29 occupied users in Cabin Area 2 and 52 occupied users in Cabin Area 3. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JDA) renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Authority (TCJJDA) became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

Detailed plans or drawings, a schedule for completion, and requests to construct buildings or undertake cabin sit developments must be submitted by the permittee to TCJJDA at least 60 days prior to initiation of the proposed development activity.

**RMP Five Year Plan****MU 030: Cabin Area 2 and 3**

1. TCJJDA will administer the 81 cabin site permits.
  - a. Issue permits, collect annual fees, respond to customer correspondence dealing with Reclamation policy, directives and standards, and issue building and construction permits.
  - b. All ground disturbing construction activities to be conducted by the permittees or their contractors will require NEPA and NHPA compliance.
  - c. Repair and add rock as needed to shoreline rip/rap.
2. TCJJDA will monitor use of the cabin sites.
  - a. Verify that cabin sites are visibly marked with cabin lot number.
  - b. Conduct routine spot inspections of electrical hookups of water systems that provide reservoir water to cabin sites for domestic purposes.
  - c. Check that off-site encroachment of private trailers, campers, and boats does not occur. Permittees can obtain off-site access permits from Reclamation by written request.
3. Reclamation will perform road maintenance on interior roads leading to the cabin sites. Work will consist of blading roads, vegetation control on the roads, graveling the road surface when needed, seeding side slopes, repairing erosion, repairing or replacing culverts, and other general maintenance activities. Approximately four blading trips are conducted annually.

