

# **Draft Environmental Assessment**

## **Rocky Flats Dispersed Campground**

**Douglas County, Washington**

**August 28, 2001**



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

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## **1.0 Introduction**

Section 1500.1(c) and 1508.9(1) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (as amended) requires federal agencies to “provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact” on actions authorized, funded, or carried out by the federal government to insure such actions adequately address “environmental consequences, and take actions that protect, restore, and enhance the environment”. This assessment evaluates environmental consequences from the implementation of management actions carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).

## **2.0 Purpose and Need**

Rocky Flats is an area along the Columbia River between the Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee Dams that receives heavy day and overnight recreation use. As a result, numerous disturbed areas and campfire locations are found throughout the area, as well as evidence of toilet paper suggesting unsanitary conditions. The purpose and need of constructing three campsites and a self-composting toilet, is an effort to concentrate, and minimize, the widespread environmental disturbance caused by current day and overnight recreational use.

## **3.0 Project Location and Description**

The Corps proposes to develop and maintain a small primitive boat-in campground on Rufus Woods Lake. The area, known as Rocky Flats, is located in Douglas County at T30N, R27E, in Sections 27 & 28.

Rocky Flats is an area heavily used by day and overnight recreaters. There are no designated tent sites or restroom facilities at the site. As a result, numerous disturbed areas and campfire locations are found throughout the area, as well as evidence of toilet paper suggesting unsanitary conditions. Adjacent landowners have expressed concern about the unattended fires escaping from this area and onto surrounding lands. As a solution, the Corps proposes to establish three designated campsites each with a gravel tent pad (10'x10), fire ring, and a picnic table. Also, the Corps proposes to install a biocomposting toilet in a small structure at the site. A policy of “Pack it in – Pack it out” will be encouraged.

Construction will be conducted primarily by hand labor during all phases of work. Equipment and materials will be transported via boat to the site. A small tractor (Kabota) may be employed to clear vegetation at each campsite and will likely be used to level the tent pad areas. The installation of the biocomposting toilet will include pouring a concrete slab approximately 6'x8'x6", and erecting a small metal structure to enclose the toilet. The work is not expected to last more than 6 days.

## **4.0 Alternatives**

### **4.1 Alternative 1; No Action**

Under this alternative, the Corps would not construct the three campsites or toilet facility. This action would result in the continued use of Rocky Flats as an area with uncontrolled camping, unsanitary conditions, and a continuing fire threat.

## **4.2 Alternative 2**

Under this alternative, the Corps proposes to establish three designated campsites each with a gravel tent pad (10'x10), fire ring, and a picnic table. Also, the Corps proposes to install a biocomposting toilet in a small structure at the site.

Construction will be conducted primarily by hand labor during all phases of work. Equipment and materials will be transported via boat to the site. A small tractor (Kabota) may be employed to clear vegetation at each campsite and will likely be used to level the tent pad areas. The installation of the biocomposting toilet will include pouring a concrete slab approximately 6'x8'x6", and erecting a small metal structure to enclose the toilet. The work is not expected to last more than 6 days.

## **5.0 Affected Environment**

### **5.1 Geology**

Rocky Flats is part of a complex geological formation in the Columbia River valley where continental glaciations, and fluvial erosion and deposition were major factors in shaping the area. Major land surfaces within the valley include: sands and gravels; glacial till composed of compact sand, gravel, silt, and clay; glacial lake deposits consisting of silt, clay, and fine sand; and old landslide deposits. Most of the arable soils are located on level or gently curving terrace surfaces, are alluvial in origin, and overlie either bedrock or some variety of glacial deposits (USACE, 2001(b)).

### **5.2 Air Quality**

The air quality at Rocky Flats is generally considered excellent in comparison to other locations in the state. Its location along the Columbia River provide for prevailing winds to continually move and replenish lower quality air with that of higher quality.

### **5.3 Aquatic Resources**

Aquatic resources at Rocky Flats include the presence of at least 28 species of fish (USACE, 2001(b)). Because of Chief Joseph Dam, no anadromous fish occur in Rufus Woods Lake.

### **5.4 Terrestrial Resources**

Several terrestrial species have potential to occur at Rocky Flats and the surrounding area. Species include Canada geese, ducks, upland birds, passerines, coyotes, mule deer, and several species of reptiles including rattlesnakes.

Four major plant communities exist within the Rufus Woods Lake area: (1) big sagebrush and bluebunch wheatgrass; (2) three-tip sagebrush and Idaho fescue; (3) the riparian streamside plant communities; and, (4) a coniferous tree community.

