

The 29,500-acre Ray Roberts Lake, about 12 miles northeast of Denton, will be a future water supply for Denton and Dallas. Officials closed the lake's floodgates June 30, 1987. Built by the Corps of Engineers, it is expected to fill in one to seven years.

Ray Roberts Lake completed

On June 30, 1987, former U.S. Rep. Ray Roberts symbolically closed the floodgates of the lake bearing his name.

He pushed a red button during a ceremony at the Denton Civic Center attended by representatives from Dallas, Denton and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

And the gates shut on the 29,500-acre lake 12 miles northeast of Denton on the Elm Fork of the Trinity River, capturing a future water supply for Denton and Dallas, submerging a past traced to prehistoric time and attracting recreational, residential and commercial development to the lakesides.

"For us, as far as the future of Denton goes, this really does guarantee us a firm water supply up to the early part of the next century," Denton City Manager Lloyd Harrell said at the June 30

ceremony.

In the late 1970s and early 1980s, Roberts spearheaded in Congress a local effort to build a dam at the site, owned by the city of Dallas. Initially he encountered resistance from Dallas officials, but eventually gained their cooperation with help from former Congressman Jim Collins of Dallas.

Roberts, representatives from Dallas and Denton and Army engineers, who would build the dam, officially broke ground for the lake in 1982.

Denton's share of the lake's future water supply is 24 percent. Dallas owns rights to 76 percent.

Though the lake is expected to take as many as seven years to fill, depending on rainfall and stream flow, it already has attracted one planned development. SunVest Development Inc. has drafted a \$300 million, 280-acre residential and commercial

development on the lake's border with Sanger.

In five years, Sanger's population is projected to increase from 4,200 people to about 40,000 because of the drawing power of Ray Roberts Lake.

"People need to be aware that the lake is on the verge of being there," Denton County Commissioner Don Hill, who represents northwest Denton County, said early in June.

"All kinds of development could happen overnight. It would be in everybody's best interest to pay attention to it now because there are people that are paying attention to it, specifically developers," he said.

Some Cooke County property owners were awakened to the lake's impact in May. The Cooke County Appraisal District mailed them statements estimating a dramatic increase in their land

values and foretelling higher property taxes — because lake property was in demand.

The Denton Central Appraisal District also reported higher land values around the lake.

Ray Roberts Lake spans the northern half of Denton County, reaching into Cooke and Grayson counties.

While the lake's impact on the future is becoming more a part of the present, much of its past is preserved by federally funded archaeological studies.

North Texas State University was awarded a \$903,000 cultural resources contract to learn how human occupations adapted to and changed as their environments changed.

Prehistoric excavations led by Dr. Reid Ferring of NTSU revealed a detailed history of the region as far back as 3,000 years.

Cities take control of Ray Roberts' flow

12-22-68

By Terry Tate
Staff Writer

The cities of Denton and Dallas officially took control Thursday of how much water flows from Ray Roberts Lake downstream to Lewisville Lake.

And, the two cities recently agreed to raise the level of Lewisville Lake another foot to accommodate lake users, Bob Nelson, executive director of Denton utilities, said Thursday. Congress authorized the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in October to raise the conservation

storage pool of Lewisville Lake, Sally West of the Corps said, enabling the cities of Denton and Dallas to impound the additional water.

The conservation storage pool is the water maintained for water supply, recreation and irrigation.

Denton will pay \$1.36 million and Dallas \$3.67 million to the federal government for the right to store the additional water in the Corps' Lewisville Lake, Ms. West said.

Nelson said the plan is to release enough water from Ray Roberts Lake, which is still filling, to raise

Lewisville Lake from 507 feet above sea level to 508 feet.

He said marina owners and recreational users of Lewisville Lake have sought a higher lake level.

Though the target level is 510 feet, Nelson said, Dallas and Denton's plans are lower so that Ray Roberts' level can be maintained.

"We feel very uncertain about releasing enough water out of Ray Roberts to bring it up to 510 feet now," Nelson said. "Dallas and Denton have agreed to bring it up to 508 so long as Ray Roberts' level doesn't fall below 590 feet."

Ray Roberts and Lewisville lakes operate in tandem to supply the water needs of Dallas and Denton.

The two cities, for now, are planning to release water from Ray Roberts to Lewisville, then use pumping facilities in Lewisville to route the water back to the cities.

Ray Roberts Lake was dedicated in June 1967. Denton holds rights to 26 percent of the lake's water. Dallas holds the other 74 percent.

The lake's level is about 130,000 acre feet, Nelson said. When full it will be about 800,000 acre feet.

Lake Ray Roberts

CURRENTLY: Only one boat ramp is available. All other recreational facilities will open summer of 1991. Also, due to the water level, only one boat ramp is currently open.

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(817) 382-8033

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106 N. Locust
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PILOT POINT HOTELS/MOTELS: Four Horsemen Motorlodge
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PILOT POINT BAIT SHOPS: Local Stop-N-Go /next to the
Motorlodge (live bait, maps,
etc.)
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Johnny Joe's
200 W. Walcott
(817) 686-5069

Evans Shop & Go
104 N. Highway 377
(817) 686-5133

PILOT POINT GUIDE: Mr. Forrest Forticher
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SANGER BAIT SHOPS: Fish-N-Hook Sporting Supplies/by the
lake (live bait, maps, etc.)

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35 & FM 455
(817) 458-3221

Citgo
455 & I-35

VALLEY VIEW GUIDE: Mr. Jim Walling
P. O. Box 66
Valley View, TX
(817) 726-3947

June 1, 1990

Ms. Sally Werst
US Army Corp of Engineers
819 Taylor Street
Fort Worth, TX 76102

Dear Sally:

With all the rain and rising water, we are having several calls a day requesting current information on Ray Roberts Lake. I am requesting that you look over the enclosed information and make any corrections or additions to the literature that is being distributed at the Denton Chamber of Commerce.

If you have any updates, please send that information along with any corrections on the enclosed literature.

Do you know of any guides that will take fishermen out? How many bait shops are open now? Do you have any fishing information?

Thank you for your help in providing us with the most up-to-date information possible.

Sincerely,

Janie McLeod
Administrative Assistant

Enclosure

But Garbo disliked the attention and quit at age 36, her 24 films keeping her name alive for generations.

While "Camille" and "Ninotchka" became film festival standards, the woman known worldwide simply as Garbo remained practically shuttered in her Manhattan apartment, where she moved after becoming a U.S. citizen in 1951, or in various retreats in France and Switzerland.

When she traveled, she slipped in and out of airports in dark glasses and a slouch hat. "Garbo watchers" would wait hours outside her apartment, hoping to catch a glimpse of her. Photographers who stalked her occasionally stole a quick shot of "The Face."

A hospital spokesman said he didn't know who the family members were who requested details of her death be withheld, but neighbors said she had a niece.

He said services would be private.

Texas Instruments is sponsoring an "Earth Week" celebration at all TI sites worldwide April 16-20.

Thousands of TI employees, including those in Lewisville and Denton, have volunteered to participate in numerous activities such as recycling campaigns, landscaping and tree plantings. The activities will begin tomorrow with an all-day recycling campaign at local TI sites.

In addition, Lewisville TI employees will plant trees at College Street Elementary this week while employees from the Denton site participate in tree planting ceremonies at Hodge Elementary School Tuesday.

Employees also will be involved in informational seminars on the Denton County "Don't Bag

one week ever...
 continuation of o...
 strategy for ra...
 awareness an...
 employees.'

It" lawn-care campa...
 grow in Texas clima...
 water.

The environmental...
 the 20th anniversary...
 22.

"This is not just a...
 but a continuation o...

For Maria R.

