



US Army Corps  
of Engineers  
Seattle District

# Public Notice of Application for Permit

## Regulatory Branch

Post Office Box 3755

Seattle, Washington 98124-3755

Telephone (206) 764-3495

ATTN: David Martin, Project Manager

Public Notice Date: February 2, 2004

Expiration Date: March 2, 2004

Reference: 200201213

Name: PacifiCorp

---

Interested parties are hereby notified that an application has been received for a Department of the Army permit in accordance with Section 404 of the Clean Water Act for certain work described below and shown on the enclosed drawings.

APPLICANT – PacifiCorp  
825 NE Multnomah, Suite 1000  
Portland, OR 97232  
ATTN: Anna King  
Telephone: (503) 813-6221

AGENT – None

LOCATION – In Lake Merwin (an impoundment of the North Fork Lewis River) at Speelyai Bay Park and Campground, approximately 7.5 miles southwest of Cougar, in Cowlitz County, Washington. The project area is located in USGS hydrologic unit 17080002; Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 27; and the NE quarter of Section 27, Township 6N, Township 3E. The center of the project area is located near 45° 58' 54" north latitude and 122° 25' 9" west longitude.

WORK – Excavate up to 100 cubic yards (cy) of substrate and discharge up to 900 cy of rock, structural fill, and concrete in Lake Merwin to extend the boat ramp and replace two boat access floats at Speelyai Bay Park and Campground. Lake Merwin is an impoundment of the North Fork Lewis River that was constructed in 1931 for hydroelectric power generation. It has an average depth of 104 feet, shoreline length of 32 miles, and surface area of 4,090 acres. The ordinary high water mark (and full pool) elevation of Lake Merwin is 239.6 feet North American Datum 1927 (NAD). During summer the water surface elevation typically falls to about 235 feet NAD.

The existing two-lane, 35-foot-wide by 65-foot-long boat ramp extends down to an elevation of 230.5 feet NAD, allowing boats to be launched until the water surface elevation falls below 233.5 feet NAD. The applicant proposes to lengthen the ramp by 45 feet so it extends down to an elevation of 224 feet NAD, which would allow boats to be launched until the water surface elevation falls below 226.1 feet NAD.

The proposed project also includes replacing the existing boat access floats and concrete abutments with two 8-foot-wide by 100-foot-long access floats, one on each side of the boat ramp. Each float would be anchored to a new concrete abutment (15 feet long x 8.5 feet wide) and two new 35-foot-long, 12-inch-diameter steel pipe piles. The decking of the new floats would incorporate three-foot-wide grid panels (not shown in the attached drawings) to provide 60% light transmittance through the floats. To minimize the potential effect of the floats on fish movement, wooden skids (not shown on the attached drawings) would be secured across

the bottom of each float so that no more than 20% of either float could rest on the lakebed (rock riprap placed along the edges of the ramp) during periods of low water.

The work would be conducted entirely in the dry during September 2004. The construction area would be isolated from the lake using temporary silt fences that would remain in place until after the construction is complete. Speelyai Bay Park and Campground is a small day-use public park that includes a beach, picnicking facilities, parking area, and public boat ramp where about 6,000 boat launches occur annually. The proposed work would not disturb any vegetated aquatic area or riparian vegetation.

PURPOSE – The purposes of the proposed project are to enhance boater safety and improve the recreational capability of the boat launch facility.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION – None.

MITIGATION – None proposed.

ENDANGERED SPECIES – The Endangered Species Act (ESA) of 1973, as amended, requires assessment of potential impacts to listed and proposed species. The bald eagle (*Haliaeetus leucocephalus*) and bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*), both listed as threatened in the state of Washington, may occur in the project area. No critical habitat has been designated for either species, although critical habitat proposed for the bull trout includes the project area. Our preliminary determination is that the proposed action will have no effect on the bald eagle but may affect the bull trout. The Corps has initiated consultation with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service pursuant to the requirements of Section 7 of the ESA.

ESSENTIAL FISH HABITAT – The Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act (MSA), as amended by the Sustainable Fisheries Act of 1996, requires all Federal agencies to consult with the National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) on all actions, or proposed actions, permitted, funded, or undertaken by the agency, that may adversely affect Essential Fish Habitat (EFH). Because EFH does not occur in the project area, the Corps has determined that the proposed action will not adversely affect EFH for federally-managed fisheries in Washington waters. No further EFH consultation is necessary.