### **5.5 Federally Threatened and Endangered Species**

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended) requires all federal agencies to review actions authorized, funded, or carried out by the federal government to insure such actions do not jeopardized the continued existence of listed species. This review evaluates potential effects on listed species, critical habitat, proposed species and candidate species from implementation of management actions carried out by the Corps.

Threatened, endangered, proposed or candidate species known or suspected to occur in the action area are:

Bald Eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )	Threatened
Ute's Ladies' Tresses ( <i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> )	Threatened

Individual species information, occurrence, and analysis of effects are covered in detail in a separate biological assessment (USACE, 2001(a)).

## **5.6 Cultural Resources**

On June 20-23, 2001, the Colville Confederated Tribes' (CCT) History/Archaeology Department conducted an intensive archaeological survey and subsurface testing project within the Rocky Flats area. The survey resulted in a negative finding along with a project concurrence from the CCT (CCT, 2001).

## **5.7 Land Use**

Rocky Flats is an area heavily used by day and overnight recreaters. Because of this area's relatively flat location and its gradual interface with Rufus Woods Lake, boaters use this site as a picnic, resting, and overnight camping area.

## **6.0 Environmental Consequences**

### **6.1 No Action Alternative**

#### *6.1.1 Geology*

In selecting the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not affect the current geologic make-up of Rocky Flats. People would continue to use this area as a recreational stop, and little, if any, geological change would occur.

#### *6.1.2 Air Quality*

In selecting the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not affect the current air quality of Rocky Flats or the surrounding vicinity.

#### *6.1.3 Aquatic Resources*

In selecting the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not affect aquatic resources as they exist in their current condition.

#### *6.1.4 Terrestrial Resources*

In choosing the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not affect the current species make-up and use of Rocky Flats. People would continue to use the area as a recreational stop, and by not providing some regulation of use, terrestrial resources could potentially be exposed to unnecessary stresses and harassment.

#### *6.1.5 Federally Threatened and Endangered Species*

In choosing the No Action Alternative, there would be no change to the current effects/pressures put on the bald eagle by recreation at Rocky Flats.

The Ute Ladies'-tresses is not currently located at the site.

### *6.1.6 Cultural Resources*

In choosing the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not affect any cultural resource significance.

No cultural resources were identified Rocky Flats.

### *6.1.7 Land Use*

In choosing the No Action Alternative, the Corps would not affect the current land uses of Rocky Flats. People would continue to use the area as a recreational stop.

## **6.2 Alternative 2; Preferred**

### *6.2.1 Geology*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, the geology of the site will change little in general make up with the exception of some superficial ground clearing and leveling of the three tent pad areas, as well as the toilet facility pad. Because this project is relatively minor in scope, the change to the geologic features of Rocky Flats is considered negligible.

### *6.2.2 Air Quality*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, air quality surrounding the project area will not be affected.

### *6.2.3 Aquatic Resources*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, there will likely be an increase in the amount of boat traffic accessing the site due to the visual observation of the new toilet facility. However, the increase in use is not considered to be so great that a significant degradation of aquatic resources is expected. Fisheries resources are not expected to be impacted, nor any change in water quality or hydrology.

### *6.2.4 Terrestrial Resources*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, there will likely be a temporary displacement of passerine birds and reptiles/rodents found in the project area while construction activities are underway. It is expected that passerine birds will use the site immediately upon cessation of work and that reptiles/rodents will recolonize upon completion.

### *6.2.5 Federally Threatened and Endangered Species*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, the Corps “may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect” the bald eagle, and will have “no effect” on the Ute Ladies’-tresses.

Potential effects to bald eagles from the proposed campground may include noise and visual disturbance during work. However, because the distance to the nearest bald eagle nest is approximately 3.5 miles away, the long-term degradation of habitat is not expected, and the survival and reproductive success of the eagles will likely be unaffected. The bald eagles residing in Rufus Woods Lake have exhibited tolerance for the operation and maintenance of CJD for nearly 35 years, as well as the continual presence of human disturbance by way of motorized vehicles and boats. Therefore, the preferred alternative is not likely to adversely affect the bald eagle.

### *6.2.6 Cultural Resources*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, the Corps would not affect any cultural resource significance. No cultural resources were identified Rocky Flats.

### *6.2.7 Land Use*

In selecting the Preferred Alternative, the Corps would be making an effort to concentrate, and minimize, the widespread environmental disturbance caused by current day and overnight recreational use. The general land use characterization would not necessarily change, but the manner in which it was used would. It is likely that there may be a small increase in the number of users using the site because of the toilet facility.

## **7.0 Analysis of Irreversible and Irretrievable Commitments of Resources**

No federal resources are anticipated to be irreversibly and irretrievably committed to the project until the EA is finalized.

