

A modification and improvement to the proposal for recreational development at Blunt Reservoir was made by the National Park Service in September 1966. This change provides for fewer facilities at Blunt Reservoir because of recently developed recreational facilities at Hipple Lake and Lake Oahe, on the Missouri River, which are within 30 miles of Blunt Reservoir.

Additional water-based recreation is needed in the west-central part of the Oahe unit area; therefore, recreation facilities were proposed at North Scatterwood Lake, a natural lake, that will be stabilized, as a result of construction of the project.

The total investment, O.M. & R. costs, and annual benefits for both Blunt Reservoir and North Scatterwood Lake recreation developments would be the same as for the original plan for Blunt Reservoir.

The Bureau of Sport Fisheries and Wildlife has formulated a coordinated plan for development of 18 fish and wildlife management areas. Eleven of these areas would serve as mitigation areas and seven areas would be for enhancement of fish and wildlife.

Six of the mitigation areas, totaling 10,355 acres, are proposed for Federal management and will compensate for habitat losses—pot-hole and marsh areas—adversely affecting migratory waterfowl.

The other five mitigation areas, totaling 3,471 acres, are proposed for State management and will compensate for habitat losses affecting pheasants and other upland game deer and to some extent waterfowl.

Three of the enhancement areas, totaling 12,005 acres, are proposed for Federal management of migratory waterfowl. The other four enhancement areas, totaling 14,215 acres, are proposed for State management of fish and to a lesser degree wildlife.

The Corps of Engineers prepared the proposed plan for channel improvements of the James River to serve as a principal waterway for conveyance and disposal of irrigation return flows.

Benefits accruing to flood protection derive from the ability for the improved channel to carry spring floodflows when it is not being utilized to carry irrigation return flows. The James pumping plant will contribute to flood control by diverting floodflows from the James River to Byron Reservoir.

Under existing conditions the quality of water in the James River varies considerably each year. The State of South Dakota has suggested a total dissolved solids (TDS) standard of 1,000 parts per million for the James River in the reach from the James Diversion Dam to Huron, this being the only part of the stream classified as a domestic water supply.

Quality of water records for 9 years, 1958-65, indicate that the State's suggested standards are exceeded on the average of 100 days a year.

We have made studies to determine the effect that the initial stage of the Oahe unit would have on the quality of James River flows in this reach of the stream.

It was found that irrigation return flows would probably cause an increase in TDS to undesirable levels during the months July to November and would have a minor diluting effect on the otherwise poor quality flows during the winter months of December to March.

Studies indicate that by importing an additional 36,000 acre-feet of water from the Missouri River through the Oahe unit system for dilution of irrigation return flows, satisfactory quality of water can