



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers**®  
Walla Walla District

# News Release

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Contact: Public Affairs Office

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Phone: (509) 527-7020

## Corps to install new boat dock at Texas Rapids

**STARBUCK, Wash.** – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers will install new ADA-compliant boat launching and docking facilities at Texas Rapids recreation area this winter.

The work will be completed in two phases: modifying the existing crib dock, and then installing two new floating docks.

The first phase of work will start Nov. 26 and should be done by the end of December. The second work phase – installing the new docks – will take about 2-3 weeks.

With winter weather on the way and likely to cause some work delays, Corps staff anticipate the launching and docking facilities will reopen sometime between 15 December and the end of March.

During these work periods, visitors will not be able to moor their boats on site and boat launching will need to be accomplished without the aid of a boat dock.

“We apologize for the inconvenience, but it is necessary to provide better facilities for the public,” said Park Ranger John Schroeder, a natural resource specialist at Little Goose Lock and Dam.

Texas Rapids, located 4 miles west of Little Goose Dam at Snake River Mile 66 on the south riverbank, is open year-round. Its facilities include a day-use area, primitive camping and the soon-to-be ADA-accessible boat ramp and docks.

During the temporary launching facility closure at Texas Rapids, boaters can find nearby Corps boat launch facilities at Lyons Ferry Marina on Lake West and Little Goose Landing on Lake Bryan.

Lyons Ferry Marina, located downstream of Little Goose Dam at Snake River Mile 59 on the south riverbank, is leased and operated by Columbia County. Its boat ramp and marina are open year-round. For hours of operation and more information, contact the managers at (509) 399-8020). Facilities include developed camping, day-use area, restaurant, store, boat ramp and marina (moorage, fuel and propane). *Getting there:* travel 7 miles northwest of Starbuck, Wash., on Highway 261.

Little Goose Landing, located 1 mile upstream of Little Goose Dam at Snake River Mile 71 on the south riverbank. The site is open year-round. Facilities include primitive camping, a day-use area and boat ramp. *Getting there:* travel 11 miles northeast of Starbuck, Wash., on Little Goose Dam Road.

District park rangers hope visitors will remember to play it safe while having fun at Corps lakes and recreation facilities: when boating, wear properly fitted, U.S. Coast Guard-approved life preservers; and don't consume intoxicants when operating recreational vessels. Boaters must ensure personal floatation devices (PFDs) are on board for each person – children 12 and younger are required to wear PFDs when in a boat. Colder temperatures increase the risk of hypothermia occurring when exposed to cold and/or damp weather conditions for long periods of time. Hypothermia results when a person experiences a critical lowering of core body temperature, so stay warm and dry while enjoying autumn outdoor recreation opportunities.

For more information, contact the Little Goose Lock and Dam park ranger at (509) 399-2233 ext. 262, or (509) 540-1497.

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Public Affairs Office, Walla Walla District Headquarters, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 201 N. Third Ave, Walla Walla, WA 99362-1876

Phone (509) 527-7020 FAX (509) 527-7824

Website: [www.nwww.usace.army.mil](http://www.nwww.usace.army.mil)

E-mail: [cenww-pa@usace.army.mil](mailto:cenww-pa@usace.army.mil)