\$1 million marina project to be built at Ray Roberts

Sanger — A marina project for the western side of Ray Roberts Lake will now become a reality, thanks to the Texas Department of Parks and Wildlife plus the persistence of Sanger and its officials.

The city has received confirmation that a \$1.25 million marina, complete with 300 boat slips, expandable to 600, is set to open by the summer of 1991. Sanger could be a winner all the way, said Jenkins. The marina won't cost the city a penny, but is expected to increase the traffic flow through the city, people who could stop to buy or who may decide to settle. Growth is expected to be gradual, but property owners around the marina are already assessing how the newest business may affect them. Jenkins credits City Manager John Hamilton and Mayor Nel Armstrong, who went to Austin several times to push for the project, for bringing the marina to fruition. "We can finally have our cake and eat it too," said Jenkins. "It looks like it's all going to jell."

Region Notebook

ELAINE SCHAD

Jerry Jenkins
 "I'm just tickled to death," he said. "The Sanger side was dead for all intent and purposes, and then out of the blue they surprised all of us."
 Bid packets are ready and are being advertised in Austin-area newspapers. About 20 local bidders who have shown interest in the project are also being contacted, said Jenkins. The marina, which will initially house from 175 to

300 boat slips, expandable to 600, is set to open by the summer of 1991.

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■ ELAINE SCHAD is a region correspondent for the Denton Record-Chronicle.

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GLOBAL WARMING
 President Bush plays host Tuesday to a White House conference on greenhouse effect where he will for further study its economic impact/2A

No letters; I read newspaper. The camp site had 1991.

19 FEBRUARY 86

RAY ROBERTS LAKE FACT SHEET

Location: 12 miles northeast of Denton on Elm Fork of the Trinity River.

Project Purpose: Water supply, recreation, and fish and wildlife with a transfer of flood control from Lewisville Lake to Ray Roberts Lake.

Authorization: Rivers and Harbors Act of 27 Oct 65.

Local Sponsors: Water Supply and Recreational Contracts Approved 16 Sep 80 with cities of Dallas (76%) and Denton (24%).

Physical Data: Embankment - 18 million cubic yards of rolled earth fill, 15,250 ft. long, and 139 ft. high; Outlet Works - 708 ft. long, 13 ft. diameter conduit; Spillway - 100-ft. uncontrolled weir. Water Supply Pool - 749,200 acre feet and 29,350 acres; Flood Control Pool - 260,800 acre-ft. and 36,900 acres. Relocations - 42.5 miles of roads, 5 miles of railroads and 7 cemeteries.

Land Requirements: Total - 48,566 acres; Acquired to date - 36,486 acres; Recreational lands - 3,898 acres.

Fiscal Data: Total Project Cost - \$280,000,000; Funds Appropriated through Sept. 30, 1986 - \$197,713,000. (This includes reduction of \$1,982,000 due to Gramm-Rudman.)

Deliberate Impoundment Date: July 1987.

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US Army Corps
of Engineers
Ft. Worth District

RAY ROBERTS LAKE

TRINITY RIVER BASIN

ELM FORK, TRINITY RIVER, TEXAS

15 MARCH 1984

AUTHORIZATION:

Ray Roberts Lake was authorized by the Rivers and Harbor Act on 27 October 1965.

PROJECT LOCATION:

The dam is located at river mile 60.0 on the Elm Fork of the Trinity River about midway between the towns of Sanger and Pilot Point and approximately 12 miles northeast of Denton.

PERTINENT DATA:

The lake has a surface area of 29,350 acres at conservation pool elevation 632.5 feet mean sea level and backs water into Denton, Grayson and Cooke Counties. At flood control pool elevation 640.5 feet mean sea level, the lake has a surface area of 36,900 acres. The dam is an 18 million cubic yard earthen embankment 15,250 feet in length with a crest width of 46 feet and rises 139 feet above the stream bed. Relocated FM 455 will be placed on top of the dam. The 100-foot uncontrolled broadcrested weir spillway is located in a natural draw west of the right abutment. The outlet works consist of a 13 foot diameter gate controlled conduit located in the west abutment side of the floodplain.

PROJECT PURPOSE:

Ray Roberts Lake was authorized by Congress for the purpose of water supply, recreation, and fish and wildlife. Although Ray Roberts Lake is not authorized for flood control, some flood control storage is provided through a transfer of storage from Lewisville Lake, to optimize the water supply yield of the two lake system. Accordingly, the conservation pool at Lewisville will be raised 7 feet, from elevation 515 to 522 mean sea level. Six park areas are proposed comprising a total of 3898 acres in addition to wildlife management areas (14,426 acres). The lake is expected to ultimately yield 74.3 million gallons a day of water. The local sponsors are cities of Dallas and Denton.

PROJECT COSTS:

The current estimated cost of Ray Roberts Lake is \$280,000,000 based on October 1983 price levels which includes an inflation allowance through the construction period.

PROJECT HISTORY:

Funds to initiate preconstruction planning were appropriated in FY 70 and for initiation of construction in FY 75. The project has been delayed due to the lack of execution of the water supply and recreation contracts between local sponsors and the Government. Dallas and Denton were involved in water rights litigation and Dallas was involved in water rates litigation. Both issues were resolved in late 1979.

The cities of Denton and Dallas passed resolutions reaffirming their support of the project, on January 22, and 30, 1980, respectively. The Corps negotiated final water supply and recreation contracts with the Cities and forwarded them through the Southwestern Division Office and the Office, Chief of Engineers to the Secretary of Army in Washington, D. C., where they were approved September 16, 1980.

The public notice, in accordance with Section 404(a) of Public Law 95-217 (The Clean Water Act) was issued, as revised, on 13 March 1980. The Texas Department of Water Resources subsequently issued a Water Quality Certification for the project on 3 September 1980.

Congressional legislation passed in September 1980, to change the name of Aubrey Lake to Ray Roberts Lake, became effective January 4, 1981.

FISCAL DATA:

Funds in the amount of \$42.0 million have been appropriated for use in FY 84, with a balance to complete the project of \$171,905,000.

REAL ESTATE DATA:

The total lands required for the project is about 48,566 acres. Around 950 tracts and approximately 850 ownerships were involved in the acquisition of these lands. 329 Tracts has been acquired to date which constitutes 18,463 acres.

RAY ROBERTS LAKE

- DAM
 - TYPE-COMPACTED EARTH FILL
 - LENGTH, EXCLUDING SPILLWAY
 - HEIGHT, MAXIMUM, ABOVE STREAMBED
 - WIDTH OF CROWN
- SPILLWAY
 - TYPE-UNCONTROLLED BROADCASTED
 - LENGTH AT CREST
 - CREST ELEVATION, ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL
- OUTLET WORKS
 - GATE-CONTROLLED CONDUIT, 13 FEET IN DIAMETER
 - CONTROL-TWO 3X13 FEET SERVICE SLIDE GATES
 - INTAKE INVERT ELEVATION, ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL
- LAKE
 - FLOOD CONTROL POOL
 - ELEVATION ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL
 - CAPACITY
 - SURFACE AREA
 - CONSERVATION POOL
 - ELEVATION ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL
 - CAPACITY
 - SURFACE AREA
 - SEDIMENT STORAGE
 - TOTAL CONTROLLED STORAGE
 - STREAMBED APPROXIMATE ELEVATION ABOVE MEAN SEA LEVEL

