Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

2300 Lake Elmo Drive
Billings MT 59105

Date: 11/14/05

TO: Environmental Quality Council
Director's Office, Dept. of Environmental Quality
Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks*
- Director's Office
- Parks Division
- Fisheries Division
- Wildlife Division
- Regional Supervisors
- Lands Section
- Design & Construction
- Legal Unit
- Adam Brooks- Federal Aid Coordinator

Mike Volesky, Governor's Office *
Sarah Elliott, Press Agent, Governor's Office*
Montana Historical Society, State Preservation Office
Janet Ellis, Montana Audubon Council
Montana Wildlife Federation
Montana State Library*
George Ochenski
Montana Environmental Information Center
Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation
FWP Commissioner Shane Colton*
Bob Raney (Parks EA's only)
Sharon Moore, DNRC Area Manager, Southern Land Office
County Commissioners
Other Local Interested People or Groups
* (Sent electronically)

Ladies and Gentlemen:

The enclosed Environmental Assessment (EA) has been prepared for the Cooney State Park North Shore Boat Ramp Parking Area Paving Project and is submitted for your consideration. Questions and comments will be accepted until December 14, 2005.

If you have questions or need additional copies of the draft EA, please contact Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks at 445-2326. Please send written comments to the following address: Cooney North Shore Parking Paving, Cooney State Park, POB 254, Joliet, MT 59041; or email cooneystatepark@montana.net.

Thank you for your interest,

Jim Darling

Jim Darling
Acting Regional Supervisor

Enclosure

MONTANA FISH WILDLIFE & PARKS

MEPA/NEPA EA CHECKLIST

PART I. PROPOSED ACTION DESCRIPTION

1. **Type of Proposed State Action**

Development	___-___
Renovation	__X__
Maintenance	___ ___
Land Acquisition	_______
Equipment Acquisition	_______
Other (Describe)	_______

2. **Agency Authority for the Proposed Action**
Montana Fish, Wildlife, & Parks has authority to provide for maintenance of facilities and development for public recreation on Department lands (23-2-101 MCA).

3. **Name of Project**
Cooney State Park North Shore Boat Ramp Parking Area Paving Project

4. **Name, Address and Phone Number of Project Sponsor (if other than the agency)**

5. **If Applicable:**

Estimated Construction/Commencement Date _March 2006
Estimated Completion Date _May 2006
Current Status of Project Design (% complete) _50%

6. **Location Affected by Proposed Action (county, range and township)**
Carbon County Township 4S, Range 20E

7. **Project Size: Estimate the number of acres that would be directly affected that are currently:**

(a) Developed:
residential .... 0 acres
industrial .... 0 acres

(b) Open Space/Woodlands/
Recreation .... 1 acres

(c) Wetlands/Riparian
Areas .... 0 acres

(d) Floodplain .... 0 acres

(e) Productive:
irrigated cropland .... 0 acres
dry cropland .... 0 acres
forestry .... 0 acres
rangeland............................. 0 acres
other .... 0 acres

8. **Map/site plan: attach an original 8 1/2" x 11" or larger section of the most recent USGS 7.5' series topographic map showing the location and boundaries of the area that would be affected by the proposed action. A different map scale may be substituted if more appropriate or if required by agency rule. If available, a site plan should also be attached.**

SEE ATTACHMENT(S)

9. **Listing of any other Local, State or Federal agency that has overlapping or additional jurisdiction.**

(a) Permits:

Agency Name	Permit	Date Filed/#

(b) Funding:

Agency Name	Funding Amount
75% Federal	
	$175,000
25% Wallop-Breaux Federal Motorboat Tax	

(c) Other Overlapping or Additional Jurisdictional Responsibilities:

Agency Name	Type of Responsibility
N/A	

10. Narrative Summary of the Proposed Action or Project including the Benefits and Purpose of the Proposed Action.

Cooney State Park, located in Carbon County near Joliet, MT, has an annual visitation of over 180,000 people and is one of the most heavily used public recreation areas in the state. Much of its popularity is due to its proximity to the state's largest city (Billings is 48 miles to the northeast). Yellowstone County's population now exceeds 127,000 residents.