## **8.0 Cumulative Impacts**

No cumulative impacts have been identified with this project.

## **9.0 Coordination**

The following agencies and entities have been involved with the environmental coordination of the proposed project:

- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Land Management
- Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation

## **10.0 Environmental Compliance**

### **10.1 National Environmental Policy Act**

Section 1500.1(c) and 1508.9(1) of the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (as amended) requires federal agencies to “provide sufficient evidence and analysis for determining whether to prepare an environmental impact statement or a finding of no significant impact” on actions authorized, funded, or carried out by the federal government to insure such actions adequately address “environmental consequences, and take actions that protect, restore, and enhance the environment”. This assessment evaluates environmental consequences from implementation of the proposed recreational improvements of Rocky Flats.

### **10.2 Endangered Species Act Section 7 Consultation**

In accordance with Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended, federally funded, constructed, permitted, or licensed projects must take into consideration impacts to federally listed or proposed threatened or endangered species. A Biological Assessment was completed on August 20, 2001 with coordination from the USFWS. The Biological Assessment concluded that the proposed activity “may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect” the bald eagle and will have “no effect” on the Ute Ladies’-tresses

(USACE, 2001(a)). This determination concludes the requirements under Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973.

### **10.3 Clean Water Act Compliance**

A 404(b)(1) evaluation, which demonstrates compliance with the substantive requirements of the Clean Water Act, is required for work involving discharge of fill material into the waters of the United States. Completion of a 404(b)(1) is not required.

### **10.5 Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act**

The Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act (16 USC 470) requires that wildlife conservation receive equal consideration and be coordinated with other features of water resource development projects. This goal is accomplished through Corps funding of USFWS habitat surveys evaluating the likely impacts of proposed actions, which provide the basis for recommendations for avoiding or minimizing such impacts. A Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act Report is not required for this work.

### **10.6 National Historic Preservation Act**

The National Historic Preservation Act (16 USC 470) requires that the effects of proposed actions on sites, buildings, structures, or objects included or eligible for the National Register of Historic Places must be identified and evaluated. No sites, buildings, structures, or objects in the project area are considered for the National Register of Historic Places.

### **10.7 Executive Order 12898, Environmental Justice**

Executive Order 12898 directs federal agencies to identify and address disproportionately high and adverse human health or environmental effects of agency programs and activities on minority and low-income populations. No adverse effects to minority or low-income populations will result from the implementation of this project.

### **11.0 Conclusion**

Based on the above analysis, this project is not considered a major federal action significantly affecting the quality of the human or natural environment, and therefore does not require preparation of an environmental impact statement.

### **12.0 References**

The Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CCT). 2001. Letter regarding the Rocky Flats proposed recreational improvements. Addressed to Dept. of Army; Chief Joseph Dam Project Office. June 25, 2001.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2001(a). Biological Assessment for Rocky Flats Dispersed Campground. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District. Seattle, WA.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE). 2001(b). Draft Chief Joseph Dam-Rufus Woods Lake Project Master Plan. U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District. Seattle, WA.

### **13.0 List of Preparers**

The following Corps personnel prepared and/or reviewed this EA:

- James Jacobson, Wildlife Biologist, Environmental Resources Section, Author
- Mark Ziminske, Chief, Environmental Resources Section, Reviewer

### **14.0 Appendices**

Appendix A: Project Locator Map and Site Photographs

Appendix B: Official Correspondence

Appendix C: Biological Assessment

## **Appendix A**



## United States Department of the Interior

BUREAU OF LAND MANAGEMENT  
Spokane District  
Wenatchee Field Office  
915 Walla Walla Avenue  
Wenatchee, Washington 98801

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1786 (134)

August 20, 2001

Bob Fischer  
Department of the Army  
Chief Joseph Dam Project Office  
P.O. Box 1120  
Bridgeport, Washington 98813-1120

Dear Bob:

We have reviewed the proposed development of the Rocky Flat Campground located on withdrawn lands adjacent to the shoreline of Rufus Woods Lake. Our staff has also discussed the proposal on a field review with you on previous occasions. The development is consistent with what has been previously discussed and is expected to contribute to better management of the site with minimal impacts on the public lands.

Section 4 D of the Supplemental Agreement between the COE and BLM approved January 31, 2000, states that Rocky Flat will be managed by the Corps and this proposal is consistent with that agreement.

The BLM concurs with your proposal to construct a primitive campground at Rocky Flat as outlined in your letter dated July 5, 2001. We would appreciate it if you could send us periodic visitor use data (i.e. annually) and let us know how and where the compost will be disposed of. Our Recreation Planner, Diane Priebe, has information on maintenance needs for composting toilets in a dry environment. Please call her at this office for that information. We also recommend that the toilet facility blend in with the surrounding area as much as practical.

