



US Army Corps
of Engineers

Sacramento District
1325 J Street
Sacramento, CA 95814-2922

Public Notice

Public Notice Number: 200300458

Date: October 2, 2003

Comments Due: November 3, 2003

In reply, please refer to the Public Notice Number

TO WHOM IT MAY CONCERN:

SUBJECT: The application for a Department of the Army permit under authority of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act to fill approximately 0.063 acres of waters of the United States to expand the boat launching facilities in Shaver Lake, California.

APPLICANT: County of Fresno
2220 Tulare Street
Fresno, CA 93721

LOCATION: The proposed boat ramp is located in the Sierra Marina, at the north end of Shaver Lake, Sections 12 & 13, Township 9 South, Range 24 East, MDB&M, Fresno County California.

PURPOSE: The applicant's stated purpose of the project is to expand the existing boat ramp to reduce congestion during the peak season.

PROJECT DESCRIPTION: The applicant is proposing to expand the boat launching facility of the Sierra Marina to accommodate demand during the high season. As part of the project, the applicant would construct a 3,600 square foot, 2-lane concrete launch ramp. Approximately 0.063 acres (2,760 sf) of fill material will be placed within the ordinary high water mark of Shaver Lake. The material used for the construction of the ramp will be cast-in-place, steel reinforced concrete. The concrete will be placed in dry conditions by transit-mix truck or pumped in.

AREA DESCRIPTION: The expansion of the existing marina is proposed on a six and one-half-acre portion of the 772.30-acre parcel of land in the unincorporated community of Shaver Lake. Shaver Lake is currently owned and operated by Southern California Edison to generate hydroelectricity. Recreational use of the lake is mandated by the Federal Regulatory Energy Commission (FERC).

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION:

The proposed boat ramp expansion is the only portion of the improvements to the Sierra Marina that involve fill below the ordinary high water mark. The County of Fresno has also proposed to construct a car/trailer turnaround above the ramp, a 3-acre paved parking area to accommodate 50 vehicle/trailers and 7 single vehicles; install a pre-fabricated two unit restroom; and expand the existing vehicle access road.

The Corps believes that there are no sites listed, determined or potentially eligible historic properties on the National Register within or immediately adjacent to the project. No further cultural resources review is warranted because the permit area has been extensively modified by previous work. And, no further cultural resources review is warranted because all work in the permit area has been created in modern times. This activity would not affect any threatened or endangered species or their critical habitat. The District Engineer has made this determination based on information provided by the applicant and on the Corps' preliminary investigation.

Interested parties are invited to submit written comments on or before **November 3, 2003**. Personal information in comment letters is subject to release to the public through the Freedom of Information Act. Any person may request, in writing, within the comment period specified in this notice that a public hearing be held to consider this application. Requests for public hearings shall state, with particularity, the reasons for holding a public hearing.

The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impact including cumulative impacts of the proposed activity on the public interest. That decision will reflect the national concern for both protection and utilization of important resources. The benefit which reasonably may be expected to accrue from the proposal must be balanced against its reasonably foreseeable detriments. All factors which may be relevant to the proposal will be considered including the cumulative effects thereof; among those are conservation, economics, aesthetics, general environmental concerns, wetlands, cultural values, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, flood plain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, consideration of property ownership, and in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

The Corps of Engineers is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, state, and local agencies and officials; Indian Tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. To make this decision, comments are used to assess impacts on endangered species, historic properties, water quality, general environmental effects, and the other public interest factors listed above. Comments are used in the preparation of an Environmental

Assessment and/or an Environmental Impact Statement pursuant to the National Environmental Policy Act. Comments are also used to determine the need for a public hearing and to determine the overall public interest of the proposed activity.

If additional information is required, please contact County of Fresno Charles Janiel, telephone (559)488-3004, or Mr. Matt Hirkala, at the letterhead address, telephone 916-557-5263.

Mark W. Connelly
Lieutenant Colonel,
Corps of Engineers
Acting District Engineer

Enclosures: 3 Drawing(s)