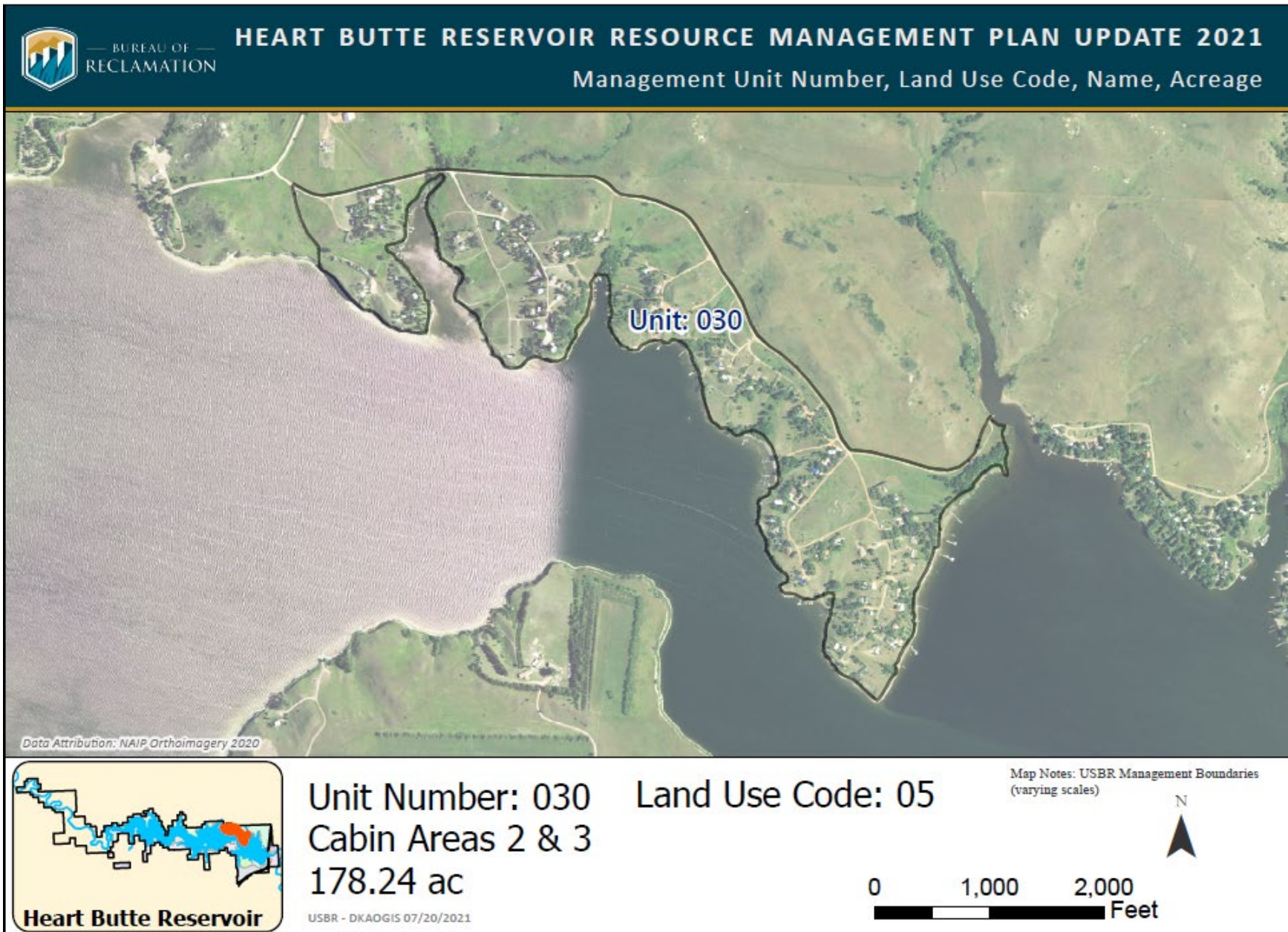
**2022-2025**

- TCJJDA, with Reclamation oversight, will administer cabin permits as required.

**Long Range Planning**

- Administer cabin permits as required. Re-graveling roads.





## **MU 032 North Side Trailer Areas 1 and 2**

**Management Unit Number (MU):** 032 North Side Trailer Areas 1 and 2

**Land Use Code:** 05

### ***Goal***

To manage the unit's land for 82 seasonal recreation trailer units by permit. The permit grants no vested property rights but affords only a limited license to occupy the land, pending a greater public use. The permittee shall use the land in such a manner to promote acceptable conservation of the land. Safety and land based environmental health considerations are enforced subject to the terms and condition of a permit. The shoreline and access to the shoreline will be open to the public at all times.

### ***Location***

North Side Trailer Areas 1 and 2 are west of the Heart Butte Dam on the north side of the Reservoir. 36.9 acres plus 19.7 access acres in Sections 11 and 12, of T. 136 N., R. 89 W.

Refer to the map below for exact location.

### ***Recreation and use***

Recreation activities include wildlife viewing, fishing, swimming, picnicking, sailing and boating.

### ***Vegetation***

See general vegetation description in Section 1.3.

### ***Facilities Inventory***

Reclamation maintains three vault toilets for public use within this unit.

### ***Historical Background***

The MU is managed primarily as a recreation home site/camping area occupied by 82 permittees. The permittees purchased electrical water and sewer facilities for their private trailer homes placed on public lands. The NDGF began managing the trailer areas for Reclamation in the 1950s. The NDGF discontinued recreation management on May 25, 1979. Reclamation continued issuing permits. Permits have been renewed every 5 years to 39 occupied users in Trailer Area 1 and to 43 occupied users in Trailer Area 2. A copy of the permit is available upon request. The Grant County Job Development Authority (JOA), renamed to Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA), became a managing partner in 2010 and took over recreation management responsibilities.

Detailed plans or drawings, a schedule for completion, and requests to construct buildings or undertake cabin site developments must be submitted by the permittee to TCJJDA at least 60 days prior to initiation of the proposed development activity.

## **RMP Five Year Plan**

### **MU 032: North Side Trailer Areas 1 and 2**

1. TCJJDA will administer the 82 trailer site permits.
  - a. Issue permits, collect annual fees, respond to customer correspondence dealing with Reclamation policy, directives and standards, and issue building and construction permits.
  - b. All anticipated ground disturbing construction activities to be conducted by the permittees, or their contractors, will require NEPA and NHPA compliance.
  - c. Repair and add rock as needed to shoreline rip/rap.
2. TCJJDA will monitor use of the cabin sites.
  - a. Verify that cabin sites are visibly marked with cabin lot number.
  - b. Conduct routine spot inspections of electrical hookups of water systems that provide reservoir water to cabin sites for domestic purposes.
  - c. Check that off-site encroachment of private trailers, campers, and boats does not occur. Permittees can obtain off-site access permits from Reclamation by written request.
3. Reclamation will perform road maintenance on interior roads leading to the cabin sites. Work will consist of blading roads, vegetation control on the roads, graveling the road surface when needed, seeding side slopes, repairing erosion, repairing or replacing culverts, and other general maintenance activities. Approximately four blading trips are conducted annually.

