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Berlin Lake Shoreline Management Plan Update Available for Public Review

BERLIN LAKE – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers manages and protects shorelines of all Civil Works water resource development projects under its jurisdiction in a manner which will promote the safe and healthful use of these shorelines while maintaining environmental safeguards to ensure a quality resource for use by the general public through its Shoreline Management Program. The objective of all management actions is to achieve the right balance between permitted private uses and resource protection of the shoreline for general public use.

The Shoreline Management Plan for Berlin Lake, located on the Mahoning River in Mahoning, Stark and Portage Counties, Ohio, was last formally updated in May of 1989. In accordance with Corps of Engineers policy, the Pittsburgh District has prepared a draft update of the Berlin Lake Shoreline Management Plan. The draft plan, available for review on the Pittsburgh District's Shoreline Management internet page at www.lrp.usace.army.mil/rec/shoremgt.htm, reflects current Shoreline Management Program guidance and clarifies items that may have been unclear in the 1989 plan. Printed copies of the draft plan are available for review at the Rodman Public Library, 215 East Broadway Street, Alliance, Ohio 44601, at the Austintown Public Library, 600 South Raccoon Road, Austintown, Ohio 44515 and at the Berlin Lake Resource Manager's Office. The draft plan is also available on CD by calling the Berlin Lake Office at (330) 547-3801.

The Berlin Lake staff is hosting Open House sessions for the public at the Berlin Lake Resource Manager's Office on Sunday, August 19 from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.; Wednesday, August 22 from 3:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. and Saturday, August 25 from 1:00 p.m. to 4:00 p.m. The primary purpose of these sessions is to provide an opportunity for the public to provide their views, express their concerns and to be sure their interests are heard and considered in the updating of the Berlin Lake Shoreline Management Plan.

Comments on the draft plan are welcome and may be submitted for a 30-day period beginning on August 19 and ending on September 17. Comments may be submitted by mail or e-mail. Comments should be mailed to U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Berlin Lake, 7400 Bedell Road, Berlin Center, OH 44401-9707 or e-mailed to berlin@usace.army.mil.