15,250 FEET
139 FEET
46 FEET

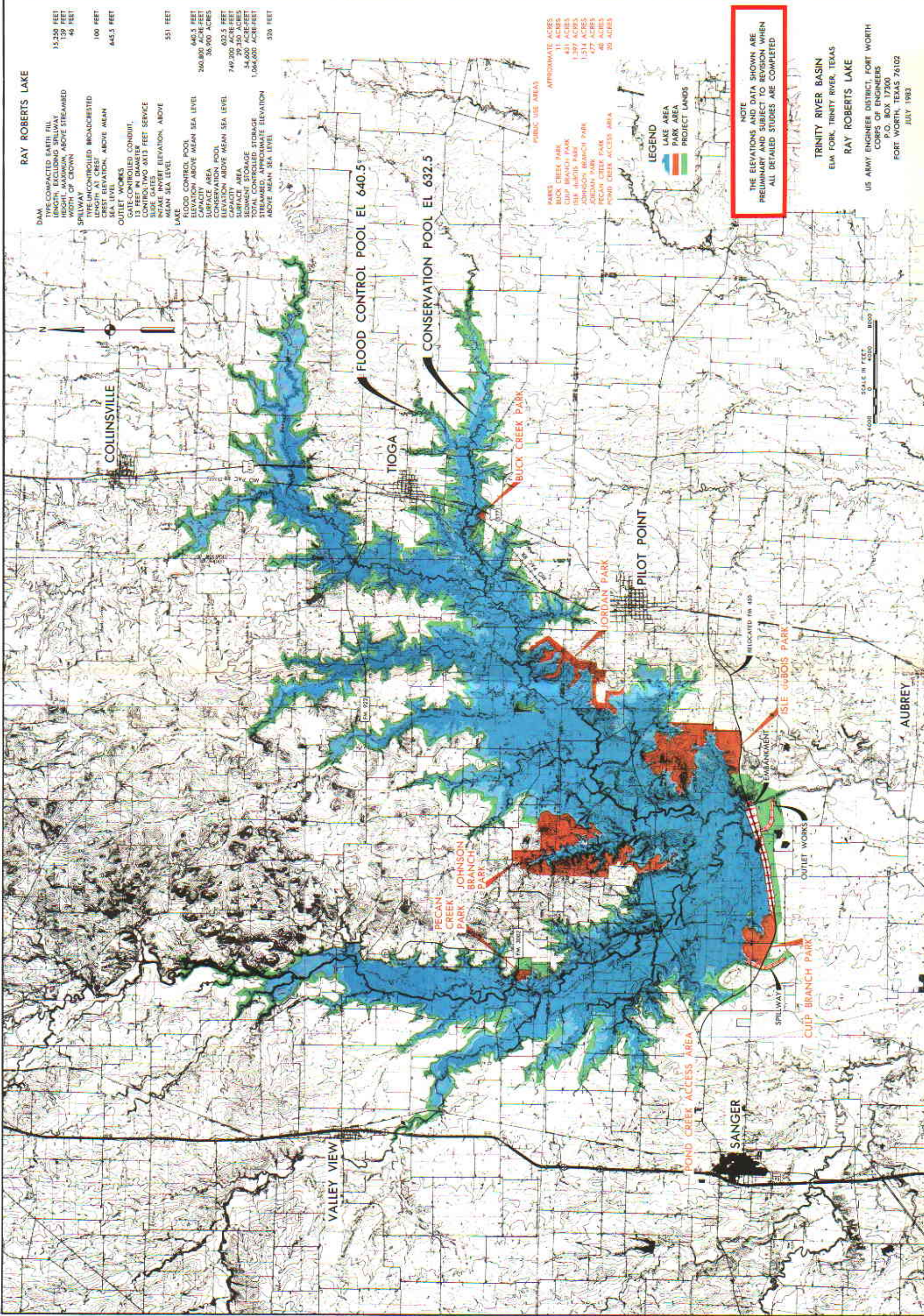
100 FEET
645.5 FEET

551 FEET

640.5 FEET
260,800 ACRE-FEET
36,900 ACRES

632.5 FEET
740,300 ACRE-FEET
79,350 ACRES

34,600 ACRE-FEET
1,064,600 ACRE-FEET
926 FEET



- APPROXIMATE ACRES
- BUCK CREEK PARK 11 ACRES
- CUHP BRANCH PARK 431 ACRES
- ISLE O'BOIS PARK 1,397 ACRES
- JOHNSON BRANCH PARK 1,514 ACRES
- JORDAN PARK 477 ACRES
- PECAN CREEK PARK 40 ACRES
- POND CREEK ACCESS AREA 20 ACRES

LEGEND

- LAKE AREA
- PARK AREA
- PROJECT LANDS

NOTE
THE ELEVATIONS AND DATA SHOWN ARE PRELIMINARY AND SUBJECT TO REVISION WHEN ALL DETAILED STUDIES ARE COMPLETED.

TRINITY RIVER BASIN
ELWA FORK, TRINITY RIVER, TEXAS
RAY ROBERTS LAKE
US ARMY ENGINEER DISTRICT, FORT WORTH
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
P.O. BOX 17300
FORT WORTH, TEXAS 76102
JULY 1983



RAY ROBERTS LAKE INFORMATION

Current information as of 7/28/87
Via Sally Werst -- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will operate and maintain the Dam Ray Roberts Lake. The Corps will also build seven parks. The cities of Dallas and Denton will maintain the parks. However, both cities are considering using Texas Parks and Wildlife as the management agency. If TP&W is used, the parks will then be state parks. It is the cities' right whether to select a management agency or use in-house personnel. However, the Corps of Engineers must approve the decision.

Seven parks are planned and construction should be finished by April 1991. Their completion depends on funding, weather, incorrect design, etc. The parks will not be open to the public until (1) the water level has been deemed safe for recreation and (2) some of the recreational facilities (roads, ramps, etc.) are usable.

Intensive use areas will be Isle duBois and Johnson Branch Parks. Facilities will be as follows:

	<u>Isle duBois</u>	<u>Johnson Branch</u>
Multi-use campsites	120	100
Tent campsites (walk-in and boat-in)	45	40
Primitive campsites	0	30
Single-picnic sites	145	144
Double-picnic sites	37	24
Triple-picnic sites	2	3
Swimming	1	1
Group pavilions	2	2
Playgrounds	6	4
Fishing piers	1	0
Fish cleaning stations	2	1
Miles of trails	5.6	4
Courtesy docks	1	1
Boat launching facilities	2 *	1 w/4 lanes
Flushable	Water-born restrooms	1
	Water-born restrooms with showers	2
	Water-born restrooms with outside rinse showers	1
Chemical	Vault restrooms	5
	Composting restrooms	2

* 1 with 6 lanes and 1 with 1 lane

'Stealth park' opens at Ray Roberts

By John J. Lumpkin
Staff Writer

Valley View -- With absolutely no fanfare, the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department on Wednesday opened the Johnson Branch, a sprawling 1,500-acre park on the north side of Ray Roberts Lake.

The park includes campgrounds, a boat ramp, a swimming beach and hiking trails. There are 185 campsites, ranging from primitive locations to lakeside retreats with electricity and water.

The park, a joint project among agencies of Denton, Dallas, Parks and Wildlife and the Army's Corps of Engineers, is opening about a year behind schedule because of delays with construction contractors, Park Manager Russell Fishbeck said Wednesday.

Park officials are waiting until early next year to make a formal announcement of the opening.

"We're going to kind of do the soft opening, with a couple of months to fine tune and tweak before we officially raise the flag," Mr. Fishbeck said.

The park is a complement to Isle du Bois Park, on the south side of the lake near Pilot Point. Isle du Bois, open since 1993, draws 500,000 visitors a year, and Mr. Fishbeck said he expects Johnson Branch to draw a similar number.

The park will cater to people from Gainesville, Valley View and points north, including southern Oklahoma, he said. The northern park saves visitors a 30-mile drive around the lake to Isle du Bois, he said.

See PARK/10A

Park

From/9A

But because of the lack of publicity, only a few people visited the park on Wednesday, Mr. Fishbeck said. Most of them were people who lived nearby.

