

IAG Recreation Vision Statement
for the Lay Development

The Lay development offers outstanding boating and fishing opportunities. The reservoir supports a high quality sport fishery. Research conducted by ADCNR indicates exceptional bass condition and growth. Fishing is a primary year-round recreational activity on the lake and attracts numerous small and medium sized tournaments annually, as well as many individual boaters. Recreational boating, including canoeing and sailing, and jet ski use, is also a popular activity on the reservoir particularly during the warm weather months.

The northern portion of the reservoir is relatively narrow offering a highly scenic, riverine setting. The southern portion of the reservoir widens modestly from Wilsonville to Lay Dam. Submerged, standing trees, left in the reservoir for fish habitat, make navigation on the reservoir a challenge and have raised concerns of some stakeholders regarding the overall safety of the reservoir for boating. The western shoreline of the reservoir, downstream from Wilsonville, is characterized by heavy residential development. The eastern shoreline of the reservoir is relatively remote with limited public access sites. Development pressures around the reservoir are expected to result in continuing development of the shoreline, which over time could threaten water quality, impact scenic values and limit public access to the shoreline in some areas. A potential new bridge crossing could also influence development pressures and may change demand for public shoreline access to the eastern shore of the reservoir.

The long-term vision for the Lay development is to protect and enhance its high quality fishery while providing for a diversity of recreation opportunities consistent with the desired physical characteristics of the reservoir.

Improvements to be considered at the Lay development include:

- Ensuring adequate maintenance of public recreation facilities.
- Improving public access for bank fishing.
- Improving the safety of boat travel on the lake.
- Investigating shoreline trail and river trail opportunities, including boat carry-in access sites for canoeing opportunities.
- Investigating public access opportunities along the eastern shore of the lake, including potential demand for a large capacity boat ramp facility and day use area.
- Optimizing the capacity, operations and maintenance of existing recreation facilities to accommodate existing and future demand.
- Consider improving access for swimming.
- Development of new facilities if a proven need arises, such as improved and primitive camping.