Thank you for the opportunity to comment and approve this important development. We appreciate the opportunity to be consulted during the development stages and believe your proposed development will be a success.

Sincerely,

James F. Fisher  
Field Manager



**THE CONFEDERATED TRIBES  
of  
THE COLVILLE RESERVATION**

POST OFFICE BOX 150 • NESPELEM WASHINGTON 99155

PHONE (509) 634-2200

June 25, 2001

*Rec 6/25/01  
JW*

Bob Fisher  
Department of the Army  
Chief Joseph Dam Project Office  
P.O. Box 1120  
Bridgeport, WA 98813

**Re: Rocky Flats Proposed Recreational Improvements**

Mr. Fisher:

The proposed Rocky Flats Recreational Improvements, by the Corps of Engineers along the banks of Rufus Woods Lake, are within the traditional territories of the Colville Confederated Tribes (CCT). Therefore this office has a vested interest in the protection of cultural resources that might be located within the proposed project area.

Based on the CCT interest and COE concerns to protect cultural resources, your office contracted with the CCT History/Archaeology Department to conduct a cultural resources survey and testing project at the proposed Rocky Flats project area. On June 20 through 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2001 the CCT History/Archaeology Department conducted an intensive archaeological survey and subsurface testing project within the proposed Rocky Flats project area. The survey consisted of transects spaced no greater than 5 meter intervals. This portion of the project located three isolated finds, and no significant cultural resources. The subsurface testing consisted of 31 shovel tests laid out on a random grid, 8 shovel tests within the 4 proposed disturbance areas, and 1 shovel test in an area of possible high probability. Thirty-nine of the shovel tests were negative and only 1 test was positive locating 1 small chert thinning flake. The initial report is in the production stages and will be incorporated into the Chief Joe Survey Report.

Based on the negative findings this office concurs with the proposed Rocky Flats Recreational Improvements Project. However if during the course of improvements cultural resources are located, project work should be halted immediately and this office notified @ (509) 634-2692 or (509) 634-2696.

Thank you for contacting this office concerning Corps of Engineers projects.