"They've been real eager to get in, and I understand why," he said. "We expected it to be slow."

Johnson Branch is situated in flat Blacklands Prairie and is a mix of lake coastline and low trees, Mr. Fishbeck said. "It's real pretty."

It is named for a creek and a pioneer family who settled in the area. Entry to the park is about seven miles east of Valley View on Lone Oak Road.

Entry fee to all parks is \$3 per person 13 and older. Campsite fees range from \$6 to \$15 per site.

For reservations call (512) 389-8900.



TEXAS
PARKS AND WILDLIFE DEPARTMENT
 4200 Smith School Road • Austin, Texas 78744 • 512-389-4800

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 Executive Director

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See me on this.

[Handwritten signature]

e:

ce Al Miller with VIP

partment has a contractual
 esign a campsite Locator
 Park. An area map and
 n this guide.

visitors to use our Isle
 when the Johnson unit is

 -----, we expect an additional 200,000 visitors.
 These locator maps will be given to each camper vehicle
 as they arrive at our park.

Since these park visitors need to locate goods and
 services available to them while in this area, these
 locator guides will be helpful to them while they are
 in the Ray Roberts Lake, Denton and Gainesville area.
 You are invited to advertise in this valuable guide.

If you have any questions, please feel free to call me
 or any of our park staff at (817) 686-2148

Sincerely,

Russell Fishbeck

Russell Fishbeck
 Park Superintendent
 Ray Roberts Lake State Park
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 Pilot Point, Texas 76258





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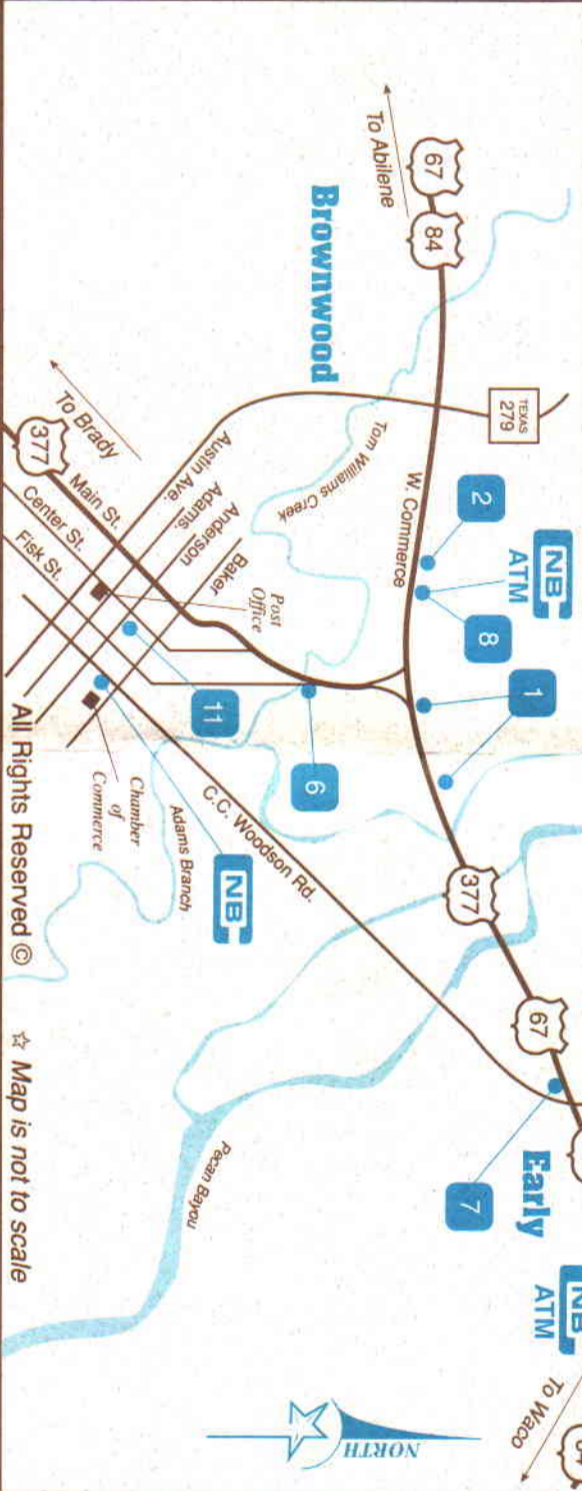
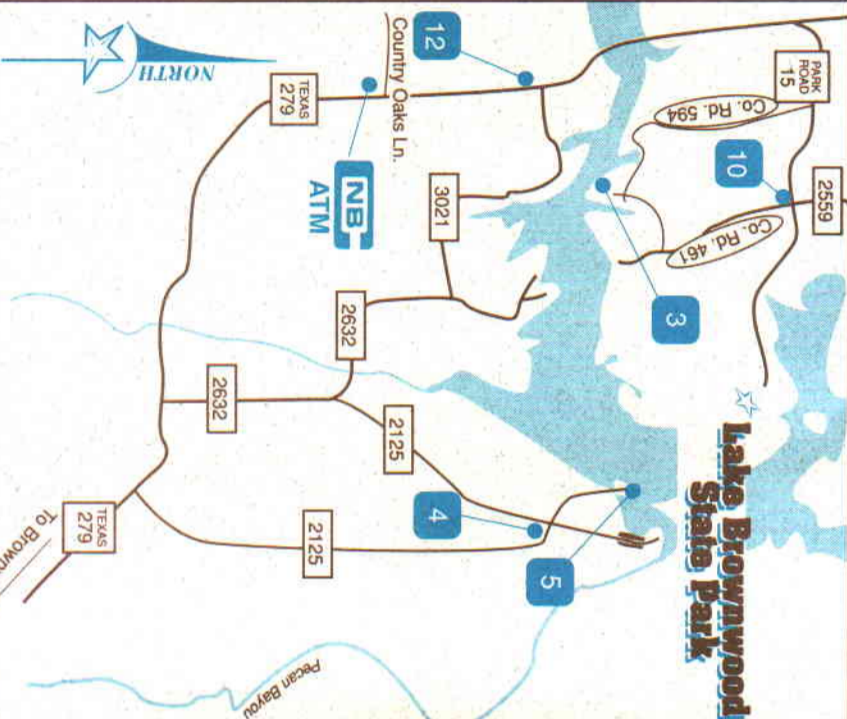
784-6912

Closed Wednesday
Lake Haven Docks

4

5

Lake Brownwood State Park



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- Public consumption or display of an open container of alcoholic beverage is prohibited.
- A maximum of 8 people per campsite or shelter. Occupancy rate in cabins varies. Guests must leave the park by 10 p.m.
- Excess parking fee is required at campsites with more than two vehicles (including trailers).
- Campsite must be kept clean; all trash picked up before you leave. Dumpsters are conveniently located on all camping loops.
- **GREY WATER AND BLACK WATER MUST BE DISCHARGED ONLY AT DUMP STATIONS.**
- Only one unit is permitted to hook up to utilities per site.
- Motorhomes/trailers are NOT permitted at the shelters or cabins.
- Valid permit required on windshield of each vehicle in park. All vehicles to remain on pavement.
- Numbered sites for overnight camping only. **NO PICNICKING.**

Peace and quiet:

- Quiet hours are between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m.; please be considerate of other people.
- No person shall use electrical speakers or radios at a volume which emits beyond the immediate campsite.

Pets:

- Dogs must be on a leash no longer than six feet and under control at all times.
- Pets must be kept inside a tent or vehicle at night.
- Pets are not permitted inside shelters, cabins or cabin area.
- Pets are not allowed in swimming area.

Fires:

- Gathering of firewood is prohibited.
- Campfires are permitted only in fire rings provided at each site. No ground fires are permitted. Please, use extreme caution with any burning materials during the high fire danger summer brings.

