

# RECLAMATION

*Managing Water in the West*

## FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT

### GOOSE BAY MARINA MODERNIZATION AND LONG-TERM CONCESSION CONTRACT



U.S. Department of the Interior  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Great Plains Region  
Montana Area Office

May 2014

## **Mission Statements**

The mission of the Department of the Interior is to protect and provide access to our Nation's natural and cultural heritage and honor our trust responsibilities to Indian Tribes and our commitments to island communities.

The mission of the Bureau of Reclamation is to manage, develop, and protect water and related resources in an environmentally and economically sound manner in the interest of the American public.

# **FINDING OF NO SIGNIFICANT IMPACT AND DECISION NOTICE**

## **GOOSE BAY MARINA MODERNIZATION AND LONG TERM CONCESSION CONTRACT**

**MT-231-14-02F**

### **FINDING**

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Based on the analysis of the environmental impacts as described in the Final Goose Bay Marina Modernization and Long Term Concession Contract Environmental Assessment (EA), prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) of 1969, 42 USC, §4321 et seq.; the Council on Environmental Quality regulations for implementing NEPA, 40 Code of Federal Regulations (CFR), Parts 1500-1508 Department of Interior NEPA procedures (43 CFR Part 46). Through the process of developing the EA, the Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation) finds that all potentially significant issues and resource impacts have been identified, evaluated, addressed and resolved. Reclamation has determined that the Proposed Action will not have a significant impact on the quality of the environment and that an Environmental Impact Statement is not warranted.

### **DECISION**

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Reclamation has decided to implement the Proposed Action Alternative as described in the Final EA. Under this action, the Purpose and Need of the Federal action will be met and Reclamation will provide a small business opportunity and a spectrum of recreation opportunities at the Goose Bay Marina. From an environmental compliance standpoint, implementation of the Proposed Action may take place following completion of appropriate contracting and permitting requirements.

- **The majority of the Goose Bay Marina area will be closed through the 2014 and 2015 recreation seasons to allow the required demolition and construction activities to proceed. Reclamation anticipates having a concession operator in place for the 2016 recreation season.**
- **The Reclamation operated primitive camping (located west/northwest of Goose Bay Marina) will remain open for public use with minimum and basic services provided. This campground is subject to the 14-day stay limit.**

- **In July 2015, Reclamation will open the newly improved campground (West Campground) located west of the Goose Bay boat ramp. This campground will not provide utility services and will be subject to the 14-day stay limit. Once construction is completed, this area will become part of the Goose Bay Marina.**
- **Reclamation will keep the Goose Bay boat ramp and boat ramp parking area open for the 2014 summer season. The boat ramp will be closed to public use during the 2015 recreation season. Reclamation anticipates the boat ramp will be available for the 2016 recreation season and beyond.**
- **Fuel will not be available during the 2014 and 2015 recreation seasons. It is anticipated that concession provided fuel will be available for the 2016 recreation season and beyond.**
- **Reclamation will continue to issue updates as information becomes available**

## **SUMMARY OF ENVIRONMENTAL EFFECTS**

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Reclamation has analyzed the effects of the Proposed Action Alternative in the Final EA. The effects of the Proposed Action Alternative are summarized below. Only resources with potential impacts are included below. For additional information on geology, topography, and other resources not covered below, please see the Final EA available by request or at [www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao/canyonferry/goosebay/](http://www.usbr.gov/gp/mtao/canyonferry/goosebay/).

### **Water Resources**

Under the Proposed Action, Reclamation will provide groundwater supplies for the Marina store, the flush toilet and shower facility, and for approximately 45 of the camping spots. This water use will be higher than the No Action, but will likely be very similar to the historic water use at the site. Additionally, an RV dump station will be available on-site and sewer hookups will be available for camping spots receiving water. Increased management presence and availability of RV dumping facilities will limit the likelihood of camper holding tanks contaminating lake waters. Additionally, septic and RV dump stations will be sited and managed to minimize potential contamination of lake waters.