Recreational visitors from the surrounding counties also use Cooney State Park for a variety of recreational purposes. Cooney is one of the only major reservoir suitable for motorboat use between Canyon Ferry Reservoir (Missouri River near Helena) and Tongue River Reservoir (Tongue River north of Sheridan, WY). This high level of recreational use has increased the demand for improved facilities.

The change to new free daily entrance to State Parks for all Montana residents that was implemented in 2004 has increased day-use at Cooney State Park, and this trend will likely continue. The North Shore boat ramp accommodates around 3000 motorboat launches a season. This proposed project addresses the anticipated increased recreational use by improving and upgrading the parking area at the North Shore boat ramp to a paved area. The area will better accommodate vehicles and boat trailers in a more organized fashion by paving the existing gravel parking area. The North Shore motorboat ramp and parking area has been in place since around the early 1970's. The proposed project would cover the existing parking area with an asphalt surface. No expansion to the existing parking area is proposed in this project. The current parking area is 160' by 500', and there will be no work on undisturbed areas or areas that have not been previously imparted. The new paved parking area would accommodate around 85 plus parking spots.

The proposed project will provide an asphalt surface to the North Shore Boat Ramp Parking Area. It will not include the North Shore access road. The area to be paved would be between the North Shore Boat Ramp Day Use sign and the kiosk located directly in front of the North Shore boat ramp. The area is approximately 160ft. by 500ft. The project would include striping to delineate driving lanes and parking spots.

The North Shore ramp is the most popular of the three existing motorboat ramps on Cooney reservoir due to its proximity to the county road access. It is the primarily day-use motorboat launch site. The other two boat ramps at Cooney State Park are located at overnight camping areas.

Paving the parking area will make it more readily usable for the boating public. The project will include clearly defined striping so vehicles/boat trailers can be more efficiently parked. Paving the area will provide parking for more vehicles, as the area will be utilized in a more organized manner. It will also serve to expedite the launching and retrieval of boats by keeping travel lanes open via the lot striping.

The parking area will be cleaner for visitors, reducing dust on a busy day and eliminating the muddy conditions on a rainy day.

An anticipated benefit of this project will be to draw more day-use boaters to the North Shore ramp area and lessen the pressure on the other two ramps, which are in close proximity to campgrounds. Paving the North Shore parking area will provide better management of the public's use.

Paving the area will reduce the amount of sediment that washes into the reservoir from the existing bare/gravel parking area. The current configuration of the area is such that it slopes toward the reservoir.

The improvements described above are desirable to meet public demand as outlined in the Parks Division's 2020 Vision Plan. The proposed project will help maintain an appropriate standard of operations, enhance resource protection, and increase public safety and satisfaction at Cooney State Park.

11. List of Agencies Consulted During Preparation of the EA:

Montana Department of Commerce
(See attached Tourism Letter)
MT FWP

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW

1. Evaluation of the impacts of the Proposed Action including secondary and cumulative impacts on the Physical and Human Environment.

A. PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

1. LAND RESOURCES	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
Will the proposed action result in:	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
< a. Soil instability or changes in geologic substructure?		x				
b. Disruption, displacement, erosion, compaction, moisture loss, or over-covering of soil which would reduce productivity or fertility?		x				
< c. Destruction, covering or modification of any unique geologic or physical features?		x				
d. Changes in siltation, deposition or erosion patterns that may modify the channel of a river or stream or the bed or shore of a lake?			x			1d
e. Exposure of people or property to earthquakes, landslides, ground failure, or other natural hazard?		x				
f. Other						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

1d: The paving of this area may reduce sediment being carried into the reservoir and decrease the siltation process of the reservoir.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

2. AIR Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
< a. Emission of air pollutants or deterioration of ambient air quality? (also see 13 (c))			x			2a
b. Creation of objectionable odors?		x				
c. Alteration of air movement, moisture, or temperature patterns or any change in climate, either locally or regionally?		x				
d. Adverse effects on vegetation, including crops, due to increased emissions of pollutants?		x				
e.⊄For P-R/D-J projects, will the project result in any discharge which will conflict with federal or state air quality regs? (Also see 2a)		x				
f. Other		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Air Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

2a. There may be a temporary and minimal amount of increased dust in the air during the construction phase of the project.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

