

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Washington, DC 20314-1000

ER 1130-2-550
Change 7

CECW-CO

Regulation
No. 1130-2-550

30 January 2013

Project Operations
RECREATION OPERATIONS AND MAINTENANCE
GUIDANCE AND PROCEDURES

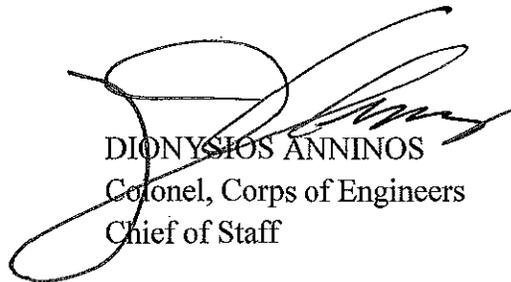
1. This Change 7 to ER 1130-2-550, Chapter 3, 15 Nov 96, provides revised guidance for Project Master Plans and Operational Management Plans. This revised chapter establishes guidelines for more efficient, time and cost savings concerning the development of master plans.

2. Substitute the attached pages as shown below:

| Chapter | Remove pages | Insert Pages |
|-----------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Chapter 3 | 3-1 through 3-2 | 3-1 through 3-2 |

3. File this change sheet in front of the publications for reference purposes.

FOR THE COMMANDER:



DIONYSIOS ANNINOS
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Chief of Staff

CHAPTER 3 - PROJECT MASTER PLANS AND OPERATIONAL MANAGEMENT PLANS

3-1. Purpose. This chapter establishes the policy for the preparation of master plans and Operational Management Plans (OMPs) for USACE civil works water resource projects (Corps projects).

3-2. Policy. It is the policy of the Corps of Engineers (Corps) that:

a. The Master Plan (MP) is the strategic land use management document that guides the comprehensive management and development of all project recreational, natural, and cultural resources throughout the life of the water resource project. OPMs implement the resource objectives and development needs identified in the Master Plan. MP and OMP will be developed and implemented for each Corps project and are intended to work in tandem.

b. MPs will be developed and kept current for Civil Works projects operated and maintained by the Corps and will include all land (fee, easements or other interests) originally acquired for the project and any subsequent land (fee, easements or other interests) acquired to support the operations and authorized missions of the project. Preparation of the MP shall be initiated as soon as possible after congressional approval of the project, so that approved recreation and natural resource management activities can be implemented when the project becomes operational. When there is no demonstrated need or opportunity to manage project lands, they may be exempted from this requirement only with the MSC Commander's approval.

c. MPs and OMs should take national performance measures, environmental operating principles, and the civil works strategic plan into account when the plans are developed and/or revised.

d. At the discretion of the MSC Commander, master plans will be prepared for projects where lands were acquired in fee title by the Corps, but are managed by others, such as local protection projects.

e. The MP will cover a single project or several projects, depending on what is best for management of the resources. MPs using a watershed approach (encompassing several projects) are encouraged, when appropriate. This methodology can provide economic and resource management benefits. It is also appropriate to group a number of projects administratively managed as a unit and/or located in a given geographic region into a single MP. Each MSC will coordinate with their respective districts on the scope, content, and organization of each MP. The MP will cover all resources, including but not limited to water, fish and wildlife, vegetation, cultural, aesthetic, interpretive, recreational, and mineral. The plan will also consider the land (fee, easement, or other interest) acquired for project operations and outgranted lands. The funding needed for MP supplements and revisions will be addressed in the annual O&M budget preparation.

f. The District Operations Division is responsible for MP development, implementation, periodic review, and revision. Interdisciplinary master plan teams, composed of project and district personnel and appointed by district leadership, will identify information needs and means for obtaining resources, study costs, schedules, tasks, and responsibilities. When a MP revision is needed, Operations Division will coordinate the development of a Project Management Plan to address the above elements.

g. Master plans will focus on four primary components: (1) regional and ecosystem needs, (2) project resource capabilities and suitability, (3) expressed public interests that are compatible with authorized purposes, and (4) environmental sustainability elements. The MP will ensure that natural and cultural resource mandates and considerations are incorporated. The MP also will ensure that economy, quality, need, and appropriate scale be given equal attention in the management of resources and facilities. See Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-550 for specific guidance on the format and content of a MP.

h. District commanders will be responsible for ensuring that MPs are completed for all projects and will be responsible for approving MPs, supplements and revisions which meet the criteria listed in Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-550. A concise review of each MP will be conducted by an Operations-led interdisciplinary team every five years. This review will be brief and general in extent and shall utilize MP performance measure criteria and criteria in Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-550 to determine if supplementation or revision is recommended. At the conclusion of the review, the District Commander or designee shall sign a brief statement explaining the status of the MP. Note: It is important to have an administrative record showing that the MP continues to be relevant even if some degree of supplementation or revision is needed.

i. Project personnel will develop and fully implement the project OMP, in accordance with the approved project MP. The OMP will be approved by the District Chief of Operations or designee. The OMP will be updated annually at the project level. Costs for annual update of the Project OMP will be included in the project's budget as a baseline item. See Chapter 3 of EP 1130-2-550 for specific guidance on the format and content of an OMP.