CULTURAL RESOURCES – The District Engineer has reviewed the latest published version of the National Register of Historic Places, lists of properties determined eligible and other sources of information. The following is current knowledge of the presence or absence of historic properties and the effects of the undertaking upon these properties:

- a. Known historic properties occur in the vicinity of the proposed project. However, they do not occur in the permit area. The proposed work is of such a limited nature and extent (*has been extensively modified by modern development*) that little likelihood exists for the proposed project to impinge upon an undisturbed historic property.

The District Engineer invites responses to this public notice from Federal, Native American Nations or tribal governments, State, and local agencies, historical and archeological societies, and other parties likely to have knowledge of or concerns with historic properties in the area.

PUBLIC HEARING – 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.

EVALUATION – 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 benefits 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, historic properties, fish and wildlife values, flood hazards, floodplain values, land use, navigation, shoreline erosion and accretion, recreation, water supply and conservation, water quality, energy needs, safety, food and fiber production, mineral needs, considerations of property ownership, and, in general, the needs and welfare of the people.

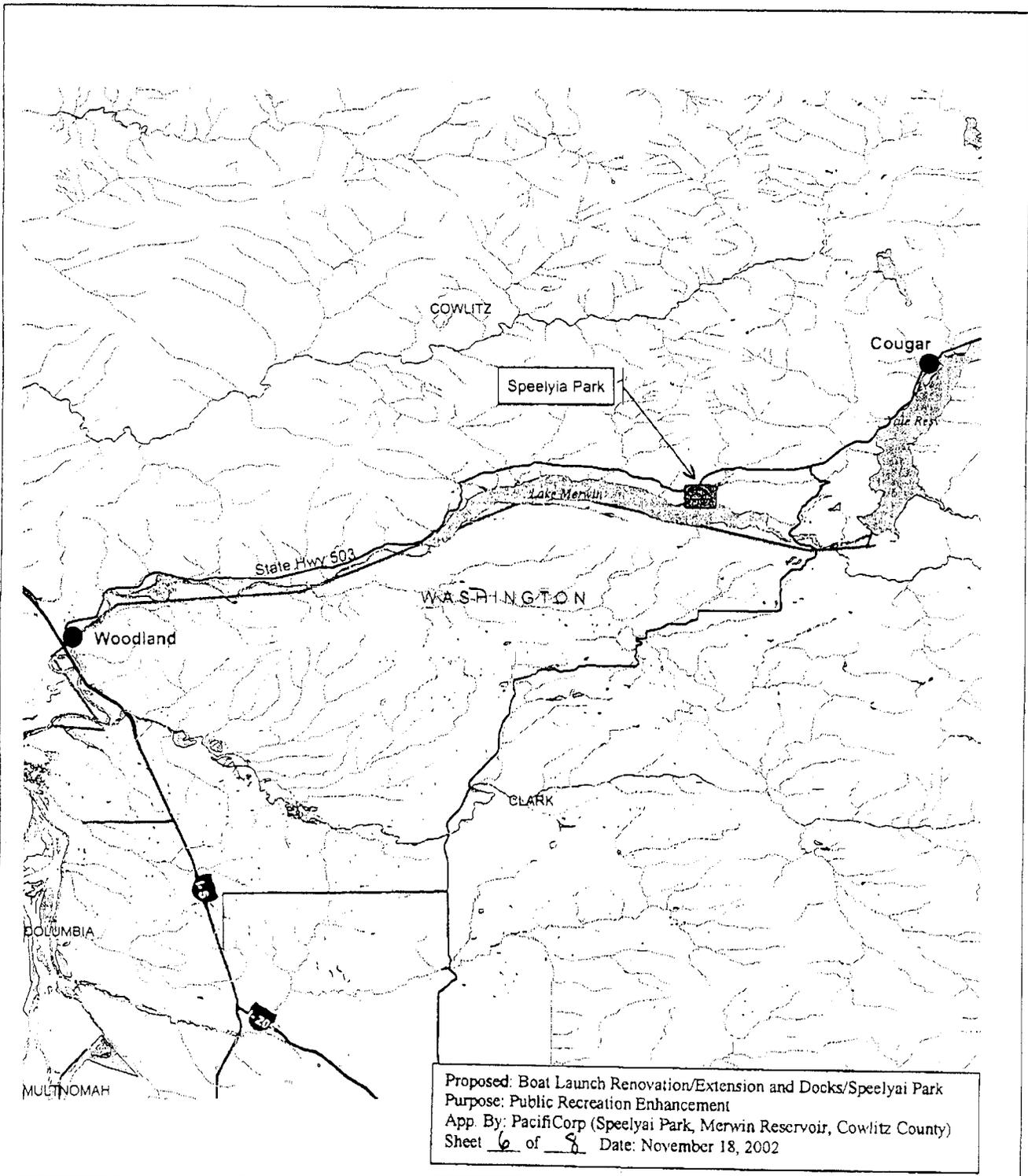
The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (Corps) is soliciting comments from the public; Federal, State, and local agencies and officials; Indian tribes; and other interested parties in order to consider and evaluate the impacts of this activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for the work. 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 activity. The evaluation of the impact of the activity on the public interest will include application of the guidelines promulgated by the Administrator, Environmental Protection Agency, under authority of Section 404(b) of the Clean Water Act. This evaluation will include an alternatives analysis.