Sincerely,

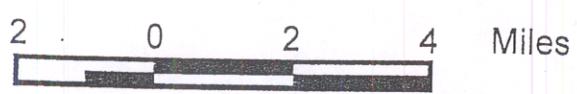
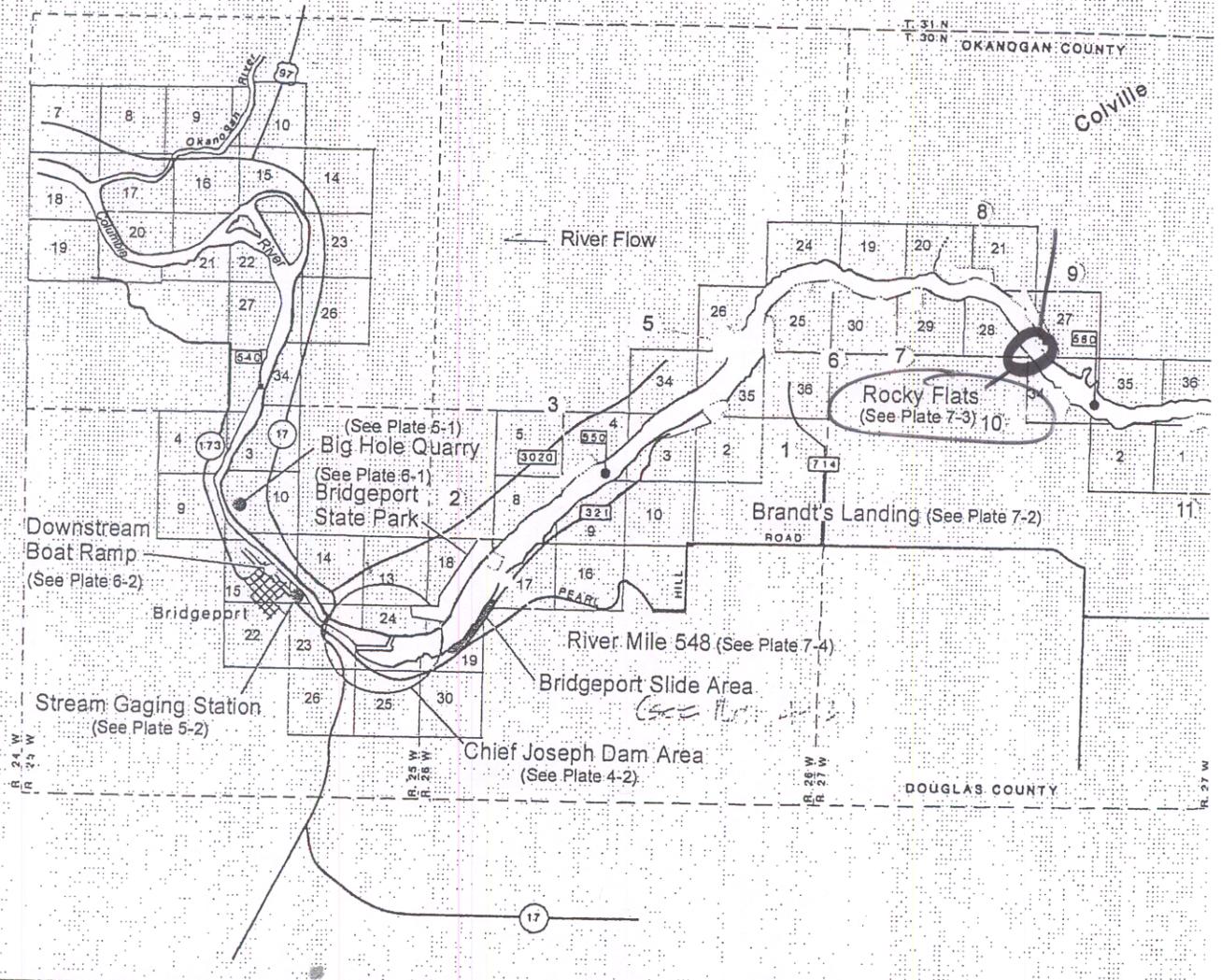
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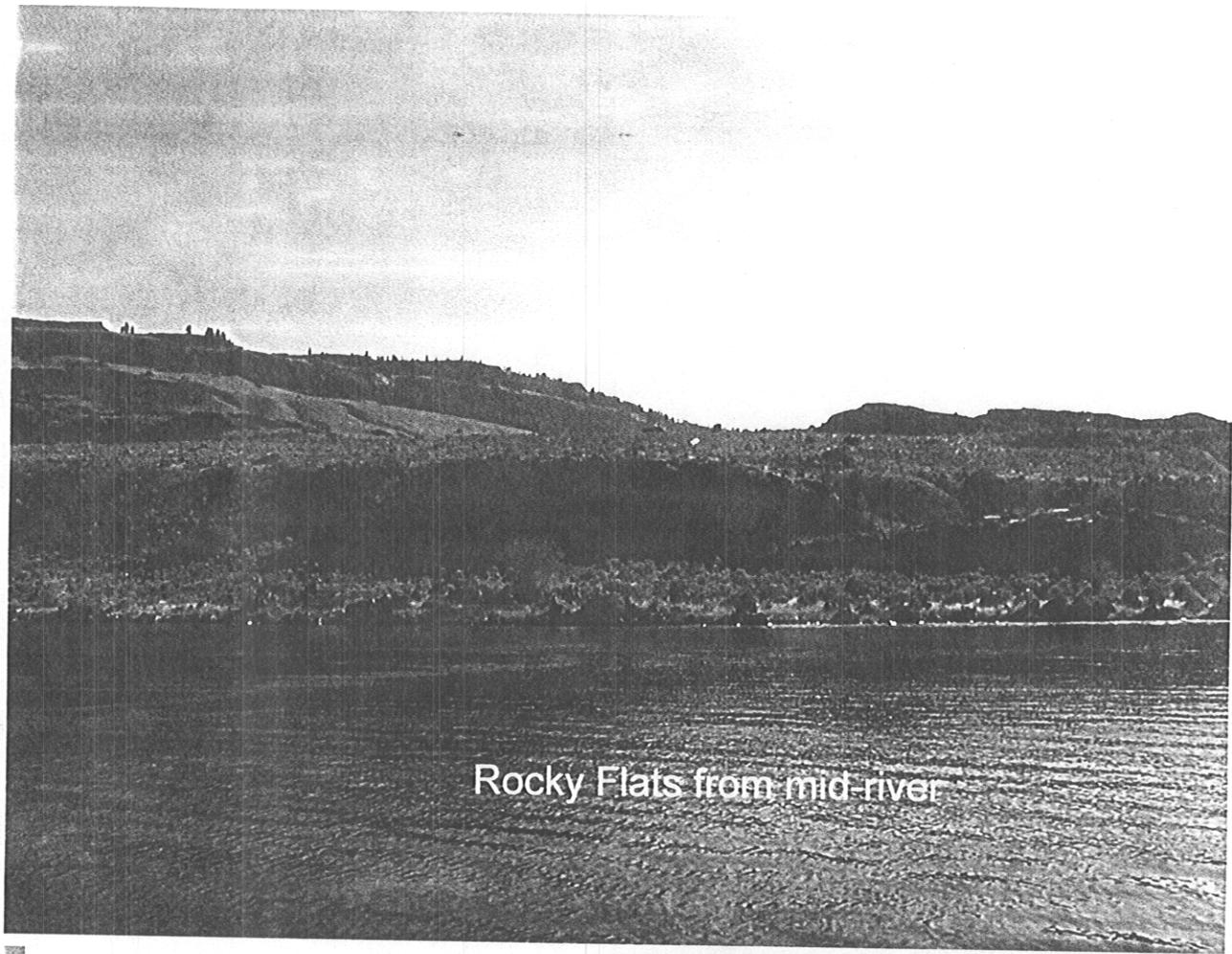
CCT, Tribal Historic Preservation Officer