3. WATER Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
< a. Discharge into surface water or any alteration of surface water quality including but not limited to temperature, dissolved oxygen or turbidity?			x			3a.
b. Changes in drainage patterns or the rate and amount of surface runoff?		x				
c. Alteration of the course or magnitude of flood water or other flows?		x				
d. Changes in the amount of surface water in any water body or creation of a new water body?		x				
e. Exposure of people or property to water related hazards such as flooding?		x				
f. Changes in the quality of groundwater?		x				
g. Changes in the quantity of groundwater?		x				
h. Increase in risk of contamination of surface or groundwater?		x				
i. Effects on any existing water right or reservation?		x				
j. Effects on other water users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quality?		x				
k. Effects on other users as a result of any alteration in surface or groundwater quantity?		x				
l. ¢¢For P-R/D-J, will the project affect a designated floodplain? (Also see 3c)		x				
m. ¢For P-R/D-J, will the project result in any discharge that will affect federal or state water quality regulations? (Also see 3a)		x				
n. Other:		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Water Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

3a. Petroleum products that drip from vehicles may collect on the paved surface and be washed into the reservoir by rain or melting snow.

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

4. VEGETATION Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Changes in the diversity, productivity or abundance of plant species (including trees, shrubs, grass, crops, and aquatic plants)?		x				
b. Alteration of a plant community?		x				
c. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		x				
d. Reduction in acreage or productivity of any agricultural land?		x				
e. Establishment or spread of noxious weeds?		x				
f. ⊄⊄For P-R/D-J, will the project affect wetlands, or prime and unique farmland?		x				
g. Other:		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

PHYSICAL ENVIRONMENT

< 5. **FISH/WILDLIFE** **Will the proposed action result in:**	**IMPACT**				**Can Impact Be Mitigated**	**Comment Index**
	Unknown	**None**	**Minor**	**Potentially Significant**		
a. Deterioration of critical fish or wildlife habitat?		x				
b. Changes in the diversity or abundance of game animals or bird species?		x				
c. Changes in the diversity or abundance of nongame species?		x				
d. Introduction of new species into an area?		x				
e. Creation of a barrier to the migration or movement of animals?		x				
f. Adverse effects on any unique, rare, threatened, or endangered species?		x				
g. Increase in conditions that stress wildlife populations or limit abundance (including harassment, legal or illegal harvest or other human activity)?		x				
h. ⊄⊄For P-R/D-J, will the project be performed in any area in which T&E species are present, and will the project affect any T&E species or their habitat? (Also see 5f)		x				
i. ⊄For P-R/D-J, will the project introduce or export any species not presently or historically occurring in the receiving location? (Also see 5d)		x				
j. Other:		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

B. HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

6. NOISE/ELECTRICAL EFFECTS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Increases in existing noise levels?			x			3a
b. Exposure of people served to nuisance noise levels?			x			3b
c. Creation of electrostatic or electromagnetic effects that could be detrimental to human health or property?		x				
d. Interference with radio or television reception and operation?		x				
e. Other:		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):
6a. & 6b. There will be an increased level of noise during the construction phases of the various on-site projects. Park visitors will not be affected, as noise levels will likely be lower than that which is created by motorboats on the lake.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

7. LAND USE Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of or interference with the productivity or profitability of the existing land use of an area?		x				
b. Conflict with a designated natural area or area of unusual scientific or educational importance?		x				
c. Conflict with any existing land use whose presence would constrain or potentially prohibit the proposed action?		x				
d. Adverse effects on or relocation of residences?		x				
e. Other: ____________		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

8. RISK/HEALTH HAZARDS Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Risk of an explosion or release of hazardous substances (including, but not limited to oil, pesticides, chemicals, or radiation) in the event of an accident or other forms of disruption?		x				
b. Affect an existing emergency response or emergency evacuation plan or create a need for a new plan?		x				
c. Creation of any human health hazard or potential hazard?		x				
d. ⊄For P-R/D-J, will any chemical toxicants be used? (Also see 8a)		x				
e. Other:		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

9. COMMUNITY IMPACT **Will the proposed action result in:**	**IMPACT**				**Can Impact Be Mitigated**	**Comment Index**
	Unknown	**None**	**Minor**	**Potentially Significant**		
a. Alteration of the location, distribution, density, or growth rate of the human population of an area?		x				
b. Alteration of the social structure of a community?		x				
c. Alteration of the level or distribution of employment or community or personal income?		x				
d. Changes in industrial or commercial activity?		x				
e. Increased traffic hazards or effects on existing transportation facilities or patterns of movement of people and goods?		x				9e.
f. Other:						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