ADDITIONAL EVALUATION – The State of Washington is reviewing this work for compliance with applicable State and Federal water quality standards pursuant to Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. This proposal is the subject of Shorelines Substantial Development Permit No. SL 02-820, which was issued May 6, 2003. This proposal is also the subject of Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) ST-E3582-01, which was issued by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife on July 30, 2003.

COMMENT AND REVIEW PERIOD – Comments on these factors will be accepted and made part of the record and will be considered in determining whether it would be in the best public interest to grant a permit. Comments should reach this office, Attn: Regulatory Branch, not later than the expiration date of this public notice to ensure consideration and refer to the following name and file number:

PacifiCorp  
200201213

Encl  
Drawings (5)



**PACIFICORP**  
 Geographic Information System

PacifiCorp Copyright  
 Data are collected from a variety of City, County, State, Federal and Private sources. PacifiCorp GIS makes no warranty as to the accuracy, reliability, or completeness of this data for individual or aggregate use of this data.

10/30/02  
 s:\property\_management\gis\geodata\base\mxd\ellin\making\speelyia\_park.mxd

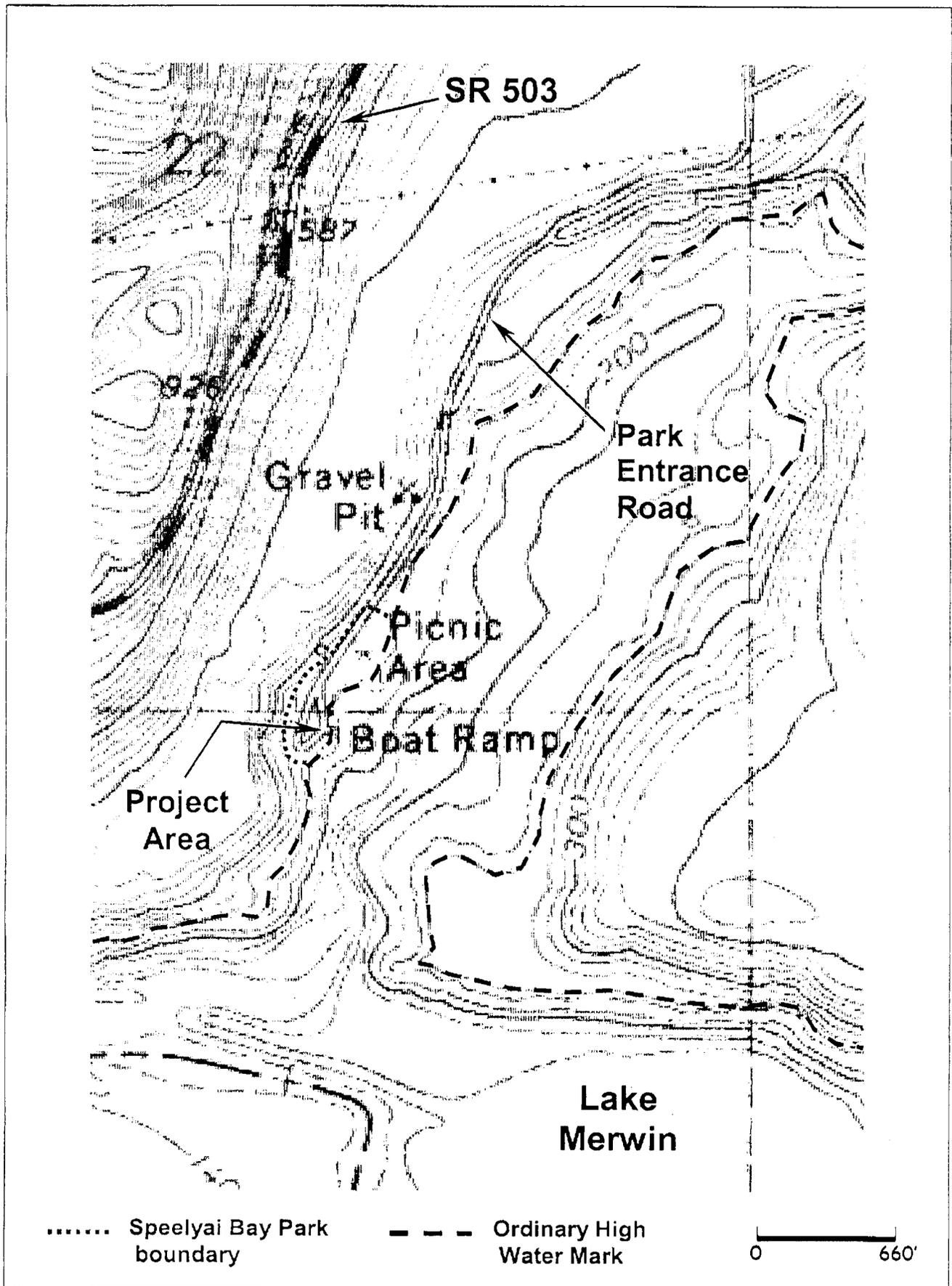


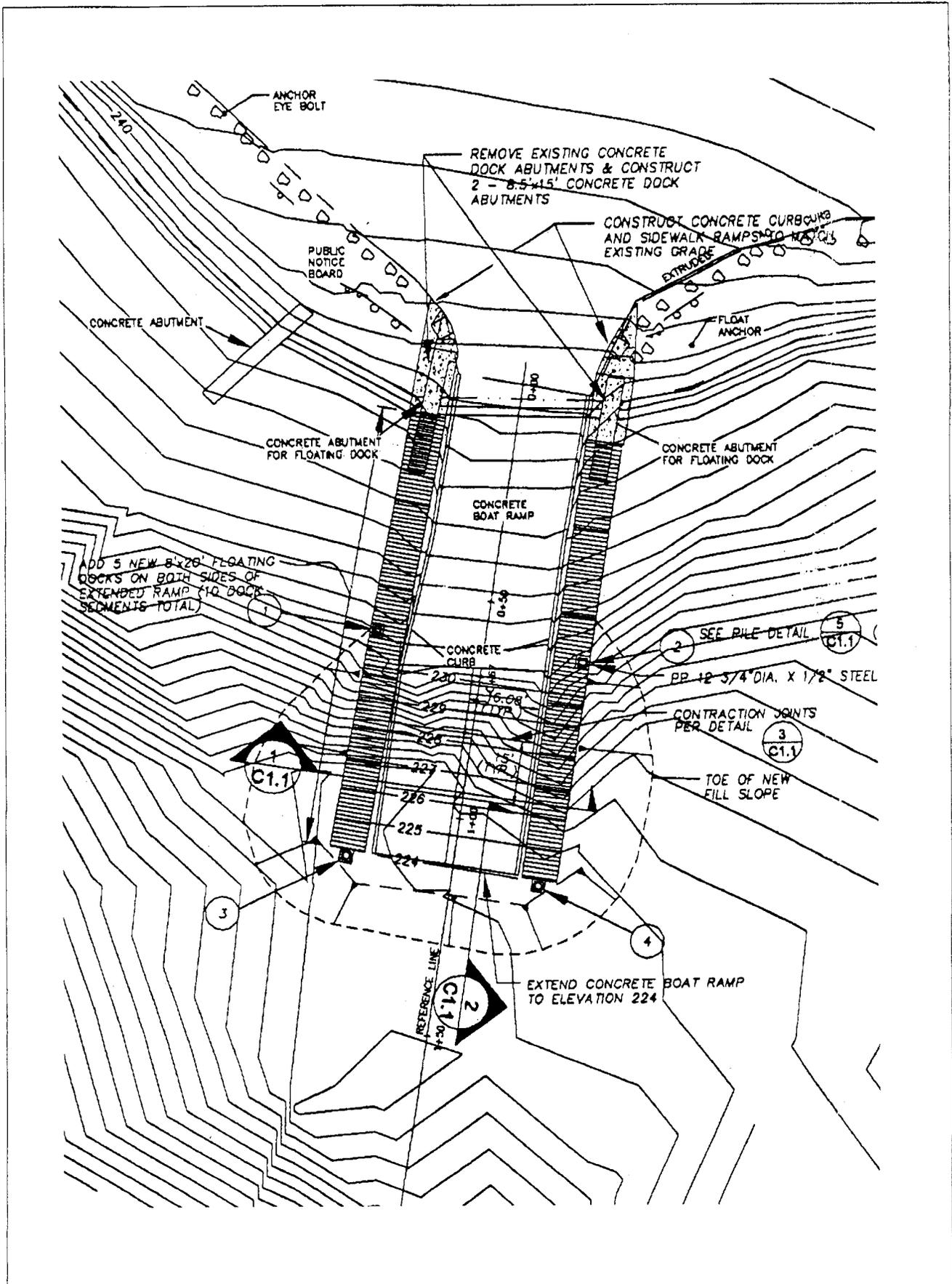
Speelyia Park  
 Taxlots EM2702002 & EM2201001  
 Latitude: 45 58 55 N  
 Longitude: 122 25 10 W  
 Distance to Cougar: ~ 8 miles  
 Distance to Woodland: ~ 19 miles