Up to one acre-foot of Canyon Ferry water will be made available annually through a Water Service Contract to allow dust management during construction and for long term drip irrigation of trees. This diversion of water will not significantly impact the overall water quantity or water quality of Canyon Ferry Reservoir.

The faulty septic systems associated with the previous Goose Bay Marina have been removed. Future septic systems will be sized appropriately for the areas being served. Four septic systems will be installed in compliance with all appropriate permits and requirements. The risk of

contamination to private land, aquifers, and Canyon Ferry Reservoir waters has been eliminated through the removal of the old septic systems.

### ***Minimization Measures***

Best management practices will be included during demolition, construction, and ultimately marina operation to minimize sedimentation into the lake.

Stipulations of all required Federal, State and Local Permits will be followed by the construction contractor. The following list of permits will be applied for and received prior to construction activities proceeding.

- 404 and SPA-124 Permits for construction below high water at CF. This includes piles for the gangways to the docks and drop structures (riprap) for stormwater runoff.
- Subdivision application to DEQ and local sanitarian. This includes water, wastewater, and storm water runoff design review.
- Stormwater from construction permit - Contractor will get this from DEQ
- Campground permits through Broadwater County and the Montana Department of Public Health and Human Services.
- Stormwater discharge associated with Industrial activity - this will apply to the areas associated with the fueling area and the maintenance building at Goose Bay.
- Building permits from the Department of Labor and Industry.
- Any other applicable permits.

*There will be no significant impacts to water resources as a result of this action occurring in compliance with the applicable local, State and Federal permits.*

### **Air Quality**

Minor air pollution from vehicle traffic, nearby home heating, and ongoing mine exploration will continue at present levels or may slightly increase as access and visitation to the Goose Bay area increases due to the gravel access road. There will be temporary impacts to air quality during construction activities. These impacts will be minimal and short term and are not likely to cause air quality to exceed threshold levels for targeted pollutants.

Building, construction, and demolition activities which produce fugitive dust include land clearing, grading, and excavation with heavy equipment, truck travel into and out of the work area, and loading and unloading demolition debris and building materials. Fugitive dust will be controlled through appropriate measures including construction watering. Impacts to air quality will be minimal and short term.

### ***Minimization Measures***

The selected contractor will be required to provide dust control and abatement; and will follow stipulations of the applicable Federal, State and Local Permits to minimize fugitive dust. Best Management Practices, including, watering the construction site and access roads as needed during hot and dry months will minimize fugitive dust.

*There will be no significant negative impacts to air quality with development and adherence to dust control and abatement.*

## **Vegetation**

Under the Proposed Action Alternative, there will be approximately 40 acres of fair to poor condition grassland disturbed during construction. This area is in the eastern campground and the long term parking area. Further, removal of approximately 45 trees (many of which are the invasive Russian olive) will occur to accommodate project features. Care will be taken to avoid disturbance of native trees. Lands in this area have been heavily disturbed through development and recreation use. The area will be managed to provide developed recreational opportunities, the increased presence of signage and on-site management will likely decrease the spread of noxious weeds by OHV use and other unauthorized recreational uses. The Concessionaire will be responsible for weed management in the project area.

### ***Minimization Measures***

Construction contractors will be required to clean construction equipment before coming on-site. This will reduce the potential for introduction of noxious weeds.

Areas of noxious weed infestation will be removed to a regulated landfill for disposal.

Typical Best Management practices will be followed, including stockpiling of topsoil, recontouring, and appropriate planting techniques to ensure recovery of grass areas.

To minimize erosion of soils, slope and erosion protection will be applied to prevent overland water flow in the demolition and construction area. Additionally, careful design and proper maintenance, including detention ponds and other constructed features will minimize erosion.

