

February 2022

# MONTHLY PROGRESS REPORT



BOIS  
D'ARC  
LAKE

Bois d'Arc Lake is located northeast of Bonham in Fannin County. Project construction began on the 16,641-acre reservoir in May 2018. The lake and other projects will be able to initially treat and deliver up to 70 million gallons of water daily starting in 2022. This report provides a monthly recap of construction progress and accomplishments.

## Project Overview

### Dam and Reservoir

Construction includes the preparation and building of a 2-mile-long dam embankment, service spillway and raw water intake.

- The Bois d'Arc Lake earthen embankment, soil cement steps and spillway construction are now finished.
- Workers are finishing fencing, roadways, power and communications connection and re-vegetation.
- Power at the dam is expected to be connected by spring.

### FM 897 and County Roads

Around 11 miles of county and state roads and bridges in Fannin County were improved or constructed.

- FM 897 and all county roads are open to traffic.

### Mitigation

Improvements are being made to more than 17,000 acres to mitigate for loss of habitat and impacts to local streams from construction of the lake.

- Crews are completing planting of the last approximately two million trees to establish resilient forests at both the Riverby Ranch and the Upper Bois d'Arc Creek Mitigation sites.

### Leonard Water Treatment Plant

Construction includes a storage reservoir and five-step water treatment plant.

- Work continues on internal parts of the different structures, including communication and other wiring.
- Some smaller pumps and systems are being tested, and others will be connected and tested in the coming months.

### Raw Water Pump Station and Pipeline

These will pump water out of the reservoir and carry it 35 miles to the new treatment plant.

- Workers continue site restoration and grading above the completed pipeline.
- Pumps and motors are completely installed. Instrumentation installation and wiring to pump room equipment is underway.
- Electrical crews are pulling wire all over the pump station site.

### Treated Water Pump Station and Pipeline

A pump station and 25 miles of new pipe will transport the treated water to the existing NTMWD regional water system.

- 85% of the treated water pipeline has been installed, and work continues to make good headway.
- The pump station's electrical room structure is completed and electrical equipment is in place. Wiring of all electrical components is underway.

### Boat Ramp Areas and Lake Operations Center

NTMWD is building three public boat ramps and a Lake Operations Center for administrative operations and recreational and educational activities.

- Lake operations center building and facilities are completed and fully occupied by NTMWD Staff. Floating dock house is the last component of this project to be completed as water levels rise.
- Though all three boat ramps and their parking lot areas are completed, they aren't yet open to the public.

## Draft Bois d'Arc Lake Watershed Protection Plan Open for Public Comments

### A [draft of the Bois d'Arc Lake Watershed Protection Plan](#)

was released in early February for public review and comment through March 3. A watershed is the land area that water flows through or under on its way to a stream, river, lake, ocean or other body of water. Healthy watersheds protect water sources such as Bois d'Arc Lake, resulting in better quality water, recreation and habitats for plants, fish and animals.

The Bois d'Arc Lake Watershed Partnership, including NTMWD and other state and local stakeholders, developed this plan to guide non-regulatory efforts that can be implemented to protect water quality in and around the lake. The draft plan identifies potential sources of pollution in the watershed and voluntary actions that can be taken to reduce or eliminate contamination of the lake. Key recommendations include:

- Providing workshops and other educational opportunities for landowners to encourage implementation of best management practices that protect water quality

- Promoting and implementing voluntary water quality management and conservation plans that help reduce erosion
- Repairing or replacing failing on-site sewage systems in the watershed
- Providing technical assistance to help control feral hog populations
- Identifying and implementing green stormwater practices to reduce bacteria, nutrients and other pollutants from running off into local creeks
- Monitoring the water quality in Bois d'Arc Lake and its tributaries to detect changes over time

In February, the Bois d'Arc Lake Watershed Partnership hosted an initial workshop to share recommendations from the draft plan (pictured at right). The presentation was held in Bonham as part of the Lone Star Healthy Streams (LSHS) Program by Texas A&M AgriLife. Read the full [Draft Bois d'Arc Lake Watershed Protection Plan: "Construction Overview > Lake Watershed."](#)



A February workshop was held to share the draft Bois d'Arc Lake Watershed Protection Plan recommendations.

