

**MISSOURI-MADISON RIVER FUND
RECREATION PROJECT**

APPLICATION FORM 2009

Project Name: Hebgen Reservoir Deepwater Boat Ramp

Reservoir or River Segment: Hebgen Reservoir County(ies): Gallatin

Site Name and/or Legal Location: Kirkwood Marina

Applicant Name Kirkwood Ranch Limited Partnership, Pam Sveinson

Position (if applicable) Partner and Manager

Address 11505 Hebgen Lake Road West Yellowstone, MT 59758

Telephone # 406.646.7200

E-mail Address psveinson@kirkwoodresort.com

Project Sponsors:

A submitted application will need a Project Sponsor. Project sponsors serve on Missouri-Madison Regional Working Groups, and include representatives of the U.S. Forest Service; Bureau of Land Management; Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; local government; Madison, Gallatin, Broadwater, Chouteau, Lewis and Clark, or Cascade Counties; PPL Montana and the Bureau of Reclamation. See page 1-9 of the Comprehensive Recreation Plan for a list of 2009 members of the Regional Working Groups (www.apleco.com/mmcrp.asp).

Project Sponsor Name Nancy Johnson

Position (if applicable) Recreation planner, American Lands

Address 460 Russell Lane Helena, MT 59602

Telephone # 406.431.4734

E-mail Address nancy.johnson.aple@bresnan.net

	<u>Financial Support</u>
Total Project Cost:	\$ <u>73,500</u>
Applicant Contributions:	\$ _____
Other Contributions (Please list by source):	
PPL Montana – Initial site investigation	\$ <u>3,500</u>
PPL Montana – Final design and cost estimate	\$ <u>5,000</u>
PPL Montana – Sign design/fabrication	\$ <u>500</u>
_____	\$ _____
_____	\$ _____

PPL Montana Match Request: \$ _____

River Fund Request: \$ 64,500

Proposed Project Period: 2010 (weather-dependent)

Please note: Document all in-kind support and contributed services from project partners under Scoring Criterion #1 on page 3.

Has this project been previously submitted for funding consideration by the River Fund Board, either as a separate project or part of another project? Yes No. If "Yes," please identify which years the application was submitted and, if the project was previously funded, list the amount funded by year.

An application was submitted to the River Fund Board in 2007 but was not funded.

Project Description

The proposed project would extend an existing boat ramp at Kirkwood Marina and dredge an access channel in the marina bay to allow deepwater access when low water conditions occur on Hebgen Reservoir. These conditions occur when lake elevation drops below 6,530 feet, the lower limit of the License-specified recreational pool for Hebgen Reservoir. The proposed project would provide improved launching facilities and safe boat access for the general public and marina clients with medium to small-sized boats when low water conditions occur.

The existing ramp would be extended approximately 20 feet. An access channel would be dredged approximately 350 feet across the marina bay to remove an estimated 480 cubic yards of lake bed material. Dredging would also be completed adjacent to the fueling station. Other marina improvements to facilitate public use would be funded by the owner. Signs would be installed at the marina when low water conditions occur, informing the public and marina users of ramp availability. Signs would also be installed at public boat ramps in other locations on the reservoir to inform boaters of available boat access when low water conditions occur. A final design and detailed cost estimate are attached to this application.

Project involves collaboration with other agencies or organizations.

Both public and private parties have collaborated to identify opportunities for deepwater ramps on Hebgen Reservoir. In the fall of 2007, PPL Montana funded an initial engineering assessment to study options for deepwater lake access on the north shore of Hebgen Reservoir. USFS staff consulted with PPLM in identifying potential sites for study. Based on this assessment, PPLM prepared preliminary cost estimates for extension of existing ramps and dredging at the two marinas on the northeast and northwest reservoir shorelines. PPL Montana also consulted with the owner of the third private marina on the Madison Arm of the reservoir regarding interest in ramp extension.

