

# 2020 NATURAL RESOURCE PLAN

Release of Draft Plan and SEIS Webinar

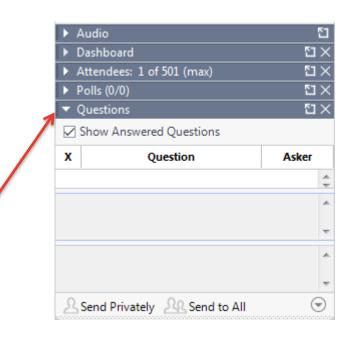
June 14, 2019





# **About Today's Meeting**

- This a Webinar Meeting
- Attendees are in listen-only mode
- Questions will be accepted during the webinar; please use the question box to submit your questions
- This session is being recorded and will be available on the TVA.com website
- Natural Resource Plan 2020 website: www.tva.gov/nrp





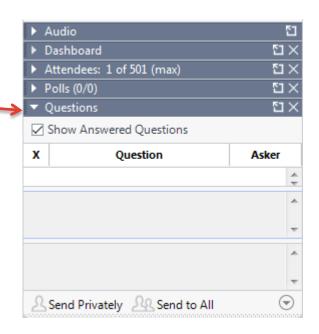
# Webinar Agenda

- Webinar Kick Off and Logistics
- Overview of the 2020 Natural Resource Plan
- Overview of NEPA Process and Supplemental Environmental Impact Statement
- Clarifying Questions from Audience
- Closing Remarks



# **Clarifying Questions**

Use the 'Question'
 area of the webinar
 toolbar to ask clarifying
 questions







# 2020 Natural Resource Plan Update Webinar

Anthony Summitt Natural Resources

# TVA exists to make our region the best place in the country to live, work and play



# Energy

Manage the river and the lands along it for multiple benefits



### **Environment**

Protect and enhance cultural and natural resources



# Economic Development

Invest in communities to create and sustain the valley as a destination for tourism and outdoor recreation



# Natural Resource Plan and Update

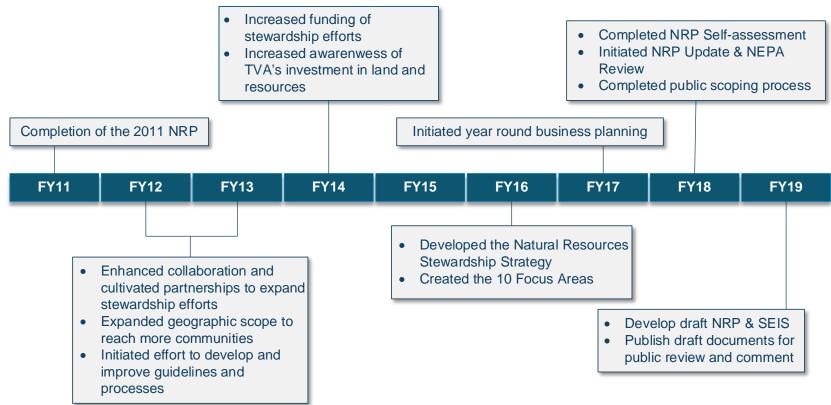
The Natural Resource Plan was published in 2011 as a 20-year guidance document for TVA's resource stewardship efforts.

Through the 2020 Natural Resource Plan Update we will:

- Update the plan to align with TVA's Mission and Environmental Policy and Natural Resources Stewardship Strategy
- Shift to strategic plan with objectives, benefits and values for each focus area
- Create a plan that supports flexibility and responsiveness
- Implementation of the plan through 3-5 Year Action Plan



# Natural Resource Plan Update Timeline





# Natural Resource Plan – Structure

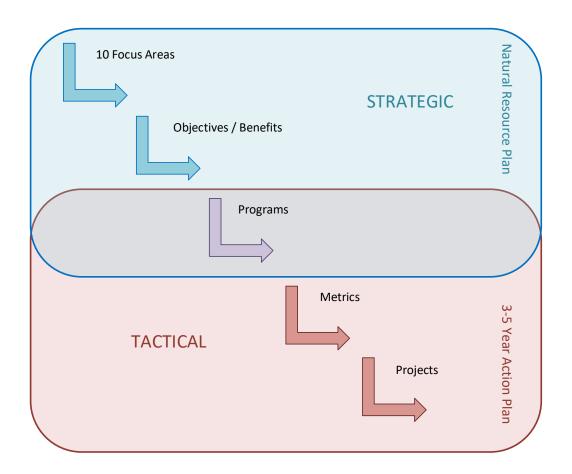




**Projects** 



# Two-Pronged Approach of Proposed 2020 NRP





# 2020 NRP Focus Areas







### Reservoir Lands Planning

#### This focus area includes:

- TVA's process to allocate properties for appropriate use
- Allocates each parcel of land a land use category or zone
- Provides a framework for how TVA intends to manage its public land
- Guide TVA's land management and property administration decisions
- Allows TVA to balance competing and sometimes conflicting demands for resources

