



**US Army Corps
of Engineers**

Omaha District

PUBLIC NOTICE

Application No: 200290504
Applicant: U.S. Forest Service Kootenai National Forest
Waterway: Lake Koocanusa
Issue Date: November 15, 2002
Expiration Date: December 15, 2002

30 DAY NOTICE

REPLY TO:

Helena Regulatory Office
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
10 West 15th Street, Suite 2200
Helena, Montana 59626

**JOINT PUBLIC NOTICE
FOR PERMIT APPLICATION SUBMITTED TO
U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
AND
MONTANA DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL QUALITY**

The application of U.S. Forest Service-Kootenai National Forest, for approval of plans and issuance of a permit under authority of the Secretary of the Army is being considered by the District Engineer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Omaha, Nebraska. **The project described herein is not being proposed by the Corps, but by the applicant; the Corps will evaluate the proposed work to determine if it is permissible under current laws and regulations.**

Description of Proposed Project: The applicant requests permission to reinforce 1620 linear feet of eroding shoreline with gabion baskets at Peck Gulch Campground on Lake Koocanusa. Gabion baskets will be submerged during high water and will be approximately 300 feet from water's edge at low water levels. Gabion rock and riprap will be obtained by screening material from the drawdown zone. 810 cubic yards of rock will be used to fill the gabion baskets, 200 cubic yards of riprap will be used to cover baskets and 1250 square yards of geotextile will be used behind the baskets. Approximately 980 cubic yards of shoreline material will be placed in existing depressions left from previous crushing operations located in the drawdown zone. No operations will occur in the water and no material will be discharged in the water. Drawings showing the location and extent of the project are attached to this notice.

Location: The proposed activity is located on Lake Koocanusa in Section 11, Township 34 North, Range 29 West, Lincoln County, Montana.

Purpose: The purpose of the proposed project is to reinforce 1620 linear feet of eroding shoreline.

Background: Peck Gulch Campground was constructed in 1983 with material dredged from Lake Koocanusa. The water level of the reservoir is subject to frequent elevation changes due to the operation of Libby Dam. The elevation changes combined with wave action have resulted in 1,620 feet of shoreline erosion. A large quantity of waste material exists below the ordinary high water mark as a result of the construction of Highway 37 along the reservoir edge.

401 Water Quality Certification: The Montana Department of Environmental Quality, 1520 East 6th Avenue, PO Box 200901, Helena, Montana 59620-0901, will review the proposed project with the intent to certify in accordance with the provisions of Section 401 of the Clean Water Act. The certification, if issued,

will express the State's opinion that the operations undertaken by the applicant will not result in a violation of applicable water quality standards. The Montana Department of Environmental Quality hereby incorporates this public notice as its own public notice and procedures by reference thereto.

Cultural Resources: The Corps of Engineers, Omaha District will comply with the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended. We have checked the National Register of Historic Places and its current supplements, and there are no known National Register sites in the vicinity; however, we will evaluate input by the State Historic Preservation Office and the public in response to this public notice, and we may conduct or require a reconnaissance survey of the permit area to check for unknown historic or prehistoric properties, if warranted.

Threatened / Endangered Species: This project is in the known range of **bull trout** (*Salvelinus confluentus*). In compliance with the Endangered Species Act, a "no-affect" determination has been made. Coordination with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service and other interested agencies has been completed to determine the effects on the **bull trout** or its critical habitat.

Evaluation Factors: The decision whether to issue a permit will be based on an evaluation of the probable impacts, 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 proposed activity 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. In addition, the evaluation of the impact of work 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 (40 C.F.R.; Part 230).

Comments: The Corps of Engineers 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 proposed activity. Any comments received will be considered by the Corps of Engineers to determine whether to issue, modify, condition or deny a permit for this proposal. 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 proposed activity. All public notice comments will be considered public information and will be subject to review by the applicant.