In the fall of 2008, USFS staff completed an engineering feasibility assessment for extending two public ramps on the reservoir and dredging access channels for deepwater access. This assessment indicated that due to the shallow nature of bays at Rainbow Point and Lonesomehurst, ramps would need to be extended up to 70 feet and access channels ranging from 1100 to 1750 linear feet in length would need to be dredged to assure deepwater access. Following this assessment, PPLM and the USFS concluded that existing ramps on the north shore provided cost-effective options for providing deepwater access.

In the fall of 2008 PPLM funded a detailed engineering assessment for extension of the existing Kirkwood boat ramp and dredging of an access channel to the main body of the lake. This engineering assessment provided the cost estimate for the proposed project. Other marina owners indicate they have considered access improvements but are not moving forward with any plans.

Project responds to a clearly identified need.

Under normal operating conditions, the Project 2188 License requires PPLM to maintain Hebgen Reservoir near full pool (6,534.87 feet) until September 1 and to limit drafting of the reservoir to no lower than 6,530.26 feet by October 1. However, this normal recreation pool of approximately 4.5 feet can be modified under the emergency operating conditions specified in Article 403 following agency consultation and notification to FERC. This situation occurred in 2007 and reservoir levels dropped to elevation 6,526 feet by October 1. Public boat ramps became unusable in late July, and private marinas scaled back business operations or closed. Limited boat launching continued at existing gravel bars along the north shore of the reservoir. A similar situation occurred in September 2008 when the lake level dropped due to a failure of the intake tower at Hebgen Dam, making the lake inaccessible to boaters through the rest of the fall. The proposed project would respond in a cost-effective manner to allow safe public access to the

reservoir when low water conditions occur. If not completed, safe and reliable boat access to the reservoir would continue to be unavailable to the public during low water conditions.

Project provides a benefit to public recreation in the Project Area and addresses specific issues and goals of the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan (CRP).

The project would provide a benefit to public recreation by ensuring continued boating access to Hebgen Reservoir when low water conditions occur in the future. The project would help address the following goals of the Missouri-Madison Comprehensive Recreation Plan:

- To provide safe and well-managed recreation sites and dispersed use areas that provide enjoyable user experiences across a spectrum of opportunities and seasons.
- To maintain or proactively increase public safety for recreationists in the Project Area.

Project is for operation and maintenance of an existing recreation site.

Although not a public recreation site, the proposed project would support continued operation of the boat launch at Kirkwood Marina for both the general public and marina clients when low water conditions occur at Hebgen Reservoir. Terms and conditions allowing public use of marina facilities and lake access are specified in a draft operations agreement that would take effect following an award of funds. The current marina owner would continue to operate and maintain the site. The agreement would be in effect for the life of the ramp, estimated at 20 years. Use of the boat launch facility would be available to the public at a reasonable and competitive fee when reservoir levels prevent safe use of ramps at public sites. Launch fees collected from the public during the term of the operations agreement would be used to support continued public use.

