

Rehabilitation of Boulder Beach Campground Project Summary

Project Description

The purpose of this project is to update the approximately 65-year old Boulder Beach campground. The campground renovations include: enlarging camping spaces, improvements to roadways, replacement of restrooms, and replacement of vegetation. This project responds to the multi-agency cooperative effort to collectively provide more and improved recreational opportunities for the residents and visitors to southern Nevada.

The demand for adequate camping facilities in southern Nevada continues to grow. This project will address those demands by providing camping facilities that are more attractive to modern RV campers and other campers. Additionally, this project will significantly increase the percentage of facilities that are handicap-accessible.

The campground is located on the east side of Lakeshore Highway in the Boulder Beach Developed Area six miles north of Boulder City (see Map 1). Sixty-two of the 148 campsites in the campground will be improved. The asphalt camp pads will be replaced with concrete and they will be extended and widened to better accommodate RVs (see the attached drawing). In addition, selected campsites will be made handicapped-accessible. The asphalt roadways within the campsite are crumbling and potholed, presenting a tripping hazard to pedestrians. Additionally, the roadways are too narrow and the curves too tight for larger RVs to negotiate which has caused minor vehicular accidents and near-misses for both pedestrians and other vehicles. The asphalt will be replaced and the roadways widened and corners expanded to better accommodate larger RVs. Five of the restrooms will be replaced and become handicapped-accessible.

The project includes removing the existing oleander, which is an exotic invasive species, and replaced with Sticky seepwillow and other native vegetation. The open-trench irrigation system will be replaced with a drip system that will conserve both water and park labor.

The enabling legislation for Lake Mead NRA (Public Law 88-639), established the recreation area “for the general purposes of public recreation, benefit and use, and in a manner that will preserve, develop and enhance, so far as practicable the recreation potential, and in a manner that will preserve the scenic, historic, scientific, and other important features of the area, consistent with applicable reservations and limitations relating to such area and with other authorized uses of the lands and properties within such area.”

This project will enhance the recreation potential of the park by improving RV campsite amenities and enlarging parking pads to allow larger recreational vehicles to utilize the campground. Additionally, the revegetation effort will preserve the scenic, historic and scientific features of the area.

The National Park Service (NPS) had consulted with the Nevada State Historic Preservation Office (SHPO) and determined the following: the Boulder Beach Campground is eligible for the National Register of Historic Places, and the rehabilitation project will have an adverse effect on

the historic features in the campground. The historic features that are effected include the roads and 62 camping pads that will be enlarged.

Proposed Mitigation to Resolve Adverse Effects

The National Park Service (NPS) proposes the following to mitigate the adverse effect of the project to upgrage the historic Boulder Beach Campground.

The NPS will have an architectural historian meeting standards set forth in the *Secretary of the Interior's Professional Qualification Standards* (48 FR 44738-9) prepare a comprehensive historic report and document the current condition of the campground using digital photography. In addition, NPS interpretation and cultural staff will prepare a wayside exhibit for the Boulder Beach Campground.

Comprehensive Report

The architectural historian will conduct research at the NPS facilities in Boulder City, Nevada, the Pacific West Regional Office in San Francisco, California, the Denver Service Center in Denver Colorado, and other repositories as needed. The architectural historian will prepare a comprehensive report. The report will be prepared to the SHPO's *Documentation Standards for Historical Resources of Local and State Significance*.

Photo Documentation

Digital photographs will be taken of the Boulder Beach Campground. A minimum of 30 photos will be taken documenting representative sections of the following: the original section of the campground constructed in the early 1940s; Loops A through D constructed under Mission 66 in the early 1960s; the amphitheater; and the group use area.

Wayside Exhibit

A wayside exhibit will be installed in or adjacent to Loop D discussing the development of the campground and Mission 66 development in the area. The wayside exhibit will be the standard design used throughout the park and will be low profile frame with a 36 inch by 24 inch panel.