9e. There will be a temporary increase in the number of construction/commercial vehicles accessing the site during the construction period.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

10. PUBLIC SERVICES/TAXES/UTILITIES Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Will the proposed action have an effect upon or result in a need for new or altered governmental services in any of the following areas: fire or police protection, schools, parks/recreational facilities, roads or other public maintenance, water supply, sewer or septic systems, solid waste disposal, health, or other governmental services? If any, specify:		x				10a
b. Will the proposed action have an effect upon the local or state tax base and revenues?		x				10b
c. Will the proposed action result in a need for new facilities or substantial alterations of any of the following utilities: electric power, natural gas, other fuel supply or distribution systems, or communications?		x				
d. Will the proposed action result in increased used of any energy source?		x				
< e. Define projected revenue sources						
< f. Define projected maintenance costs.		x				10f
g. Other:_____________						

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

10a: The proposed actions are a proactive response to positively affect the existing recreational facilities at this highly visited state park.
10b: It is anticipated that the proposed improvements will increase visitor satisfaction with Cooney State Park.
10f. It is anticipated that long-term maintenance costs will be lower for the paved parking area due to the fact it will not need to be graded, and the cost of gravel maintenance will be eliminated.

IUMAN ENVIRONMENT

< 11. AESTHETICS/RECREATION Will the proposed action result in:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Alteration of any scenic vista or creation of an aesthetically offensive site or effect that is open to public view?		x				
b. Alteration of the aesthetic character of a community or neighborhood?		x				
<c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreational/tourism opportunities and settings? (Attach Tourism Report)		x				11c
d. ⊄For P-R/D-J, will any designated or proposed wild or scenic rivers, trails or wilderness areas be impacted? (Also see 11a, 11c)						
e. Other:						

Iarrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):
1c. The proposed infrastructure improvements for the Park will improve the quality of the recreational experience for the park visitor.

12. <u>CULTURAL/HISTORICAL RESOURCES</u> **Will the proposed action result in:**	**IMPACT**				**Can Impact Be Mitigated**	**Comment Index**
	Unknown	**None**	**Minor**	**Potentially Significant**		
<a. Destruction or alteration of any site, structure or object of prehistoric, historic, or paleontological importance?		x				12a
b. Physical change that would affect unique cultural values?		x				
c. Effects on existing religious or sacred uses of a site or area?		x				
d. ¢¢<u>For P-R/D-J</u>, will the project affect historic or cultural resources? **Attach SHPO letter of clearance.** (Also see 12.a)		x				
e. Other:						

larrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

2a. The proposed project areas have not been identified as having historical, archeological, or anthropological significant sites in the eas that will be affected.

HUMAN ENVIRONMENT

13. SUMMARY EVALUATION OF SIGNIFICANCE Will the proposed action, considered as a whole:	IMPACT				Can Impact Be Mitigated	Comment Index
	Unknown	None	Minor	Potentially Significant		
a. Have impacts that are individually limited, but cumulatively considerable? (A project or program may result in impacts on two or more separate resources which create a significant effect when considered together or in total.)		x				13a
b. Involve potential risks or adverse effects which are uncertain but extremely hazardous if they were to occur?		x				
c. Potentially conflict with the substantive requirements of any local, state, or federal law, regulation, standard or formal plan?		x				
d. Establish a precedent or likelihood that future actions with significant environmental impacts will be proposed?		x				
e. Generate substantial debate or controversy about the nature of the impacts that would be created?		x				
f. ⊄For P-R/D-J, is the project expected to have organized opposition or generate substantial public controversy? (Also see 13e)		x				
g. ⊄⊄For P-R/D-J, list any federal or state permits required.		x				

Narrative Description and Evaluation of the Cumulative and Secondary Effects on Land Resources (Attach additional pages of narrative if needed):

3a. This project will have a significant positive affect on recreational settings, visitor satisfaction and safety, and effectiveness of aintenance and management.

PART II. ENVIRONMENTAL REVIEW CONTINUED

2. Description and analysis of reasonable alternatives (including the no action alternative) to the proposed action whenever alternatives are reasonably available and prudent to consider and a discussion of how the alternatives would be implemented:

   No Action Alternative: The existing parking area would remain gravel, with the current level of sedimentation from the lot ending up in the reservoir. Boating recreationalists would continue to park wherever they determined the boundary to the parking area exists, and the result would be continued negative impacts on the vegetation surrounding the parking area.

