

## **6. DEFINITION OF SCA**

There are approximately 219 miles of shoreline along the two reservoirs. The shoreline is owned by WRPCO, resources agencies, municipalities, and private entities. The SCA encompasses approximately 29 miles of shoreline, and is owned and managed by WRPCO. The SCA is managed to allow public recreation access, Association easement uses, aesthetic forest management, and wildlife habitat.

SCA associated with development has been occurring on the reservoirs for more than 20 years, under two FERC licenses. The VMP is being constructed to further define the authorized and unauthorized activities that may be conducted by Associations and the general public, and to further define WRPCO's responsibility to manage the SCA for these purposes, while providing aesthetic forest management and wildlife habitat.

Although the exact number of SCA yet to be created is unknown, it is anticipated that less than 5 miles of SCA are to be established within the reservoirs.

The SCA is commonly defined as the project land adjacent to the ordinary high water mark of the reservoirs along the landward side of the shorelines where there is private residential development established beyond the SCA.

Depending on shoreline conditions, the width is approximately 100 feet horizontal distance measured landward from the ordinary high water mark. This approximate 100 foot horizontal distance is established during a site walkthrough with the natural resource agencies prior to development.

Improvements in such areas are limited to trail facilities and SCA facilities, with WRPCO exercising control over the design and placement of any such SCA facilities. SCA facilities include docks, trails, security lights and stairs.

Aesthetic timber management principles are applied to these areas. Timber management may be needed to control disease or insect infestations, remove dangerous or over-mature trees or to protect endangered resources. Under the non-exclusive license agreements with developers and Associations, no vegetation removal or re-grading is allowed without WRPCO's prior written approval.

**The general public is allowed to conduct the following pedestrian activities within the designated SCA:**

- Hiking, jogging or walking.
- Beach combing with metal detectors and small tools.
- Bird watching or nature photography.

- Bank fishing except within 100 feet of any dock, pier or designated swimming area.
- Picnicking in groups of 6 or less, except within 100 feet of any dock, pier or designated swimming area.

When designing future development areas, WRPCO consults with natural resource agencies to ensure that the SCA is wide enough to provide the following items required by the FERC license:

- public safety,
- recreation,
- endangered resources protection,
- and wetland protection.

Each development area is viewed on a case-by-case basis.

- A determination on the width of the SCA is based upon natural environmental factors, and is made before individual lots are platted, as part of an internal evaluation conducted in consultation with WDNR.
- At the time of development, if 100 feet horizontal distance as measured landward of the ordinary high water mark is deemed inadequate by WRPCO, in consulting with the WDNR, to provide the above-mentioned items, then the SCA boundary is moved accordingly.

After the SCA boundary is identified, but before developers start to prepare the area for development, WRPCO meets on-site with the developers to ensure that any clearing on the SCA is completed using Shoreline Best Management Practices. This includes, but is not limited to:

- Where appropriate, the selective trimming of limbs instead of removing entire trees.
- When appropriate, the selected removal of nuisance plants, such as poison ivy (with WRPCO approval and the use of appropriate herbicides).
- Select removal of dead trees and trees that need to be removed for SCA public trail installation.
- Any other management activity that does not compromise the intent of the SCA.