

Malta Bend Community Lake

25-Year Area Management Plan FY 2019-2043



Brian Canaday

Fisheries Division Chief

4/24/2019

Date

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PLANNING TEAM

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Signature

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FISHERIES DIVISION

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4/24/2019

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OVERVIEW

- **Official Area Name:** Malta Bend Community Lake, #5509
- **Year of Initial Acquisition:** 1955
- **Acreage:** 25 acres
- **County:** Saline
- **Region:** Central
- **Division with Administrative Responsibility:** Fisheries
- **Division with Maintenance Responsibility:** Wildlife
- **Statements of Purpose:**
 - A. Strategic Direction**

Malta Bend Community Lake is managed to provide high quality angling for area users and to protect the lake's water quality.
 - B. Desired Future Condition**

The desired future condition at Malta Bend Community Lake is a quality sport fishery.
 - C. Federal Aid Statement**

N/A

GENERAL INFORMATION AND CONDITIONS

- I. Special Considerations**
 - A. Priority Areas:** None
 - B. Natural Areas:** None

- II. Important Natural Features and Resources**
 - A. Species of Conservation Concern:** None known.
 - B. Caves:** None
 - C. Springs:** None

- III. Existing Infrastructure**
 - One gravel parking lot
 - Malta Bend Community Lake (5-acre fishing lake)

- IV. Area Restrictions or Limitations**
 - A. Deed Restrictions or Ownership Considerations:** There are no known deed restrictions.
 - B. Federal Interests:** Federal funds may be used in the management of this land. Fish and wildlife agencies may not allow recreational activities and related facilities that would interfere with the purpose for which the State is managing the land. Other uses

may be acceptable and must be assessed in each specific situation.

- C. **Easements:** Mid-Mo Energy pipeline easement
- D. **Cultural Resources:** No known cultural resources.
- E. **Endangered Species:** None observed.
- F. **Boundary Issues:** None

MANAGEMENT CONSIDERATIONS

V. Terrestrial Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Maintain grounds surrounding the lake for public users to enjoy.
- 2) Control invasive plant species.

Management Objective 1: Manage a naturally developing stand of timber along the lake edge to enhance the aesthetics of the area and to aid in erosion control.

- Strategy 1: Allow natural succession to continue. Monitor forest health and respond, as needed, to address insect or disease outbreaks. (Wildlife, Forestry)
- Strategy 2: Monitor and control invasive species. (Wildlife, Fisheries)

VI. Aquatic Resource Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Provide quality sport fish populations.
- 2) Manage for native aquatic vegetation.
- 3) Install and maintain fish attractors to improve angling efficiency.
- 4) Prevent the infestation and spread of aquatic nuisance species.

Management Objective 1: Manage for quality angling opportunities.

- Strategy 1: Survey fish populations to monitor fisheries and assist with future management decisions (e.g., regulation changes, habitat alterations, stocking rate manipulations, new species introductions). (Fisheries)
- Strategy 2: Maintain alternative angling opportunities through supplemental stocking of channel catfish. (Fisheries)

Management Objective 2: Manage for diverse native aquatic vegetation.

- Strategy 1: Increase aquatic vegetation diversity through broadcast seeding and plantings of native vegetation, such as pickerel weed, burhead, water plantain, pink water lilies, and spatterdock. (Fisheries)
- Strategy 2: Implement herbicide treatments to reduce or eliminate nuisance species and improve angler access when necessary. (Fisheries)

Management Objective 3: Install and maintain fish attractors to improve angling efficiency.

Strategy 1: Install brush piles as fish attractors in strategic locations throughout the lake and replace older piles as they break down. (Fisheries)

Management Objective 4: Prevent infestation and spread of aquatic nuisance species.

Strategy 1: Continue public education efforts concerning aquatic nuisance species and their effects on native fish populations through signage. (Fisheries)

Strategy 2: Reduce or eliminate nuisance aquatic vegetation through chemical treatments. Reduce or eliminate nuisance aquatic fishes and invertebrates using approved methods. (Fisheries)

VII. Public Use Management Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Provide for fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities.

Management Objective 1: Provide for fishing and wildlife viewing opportunities.

Strategy 1: Maintain/enhance suitable access to facilitate ease of bank-fishing opportunities by maintaining gravel parking lot and mowing along dam and bank. (Wildlife, Fisheries)

VIII. Administrative Considerations

Challenges and Opportunities:

- 1) Clearly identify area boundaries.

Management Objective 1: Maintain clearly identified property lines.

Strategy 1: Inspect and maintain Missouri Department of Conservation signage along area boundaries on a regular cycle. (Wildlife)

Strategy 2: Resolve boundary issues with adjoining landowners as they arise. (Wildlife, Fisheries)

APPENDICES

Area Background:

This 25-acre area is primarily forested with a 5-acre fishing lake. It includes a gravel access drive and gravel parking lot.

To access this area: From Malta Bend, take Highway 65 west about 1 mile, take Highway 127 south 1.25 miles.

Current Land and Water Types:

Land/Water Type	Acres	% of Area
Forest and Woodland	14	56
Old Field	6	24
Lakes/Ponds	5	20
Total	25	100

Public Input Summary:

The draft Malta Bend Community Lake Management Plan was available for a public comment period August 1–31, 2018. MDC received comments from two respondents (Appendix A). The Malta Bend Community Lake Planning Team carefully reviewed and considered these ideas as they finalized this document. A brief summary of public input themes, including how they were incorporated or why they were not, can be found below. Rather than respond to each individual comment, comments are grouped into general themes and are addressed collectively.

