

Notes from the Canyon Ferry Public Working Group Meeting
September 30, 2008

Paul Backlund (Supervisory Facility Operations Specialist) greeted meeting participants, and Shawn Bryant (Supervisory Assistant Facility Operations Specialist) presented the meeting agenda that included an update on finalization of the Canyon Ferry Reservoir Shoreline Management Plan; review of the status, function, and future modification of the Cave Point stabilization project; and a brief introduction to off highway vehicle (OHV) regulations for Reclamation-administered public land (43 CFR 420).

Shawn updated meeting participants on the status of the Canyon Ferry Shoreline Management Plan DRAFT including completion of internal, agency, and public review. Reclamation is currently developing responses to 55 comments received during public review of the draft Plan. A final plan is anticipated to be completed in November or December.

A power point presentation regarding the status of the Cave Point shoreline stabilization project was provided by Pat Cole (Natural Resource Specialist). While stabilization measures performed well in 2007, Canyon Ferry Reservoir elevations exceeded 3797' for an extended period in 2008 causing shoreline erosion, and cottonwood and willow mortality. Future adaptive measures being considered include placement of another coir log at a higher elevation, and placement of locally collected willow clumps. Meeting participants inquired why rip-rap was not placed for shoreline protection. Reclamation personnel noted the lower cost, natural and flexible erosion control, and aesthetically pleasing condition provided by biotechnical measures. Pat Cole and Shawn Bryant also reviewed future shoreline stabilization projects planned for East Shore Drive, Court Sheriff Campground, Silos Campground, and White Earth Campground.

The Federal regulations pertaining to use of off highway vehicles (OHV) on Reclamation-administered land (43 CFR 420) were reviewed by Shawn Bryant. Meeting participants noted the dangerous operation of OHV's by unlicensed operators on access roads, and inquired how enforcement is being carried out. Meeting participants further inquired how Reclamation will handle the trespass of motor vehicle operation and personal property on Reclamation-administered shoreline areas. Paul Backlund indicated that enforcement of Federal regulations by local enforcement personnel was an ongoing challenge, but that progress was being made.