

RESERVOIR UPDATE

FALL 2023

PROPERTY OWNERS AND COMMUNITY STAKEHOLDERS NEWSLETTER



ENVIRONMENTAL UPDATE

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) is the lead federal agency for the proposed reservoir. They are responsible for assessing the environmental impacts of the project in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA).

Information has been provided to the USACE to draft an environmental assessment. The project team is coordinating with the USACE on wetland and stream impacts that require permitting through Section 404 of the Clean Water Act. A public notice from the USACE is a required component of the Section 404 permit and will be released to the public and area property owners.

Field studies have been completed for threatened and endangered species associated with the project. These include Indiana bats, northern long-eared bats, and gray bats, Ozark cavefish, Neosho mucket, rabbitsfoot, western fanshell, and purple lilliput. As mentioned in a previous newsletter, gray bats and Ozark cavefish were identified during the field surveys. We continue to work with United States Fish and Wildlife (USFWS) and Missouri Department of Conservation (MDC) on appropriate coordination.



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PROJECT WEBSITE

Information about the Reservoir Project can be found at missouriamwater.com > **News & Community** > **Reservoir Project**

- A project map, showing the highest lake level expected during normal conditions
- Past newsletter issues



LAND ACQUISITIONS

Our team frequently gets asked about the timeline of both the reservoir construction and land acquisition. Because the project is dependent upon environmental reviews from state and federal agencies, we cannot provide exact timeframes for the land acquisition and construction of the project. However, we recognize this uncertainty can complicate the current and future plans of impacted property owners.

In an effort to accommodate immediate financial needs that property owners may have, Missouri American Water and/or our representatives are willing to discuss how we may be able to provide a small up-front payment toward the full acquisition of significantly impacted properties. Please note that this is strictly optional, and all impacted property owners will be contacted once the project progresses to the property acquisition phase.

If you wish to discuss a potential up-front payment prior to full property acquisition, please contact Phil Erwin at 417-438-9954 or perwin@olsson.com to schedule a meeting.

CONTACT US

QUESTIONS REGARDING THE RESERVOIR PROJECT

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QUESTIONS REGARDING LANDOWNER ACCESS AGREEMENTS AND ACQUISITIONS

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