Water Activities:

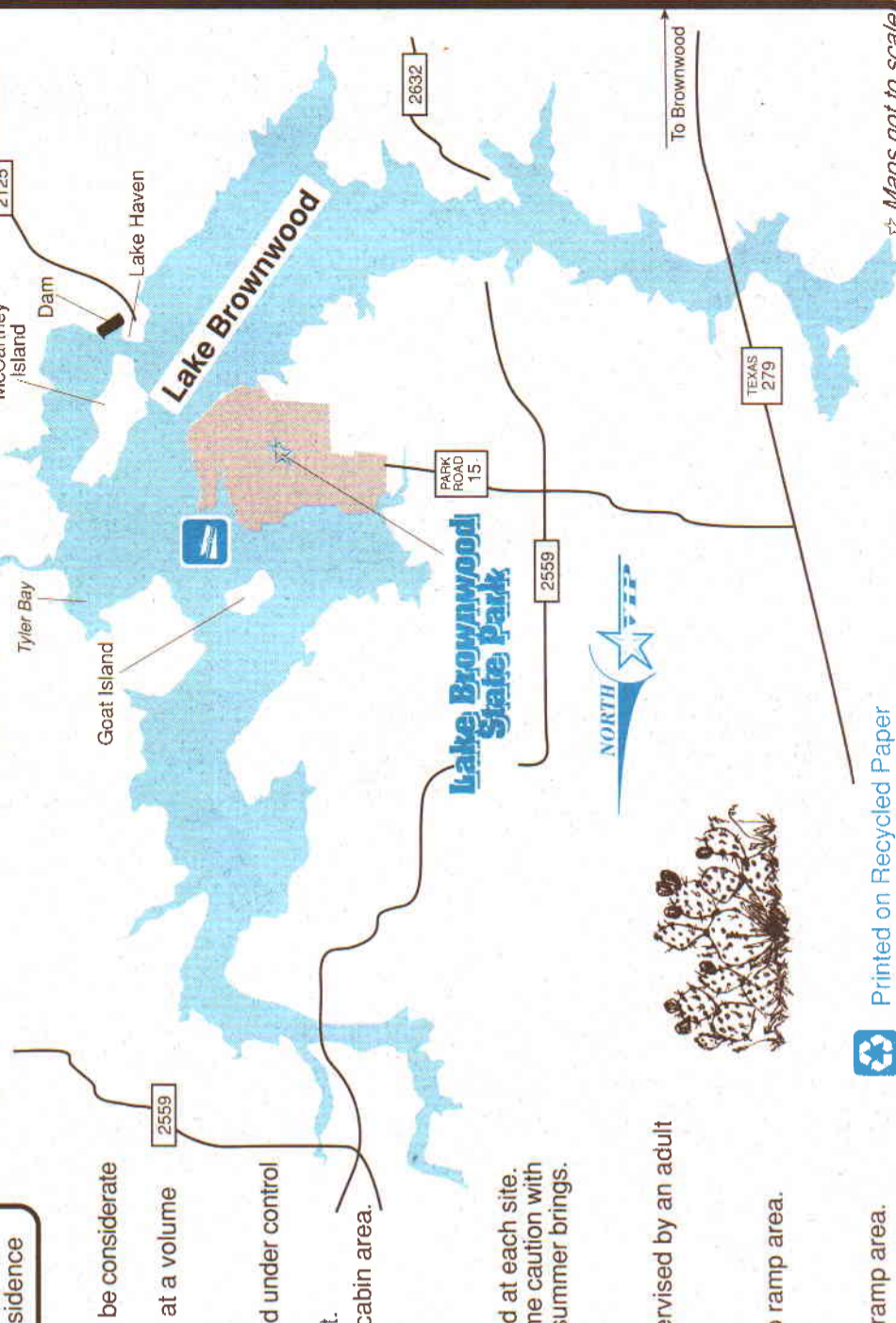
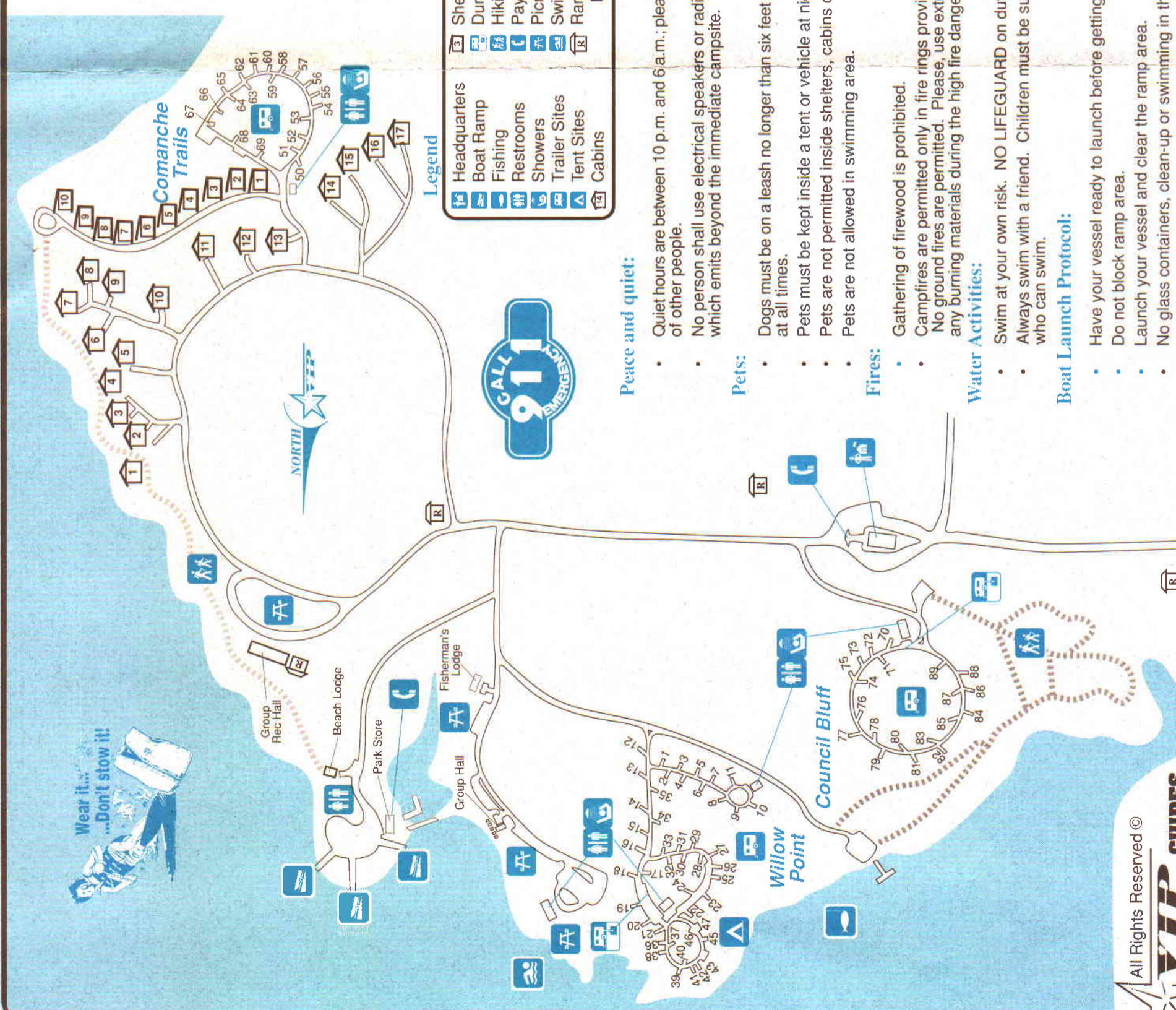
- Swim at your own risk. **NO LIFEGUARD** on duty.
- Always swim with a friend. Children must be supervised by an adult who can swim.