   Proposed Alternative: This alternative will positively affect the natural resources at the park, user satisfaction, and address exiting issues related to the gravel parking area at the North Shore.

3. Evaluation and listing of mitigation, stipulation, or other control measures enforceable by the agency or another government agency:

   Not Applicable

4. Private Property Regulatory Restrictions:
   Actions described in this environmental analysis do not regulate the use of private, tangible personal property, or real property under a regulatory statute adopted pursuant to the police power of the state; the actions do not involve the denial of an application for a permit or other permission; and the actions do not restrict the use of the regulated person's private property. The actions of accepting a donation of land and developing it for a fishing access site do not place regulatory restrictions on private property and therefore do not require an evaluation of regulatory restrictions on private property.

PART III. NARRATIVE EVALUATION AND COMMENT

Paving the North Shore parking area will add many positive benefits to Cooney State Park. A paved parking area with delineation will provide an organized surface for the public to park their boats and trailers on. It will provide more spaces for parking because it will be organized. It will improve the opportunity for day use of the boat ramp area, with quick access from the main county road.

Paving the existing area will reduce the amount of sediment that washes into the reservoir from a bare/gravel parking area. It will also make it a cleaner area for the visitors to park and unload their vessels.

As use continues to increase at Cooney State Park, so does the need for more facilities. By paving the North Shore parking area is a proactive approach to addressing the needs of the public and managing their impact on the resources of the park.

PART IV. EA CONCLUSION SECTION

1. **Based on the significance criteria evaluated in this EA, is an EIS required? YES /NO**

   If an EIS is not required, explain why the EA is the appropriate level of analysis for this proposed action:

   No. This EA is adequate to review the potential environmental impacts and there are no anticipated *significant* adverse impacts or degradation of the environment. See Appendix A for MCA 23-1-110 checklist.

2. **Describe the level of public involvement for this project if any and, given the complexity and the seriousness of the environmental issues associated with the proposed action, is the level of public involvement appropriate under the circumstances?**

   No public meetings are planned as a part of this EA public comment period.

   The public will be notified by way of two statewide press releases in local newspapers and by public notice on the Fish, Wildlife & Parks web page: http://fwp.state.mt.us/publicnotices . Individual notices will be sent to those that have requested one.

3. **Duration of comment period, if any.**
   A 30-day comment period is proposed. This level of public involvement is appropriate for this scale of project.