MDC responses to themes and issues identified through the Malta Bend Community Lake Management Plan public comment period.

Suggests increasing the number of fish in the lake.

There are no immediate plans to change the management of the lake. There are quality largemouth bass and bluegill populations at the current time. These populations are self-sustaining under the current fishing regulations. Channel catfish are periodically stocked as needed. Fish population surveys are also done every two years to monitor the fishery.

Suggests providing an ADA-accessible restroom near the fishing lake.

We do not have any current plans to add an ADA-accessible privy at this time, but will actively seek site feasibility and potential opportunities to place an ADA-accessible restroom as funding and maintenance staffing to care for the facility become available.

Maps:

Figure 1: Area Map

Figure 2: Easement Map

Additional Appendices:

Appendix A: Malta Bend Community Lake Management Plan Public Comments

Figure 1: Area Map

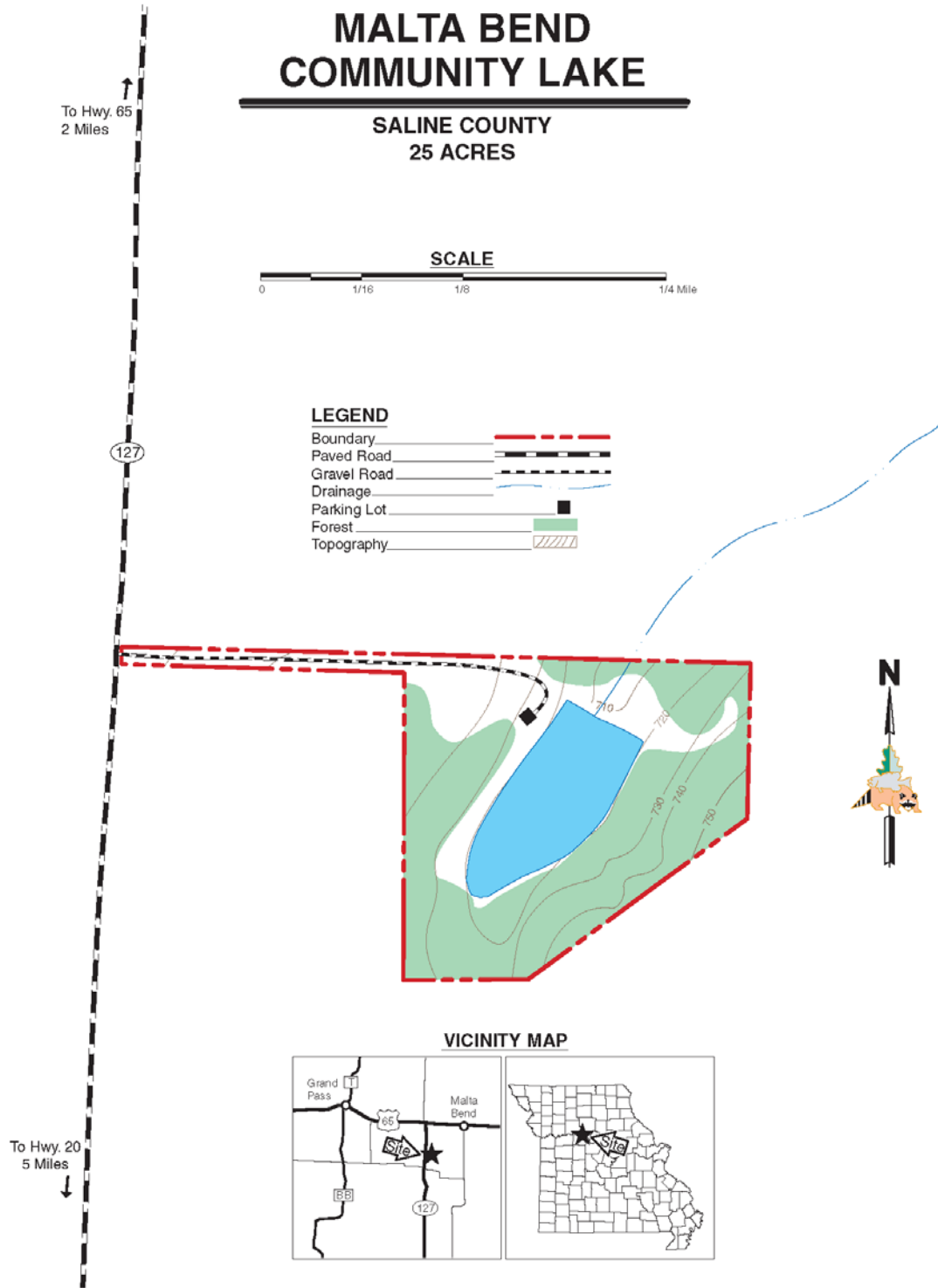


Figure 2: Easement Map



Appendix A: Malta Bend Community Lake Management Plan Public Comments

Received during public comment period (August 1–31, 2018):

Is there any possible way of putting restrooms there. We love fishing at that lake, but one thing gets in the way. My daughter is disabled and the banks are perfect for her but there are no restrooms close by for her to use, so we can't fish there much. Thank you!
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More fish? Yes please!
