



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

News Release

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Contact: Public Affairs Office

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Update: Boat ramp to be temporarily closed for improvements

BURBANK, Wash. – Access to Ice Harbor Lock and Dam’s north shore boat ramp will be closed today, May 1, while workers resurface the parking lot and boat ramp, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers officials at the dam announced today.

The paving job was previously scheduled for April 22, but cancelled because of rainy weather conditions.

Boaters wanting to access Lake Sacajawea can use the Corps launching facilities at Charbonneau Park, located on the south side of the Snake River just 1.3 miles upstream of the dam in Walla Walla County.

The improvements at the north shore boat ramp are part of an agreement between the Corps and Washington State Parks and Recreation to develop a trailhead area along the Columbia Plateau Trail State Park, which passes near the dam, said Kye Carpenter, Ice Harbor’s Assistant Natural Resource Manager.

Following a long-abandoned railroad line built in 1908, the Columbia Plateau Trail travels 130 miles from East Pasco to Fish Lake (near Spokane), through the channeled lands and pine forests of eastern Washington. Only certain sections of the trail are currently paved or graveled. The route is steeped in history, re-told at interpretive kiosks on the trail.

Directions to Charbonneau Park: travel 8.3 miles east of Burbank, Wash., on Highway 124, then 2 miles north on Sun Harbor Drive; located at Snake River Mile 11.

For more information about boat access to the river, call the Ice Harbor Natural Resources Office at (541) 922-2268, or check out the Corps’ Website at www.nww.usace.army.mil –click on Recreation. For more information about the Columbia Plateau Trail and other Washington State parks, visit their Website at www.parks.wa.gov.

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