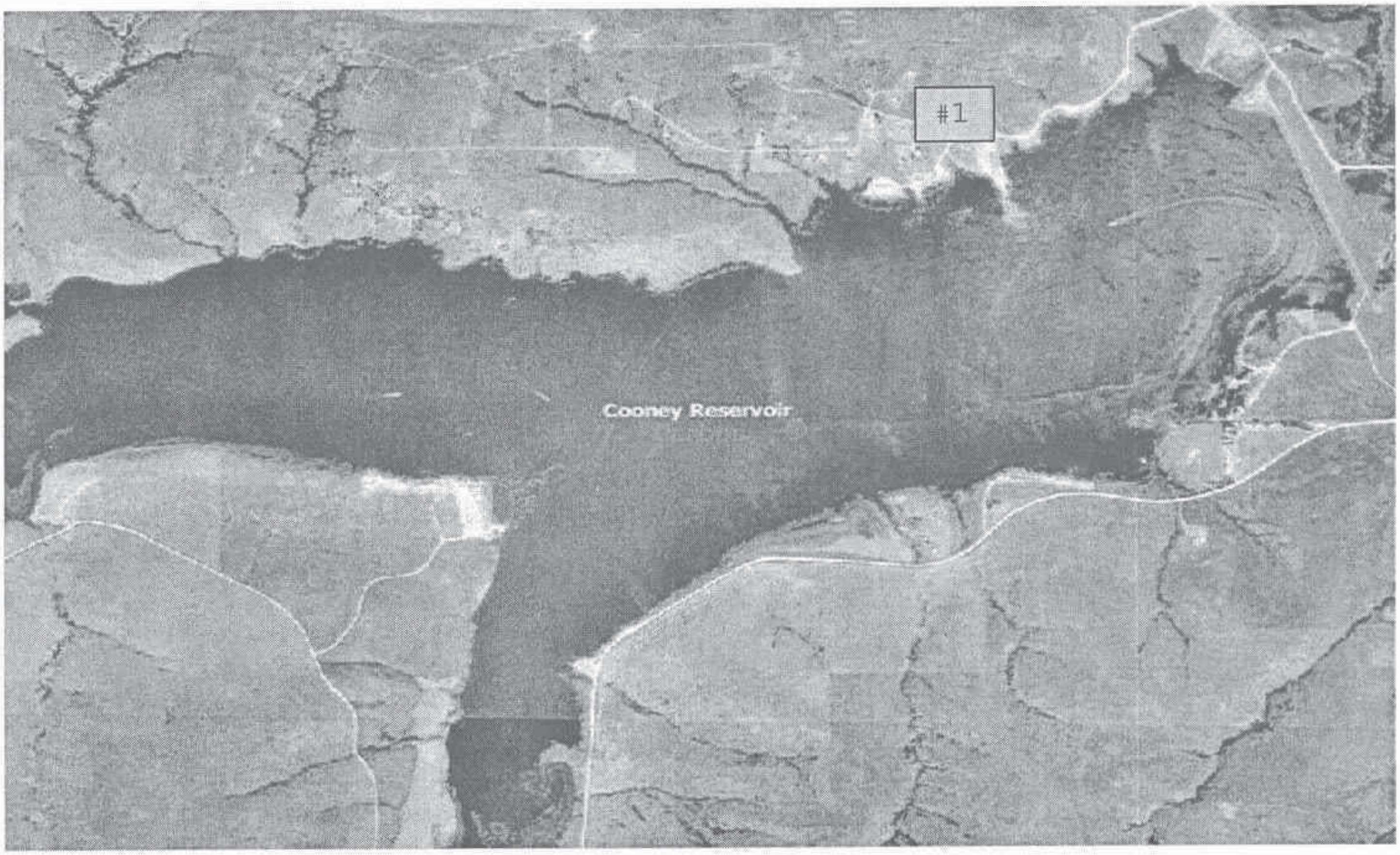
5. **Name, title, address and phone number of the Person(s) Responsible for Preparing the EA:**

Jenny Alexander, Park Manager
Cooney State Park
P.O. Box 254
Joliet, MT 59041
(406) 445-2326

Doug Habermann, Regional Manager
Montana FWP, Region 5
2300 Lake Elmo Dr.
Billings, MT 59105
(406) 247-2954