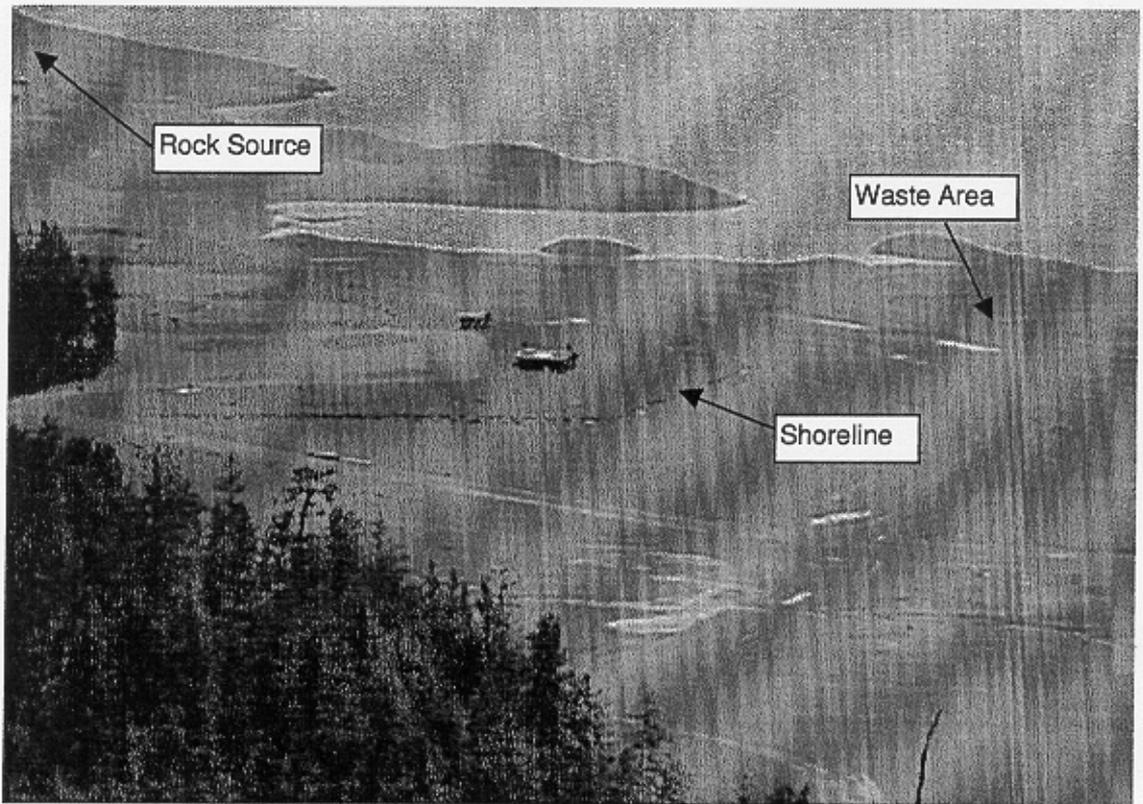
Any person may request, in writing and within the comment period specified in this notice, that a public hearing be held for the purpose of gathering additional information. Requests for public hearings must be identified as such and shall state specifically the reasons for holding a public hearing and what additional information would be obtained. The request must be submitted to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 10 West 15th Street, Suite 2200, Helena, Montana 59626. If it is decided that additional information is required and that a public hearing should be held, interested parties will be notified of the date, time and location.

Any interested party (particularly officials of any town, city, county, state, or Federal agency; Indian tribe;

