

# Canyon Ferry Working Group

## Environment and Lands

April 29, 2004

### 9 Attendees

Introduction and Welcome by Craig Trinkle

Paul Backlund spoke about recent projects around Canyon Ferry

- Broadwater Bay's construction and the completion of the boat ramp and parking lot
- Goose Bay boat ramp extension
- New office building construction initiated
- Repair of dam's stilling basin to be complete around November
- Design phase for rehabilitation of Court Sheriff initiated
- Low dissolved oxygen issue

Craig Trinkle reviewed minutes from previous environment and lands meetings

- Note agenda

Craig Trinkle opened the discussion as to the need for the selection of a Committee Chairperson and Reporter

- Due to a small turnout, no selections were made

Mr. Mike Korn (MTFWP) gave an update of issues concerning the Canyon Ferry WMA

- Vandalism problems in the form of off road vehicles in the WMA
- Weed issues are being addressed
- Proposed bike and horse trails on the dikes is not favored by MTFWP
- Camping has been allowed in the WMA but, is not an approved use
- Paul Backlund commended the WMA staff
- Use of rifles in the WMA may not be approved in the future do to housing areas around the WMA
- A few bear conflicts have been noted in Cottonwood and Indian Creek
- Mountain lion was spotted in the Riverside Campground area

Group Participation Issues

- Christmas trees were placed in the lake near Silos and Duck Creek for fish habitat
- Craig Trinkle spoke of the meeting with the Lewis and Clark Sheriff's Department and informed the attendees that patrols by the department will be similar to previous years
- Sheriff's Department was applauded for the water safety effort on the north end of the lake
- Belgrade Walleye Unlimited have started the Life Jacket Loan Program again this year in four locations

- Coast Guard boating safety class to be held July 17<sup>th</sup> at Yacht Basin Marina
- Discussed the 14 day stay limit

Special Note:

- A large percentage of the discussion at this meeting centered on recreation. Due to this, the group decided that these issues are more appropriate for the recreation subcommittee. The group agreed that it would be better to disband this subcommittee due to poor turnout and discussions of recreation. The attendees also stated that it would be better to reduce the number of meetings where possible.