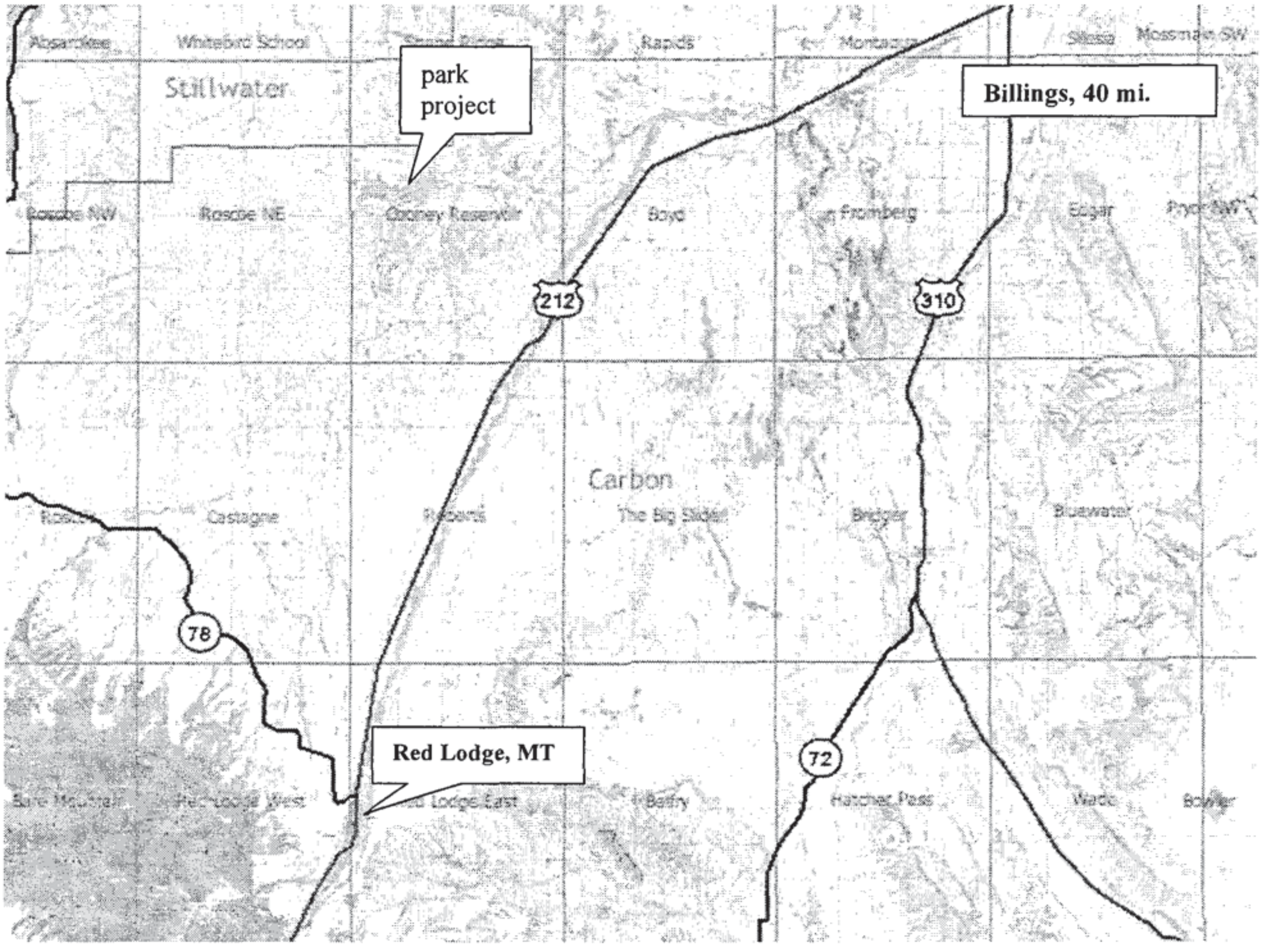
ATTACHMENTS

MAPS & SITE PLAN



#1 Paving of North Shore Parking Lot

PROJECT LOCATION



Appendix A

MCA 23-1-110. Improvement or development of state park or fishing access site—required public involvement—rules.

Date: 11/14/05

Person Reviewing: Jenny Alexander

Project Location: North Shore Parking Area at Cooney State Park

DESCRIPTION OF PROPOSED WORK: The proposed project description is to pave the existing North Shore Parking Area

The following checklist is intended to be a guide for determining whether a proposed development or improvement is of enough significance to fall under HB MCA 23-1-110. (Please check all that apply and comment as necessary.)

[ ] A. New roadway or trail built over undisturbed land?
Comments: N/A

[ ] B. New building construction (buildings < 100 sf and vault latrines exempt)?
Comments: N/A

[ ] C. Any excavation of 20 c.y. or greater?

Comments: N/A

[ ] D. New parking lots built over undisturbed land or expansion of existing lot that increases parking capacity by 25% or more?

Comments: N/A

[ ] E. Any new shoreline alteration that exceeds a double wide boat ramp or handicapped fishing station?

Comments: N/A

[ ] F. Any new construction into lakes, reservoirs, or streams?

Comments: N/A

[ ] G. Any new construction in an area with National Registry quality cultural artifacts (as determined by State Historical Preservation Office)?

Comments: N/A

[ ] H. Any new above ground utility lines?

Comments: N/A

[ ] I. Any increase or decrease in campsites of 25% or more of an existing number of campsites?

Comments: N/A

[ ] J. Proposed project significantly changes the existing features or use pattern; including effects of a series of individual projects.

Comments: This project will simply pave an existing gravel parking area.