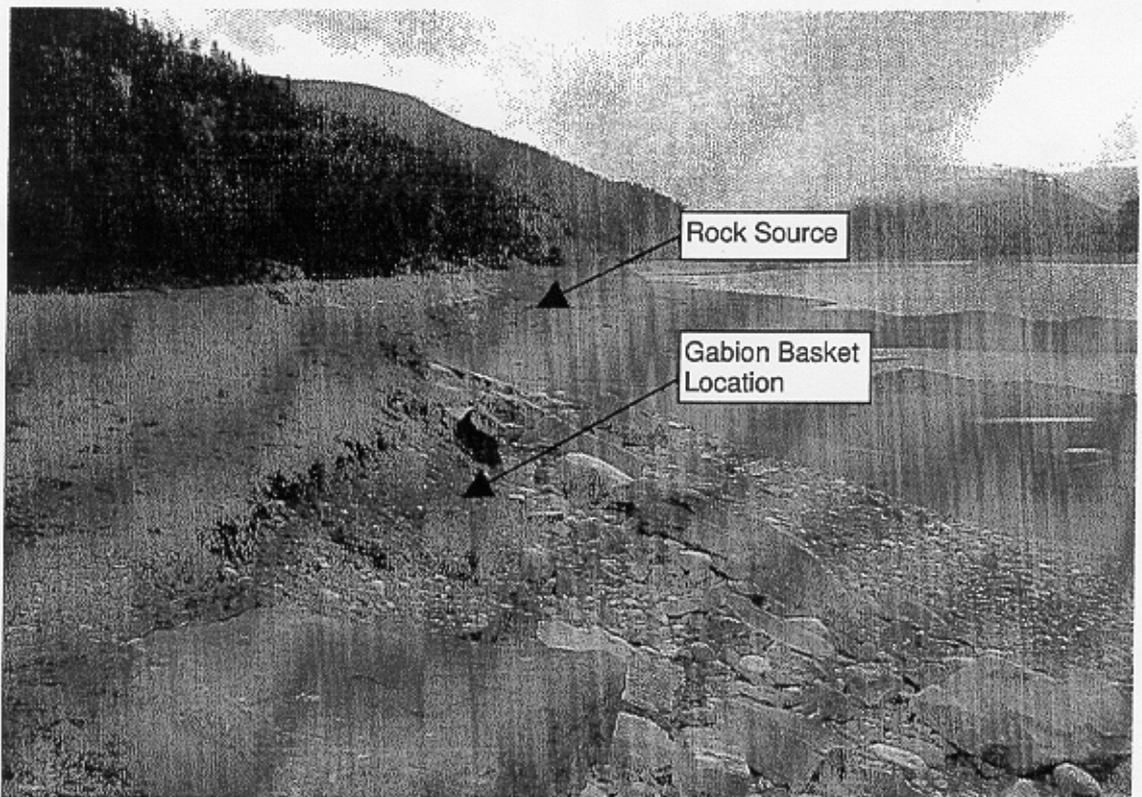
or local association whose interests may be affected by the work) is invited to submit to this office written facts, arguments, or objections on or before the expiration date listed on the front of this notice. Any agency or individual having an objection to the work should specifically identify it as an objection with clear and specific reasons. Comments, both favorable and unfavorable, will be accepted, made a part of the record and will receive full consideration in subsequent actions on this application. All replies to the public notice should be addressed to the **U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, 10 West 15th Street, Suite 2200, Helena, Montana 59626. Please reference the Application Number found on the first page of this notice in any correspondence.** Vicki Sullivan, telephone number (406) 441-1375, may be contacted for additional information. You may also fax your comments to (406) 441-1380 or email at Vicki.L.Sullivan@usace.army.mil.

Comments postmarked after the expiration date of this public notice will not be considered.

Statutory Authorities: A permit, if issued, will be under the provisions of Section 404 of the Clean Water Act.