Approximately 150 trees, most with drip irrigation will be placed throughout the campground to provide shade, improve esthetics, and increase biodiversity. All disturbed areas will be reseeded and monitored to ensure success. This will provide a vegetative buffer between the proposed development and Canyon Ferry Reservoir waters, thereby providing protection from stormwater run-off.

*There will be no significant negative impacts to vegetation as a result of this action.*

## **Fish and Wildlife**

Fish and wildlife management will continue at the reservoir under the direction of FWP. The Proposed Action Alternative will temporarily displace wildlife in the immediate area of access and construction. These impacts will be minimal and short term as public and private lands in the immediate area will support dispersal. No part of this action will impede FWP fish and wildlife management efforts. Long-term, the area will support fish and wildlife and access to fish and wildlife, much as it has in recent history with a likely increase in diversity associated with increased irrigated tree plantings. Reclamation will widen the road near the entrance for a future aquatic invasive species inspection station for use by FWP or the Montana Department of

Agriculture. Increased management presence will allow for controlled development and minimal overall impacts on fish and wildlife.

Vehicle wildlife collisions will continue to occur, likely at lower rates during construction. Long term, collisions may increase as recreation use increases.

### ***Minimization Measures***

Wildlife friendly fencing will be used, where necessary, to minimize long term impacts to wildlife.

Electric lines will be buried where possible. All above ground facilities will be built to standards identified in Suggested Practices for Avian Protection on Power Lines: The State of the Art 2006.

*There will be no significant negative impacts to fish and wildlife as a result of this action.*

### **Endangered Species**

The action area does not provide the habitat necessary for Canada Lynx, Wolverine or Whitebark Pine. There will be No Effect to any of the above listed species or their preferred habitats as a result of No Action or the Proposed Action Alternative.

Ute Ladies' Tresses are perennial orchids which grow near the base of the Rocky Mountains in Montana and have been documented in the upper Missouri River and its tributaries. This species is restricted to a highly specialized and limited habitat and is typically dependent upon unaltered, high-quality habitat. These areas are typically moist streambanks, wet meadows, and abandoned stream channels. These habitat types are not present in the highly disturbed action area, as such; there will be No Effect upon Ute Ladies' Tresses as a result of the No Action or Proposed Action Alternative.

Sprague's Pipit is an endemic grassland bird which prefers native vegetation and requires large areas of appropriate habitat. The highly disturbed action area does not provide suitable habitat for the pipit. There will be No Effect upon the Sprague's Pipit as a result of the No Action or Proposed Action Alternative.

*There will be no effect to threatened and endangered species as a result of this action.*

### **Recreation**

Campers accustomed to recreating at Goose Bay will be temporarily displaced from Goose Bay. This will likely increase visitation at other area campgrounds and marinas that support water based recreation. The remaining access opportunities provided by Reclamation at Canyon Ferry Reservoir will remain open and available for public use. Kim's Marina and Yacht Basin Marina continue to provide services and recreational opportunities. The existing opportunities in the surrounding recreation areas managed by State and Federal agencies will also continue to provide diverse access and camping opportunities in the Canyon Ferry Reservoir area.

Reclamation does not anticipate the additional pressure placed on the other Marinas and other campground areas to have negative impacts to the environment. This may cause some increased congestion in existing campgrounds, especially during the holiday weekends during the closure.

Following completion of the project, the area will provide a spectrum of recreational opportunities to the recreating public. The availability of the Marina will restore historic values provided by the Marina, including fuel, a safe port, and communications. These available opportunities will enhance recreation in the area above the current and historic conditions and provide an overall positive benefit to recreation opportunities.

### ***Minimization Measures***

Construction contracts will include requirements to maintain Goose Bay Drive at current levels during the construction period and to return the road to current levels following construction.

Reclamation will coordinate with Broadwater County to apply for Federal Lands Highway Program (FLHP) funding, which funds access projects to public lands. The FLHP program funds may be used to pay the non-Federal share of the cost of any Federal-aid highway project that provides access to or within Federal lands.

