



A NEGATIVE DECLARATION  
FOR  
HAPPY LANDEN (RECREATIONAL) TRAILER PARK  
Lake County, Montana

DIVISION: Montana State Dept. of Health  
and Environmental Sciences

TYPE OF ACTION: Licensing of Recreational  
Vehicle Campground

PREPARED BY: Wilbur O. Aikin, P.E.  
Public Health Engineer  
Kalispell Regional Office

DATE: February 27, 1975

LOCATION AND SIZE: A 2.2 acre Flathead Lake shoreline lot, one-half mile west of Big Arm, Montana, submitted to this office for approval as a recreational vehicle campground. Twenty individual sites, arrayed in three tiers, are shown; each recreational vehicle slot being either 32' x 48' or 32' x 35' in size.

LAND USE: To this point, this lot and the adjacent lakeshore lots have been used for many diverse purposes, most of which are recreational or second home oriented. In particular, this 2.2 acres is contingent to an older recreational campground (Skipping Rock Lodge), and the nearby community of Big Arm is a heavily utilized summertime community. Project is commensurate with the other common land usages in the area; density if the only new factor.

WATER QUALITY PLAN CONCEPTS

Shoreline Effects: A 60 foot dock with adjacent boat ramp is the prime shoreline modification. Campground spaces will be located no closer than 200 feet to high water lake level. Existing natural gradient to water is an even 5-7%. No adverse water quality effects are anticipated by construction activity if performed during low water time.

Water Supply: Water is to be supplied from an intake in Flathead Lake. Flow will be disinfected and system will meet Dept. of Health standards for such works before approval is given. Peak flow is estimated at 50-55 gpm; daily use should not exceed 2000 gallons per day.

Sewage Disposal: All spaces will have water and sewer hookups. Plan includes central comfort station of appropriate size and scope. Combined sanitary sewage will be disposed of by means of (ultimate) 6,000 gallons of septic tank and 2,100 feet of seepage bed. No serious septic tank limitations are evident. However, a second (equivalent size) drainfield area will be set aside for emergency use.

Solid Waste: Developer plans to dispose of solid waste to the Lake County Landfill west of Elmo.

Storm Runoff: Project does not conflict with, nor significantly alter, existing storm runoff pattern. No changes are anticipated.

ENVIRONMENTAL CONDITIONS: Project has been under sporadic development since 1968-1969 when area was cleared, cleaned, and landscaped. Existing surface environment was entirely altered before intentions of developer were made known to this office. Effect of this shaping process has not been too significant since original vegetation consisted entirely of native grasses and shrubs on an even sloping shoreline surface. Soils in the top three feet are primarily loams atop sandy clayey alluvium. Ground water elevations are coincident with lake level datum. Overall slope of site is 7 to 10% to lake. Road access is from U.S. Highway 93 onto a short frontage road which has turnoff into loop road serving interior of campsite area.

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACTS: Plot is too small to have any over-riding environmental consequences. Most severe impact will probably be aesthetic since block is visible, in its entirety, from both the U.S. Highway 93 area and from the water area. High density plus long view visibility will add to significant shoreline clutter along this segment of the bay. Waste disposal soil systems ensure protection against contamination, however nutrients, from these systems may in time, become mobilized and discharged into Flathead Lake.

THIS DIVISION ACTION IS CONSIDERED TO BE: Not Significant  
It is the intention of this office to write an approval statement, including a recommendation

for licensing of said campground as soon as (1) Plans for ensuring adequate disinfection of water supply system are received, reviewed, and accepted. (2) Agreement in writing is received from the Lake County Health Department agreeing with the proposed recommendation of approval.

The land owner/applicant for licensing is Mr. & Mrs. W. J. Landen, 6743 Hazeltine Ave., Van Nuys, CA