MONTANA ENVIRONMENTAL POLICY ACT (MEPA)/HB 495
TOURISM REPORT

Project Name:
Project Description:

12.8.604(l) ARM:

i. **tourism is defined as the guidance or management of tourists (residents and nonresidents), who are the individuals who make tours for pleasure or education; and,**

ii. **site development projects will be sent to the department of commerce with a request for review as to the impacts on tourism economy.**

MEPA:
Human Environment. 11:

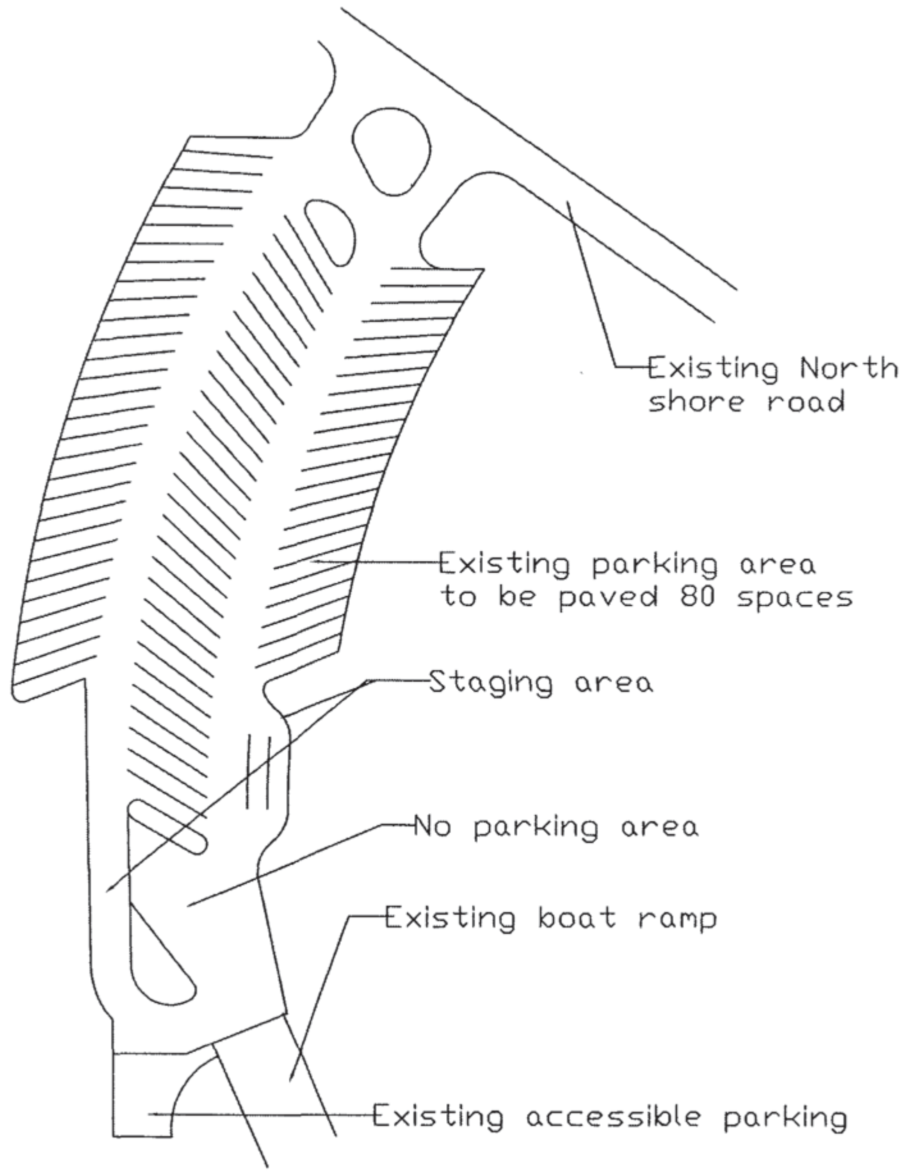
c. Alteration of the quality or quantity of recreation/tourism opportunities and settings?

Considering (1) ii under ARM rules and MEPA Human Environment 11, listed above, describe how this project will impact the tourism economy:

The proposed project paves the North Shore Boat Ramp Parking Lot and does not include the North Shore access road. The area to be paved would be between the North Shore Boat Ramp Day Use sign and the kiosk located right it front of the North Shore boat ramp. The area is approximately 160 by 500. It would include striping to delineate driving lanes and parking spots.

Signature Victor A Bjornberg Date 11-2-05

Please return to Jennifer Alexander
Cooney State Park Manager
POB 254
Joliet, MT 59041



Existing North
shore road
Existing parking area
to be paved 80 spaces
Staging area
No parking area
Existing boat ramp
Existing accessible parking