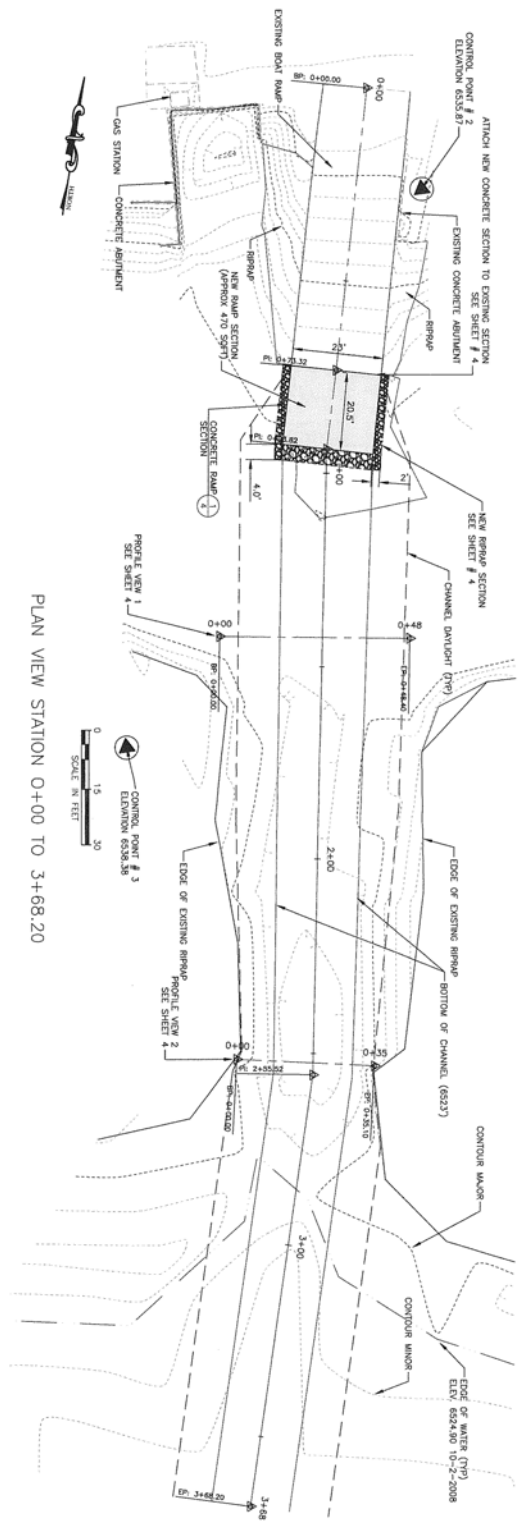
Project supports or protects other resources and is consistent with or supports resource plans in the Project Area.

The proposed project would be located at a privately-owned marina on Hebgen Reservoir. Proposed improvements would be compatible with existing uses at the marina. Proposed improvements would be consistent with management of adjacent lands administered by the Gallatin National Forest for grizzly bear recovery, wildlife protection, and recreation use.

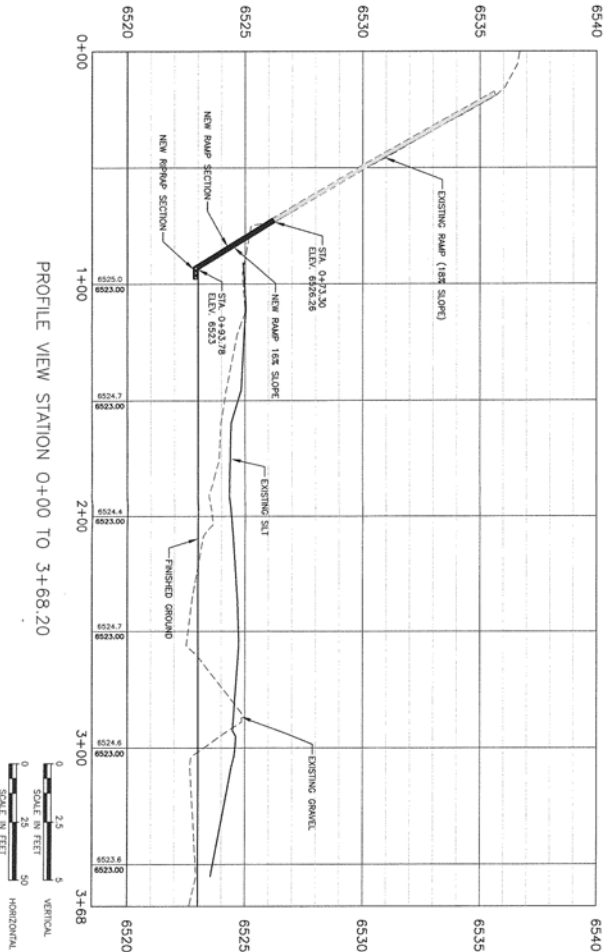
Kirkwood Marina boat ramp August 2007



Attachments: Final engineering design, detailed cost estimate, USFS letter on study of Hebgen ramps



