

Heart Butte Reservoir

Resource Management Plan



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

September 2021

Draft Resource Management Plan Released!

The Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), in cooperation with the Tri-Cities Joint Job Development Authority (TCJJDA), began updating the Heart Butte Reservoir Resource Management Plan (RMP) in early 2021. To maximize the public's involvement in this process, user surveys were made available in January 2021, in a variety of formats with the comment period open through March 2021.

When finalized, the RMP will serve as the blueprint for the future use, management, and development of Heart Butte Reservoir. The RMP does not address Heart Butte Reservoir water operations, irrigation, project operations areas, cabin and trailer permitted areas, or the multiple resource management areas. This is the third newsletter regarding the Heart Butte RMP and is provided to share information on the progress of the RMP.

RMP Update

Since the last newsletter in June 2021, the RMP team has worked to complete a draft document. The draft RMP is now available for public review and comment.

As mentioned in the June newsletter, a total of 278 survey responses were received between January and April 2021. The RMP team has reviewed these responses and comments and has considered this input for updates around the reservoir. The RMP focuses on recreation updates in accordance with public input and TCJJDA's future goals around the Heart Butte Reservoir.

What Comes Next

The draft RMP is now available for a 30-day comment period. When the comment period closes, Reclamation and TCJJDA will consider and then incorporate

additional comments into the plan. When this step is completed, a final RMP will be available.

How to Stay Involved

Reclamation and TCJJDA encourage you to stay involved in the RMP process by providing comments on the draft RMP. This phase of the process includes the release of the draft RMP with a 30-day comment period that is open until October 1, 2021.

When the public comment has ended, Reclamation and TCJJDA will finalize the RMP and make it publicly available. The final step in the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) process will be completing a Categorical Exclusion Checklist for the RMP.

Please Send Comments to:

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Resource Management Plan Schedule:

September 2021	Revise RMP and complete National Environmental Policy Act documentation
October 2021	Release Final RMP