Boat Launch Protocol:

- Have your vessel ready to launch before getting to ramp area.
- Do not block ramp area.
- Launch your vessel and clear the ramp area.
- No glass containers, clean-up or swimming in the ramp area.

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New lake could be black bass paradise

By Gary Enkowitz
Outdoor Columnist

Fishin', or should that be catchin', hasn't been the greatest at Ray Roberts Lake. But don't worry, it will be.

For years, North Texas anglers have been wishing for a lake full of hard fightin', tail walkin' black bass and now their dreams have come true.

On Jan. 1, around 6 a.m., Ray Roberts Lake was opened to motorized boating. Originally named Aubrey Lake, this body of water has been in the planning and construction stages for nearly 40 years. Between 500 and 700 boats cut the frigid waters on opening day and, according to the attending anglers, the fishing was as cold as the water that froze in their rod eyelets.

Approximately two-thirds the size of Lake Lewisville and one-third the size of Lake Texoma, the 29,350 acre Ray Roberts Lake has the potential for becoming the premier black bass lake in the state and possibly the nation.

Based on recommendations from the Texas Parks and Wildlife Department, a concerted effort was made by the Corps of Engineers to preserve as much cover as possible for fish habitat during construction of the lake. In 1985,

Even though an angler's fancy turns to fishing, hunters have not been abandoned at Ray Roberts Lake.

Department Fisheries Biologist Bruce Hysmith and his staff began stocking area stock tanks or ponds with 59,900 Florida bass fingerlings.

Prior to these stockings, all undesirable fish were eliminated from these waters through rotenone treatments. To provide a good forage base, 1,200 threadfin shad were also stocked.

Stocking efforts continued in 1986 with the addition of 50,000 channel catfish, but the largest stocking programs were conducted in 1987 when an additional 100,340 Floridas and 344,508 Coppernose bluegills were deposited into the lake's fertile waters. Also, in December of 1987, 78 brooders (Florida bass weighing between 3-5

pounds) were stocked in the lake. The latest stocking of Florida bass was completed last year when another 733,750 were released.

Hysmith said the basic philosophy for the lake is to stick with a "native system." This means that there are no plans for stocking stripers, pike or other exotics into these waters. However, anglers will find large and healthy populations of crappie, sandies (white bass) and other sunfishes in the lake that are native to the creeks feeding Ray Roberts Lake.

Even though an angler's fancy turns to fishing in the spring, hunters have not been abandoned at Ray Roberts Lake. Steps have been taken to incorporate a wetland concept for waterfowl similar to the Hagerman Wildlife Refuge at Lake Texoma. With plenty of food and two good stopovers, the number of ducks and geese coming down the Central Flyway could greatly increase. Also, for the past two years, 33,000 acres at Ray Roberts Lake have been open for hunting to Type II permit holders. Legal game are migratory game birds, quail, squirrel and rabbits.

Ray Roberts Lake will have excellent recreational facilities upon completion in mid-1992. Two intensive-use recreation facilities, Isle Du Bois Park and Johnson Branch Park, are the largest and will have the most facilities. Included at each park are campsites (multi-use, tent and primitive), picnic sites, swimming beaches, group pavilions, playgrounds, fishing piers and cleaning stations, hiking trails, docks, boat launching ramps, restrooms and showers. Isle Du Bois is south of Pilot Point off the relocated FM 455 and by traveling the relocated FM 922 visitors will be able to reach Johnson Branch.

The other recreational areas are Pond Creek, Pecan Creek Park, Buck Creek Park and Jordan

Park. Included at each site are boat launching ramps, restrooms and courtesy docks. A marina has been planned for the Pond Creek Access Area.

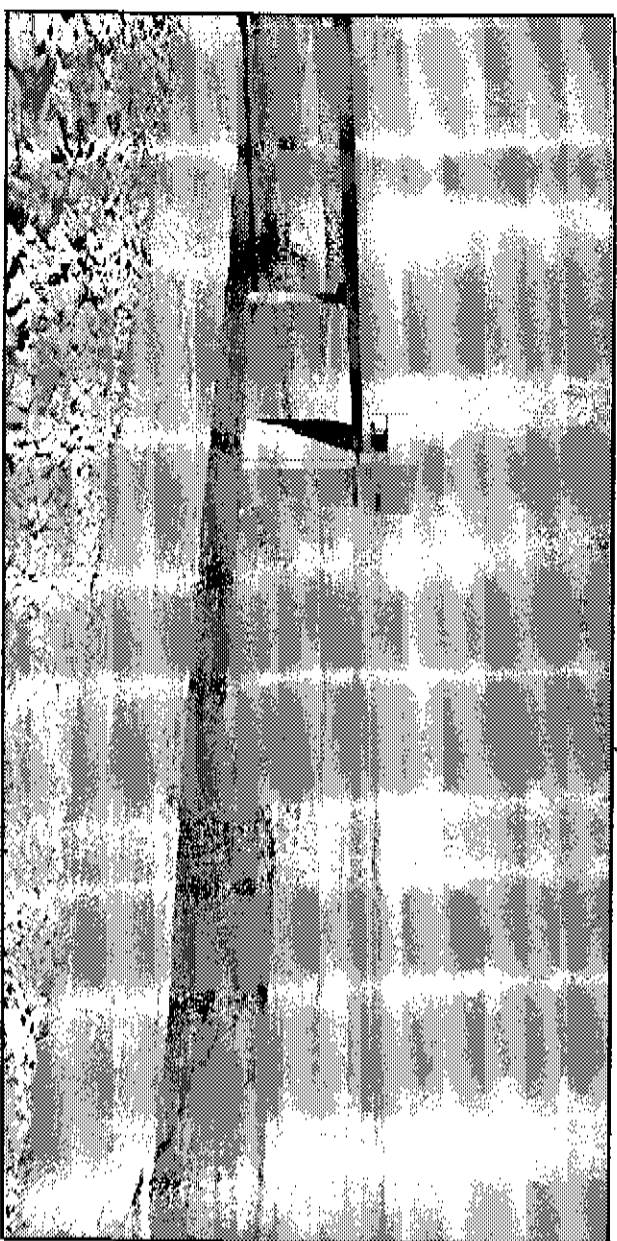
At present, adequate launching facilities are at a minimum, but boats can be launched at a ramp on the west side of the lake. Follow the old FM 455 road. On the east side of the lake, two roadbeds are serving as boat ramps: FM 1190 and 1192, the old highways 372 and 455.

"Some big bass were caught before the lake opened to boating," Hysmith said, "including one that weighed eight pounds, ten ounces. But big bass are not numerous, and the population is dominated by fish smaller than the 14-inch minimum length limit."

Anglers may retain five largemouths per day if they are 14 inches or longer. Also in effect is a 25-crappie per day bag limit, with a minimum length limit of 10 inches. The white bass limit is identical at 25 per day and 10-inch minimum. Stalewide limits apply to other species.

Ray Roberts Lake will be a valuable resource not only as a water supply, or for its aesthetic appeal as an outdoor recreation facility, but as an economic factor. Anglers will be the dominant users of the lake and it is imperative that we, as a group, set an example for others to follow. We must help to protect and nurture our resource from excessive harvest. Practice the catch-and-release concept, or as angler extraordinaire Bill Dance says, "Catch a lot of fish, keep what you can use and release the rest."

