

NPDPL-ER (19 Jul 84) 1st Ind
SUBJECT: Lower Granite Lock and Dam, Letter Supplement No. 2 to Design
Memorandum No. 28, Reclassification of Portion of Hells Gate
State Recreation Area

DA, North Pacific Division, Corps of Engineers, P. O. Box 2870,
Portland, OR 97208 20 August 1984

TO: Commander, Walla Walla District

The subject Letter Supplement is approved.

FOR THE COMMANDER:

3 Incls
nc

JAMES R. FRY
Colonel, Corps of Engineers
Deputy Commander

SUBJECT: Lower Granite Lock and Dam, Letter Supplement No. 2 to Design Memorandum No. 28, Reclassification of Portion of Hells Gate State Recreation Area

Commander, North Pacific Division

1. Hells Gate State Recreation Area is located 4 miles upstream from the city of Lewiston on the right bank of the Snake River in the State of Idaho.
2. The facility was originally constructed by the Corps in 1978. It is leased to the Idaho Parks and Recreation Department. The area contains 960 acres of which about 100 are developed. The development includes 93 campsites, day use area, and marina. Currently, all lands within the lease are classified "Recreation-Intensive" use.
3. It is proposed to reclassify 650 acres to the east and south of the campground to "Wildlife Management-Intensive" (see Inclosure 1). The purpose of this reclassification is to facilitate mitigation for wildlife losses caused by inundation of lands due to the construction of the Lower Granite Dam. Dr. W.L. Pengelly studied the State of Idaho's mitigation demands and stated in a report furnished to the Corps in 1978: "The dedication of the undeveloped acreage at Hells Gate State Park to wildlife should be adequate compensation." In 1983, a Memorandum of Agreement was prepared by the Corps and signed by the Idaho Parks and Recreation Department and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game. In this Memorandum of Agreement, the Idaho Department of Fish and Game agreed that additional mitigation would not be requested if the subject lands were developed according to the management plan. Reclassification of this land would thereby eliminate the need to acquire additional lands to meet mitigation requirements.
4. A recently prepared supplement to the Design Memorandum for wildlife habitat development on project lands was prepared to describe the future development and management of the Hells Gate Habitat Management Unit. These mitigation developments were authorized by the Lower Snake River Fish and Wildlife Compensation Plan.

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5. The lands were originally acquired for a buffer to park activities, an equestrian riding corridor, and day use (Design Memorandum No. 28A, Preliminary Master Plan Requirements, Supplement 1, Land Requirements, Tammany State Park, 2 July 1971). Although this land would be reclassified as "Wildlife Management-Intensive," it would remain allocated to recreation and continue to meet recreation needs while at the same time satisfying mitigation requirements. This land will also be used to compensate for lost public recreation opportunities by providing additional hunting lands for the public of Idaho. Appropriate measures will be taken to ensure a safety zone between hunting and park activities.

6. A portion of the remaining "Recreation-Intensive" lands has been set aside for future camping. According to the 1983 SCORP Report for the State of Idaho, the demand for camping will increase approximately 70 percent (or 65 camping spaces) by the year 2000 in Nez Perce County. Hells Gate State Park has the potential to expand to more than double its existing capacity, thereby exceeding the projected demand without utilization of the proposed reclassified lands. When expansion is necessary, it will be accomplished on the remaining acres of the park that will not be reclassified from "Recreation-Intensive" (see inclosure).

