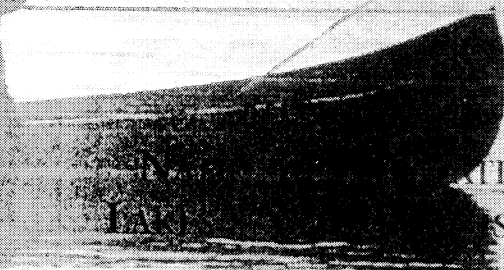
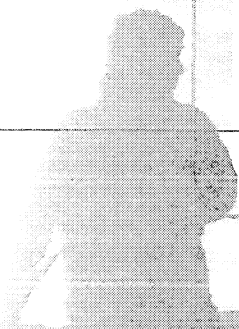
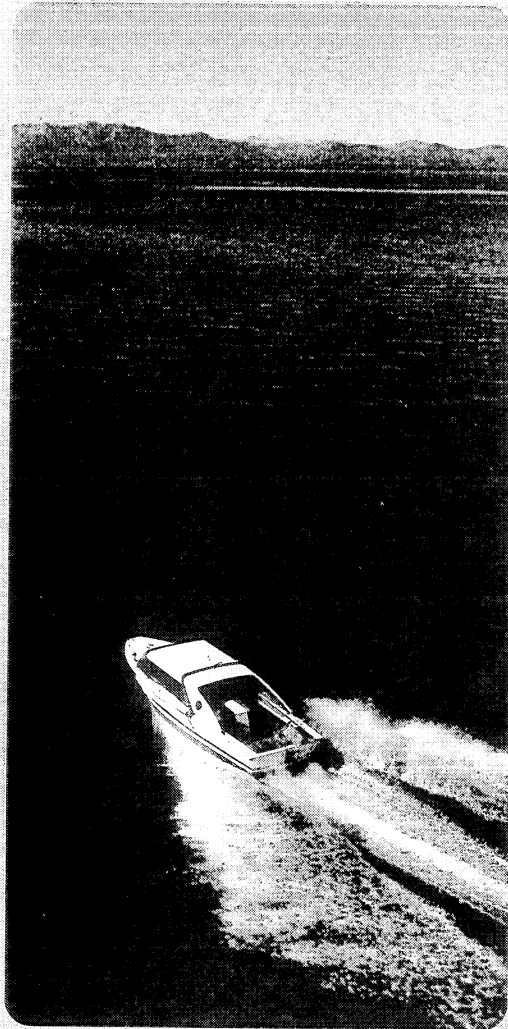


# RESERVOIRS OF OPPORTUNITY



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JUNE 1999

## EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

performance measures for water-related recreation services, but these plans and measures should be made consistent across all agencies.

**Recommendation 4-9** *Establish regular federal, state and local government and tribal inter/intra-agency and private sector development assignments, exchanges and meetings for federal lakes supervisors and staff to enhance expertise and understanding.* Agencies should foster a culture of cooperation in federal lake management. When managers at federal lakes are particularly successful at offering or improving recreation services, or solving related problems, these successes should be shared to the benefit of everyone in federal lake management.

**Recommendation 4-10** *In the implementation of the National Recreational Fisheries Conservation Plan, give special emphasis to federal lakes.* The basic objective of the recreational fisheries conservation plan is closely aligned with the goals and guiding principles of the National Recreation Lakes Study. Improving habitat for fish, increasing opportunities for the angler, educating the public about recreational fisheries programs, and developing partnerships to achieve these aims are all means of enhancing recreation and conserving the environment.

**Recommendation 4-11** *Encourage agencies to work with communities on lake management issues.* In regard to lake use, there are competing interests in communities, including businesses, industries, recreation users, and environmental advocates. Learning to interact with communities and these interests in a flexible, productive manner will help agencies institutionalize the practice of meaningful community involvement at federal lakes and throughout the federal government.

## 5. Identify and close the gap between recreation needs and services.

**Recommendation 5-1** *Conduct assessments at federal lakes to determine customer needs, infrastructure and facility needs, and natural resource capabilities.* Develop a strategic plan for future investments in recreation infrastructures in response to these assessments. Consistent with the strategic plan, reduce the recreation facilities maintenance backlog over the next 10 years.

**Recommendation 5-2** *Improve lake water quality through a watershed management approach.* Clean lake water should be treated by lake management agencies as both a recreation and environmental priority. These agencies, at all levels, should support the total watershed approach to clean water. At the same time, they should also direct an appropriate portion of their resources to keeping lakes clean. The Environmental Protection Agency should fulfill its expressed commitment to support clean lakes under the Clean Water Act.

