

ATTACHMENT B

Principles, Goals, and Management Objectives for the Beaver Lake Watershed Management Strategy Adopted 7/10/08

Guiding Principles

Beaver Lake is the principal water supply for the Northwest Arkansas region—recognized as a lifeline for current citizens and businesses, and for the projected growth of the region. People in Northwest Arkansas also enjoy the beauty of the lake, the large open water and surrounding hills for fishing, swimming, boating, and picnicking. The Lake is a key to the region's quality of life.

People appreciate that most areas of Beaver Lake are clean and meeting the State's water quality standards. However, the upper end of the Lake is being impacted by sediment and algae. This in turn impacts the drinking water supply, recreation, and aquatic habitat in the Upper Lake.

Wishing to be proactive in protecting Beaver Lake, the Northwest Arkansas Council has engaged the services of Tetra Tech to facilitate the development of a management strategy for the Beaver Lake Watershed.

Aware that the success of the strategy depends on the involvement, input, and support of the community, the strategy will be guided by key stakeholder groups in the watershed. An effective strategy also depends on sound science, good engineering practices, and technical feasibility. Recommendations for maintaining a high quality, abundant drinking water supply and restoring water quality in impaired waters will address specific issues, support the diverse, strong, and growing economy of Northwest Arkansas, be cost-effective, and respect private property rights.

The principles outlined above will guide the development of the Beaver Lake Watershed Management Strategy, which will be implemented through a program of outreach, education, stewardship, resource management, and support for compliance with current regulations.

Overarching Goals

- Maintain a long-term, high-quality drinking water supply to meet present needs and continuing growth of the region..
- Restore water quality of impaired stream and lake areas (as listed on ADEQ's list of impaired waters).
- Minimize additional costs and regulations for people living and working in the watershed.

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Management Objectives for Beaver Lake

- Minimize risks to public health and safety.
- Minimize taste, odor, and color problems in the public drinking water supplies.
- Minimize impact on water supply intakes and treatment operations.
- Meet long-term needs for water supply in the region.
- Maintain recreation enjoyment and ensure that recreation reflects environmentally sound stewardship of the lake.
- Restore water quality in impaired areas to meet water quality standards.
- Provide an economically priced water supply.

Management Objectives for Impaired Streams

- Restore water quality of impaired streams and rivers to meet water quality standards.

Management Objectives for Unimpaired Streams

- Provide general recommendations to protect and maintain water quality in unimpaired waters to address potential hydrology and water quality impacts.