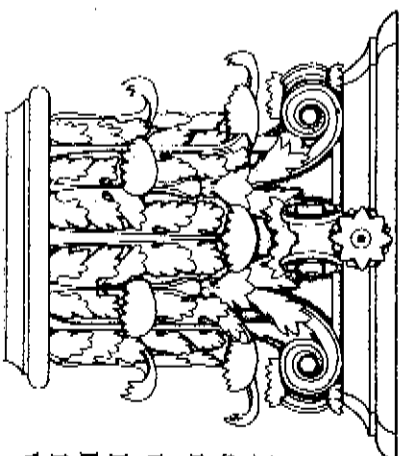
Ray Roberts Lake is brand new and it will take several years for it to develop. The possibility that a new world record black bass could come from these waters is not out of the question. But you'll never find out, of course, unless you wet a line.



DENTON RECORD-CHRONICLE

During the early filling stages, Ray Roberts Lake was stocked with black bass,

catfish, Coppernose bluegills, among many other fish.



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Expectations great for effects of lake

By Candice Stephens
Staff Writer

The sleepy northern Denton County countryside is about to awaken. The creation of Ray Roberts Lake is likely to change the lifestyle of towns like Sanger and Pilot Point. Grazing cattle, rolling hills and stately ranch homes soon will exist beside new homes and businesses that will change the area from predominantly agricultural to a thriving recreational, commercial and residential one.

Within five years, Sanger's population is projected to increase from 4,200 to around 40,000, according to Denton County Commissioner Don Hill, who represents the northwest area of the county.

"People need to be aware that the lake is on the verge of being there. All kinds of development could happen overnight. It would be in everybody's best interest to pay attention to it now because there are people that are paying attention to it, specifically developers," he said.

"I think it's really going to surprise a lot of people by its size and beauty. It's going to be a beautiful lake and great for fishing and boating. When you drive around that area right now, all you see is land. I think people are just going to have to drive over the dam to see the lake and realize it's really, not just a concept," Hill said.

Property values have already been reassessed at higher values reflecting the lake's actual and potential worth, according to Joe Rogers, chief appraiser with the Denton Central Appraisal District.

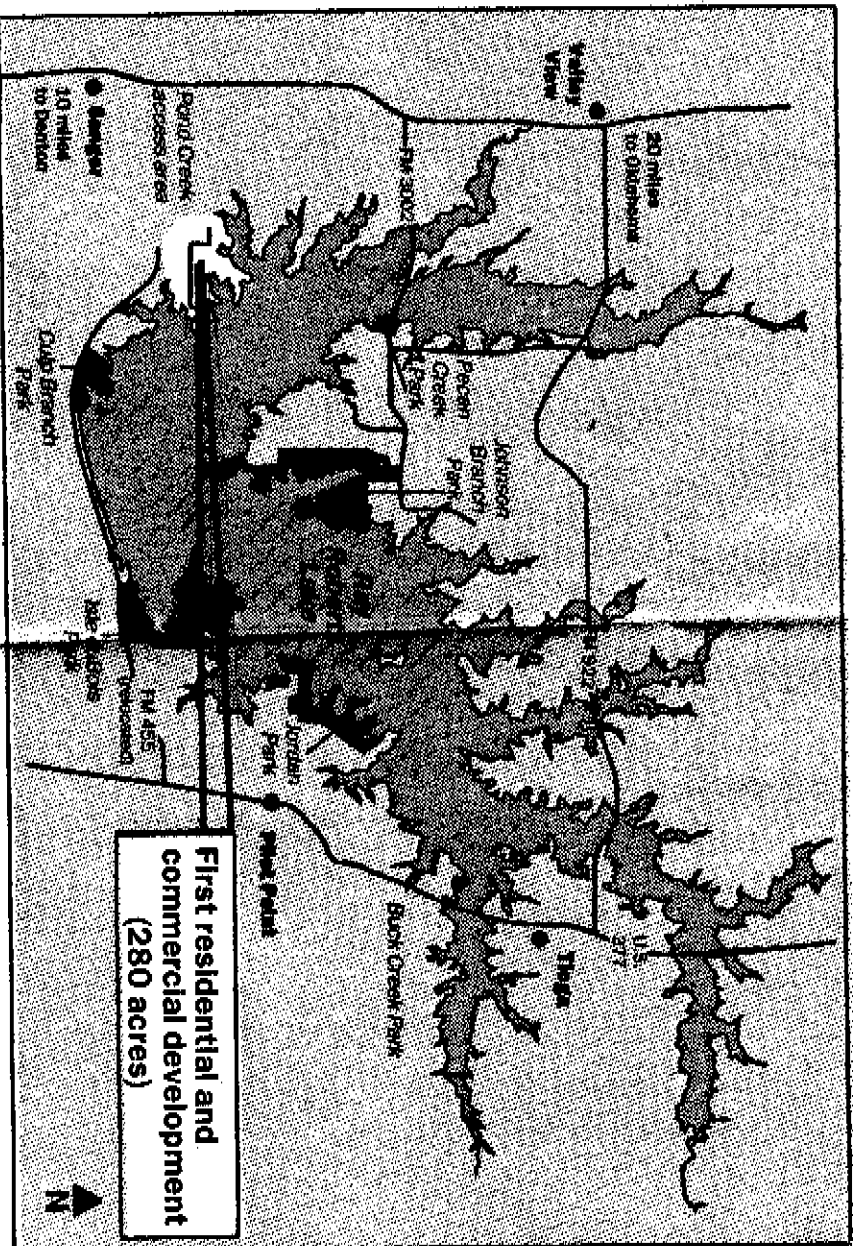
According to Hill, "It will improve the county's tax base and spread the population more evenly throughout the county. But, the lake is going to make a greater demand on services because of its impact on traffic, population and services such as the justice of the peace, the Department of Public Safety and the game warden."

The 29,500-acre lake, named after former congressman Ray Roberts, is expected to begin filling this month, and reach its normal level within one to seven years, depending on rainfall and stream flow. Its normal level will make it 25 percent larger than Lewisville Lake and 75 percent smaller than Lake Lewisville.

Built under the direction of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Ray Roberts Lake will serve as a major recreational area and a future water source for residents of Denton and Dallas, the owners of the lake.

Situated 12 miles northeast of Denton on the Elm

Developments to spring up overnight



RECORD-HERALD FILE

People need to be aware that the lake is on the verge of being there. All kinds of development could happen overnight. It would be in everybody's best interest to pay attention to it now...

Don Hill

Fork of the Trinity River, the lake reaches northward into Cooke and Grayson counties, avoiding direct interference with most of the surrounding towns. Nearly 3,888 acres in park land surround the

impact as the first residential and commercial development at the lake will begin this summer.

Richard Erxslaben, president of SunVest Development Inc. and a member of Lake Ray Roberts Joint Venture in DeSoto, developers of the \$300 million, 280-acre residential and commercial development, said it will not be a "typical development."

"We feel it's going to be a plus to the area and to all of Denton County. We're committed to a quality family development," he said. "The lake will be the largest in the Metroplex. It will be the primary sailing lake for all kinds of boats, including those of 45 to 50 feet. It's a special opportunity to have a lake of this size and this location."

The development is located at Union Hill Road and Lake Ray Roberts Drive. Construction of the first of five phases is expected to begin in June and be completed in August. Upon completion of the first phase, 22 residential lots will be available. Depending on the market, the entire development could be completed within five years, Erxslaben said.

The 203 1-acre residential lots have a minimum of 1,500 square feet. Seventy percent of the lots are lake front. Eventually, the \$100,000 lakeside homes, Erxslaben said, will probably be used by North Dallas residents with upper discretionary incomes as second homes, primary homes and retirement homes.

"The impact on Sanger is going to be fantastic. There is going to be a tremendous economic impact and demands on services. It will be a mixed blessing for some people," he said.

In addition to the residential development, 10 acres on Jones Road are being reserved for commercial development, including gas stations, marine sales, boat sales and restaurants. Development of a marina will coincide with the lake filling.