## Spotlight: Bois d'Arc Lake is Now on the Federal Map

Construction of Bois d'Arc Lake is a historic achievement in the North Texas Municipal Water District's 70-year legacy, and now it's on the federal map of the United States. In January, the U.S. Board of Geographic Names (BGN) of the U.S. Department of the Interior (DOI) officially recognized the name Bois d'Arc Lake. This milestone also means formal recognition by various federal and state regulatory agencies.

"Official recognition for the name Bois d'Arc Lake honors the local history and recognizes the positive impact the lake will have on North Texas into the future," said Jenna Covington, NTMWD Executive Director. "Bois d'Arc Lake has been many decades in the making, and it will provide the essential water supply needed as well as outdoor fun for generations to come."

Bois d'Arc Lake is a critical project to meet the future water needs of the NTMWD service area, and also provides economic benefits and recreational opportunities in Fannin County and surrounding areas.



*The lake's operations center, with its official name.*

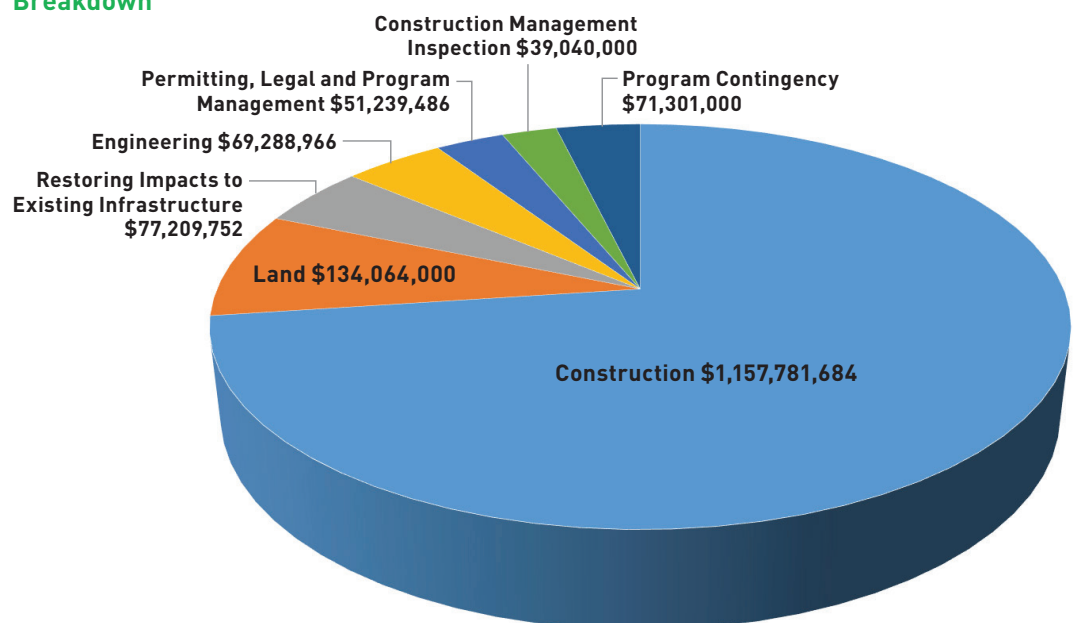
**Read more:** [BoisdArcLake.org](https://BoisdArcLake.org) > [NewsRoom](#)

## Current Cost Summary

Bois d'Arc Lake planning, permitting and construction is an important investment for North Texas.

**Bois d'Arc Lake and other projects are estimated to cost approximately \$1.6 billion. These costs will be shared by the communities who receive water from NTMWD.**

### Total Budget Breakdown



# TIMELINE FOR PROJECTS