cc: Lawr Salo, COE  
File  
Chrono

## **Appendix B**

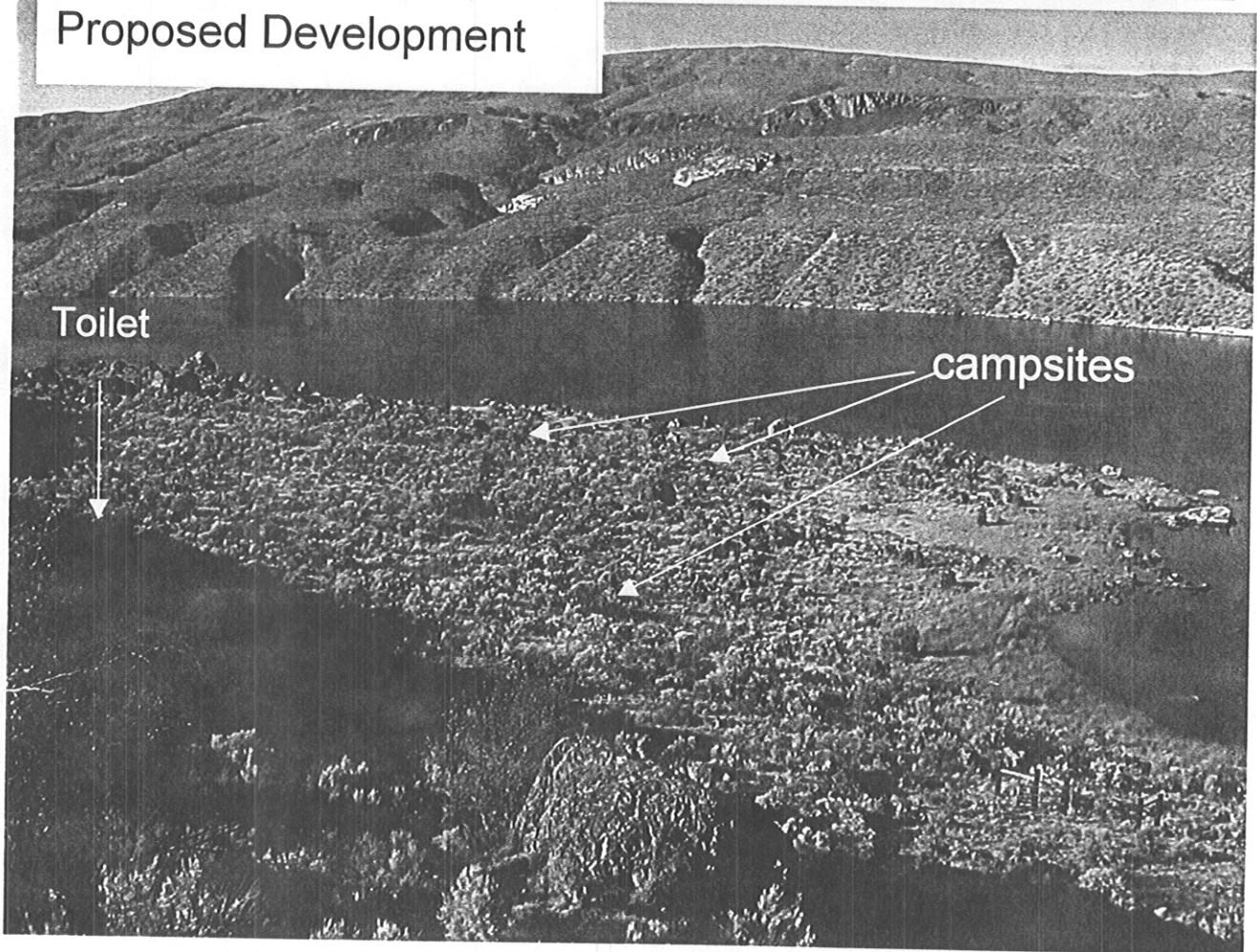


- Project Operations
- Recreation
- Multiple Resource Manager
- Mitigation (Wildlife Mitigation)
- Environmentally Sensitive Ar
- Public Domain Lands (see P