"It will all come very quickly. People will be shocked or pleasantly surprised. We're planning on a nice development. We're going to have quality. A lot of good things are coming together on this," Erxslaben said.

Hill stressed the importance of the first phase of the development.

"It's important we make sure this beginning goes right and is developed the way people want it. The first phase will show how the rest of the phases go. You can bet that other developers will be watching how this first phase goes, too."

Lake and area projections

- **SANGER'S POPULATION** is expected to increase from 4,200 people to about 40,000.
- **THE 29,500-ACRE LAKE'S** normal level will make it 25 percent larger than Lewisville Lake and 75 percent smaller than Lake Texoma.
- **THE LAKE'S LOCATION** is 12 miles northeast of Denton on the Elm Fork of the Trinity River. It reaches northward into Cooke and Grayson counties.
- **NEARLY 3,888 ACRES** in park land surround the lake.

6-12-88

Funding for Ray Roberts Lake OK'd

By The Associated Press

Washington — Ray Roberts Lake northeast of Denton is on a list of 13 water development projects approved for funding by a Senate subcommittee.

The lake was allocated \$20 million of a \$123 funding package approved Tuesday by the Senate Appropriations subcommittee on energy and water development.

"These projects are essential to my state's economic vitality," said Sen. Lloyd Bentsen, D-Texas, who earlier had testified in favor of the projects.

The House energy and water

development appropriations bill includes the same amounts for each of the 13 projects, making it likely final legislation will include the full amount.

The funding is to be used during the fiscal year that begins Oct. 1.

Ray Roberts Lake will be a water supply source for the cities of Denton and Dallas.

A northeast Texas lake that has been under construction since 1958 also is on the list of water development projects approved for funding.

The Cooper Lake project, in Delta and Hopkins counties on the South Sulphur River, was

allocated \$22.8 million.

Cooper Lake has been under construction since 1958 and was in litigation from May 1971 through July 1984, Bentsen's office said.

The committee also approved funding for the following:

- \$25 million for a flood control project on the San Antonio Channel in San Antonio, Bexar County.
- \$11.3 million for a navigation project at Freeport Harbor in Brazoria County.
- \$8 million for a flood control project on Boggy Creek in Austin.
- \$7.5 million for a flood control project on Lake Wichita and Holiday Creek in Wichita and Archer counties.
- \$5.8 million for a navigation

project at the mouth of the Colorado River in Matagorda County.

■ \$4.5 million for construction of Joe Pool Lake in Dallas, Ellis and Tarrant counties on Mountain Creek.

■ \$4.4 million for a flood control project in El Paso County.

■ \$4.4 million for a flood control project on Taylors Bayou in Beaumont-Port Arthur, Jefferson County.

■ \$4.3 million for a flood control project on Clear Creek in Harris and Galveston counties.

■ \$4 million for a navigation project on the Corpus Christi Ship Channel in Nueces County.

■ \$1.4 million for a flood control project on Buffalo Bayou in Harris and Fort Bend counties.

Ray Roberts Dam, Lake dedication set

The Fort Worth District of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers and the cities of Denton and Dallas will dedicate Ray Roberts Dam and Lake at 11 a.m. June 30, a news release from the corps announced.

The public is invited to the ceremony, which will include guest speakers U.S. Rep. Dick Armev; federal Judge Robert Parker; Lt. Gen. E.R. Heiberg III, the corps' chief of engineers; Dallas Mayor Ahneltie Strauss; Denton Mayor Ray

Stephens; and former U.S. Rep. Jim Collins.

The ceremony will honor former Congressman Ray Roberts. A brass plaque to be placed in one of the future parks will be unveiled and the official closing of the gates for retaining water will take place.

Ray Roberts Dam and Lake is northeast of Denton between Sanger and Pilot Point. The ceremony will be on top of the dam at the outlet works tower Texas 455, the road across from the dam.

will be closed to through traffic from 6 a.m. to 2 p.m. June 30. A detour below the dam will provide through-traffic access.

Visitors to the ceremony may approach the outlet works tower from either east or west and park on the dam. Shuttle buses will transport guests to the ceremony site from parking areas. Seating will be provided for 400 people.

In case of rain, the dedication ceremony will be moved to the Denton Civic Center at Bell and McKinney streets.

7-1-87

Rain augurs well for new lake

Project means development, independence

By Steve Beeler
Staff Writer

For Denton, Ray Roberts Lake will mean never having to rely upon others for water — or at least not until well into the next century.

That's something few cities in Texas can claim, and something that will give Denton a long-term advantage in growing and developing, City Manager Lloyd Harrell said Tuesday. Harrell joined other city officials and dignitaries at the ceremonial dedication of the lake project Tuesday at the Denton Civic Center.

"For us, as far as the future of Denton goes, this really does guarantee us a firm water supply up to the early part of the next century," Harrell said. "It provides us a dependable water supply that we can count on."

The lake, which will span the north half of Denton County, reaching into Cooke and Grayson counties, is sponsored jointly by the cities of Denton and Dallas and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.

Denton's share of Ray Roberts' future water supply amounts to about 24 percent, with Dallas owning rights to 76 percent. Owning a portion of the lake's yield gives the city a distinct advantage over other municipalities, Harrell said.

"The advantage is that we will control water and not have to purchase it from Dallas or elsewhere, like a lot of suburbs," he said. "This will put more of our water utility's destiny in our own hands."

Denton Mayor Ray Stephens, in his address at Tuesday's ceremony, said the joint project is a prime example of

By Donna Fielder
Staff Writer

A threat of rain moved the dedication of Ray Roberts Dam and Lake into Denton Civic Center Tuesday, an occasion reminiscent of the 1982 official groundbreaking of the lake. It rained that day, too.

Col. Albert J. Genetti Jr. of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers began Tuesday's ceremony by recalling that earlier soggy day when some earth had to be moved indoors to the Civic Center to be symbolically "broken."

"Water's what this is all about," he said. "We're starting off on the right foot."

With a regulation red-white-and-blue-bunting ceremony that included dignitaries of local, state and national importance, the lake and dam were officially dedicated and the floodgates were symbolically closed to begin the filling of the lake.

Dallas Mayor Pro Tem John Evans presented a proclamation to former congressman Roberts for his dedication in getting authorization for the project.

"When we look at what has been accomplished," he said, "we can know full well the people will have water, the area will thrive and this will be a better place because of it."

Denton Mayor Ray Stephens called the project one of the most significant in this decade. He also presented a proclamation to Roberts, and in addition cited the local efforts of Tom Harpool, the late Joe Skiles and Homer Bly in making the lake a reality. Bob Nelson, Denton executive director of utilities, has worked on the day-to-day details, Stephens said.

"He's one of the few engineers who speak English instead of engineerese," the mayor said.

Former U.S. Congressman Jim Collins said Roberts has been instrumental in the building of six lakes in this area.



DENTON RECORD-CHRONICLE/BARRON LUDLUM
held Tuesday at Denton Civic Center.

honoring him during the dedication of Ray Roberts Dam and Lake

Former Congressman Ray Roberts replies to remarks

cooperation between the two cities. "The completion of Ray Roberts project is one of the most significant accomplishments in this decade for the cities of Denton and Dallas, and all of the North Texas area," he said. "The lake will be Denton's major water supply well into the 21st century."

"The Ray Roberts project is a fine example of the spirit of cooperation between communities and their citizens, and officials in federal, state and local governments who had a job to do and together saw it through to completion." Stephens, who honored former Congressman Ray Roberts with a procla-

mation, thanked others who have had a part in making the lake project a reality. He cited city staff members, especially Utilities Director Bob Nelson, the Denton County Commissioners Court and the Denton Chamber of Commerce. He gave special recognition to Tom Harpool and the late Joe Skiles.

See LAKE/4A