



## Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

Region One  
490 North Meridian Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901  
(406) 752-5501  
Fax: 406-257-0349  
Ref: DL01-11  
February 16, 2011

Ladies and Gentlemen:

Fish, Wildlife & Parks (FWP), Region One, has completed an environmental assessment for a proposed project at Finley State Park in Lake County for the purpose of removing and replacing a deteriorating wooden breakwall and protecting additional eroding sections of shoreline.

No comments were received during the public review period; therefore, based on the analysis in the EA, FWP finds Alternative 5, to develop erosion control measures that promote a more natural shoreline environment with limited use of riprap, to be the preferred alternative. A copy of the decision notice is enclosed. Please contact Parks Management Specialist Jerry Sawyer with questions/comments - [jsawyer@mt.gov](mailto:jsawyer@mt.gov) or (406) 751-4575.

Sincerely,

David Landstrom  
Regional Parks Manager

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Enclosure

c: \*Governor's Office, Attn: Mike Volesky, PO Box 200801, Helena, 59620-0801  
\*Environmental Quality Council, PO Box 20, Helena, 59620-1704  
\*Dept. of Environmental Quality, Planning, Prevention & Assistance, PO Box 200901, Helena, 59620-0901  
\*Dept. of Environmental Quality, Permitting Compliance, PO Box 200901, Helena, 59620-0901  
\*Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks; Director's Office – Reg Peterson; Parks Division – Tom Reilly, Walt Timmerman, Darcy Yakoweshen; Legal Unit – Stella Cureton; Design & Construction – Paul Valle; Rebecca Cooper & Sara Scott  
\*Confederated Salish & Kootenai Tribes, PO Box 278, Pablo, 59855  
\*DNRC, PO Box 201601, Helena, 59620-1601 (Patty Greene)  
\*Montana Historical Society, SHPO, 225 North Roberts, Veteran's Memorial Building, Helena, 59620-1201  
\*Montana State Library, 1515 East Sixth Ave., Helena, 59620-1800  
\*Adam McLane, Montana Environmental Information Center, PO Box 1184, Helena, 59624  
\*George Ochenski, 4 Harrison Avenue, Helena, MT 59601  
\*Wayne Hirst, Montana State Parks Foundation, PO Box 728, Libby, 59923  
\*Montana State Parks Association, PO Box 699, Billings, 59103  
\*Joe Gutkoski, President, Montana River Action Network, 304 N 18<sup>th</sup> Ave., Bozeman, 59715  
Representatives Janna Taylor, Daniel Salomon, Scott Reichner, and Mark Blasdel  
Senators Carmine Mowbray and Verdell Jackson  
Lake County Commissioners, 106 Fourth Avenue East, Polson, 59860  
Interested Parties



# Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks

490 North Meridian Road  
Kalispell, MT 59901

**Decision Notice  
for  
Finley Point State Park  
Shoreline Stabilization Project**

**February 16, 2011**

## PROPOSAL

In March of 2009 Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks prepared an environmental assessment of the Finley Point State Park Shoreline Stabilization Project. The project proposed implementing an erosion control measure within the park that promotes a more natural-appearing shoreline.

This project would require 2 steps: The first step would utilize large logs, root balls, and washed fill material to stabilize areas where the bank is collapsing. Tree material would be embedded into the ground approximately 1/3 their height, at the base of the sloping bank at or near the high water mark to prevent movement during high wave activity. Additional gravel material consisting of washed rock ranging roughly from 2 to 3 inches in diameter would be used to fill voids behind and between the logs. In the second step, a wooden deteriorating seawall approximately 45 feet in length would be replaced with low profile riprap. At shoreline points where riprap currently exists, rock from approximately 2.5-3 feet above the high water mark would be removed and placed along the shoreline where the current wooden seawall is located. The rocks would not be higher than the existing wall and would be supplemented with logs. The area above the riprap would be revegetated with native trees, shrubs, and grasses. The purpose of the project is to prevent further shoreline erosion once the seawall completely collapses and to utilize materials which would present a more natural-looking shoreline.

## PUBLIC COMMENT

The public was notified in the following manners to comment on the draft EA, the proposed action, and alternatives:

- Two public notices in each of these papers: *Helena Independent Record*, *Daily Inter Lake*, and the *Lake County Leader*.
- One statewide press release.
- Public notice on the Fish, Wildlife & Parks web site: <http://fwp.mt.gov>.
- 30-day public comment period following publication of second legal notice.

No public comments were received during this comment period. FWP staff met with members of the Confederated Salish and Kootenai Cultural Resource Committee to evaluate the potential for harming cultural resources. The committee determined that this project did not pose such a threat.

**Finding of No Significant Impact (FONSI):**

Based on the analysis in the EA and comments received, I find *Alternative 5, Develop erosion control measures that promote a more natural shoreline environment with limited use of riprap*, to be the preferred alternative. Therefore, FWP will proceed with the project as described in the environmental assessment. I have evaluated the EA and applicable laws, regulations, and policies and have determined that this action will not have a significant effect on the human environment. Therefore, an environmental impact statement will not be prepared.

The final EA may be viewed at or obtained from Montana Fish, Wildlife & Parks, Region One, 490 N. Meridian Road, Kalispell, MT 59901, or the FWP web site at [fwp.mt.gov](http://fwp.mt.gov) under Recent Public Notices. Please direct requests and questions to the FWP Parks management specialist at 406-751-4575.

In accordance with FWP policy, an appeal may be made by any person who has either commented in writing to the department on the proposed project, or who has registered or commented orally at a public meeting held by the department on the proposed project, or who can provide new evidence that would otherwise change the proposed plan. An appeal must be submitted to the Director of FWP in writing and must be postmarked or received within 30 days of this decision notice. The appeal must describe the basis for the appeal, how the appellant has previously commented to the department or participated in the decision-making process, and how the department can provide relief. The appeal should be mailed to: Director; Fish, Wildlife & Parks; 1420 East 6<sup>th</sup> Ave.; Helena, MT 59620.



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David Landstrom  
Regional Parks Manager

February 16, 2011

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Date