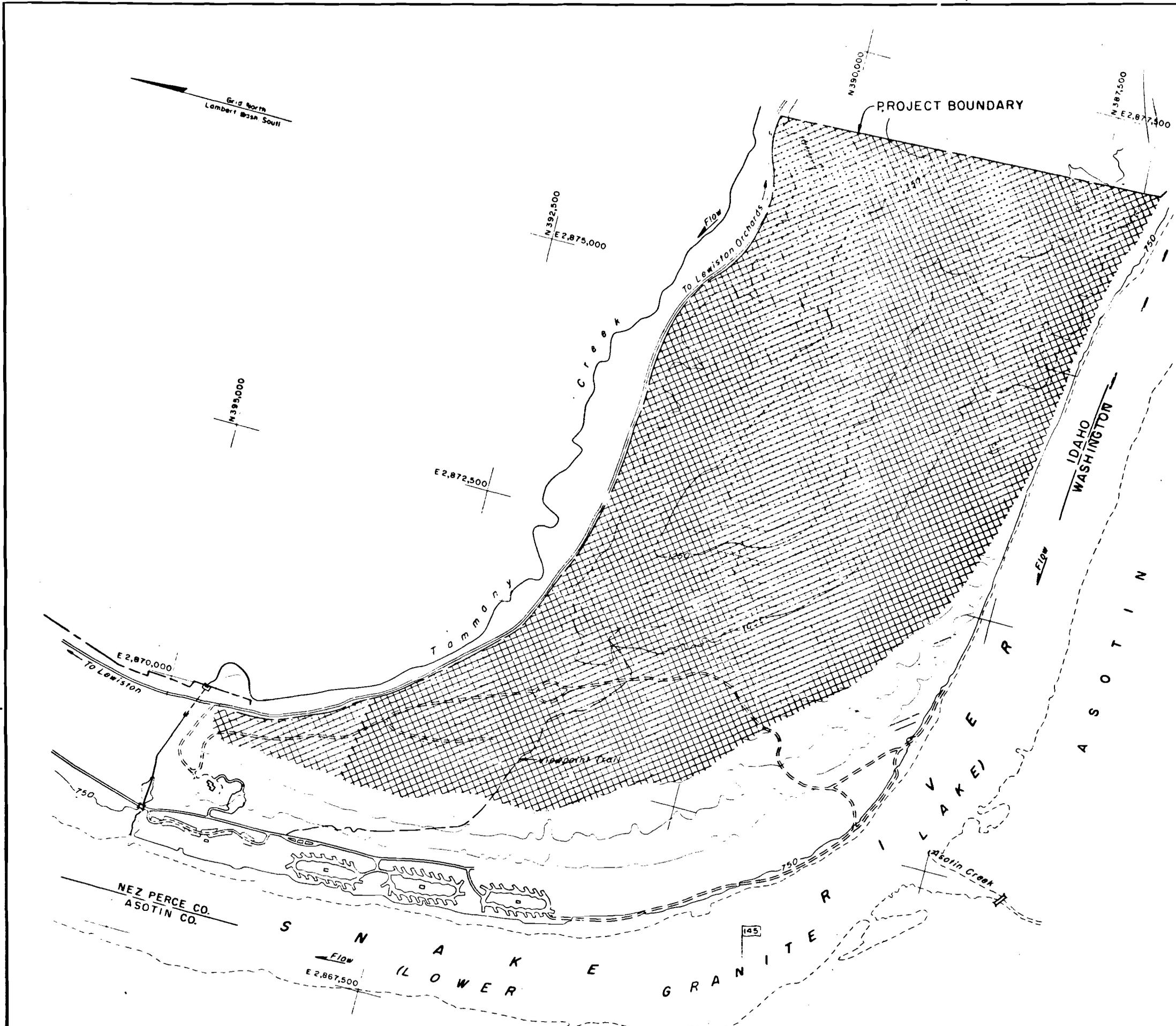
7. Approval is requested for reclassification of this area as shown on Inclosure 1 from "Recreation-Intensive" to "Wildlife Management-Intensive." Both the Idaho Parks and Recreation Department and the Idaho Department of Fish and Game have signed a Memorandum of Agreement with the Corps agreeing to this change. It has also been coordinated with the Nez Perce County Planner's Office and local park board (see Inclosures 2 and 3) as well as Real Estate and Operations Divisions within the District.

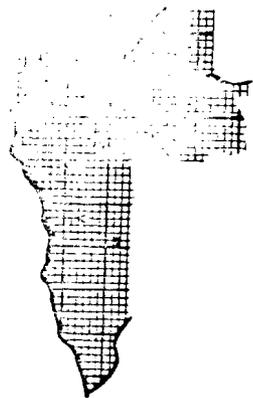
3 Incls

1. Hells Gate Mgmt
Unit Map
2. Ltr fm Nez Perce County
dtd 14 Dec 83
3. Ltr fm Dept of Parks &
Recreation dtd 19 Dec 83

ROBERT B. WILLIAMS

Colonel, CE
Commanding





NEZ PERCE COUNTY

Office of the County Planner

Planning & Zoning Commission

P. O. BOX 896 LEWISTON, IDAHO 83501

December 14, 1983

District Engineer
Walla Walla District
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Building 602,
City-County Airport
Walla Walla, Washington, 99362

Dear Sir:

I have recently received a briefing from Dr. Michael Passmore, wildlife biologist from your agency, in company with a representative from the Idaho Department of Fish and Game, in regard to a proposed change in land use designation of a portion of Hells Gate State Park. The proposed change in designation is from "Recreation Lands" to "Wildlife Management".

The proposed change retains in the "Recreation Lands" category all of the area presently used for intensive recreation, and also in that category a fairly large buffer zone between the main recreation area and the proposed "Wildlife Management" area.

It is my opinion that this proposal fairly reflects the manner in which this area is actually being used by the public and managed by the state, and is an appropriate change in the land use plan for the area.

The area of the proposed change is included in the portion of Nez Perce County lands designated as "River Corridor Lands", indicating that land use policies are oriented in the direction of protection of the river resource. The redesignation of the area concerned is clearly not in contravention of that policy. Nez Perce County therefore interposes no objection to the proposed redesignation of this area from "Recreation Lands" to "Wildlife Management".

Sincerely,

Robert L. Brown
Planning and Zoning Administrator

RLB:bb

cc: BCC

Parks Director Michael C. Moon
Recreation Director Lynn C. Moss

Lewiston

Clarkston



DEPARTMENT OF
PARKS & RECREATION
Post Office Box 617 - Lewiston, Idaho 83501
(208) 746-2313

December 19, 1983

District Engineer
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Attn: Dr. Michael F. Passmore
Wildlife Biologist
Building 602
Walla Walla, Wa. 99362

Dear Dr. Passmore:

The City of Lewiston supports the proposed change of certain portions of Hellsgate State Park from current use designation as Recreation Area to a new designation as Wildlife Management Area as resently discussed with our departmental staff.

Cordially yours;

Michael C. Moon
Director of Parks