### **Focus Area Program**

Comprehensive Valley-wide Lands Planning





### Reservoir Lands Planning

- Provide a consistent approach to balancing shoreline development, recreation, natural and cultural resource management, and other demands by applying a systematic methodology to identify the most suitable land uses
- Ensure input opportunities for the public and local, state and federal entities on TVA land management decisions







# Section 26a and Land Use Agreements

#### Implementation of Section 26a of the TVA Act

This includes processing applications for shoreline construction may include requests for boat docks, piers, boathouses, boat-launching ramps, shoreline stabilization, dredging and floating cabins

#### Implementation of TVA's Land Policy

This includes requests for easements for public infrastructure, short term licenses for use of public lands for agricultural and recreational purposes, as well as special events like fishing tournaments.

- Section 26a and Land Use Implementation
- Section 26a and Land Use Stakeholder Education and Communication





## Section 26a and Land Use Agreements



- Manage permission to use the shoreline and public land in a manner that is consistent with Section 26a of the TVA Act, Shoreline Management Policy and Land Policy
- Seek to develop clear rules and policies, engage in public education and communication, and issue permits and agreements consistent with TVA policies
- Support the unified development and flood control objectives of the Tennessee River system





### **Public Land Protection**

# This Focus Area includes the oversight and management of:

- 293,000 acres of public land
- 470,000 acres of inundated property
- 293,000 acres of various land rights

- Education and Engagement
- Public Land Rules, Regulations and Enforcement
- Land Condition Assessment
- Natural Resources Asset Inventory
- Property Management







### Public Land Protection



- Protect the public land and land rights in TVA's custody and control to preserve them for future generations while balancing competing demands through proactive and reactive management efforts
- Apply consistent enforcement of TVA's rules, regulations, policies and applicable local, state and federal laws
- Assess and inventory TVA public lands and associated assets to improve the quality of public land
- Inform and engage the public to provide clear expectations for sustainable use of TVA public land

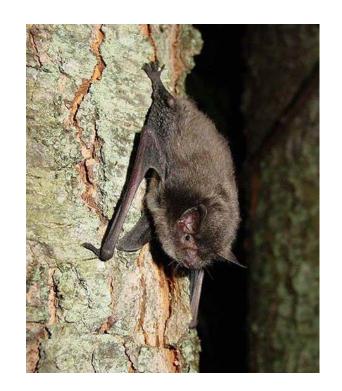




### Land and Habitat Stewardship

This Focus Area includes management of natural resources such as land, plants and animals to ensure the region's natural beauty is protected.

- Threatened and Endangered Species
- Wetland Management
- Sensitive Resources Data
- Natural Areas Management
- Grasslands and Agricultural Lands Management
- Dewatering Projects
- Forest Resource Management
- Conservation Planning







### Land and Habitat Stewardship



- Improved protection and monitoring of sensitive resources on TVA land
- Enhanced biological diversity and wildlife habitat associations
- Improved forest health and associated ecological benefits
- Improved interagency relationships and cooperative efforts toward mutual stewardship goals





# Nuisance and Invasive Species Management

#### This focus area includes work that:

- Addresses the negative effects of terrestrial and aquatic plants
- Employs a prioritized, planned and adaptive approach to management.
- Utilizes mechanical and chemical controls and prescribed burning to clear navigation channels and maintain access to public use areas.

- Aquatic Plant Management
- Nonnative Invasive Plant Management on TVA lands
- Nuisance Animal Control







# Nuisance and Invasive Species Management

- Sustain and expand efforts to address the threats of nuisance and invasive species to protect the Valley's natural resources
- Ensure use of best management practices, which will take into account stakeholder expectations and the multiple uses of TVA lands and water
- Implement internal and external outreach efforts, creating enhanced public awareness and action regarding the impacts of nuisance and invasive plants and animals
- Establish partnerships with local, state, federal and academic entities to identify and address threats posed by nuisance and invasive species within the Tennessee Valley







### Cultural Resource Management

#### This focus area includes:

TVA's responsibilities as a federal agency to identify, manage and protect cultural resources, e.g. historic buildings, structures, sites or objects, archaeological resources, Native American burials, that are found on its property or affected by its actions.

Laws, executive orders and associated regulations are in place that obligate TVA to protect these important sites and resources.

