



United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

Great Plains Region

Montana Area Office

P.O. Box 30137

Billings, Montana 59107-0137



IN REPLY REFER TO:

MT-224

LND-8.00

OCT 15 2009

Interested Parties

Subject: Future Potential Recreation-Related Opportunities, Facilities, and Services at Goose Bay Marina

Dear Ladies and Gentlemen:

The Bureau of Reclamation is seeking public comment on the Draft Goose Bay Recreation Master Plan (Plan) and Environmental Assessment (EA). The Plan identifies future recreation opportunities, facilities and services that could be provided, either by Reclamation, by a concessionaire, or both, within the Goose Bay Planning Area on the east shore of Canyon Ferry reservoir near Helena, Montana. The Plan will also assist Reclamation in preparing to advertise a new, long-term concession opportunity for Goose Bay Marina. The EA documents potential environmental consequences of the proposed actions and provides a means to compare alternatives identified in the Plan.

Aukerman, Haas and Associates, a consulting firm that specializes in water-based recreation planning, assisted Reclamation in the development of the Plan and EA. Public input received during the first public involvement period (February/March 2009) was documented in the *Goose Bay Recreation Master Plan Public Comment Summary and Analysis Report, May 2009*, and incorporated into the draft Plan and EA.

The documents are available for review at the Canyon Ferry Division Office, 7700 Canyon Ferry Road, Helena, Montana; at public libraries in Townsend, Helena, Bozeman, Great Falls, Butte and Billings and on Reclamation's Website at <http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao/canyonferry>. If you would like to request a hard copy of the documents, please contact Stephanie Valentine at 406-247-7311 or svalentine@usbr.gov.

An open house meeting will be held at the following location. Written comments will be accepted at the meeting or they may be submitted by mail or e-mail to the address below. We request that comments be submitted no later than December 15, 2009.

Open House Meeting:

Forest Service Meeting Room
414 South Front Street
Townsend, MT
November 4, 2009
7:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.

Submit Comments to:

Aukerman, Haas & Associates
Attn: Bob Aukerman
729 Duke Sq.
Fort Collins, Colorado 80525
baukerman@comcast.net

Before including your address, phone number, e-mail address, or other personal identifying information in your comments, please be advised that your entire comment, including your personal identifying information, may be made publicly available at any time. We will honor any requests that personal identifying information be withheld from public review to the extent permissible by law; however, we may be required to make personal identifying information available to the public in an administrative record or in response to a Freedom of Information Act request.

We look forward to working collectively with you to help shape the future of public recreation at Canyon Ferry Reservoir.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Valentine

for Jeff Baumberger, Manager
Resource Management Division