Rocky Flats from mid-river

Proposed Development



Toilet

campsites

## Appendix C

# **Biological Assessment**

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## **Rocky Flats Dispersed Campground**

**Douglas County, Washington**

**August 17, 2001**



**US Army Corps  
of Engineers®**

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## **1.0 INTRODUCTION**

Section 7(a)(2) of the Endangered Species Act of 1973 (as amended) requires all federal agencies to review actions authorized, funded, or carried out by the federal government to ensure such actions do not jeopardize the continued existence of listed species. This assessment evaluates potential effects on listed species, critical habitat, and proposed species from implementation of management actions carried out by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps).

### **1.1 Effects Determination Summary**

This assessment has determined that the development of the Rocky Flats dispersed campground may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect the bald eagle. It has also been determined that the project will have no effect on Ute Ladies'-tresses.

### **1.2 Project Location and Description**

The Corps proposes to develop and maintain a small primitive boat-in campground on Rufus Woods Lake. The area, known as Rocky Flats, is located in Douglas County at T30N, R27E, straddling section 27 & 28.

Currently, Rocky Flats is heavily used by day-use and overnight recreaters. There are no designated tent sites or restroom facilities at the site. As a result, numerous disturbed areas and campfire locations dot the flats, as well as evidence of toilet tissue paper throughout the area. Adjacent landowners have expressed concern about the unattended fires escaping from this area and onto surrounding lands. The Corps proposes to establish three designated campsites each with a gravel tent pad (10'x10), fire ring, and a picnic table. Also, the Corps proposes to install a biocomposting toilet in a small structure at the site. A policy of "Pack it in – Pack it out" will be encouraged.

Construction will be conducted primarily by hand labor during all phases of work. Equipment and materials will be transported via boat to the site. A small tractor (Kabota) may be employed to clear vegetation at each campsite and will likely be used to level the tent pad area. The installation of the biocomposting toilet will include pouring a concrete slab approximately 6'x8'x6", and erecting a small metal structure to enclose the toilet. The work is not expected to last more than 6 days.

### **1.3 Description of Project Area**

CJD and Rufus Woods Lake lie in a steep-sided canyon of the Columbia River valley. The north side of the valley rises sharply to the Okanogan Highlands, 1,000 feet or more above the Columbia River. The south side of the valley rises into a series of terraces and benches climbing to the Columbia Plateau surface. The majority of the shoreline is treeless with a dry land shrub-steppe cover. Numerous canyons and deep draws support isolated stands of pine and deciduous trees and shrubs.

Four major plant communities exist within the dam and lake area: (1) big sagebrush and bluebunch wheatgrass; (2) three-tip sagebrush and Idaho fescue; (3) the riparian streamside plant communities; and, (4) a coniferous tree community.

## **2.0 SPECIES AND HABITAT INFORMATION**

### **2.1 Species**

Threatened, endangered, proposed or candidate species known or suspected to occur in the action area is/are:

Bald Eagle ( <i>Haliaeetus leucocephalus</i> )	Threatened
Ute's Ladies' Tresses ( <i>Spiranthes diluvialis</i> )	Threatened

## **3.0 EFFECTS ON SPECIES FROM PROPOSED ACTION**

### **3.1 Bald Eagle**

The bald eagle is a member of the family Accipitridae and is found throughout the United States. Male bald eagles average 3 feet in length and weigh 7.0 – 9.9 pounds, with a wingspan of about 6.5 feet. Females are typically larger, reaching up to 14 pounds with a wingspan of 8 feet. Bald eagles are typically found near water bodies such as coastal seas, large lakes, and rivers. They feed primarily on fish but also eat birds, mammals, and carrion. In winter, northern birds migrate south and gather in large numbers near open water areas where fish or other prey are plentiful. Bald eagles can live more than 30 years in the wild.

Although bald eagles may range over great distances, they usually return to nest within 100 miles of where they were raised. They typically mate for life. A bald eagle's nest tree is usually the dominant tree in the canopy and is often built within a mile of the water body used for foraging. Many nests are believed to be used by the same pair of eagles year after year.