- Preservation Program
- Archaeological Resource Protection Act (ARPA) Enforcement
- Section 106 Compliance
- Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act (NAGPRA) Compliance
- Thousand Eyes Archaeological Outreach
- Archaeological Monitoring and Protection
- Native American Consultation
- Corporate History





### Cultural Resource Management

- Comply with all federal laws related to cultural resource management on federal lands or lands affected by TVA actions
- Increase our knowledge base of significant cultural resources on TVA lands through identification, evaluation and documentation
- Protect and preserve significant archaeological and historic resources through improved and enhanced management practices such as monitoring, shoreline stabilization, archaeological curation and enforcement of federal laws
- Provide educational and outreach opportunities within TVA communities on the need to protect cultural resources and to share the unique history of the Tennessee Valley
- Partner with stakeholders, such as federally recognized Indian tribes, whose ancestral lands within the Tennessee Valley







## Water Resource Stewardship

#### This focus area includes:

- TVA's efforts to protect and improve water quality and aquatic biodiversity
- Collecting and reporting water quality data
- Working with partners to implement watershed protection efforts
- Building partnerships to expand and promote water related outreach efforts
- Providing technical support to implement key water resource initiatives throughout the Tennessee River watershed

- Aquatic Ecology Management
- Stream Monitoring
- Sentinel Monitoring
- Water Resource Outreach Campaign
- Nutrient Source Management
- Tennessee Valley Clean Marina







### Water Resource Stewardship

- Monitor and assess biological conditions in streams and tailwaters to maintain an in-depth knowledge of the changing conditions in water quality throughout the Tennessee Valley and help TVA and stakeholders identify and track water quality protection and improvement opportunities
- Partner with other groups, organizations and entities to promote and implement water quality and aquatic habitat improvement across the Tennessee River watershed
- Develop and implement public outreach activities to raise public awareness of the importance and value of protecting water resources within the Tennessee River watershed







#### This focus area includes:

- Management of recreation areas and TVA's trail system (over 170 miles)
- Management of recreation agreements for campgrounds and marinas
- Developing and managing Partnership development to diversify recreation opportunities and improve public water access

\*The economic benefit from water-based recreation expenditures is \$1M/mile of shoreline in the TVA system

- Management of Recreation Assets on Dam Reservations
- Public Water Access Off Dam Reservations
- Tennessee Valley Camp-Right Campgrounds
- Dispersed Recreation Management
- Trail Management
- Recreation Partnerships
- Recreation Contract Management
- Floating Cabins









- Provide commercial and public recreational opportunities on TVA managed lands
- Partner with local, state and federal agencies to provide recreation assets and opportunities throughout the Valley
- Protect natural and cultural resources by developing and implementing sustainable recreation practices





Ecotourism is nature-based, outdoor adventure and sustainable tourism. This includes:

- Work that combines outdoor recreation activities with conservation-based
- Work that results in sustainable recreation areas that are based in nature or highlight natural features
- Partnerships that complement existing community, state, and regional travel and tourism efforts

- Ecotourism Partnerships
- Ecotourism and Recreational Assessments and Studies
- Dam Explorer









- Gain knowledge of use, trends and preferences to aid in planning efforts through targeted studies
- Update and utilize TVA's dam reservations through planning and design
- Inform the public by using web and print based materials
- Partner with local communities to maximize their ecotourism and recreational potential





### Public Outreach and Information

#### This area includes:

- TVA's efforts to increase public awareness and appreciation of the natural and cultural resources in the Valley
- Providing opportunities for volunteer involvement, environmental education and developing collaborative partnerships
- A focus on communicating, involving and engaging with communities of and visitors to the Tennessee River watershed and the TVA power service area

- Community Support
- Environmental Education
- Stakeholder Engagement
- TVA Science Kids World Water Monitoring
- Volunteer Program







### Public Outreach and Information



- Engage communities to increase awareness and understanding of the value of natural and cultural resources and recreational opportunities associated with public lands and waters throughout the Tennessee Valley and TVA's power service area
- Create opportunities for public involvement in resource stewardship and recreation Stakeholder Engagement
- Develop and maintain strategic relationships to enhance stewardship of recreational assets and natural and cultural resources in the Tennessee Valley and TVA's power service area through collaborative efforts and education



# 2020 NRP Focus Areas





# 2020 NRP Update Schedule







### **Environmental Review Process**

- TVA is supplementing the 2011 NRP Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)
- The "Supplemental EIS" focuses on impacts associated with the changes proposed for the NRP
- The NRP review is a "programmatic" environmental review.
- Site-specific NEPA reviews will occur when specific projects are proposed.



### **Environmental Resources Addressed**

- Terrestrial Ecology
- Aquatic Ecology
- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Wetlands & Floodplains
- Water Quality
- Air Quality & Climate
- Recreation

- Cultural Resources
- Natural Areas
- Land Use
- Prime Farmland
- Visual Resources
- Navigation
- Socioeconomics



# Summary

Through the 2020 Natural Resource Plan Update we will:

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## How do I submit comments?

- Online at www.tva.gov/nrp
- Email at <a href="mailto:nrp@tva.gov">nrp@tva.gov</a>
- Written comments can also be mailed to
  - Matthew Higdon
  - Tennessee Valley Authority 400 West Summit Hill Drive, WT-11 B Knoxville, TN 37902