*There will be no significant impacts to Recreation as a result of this action.*

### **Land Use**

The Goose Bay Marina camping area will be closed during calendar years 2014 and 2015 to minimize conflicts between recreationists and construction crews. The existing Goose Bay boat ramp will remain open for the 2014 recreation season. Short-term, the Goose Bay area will be under construction and the recreational land use will be unavailable. Long-term, this alternative will provide current facilities and concessions operations similar to historic conditions.

*There will be no significant impacts to Land Use as a result of this action.*

### **Heritage Resources**

Reclamation has completed Section 106 Consultation with the Montana State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO). The SHPO concurred with the Reclamation determination that the proposed undertaking will have no effect to historic properties located within or adjacent to the Area of Potential Effects.

*There will be no significant impacts to Heritage Resources as a result of this action.*

### **Climate Change**

Greenhouse gas emissions will occur during the demolition and construction activities required to complete the Proposed Action. Emissions will occur over two construction seasons. Impacts from implementation of this action will be negligible and will not significantly impact global climate change.

Reclamation is currently working with the State of Montana to develop additional modelling on the impacts of Climate Change on the Missouri River Basin to assist in making scientifically supported management decisions into the future. Reclamation will continue to monitor and model project operations to attempt to meet the needs of water delivery, recreation and the host of other values associated with Canyon Ferry Reservoir and will adapt to the challenges of a changing climate.

*There will be no significant impacts to global climate change as a result of this action.*

### **Socioeconomics**

A concession contract will be awarded that will provide employment opportunities for the concession operators themselves and also staff that will be required to successfully operate and maintain. Operation of the Goose Bay Marina will provide employment opportunities to the community similar to what has historically occurred.

Construction contracts will likely increase employment opportunities for construction related jobs over 2 construction seasons.

*There will be no significant impacts to socioeconomics as a result of this action.*

### **Executive Orders**

#### *Executive Order 11990 – Protection of Wetlands*

Federal agencies shall avoid to the extent possible the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the destruction or modification of wetlands and to preserve and enhance the natural and beneficial values of wetlands in carrying out the agency's responsibilities.

The Proposed Action is in compliance with the Executive Order.

#### *Executive Order 11988 – Floodplain Management*

Federal agencies shall avoid to the extent possible the long and short term adverse impacts associated with the occupancy and modification of floodplains and to minimize the impact of floods on human safety, health and welfare, and to restore and preserve the natural and beneficial values served by floodplains in carrying out the agency's responsibilities.

The Proposed Action is in compliance with the Executive Order.

#### *Executive Order 13186 – Protection of Migratory Birds*

The United States has ratified international, bilateral conventions for the conservation of migratory birds. These international migratory bird conventions impose substantive obligations on the United States for the conservation of migratory birds and their habitats, and through the Migratory Bird Treaty Act (16 U.S.C. 703-711) (Act) will implement these conventions. This Executive Order directs Federal agencies to take certain actions to further implement the Act.

The Proposed Action is in compliance with this executive order.

Executive Order 13007 – Indian Sacred Sites

Federal agencies shall, to the extent practicable, and not clearly inconsistent with essential agency function; accommodate access to and ceremonial use of Indian sacred sites by Indian religious practitioners and avoid adversely affecting the physical integrity of such sacred sites.

The Proposed Action is in compliance with this executive order.

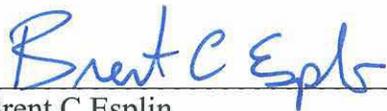
Executive Order 12898 – Environmental Justice

Federal agencies need to ensure their actions do not disproportionately impact minority and disadvantaged populations or communities.

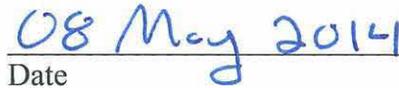
The Proposed Action is in compliance with this Executive Order.

**APPROVED**

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Brent C Esplin  
Area Manager  
Montana Area Office



Date