



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

News Release

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Lucky Peak applies for state recreation grants

BOISE, Idaho – The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lucky Peak Lake, is applying for two grants from the Idaho Department of Parks and Recreation (IDPR) Waterways Improvement Fund in 2009.

Both grants target improving boating access and safe recreational boating use of Lucky Peak Lake. Water-based summer recreation is the primary activity of approximately 1 million visitors to the lake each year.

One grant request will support buoy markings on the lake. These aids to navigation help boaters identify things in the water such as hazardous shoals, no wake zones and restricted boating areas. The buoys will also be equipped with blinking strobes, assisting nighttime recreational boaters.

“We have a lot of buoys to keep up with out on the lake, and we’d like to enhance markings in several areas for safety reasons. We’re a busy lake. Our buoys get a lot of use and are near the end of, or beyond, their useful life,” said Corps Park Ranger Mike Carilli.

The approximate grant amount requested through the IDPR Waterways Improvement Fund is \$18,000.

A second grant request is sought to improve boating access at boat ramp parking lots and to prolong the service life of these facilities with asphalt crack repairs, seal coat application and the refreshing of pavement markings. Additionally, parking stall width at Barclay Bay and Turner Gulch will be widened to current industry standards.

“We’ve seen a fair amount of property damage from people trying to squeeze large trucks and trailers into stalls that, years ago, just weren’t designed to accommodate such things. Changing some angles and widening the stalls – hopefully, this will improve traffic flow in and out of here,” said Keith Hyde, park manager at Lucky Peak Dam and Lake.

Losses of stalls to widen these areas will be offset by enhancements in others. Robie Creek Park will see reorganization of traffic flow and an enlarged parking area under this grant. As the result of a separate project, IDPR Spring Shores Marina will also be adding parking stalls. Altogether, the \$64,000 grant request could benefit four ramp areas in two counties.

Questions and comments can be sent to: U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Lucky Peak Lake, 9723 East Highway 21, Boise, Idaho, 83716, or by phoning (208) 343-0671.

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