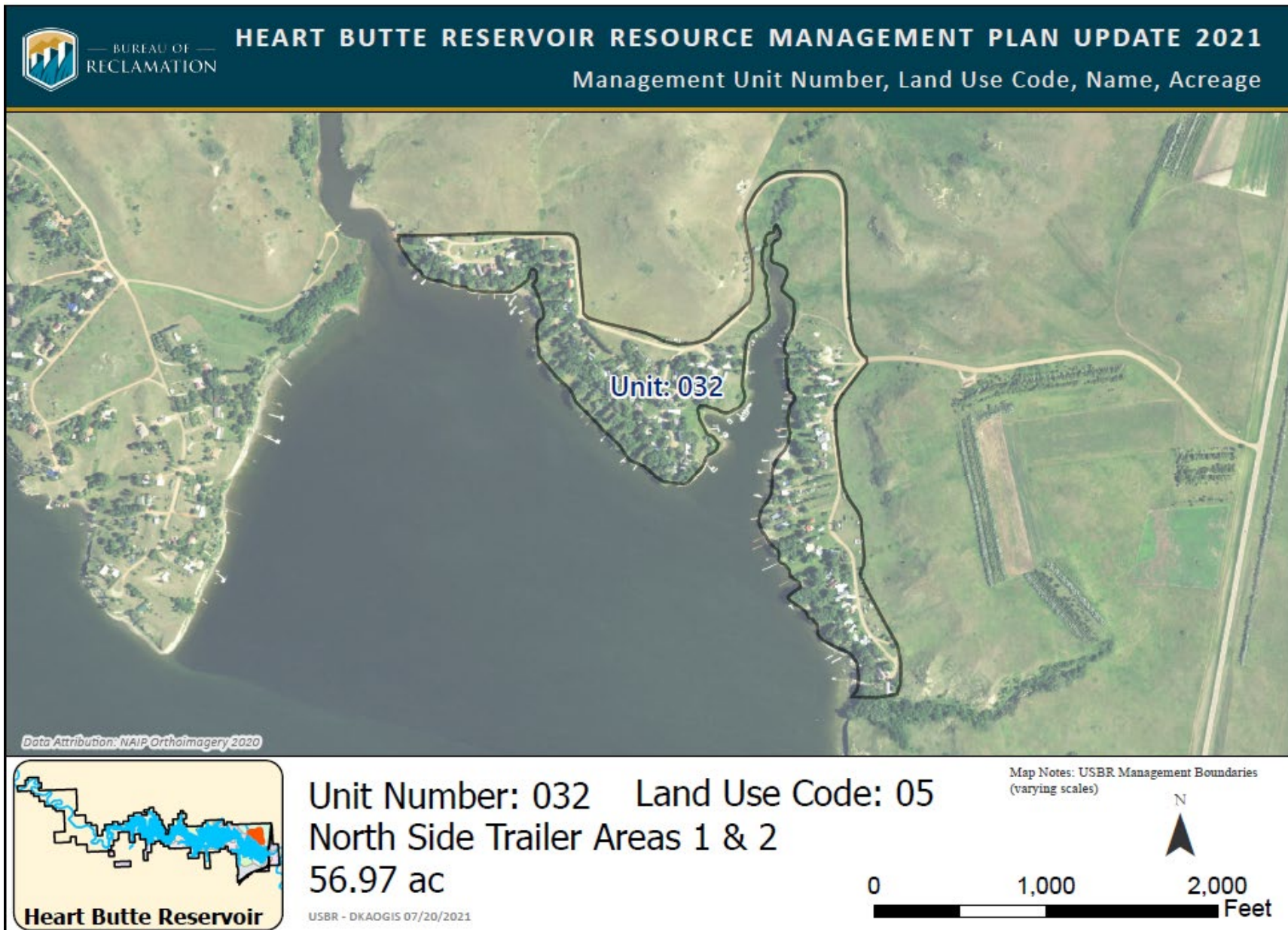
### **2022-2025**

- TCJJDA, with Reclamation oversight, will administer trailer permits, including review of offsite parking.
- TCJJDA, with Reclamation assistance, will conduct detailed inspection of trailer sites to ensure permit compliance.

### **Long Range Planning**

- Re-gravel roads as needed.







## Section 6 References

- American Society of Mammologists (ASM). 2021. Mammal Species List Search. Accessed June 15, 2021 at <https://www.mammalsociety.org/mammals-list/?start=0>
- Cooper, P.L. 1947 Preliminary Appraisal of the Archeological and Paleontological Resources of the Heart Butte Reservoir, Grant County, North Dakota. Missouri Valley Project River Basin Surveys, Smithsonian Institution. Submitted to the Missouri River Basin Recreation Survey, Region Two, National Park Service.
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