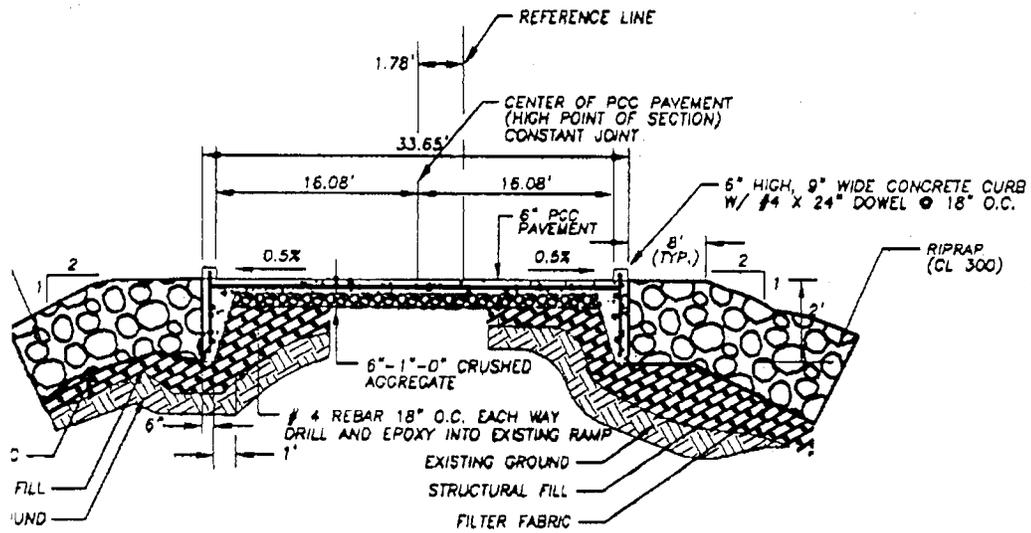
Speelyia Launch Extension Project

**SPEELYIA PARK**





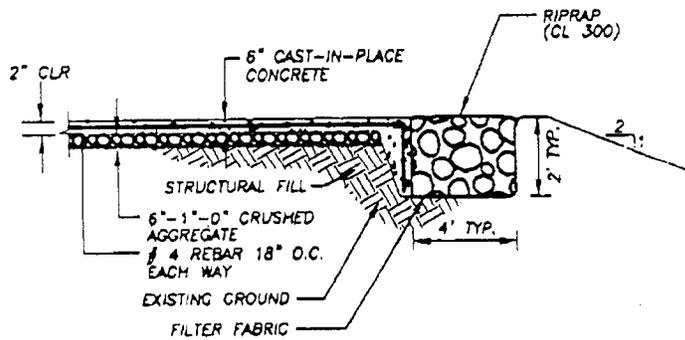




**CONCRETE BOAT RAMP  
SECTION A-A**

SCALE: N.T.S.