PLAN VIEW STATION 0+00 TO 3+68.20



PROFILE VIEW STATION 0+00 TO 3+68.20

2 SHEET NO. OF 4	APPLE HEBGEN BOAT RAMPS KIRKWOOD MARINA PLAN & PROFILE	 2501 BELLY VIEW DRIVE HELIXIA, UT 84001 (801) 464-9627	PROJECT: 1-07077 DESIGNED: LJO DRAWN: LJO CHECKED: SEB APPROVED: SEB DATE: JAN 12, 2009	<table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <thead> <tr> <th style="width: 5%;">NO.</th> <th style="width: 75%;">REVISION DESCRIPTION</th> <th style="width: 20%;">BY</th> <th style="width: 10%;">DATE</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> <tr><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td><td> </td></tr> </tbody> </table>	NO.	REVISION DESCRIPTION	BY	DATE																
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Construction Cost Estimate for
 Site Improvements at Kirkwood Resort (Water Elevation 6526 feet)
 Jan-09
 Hebgen Lake Deep Water Boat Ramp - Feasibility Analysis

Item #	Description	Estimated Quantity	Unit Measure	Unit Price	Estimate
1	Mobilization	1	LS	\$5,000.00	\$5,000
2	Erosion Control	1	LS	\$2,000.00	\$2,000
3	Boat Ramp Extension	12	CY	\$1,250.00	\$15,000
4	Excavation/Dredging (Haul < 2 miles)	480	CY	\$50.00	\$24,000
5	Rip-Rap (on edges of new ramp)	8	CY	\$40.00	\$320
6	New Ramp Bedding	9	CY	\$40.00	\$360
7	Permitting	1	LS	\$1,500.00	\$1,500
Sub-Total					\$48,180
Contingency (20%)					\$9,636
Engineering (15%)					\$8,672
Total					\$66,488

Notes: Engineering costs are based on an assumed scope of work, but should be within 20%.
 Costs could vary significantly depending on weather and lake elevation.



United States
Department of
Agriculture

Forest
Service

Gallatin National Forest

Hebgen Lake Ranger District
P.O. Box 520
West Yellowstone, MT 59758
Phone: 406-823-6961
Fax: 406-823-6990

File Code: 2330

Date: August 24, 2009

Jon Jourdonnais,
PPL Montana
45 Basin Creek Road
Butte, MT 59701

Dear Jon,

We have given careful consideration to public boat launching at Hebgen Lake when water levels are low. Our two public boat ramps, Lonesomehurst Campground and Rainbow Point campground are located in shallow bays, and only through extensive dredging would it be possible to use these ramps when reservoir levels are low.

To accomplish reasonable launching at the Lonesomehurst boat ramp a channel would need to be dredged approximately 1750 linear feet, removing 3889 cubic yards of material. To accomplish low water launching at Rainbow Point boat ramp a channel would need to be dredged approximately 1100 linear feet, removing 2444 cubic yards of material. In addition, both ramps would need buoys to mark the channels and extension of the concrete ramps by approximately 70 ft. The costs for this work have been estimated at \$46,000 to \$61,000. Wave action and strong currents mobilize sand and fine sediment along the lake bottom near both these ramps and re-dredging would have to be accomplished on an annual basis, adding significant maintenance costs. We have also considered the construction of a new boat ramp and day use site on the North side of Hebgen Lake where conditions would be better suited for boat launching in low water. There are policy restrictions on the creation of new recreation facilities based on Grizzly Bear Recovery Plans and a Forest Plan Amendment. A new boat ramp facility is not compatible with the Gallatin National Forest's current policy.

After considering the costs and problems associated with maintaining or improving our current public boat ramps, and/or the development of a new ramp, we support PPL Montana's interest and the use of River Fund Grant money to dredge and enhance one or both private boat ramps on the North side of Hebgen Lake. The conditions at either Yellowstone Holiday Marina or Kirkwood Marina are better suited for dredging and maintaining boat ramps for low water conditions. Providing public boat access to Hebgen Lake at all water levels, even if it involves a nominal fee to the public, is a desirable outcome for the Forest Service. We fully support any effort to enhance one or both private marinas on the North side of Hebgen Lake. If you have any questions or concerns, please contact myself or Rob Davies, 406 823-6971.

Sincerely,

Lauren Turner
District Ranger

cc: Nancy Johnson, American Lands



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