The bald eagle was initially listed as endangered under the Endangered Species Act in 1978 throughout the lower 48 states, except in Minnesota, Michigan, Wisconsin, Washington, and Oregon, where it was listed as threatened. In 1995, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service reclassified the bald eagle from endangered to threatened due to the steady increase in their populations. On July 6, 1999, the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service announced a proposal to remove the bald eagle from the list of threatened and endangered species.

#### **3.1.1 Occurrence in the Action Area**

Approximately 35 bald eagles are observed each winter (October through April) using the snags along Rufus Woods Lake. They feed primarily on chukar, American coots, waterfowl, fish, and

carrion. Part of the wildlife mitigation program is specifically aimed at bald eagles. This includes retaining snags for as long as possible and the erection of 49 raptor poles for perching, five of which are equipped with artificial nesting platforms. Currently, six bald eagle nests are present on Rufus Woods Lake with the nearest known nest occurring approximately 3.5 miles away from the project area (Fischer, pers. comm.).

### **3.1.2 Analysis of Effects**

Potential effects to bald eagles from the proposed campground may include noise and visual disturbance during work. Because the distance to the nearest bald eagle nest is approximately 3.5 miles away, the long-term degradation of habitat is not expected, and the survival and reproductive success of the eagles will likely be unaffected. The bald eagles residing in Rufus Woods Lake have exhibited tolerance for the operation and maintenance of CJD for nearly 35 years, as well as the continual presence of human disturbance by way of motorized vehicles, boats, and homesteads. There would not be significant cumulative, interrelated or interdependent effects on this species from the proposed project in conjunction with other projects or actions.

### **3.1.3 Take Analysis**

Although visual and audible disturbances are likely to occur, the levels of disturbance is not expected to be any greater than the current ambient levels. Given the distance from the nearest bald eagle nest, the likelihood of bald eagles being affected by project construction is considered insignificant and discountable. Therefore, the potential for incidental take in the form of harassment, is negligible.

### **3.1.4 Conservation Measures**

No conservation measures are warranted because the potential for adverse effects on the bald eagle from the proposed project is negligible.

### **3.1.5 Effects Determination**

The proposed project **may affect, but is not likely to adversely affect.**

## **3.2 Ute Ladies'-tresses**

The Ute Ladies'-tresses (*Spiranthes diluvialis*) was listed as Threatened by the USFWS on January 17, 1992. Historical range covered Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming. Currently it can be found in Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Utah, Washington, and Wyoming.

Ute ladies'-tresses is known to inhabit wetland and riparian areas, including spring habitats, and mesic to wet meadows and flood plains. In Washington, it has been found at 1,500 feet in elevation. In other parts of its range it is found up to about 6,000 feet, below the lower margin of montane forests, generally in moist areas in open shrub or grassland, or in the transitional zone. There has been no known occurrence of Ute ladies' tresses in the vicinity of the project.

### **3.2.1 Occurrence in the Action Area**

Ute Ladies'-tresses has potential to occur in the action area. In 1997 and 1999, the Corps conducted a detailed sensitive plant survey at Rufus Woods Lake including Rocky Flats, which resulted in no populations of Ute Ladies'-tresses being found (USACE, 1997; Visalli, 1999). Furthermore, the project area's microclimate is not likely to support Ute Ladies'-tresses because of the dry, upland conditions that exist there. No riparian areas or wetlands are found in the project area.

### **3.2.2 Analysis of Effects**

Project effects likely to impact the Ute Ladies'-tresses include compaction, burial, and potential up rooting during construction of the campground. No other impacts would be associated with this project.

### **3.2.3 Take Analysis**

Because no Ute Ladies'-tresses were found at Rufus Wood Lake during the 1997 and 1999 sensitive plant survey and the incompatible microclimate, the potential for project impacts to affect the Ute Ladies'-tresses is considered non-existent.

### **3.2.4 Conservation Measures**

No conservation measures are warranted because the potential for adverse effects on the Ute Ladies'-tresses from the proposed project is non-existent.

### **3.2.5 Effects Determination**

The proposed project will have **no effect** on the Ute Ladies'-tresses

## **4.0 CUMULATIVE, INTERRELATED, AND INDEPENDENT EFFECTS**

### **4.1 Cumulative Effects**

No cumulative effects were identified in association with this project.

## **4.2 Interrelated Effects**

No interrelated effects were identified in association with this project.

## **4.3 Independent Effects**

The potential of increased recreation use may occur because of the newly developed campsites. This could result in increased disturbances on Rocky Flats and the surrounding area. However, because this area already receives heavy recreational use, and the intent of developing the dispersed campsites is to minimize environmental damage, additional recreation is not likely to further degrade Rocky Flats.

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## **APPENDIX A**

## **APPENDIX B**