1  
C1.1

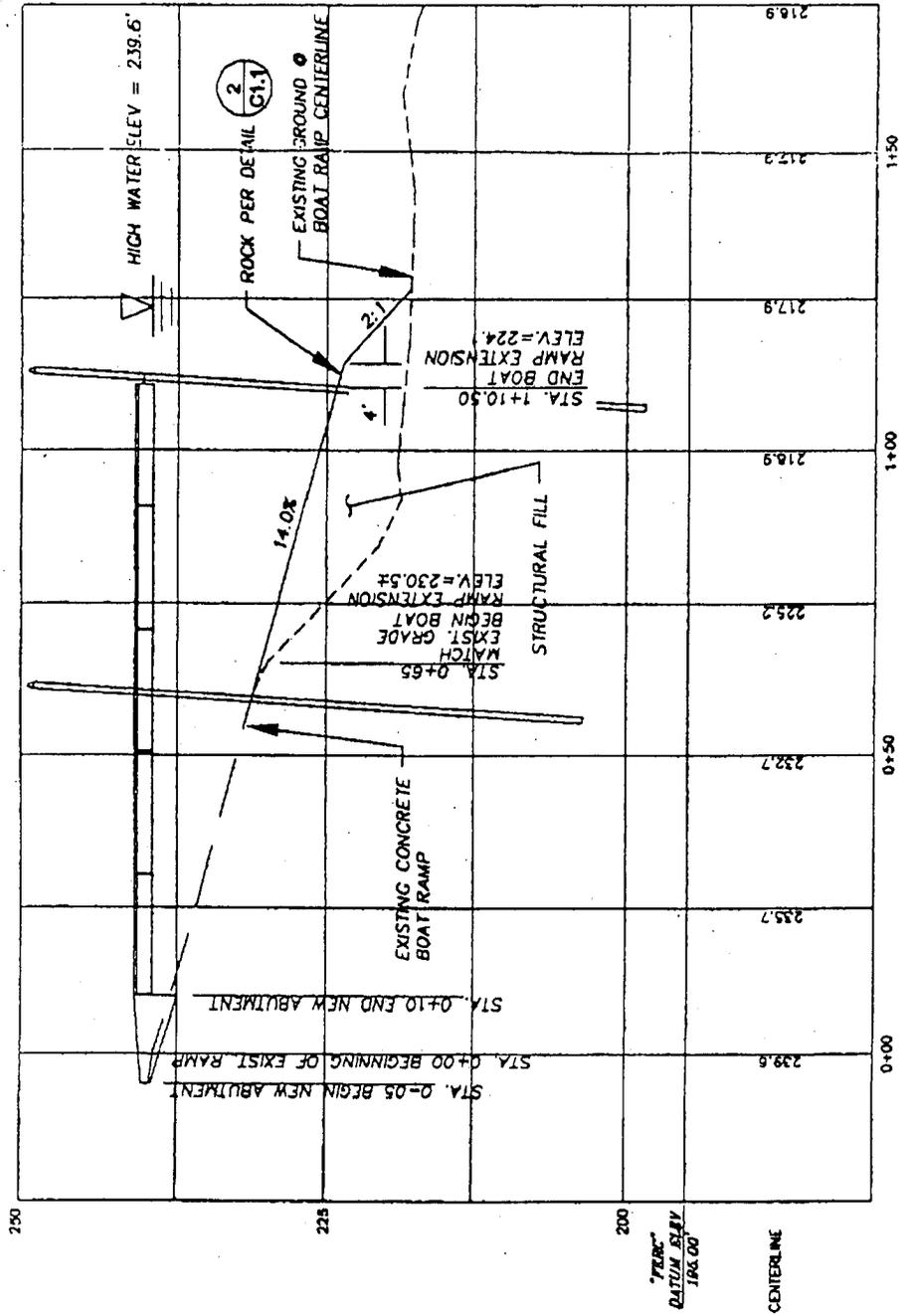


**CONCRETE BOAT RAMP AT TOE  
SECTION B-B**

SCALE: N.T.S.

2  
C1.1

RAMP ALIGNMENT PROFILE  
 2X VERTICAL EXAGGERATION  
 ASSUMED STATIONING





STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

*P.O. Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600  
(360) 407-6000 • TDD Only (Hearing Impaired) (360) 407-6006*

STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

Notice of Application for  
Water Quality Certification

Date: February 2, 2004

Notice is hereby given that a request has been filed with the Department of Ecology, pursuant to the requirements of Section 401 of the federal Clean Water Act of 1977 (PL 95-217), to certify that the project described in the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Public Notice No. 200201213 will comply with the Sections 301, 302, 303, 306, and 307 of the Act, and with applicable provisions of State and Federal water pollution control laws.

Any person desiring to present views on the project pertaining to compliance with water pollution control laws may do so by providing written comments within 30 days of the above publication date to:

Federal Permit Coordinator  
Department of Ecology  
SEA Program  
Post Office Box 47600  
Olympia, Washington 98504-7600