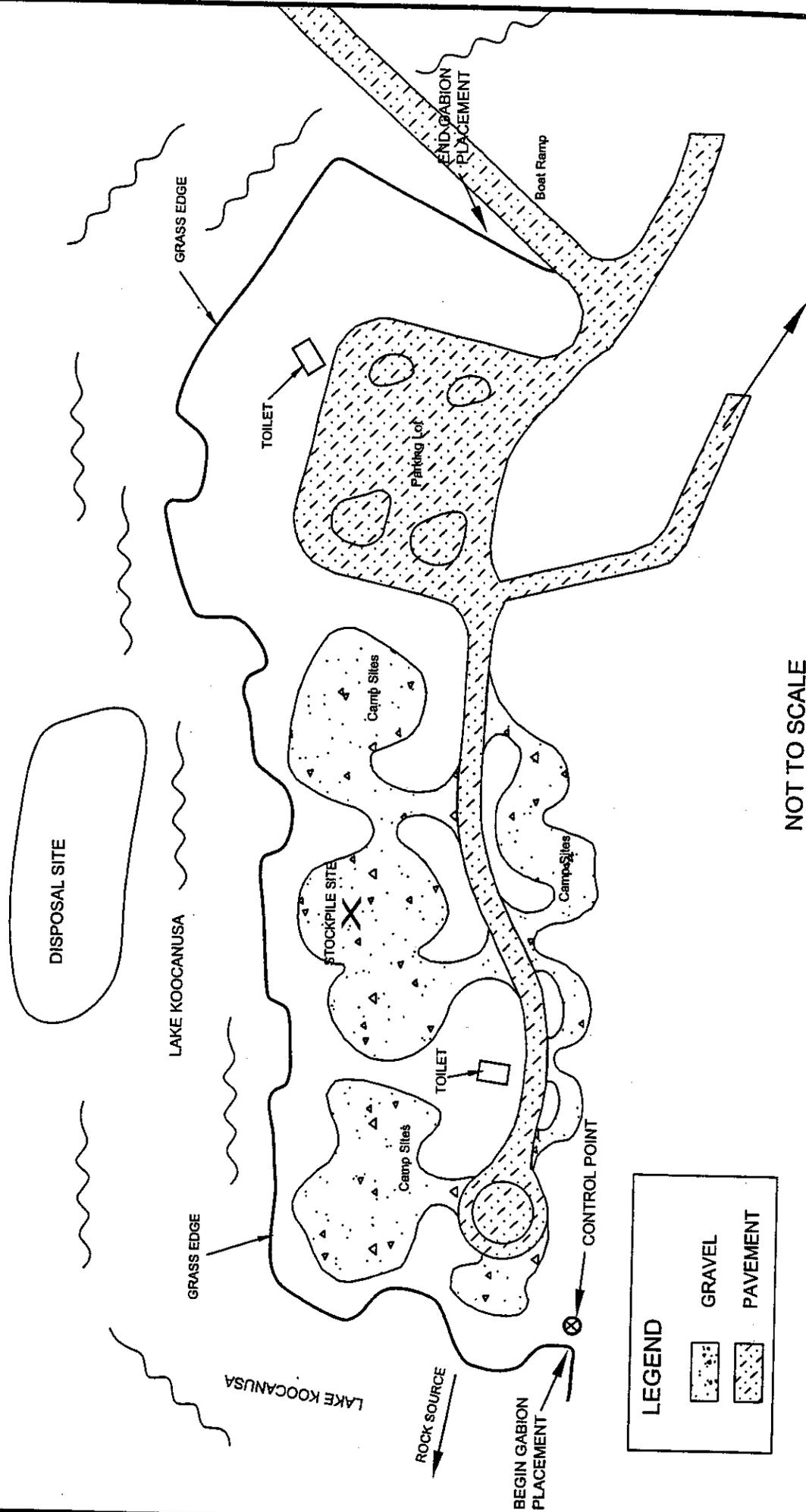


Peck Gulch Campground Overview



Typical Shoreline Configuration

SITE PLAN



NOT TO SCALE

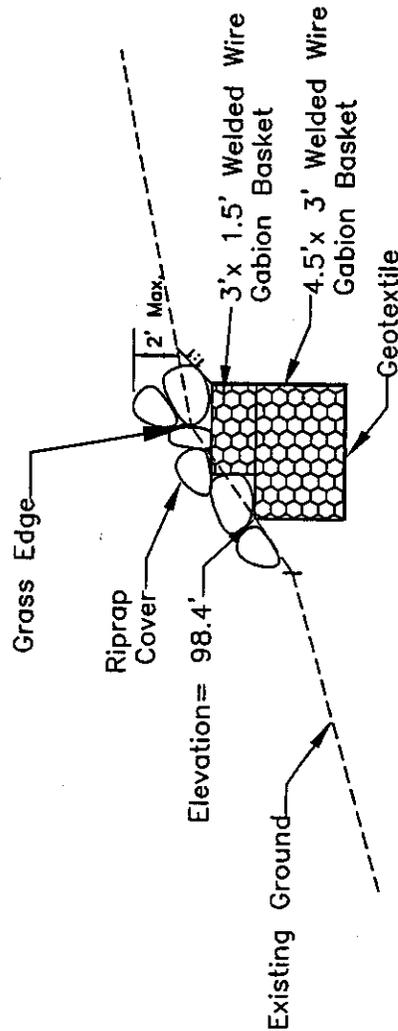
LEGEND

	GRAVEL
	PAVEMENT

SHEET NUMBER	TOTAL SHEETS
4	5

PECK GULCH BANK STABILIZATION

TYPICAL SECTION/ NOTES



NOTES:

1. Gabion baskets shall conform to contours of grass edge.
2. Gabion rock shall be obtained by screening below high water mark in designated rock source location.
3. Riprap cover shall be obtained from designated rock source location.
4. Control Point elevation = 100 ft.
5. 4.5'x 3' Gabion Basket shall be completely buried in undisturbed soil.
6. Riprap cover may be a maximum of 2' above adjoining ground level.

NOTES:

1. Contractor is required to keep a HAZMAT cleanup kit on site at all times. A disposal site for contaminated soils will be designated by the COR.
2. No equipment maintenance or refueling may take place below the high water mark.
3. If the contractor wishes to stockpile material, a storage site will be designated by the COR.
4. Contractor is required to clean all construction equipment prior to initial mobilization. Incidental to Item 601(01).
5. Seed all disturbed areas.
6. Existing riprap within 50 feet of shoreline that is larger than 1 ft. in maximum dimension shall be used as cover for the gabions.

PECK GULCH BANK STABILIZATION

SHEET NUMBER	TOTAL SHEETS
5	5